

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

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

TRAPPEZ: TERGNIER: MONT COUPLE: SAUMUR: 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 Saumur 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: SAUMUR: 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.

Saumur 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 OCE 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.	<u>Trappes</u>	219	202	17	4 (1.7%)
	<u>Tergnier</u>	115	101	14	2 (1.7%)
	<u>Mont Couple</u>	115	106	9	0
	<u>Saumur</u>	86	49	37	0
	<u>Maisy</u>	63	6	62	0
	<u>du Fevre</u>	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 OCE, 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.

TARGET	GP.	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTED		ABORTIVE		MISS- I/G	DAMAGE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				RELI. AREA	ALY. AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH IFC. BOES	NOT IFC. TO E/C.	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED
WALFES	1	Lanc. I	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	864.7 7.3
		Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Lanc. I	42	38	-	-	4	3	1	-	-	2	1	
		Lanc. II	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	22	27	-	-	-	2	1	1 AC	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	85	73	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	3	
		Lanc. III	23	27	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	
		Hoaq. VI	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoaq. VII	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			219	202	-	-	2	15	4	-	-	1	5	
TERRITIA	1	Lanc. I	44	37	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	1	534.0 3.9
		Hal. III	53	48	-	-	1	4	1	-	-	2	1	
	0	Lanc. III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoaq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoaq. XVI	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		115	101	-	-	4	10	2	-	-	1	4		
SOUTH COAST	2	Lanc. I	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	354000lb.
		Hal. II	9	7	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	13	-	
		Hal. III	42	36	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	2	
		Lanc. III	45	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoaq. VI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		115	100	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	1,0+18	-		
SOUTH	5	Lanc. I	30	12	-	-	21	5	-	-	-	-	-	340.1 .3
		Lanc. III	44	35	-	-	7	4	-	13	-	2	-	
		Lanc. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	
		30	42	-	-	28	9	-	13	-	11	-		

Stat. 14/1st. FEB. 1944 (CONTD.)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTED		ABORTIVE		MISS- I/G	DAMAGE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS			
				RELI. AREA	ALY. AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH IFC. BOES	NOT IFC. TO E/C.	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	L.B.
WALFES	5	Lanc. I	24	1	-	21	2	-	-	-	-	18	-	.9		
		Lanc. III	38	1	-	38	2	-	-	-	12	-				
		Hoaq. IV	4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Hoaq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		60	6	-	67	4	-	-	-	28	-	-				
SOUTH COAST	6	Lanc. II	16	16	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	150.7 1.0		
		Hal. III	109	105	-	-	4	2	-	-	1,0+28	-	-			
		Hoaq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		125	122	-	-	5	2	-	-	1,0+28	-	-				
SOUTH COAST	732		596	-	-	97	49	6	-	1,0+28	-	3+28	11	62		
		SOUTH COAST	6	Hal. III	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	106 mines
				Hal. III	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
				Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		SOUTH COAST	4	Hal. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
				Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
				Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		SOUTH COAST	5	Hal. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
				Hal. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
				Hal. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		SOUTH COAST	5	Lanc. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Lanc. I	1			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Hoaq. III	3			3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		7	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SOUTH COAST	93	Hoaq. VII	23	23	-	-	4	1	1	-	-	-	-			
		Hoaq. VII	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SOUTH COAST	100	Hoaq. VII	12	9	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-			
		Hoaq. VII	16	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

Stat. 14/1st. FEB. 1944 (CONTD.)

GROUP	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTED		ABORTIVE		MISS- I/G	DAMAGE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				RELI. AREA	ALY. AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH IFC. BOES	NOT IFC. TO E/C.	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED
SOUTH COAST	100		5	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
			501	544	-	-	37	56	3	1,0+28	-	3+28	11	12
SOUTH COAST	5	Hoaq. VII	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoaq. VII	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

0.2.3.3.

RESULTS:- 100% HIT, 100% DESTROYED, 100% DESTROYED, 100% DESTROYED.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

1/2nd. JUNE, 1944.

THESE D'URVILLE: CASSEB: Aarhus: Hildesheim: etc.

SUMMARY

1. 109 Heilfaxes and Mosquitoes verified airfield location at Ferme d'Urville, but found it covered with snow, marked to be by signposts. 54 Lancasters attacked the railway, but did not succeed in clear weather, and completed the day's mission in the early part of night. Mosquitoes bombed the port at Aarhus, and other aircraft carried out special operations. One aircraft was lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- A frontal system with a cold front in the night, giving 7-10/10ths. strato-cumulus, to 1,000', tops 5,000', with layers above to 12,000'. Northern Groups will have well broken clouds and these conditions will spread southwards. Moderate visibility, locally poor, especially in 5 Group and W. of 1 Group.

Germany:- Thunderstorms in W. and well thunder cloud in S. Little cloud in P.E.

France and Low Countries:- 10/10ths. Cumulus and low cloud in N.W. France. Much strato-cumulus in W. France and Belgium, thin fog breaks. Variable strato-cumulus inland in France. Thin clouds in Holland. Sauer and Angers: cloudless.

Norway:- Little cloud:

THESE D'URVILLE

PLAN OF ATTACK

3. CBCE ground - or sky - marking. If groundmarkers were called, 4 CBCE Mosquitoes were to drop red T.I. In the event of sky-marking, 4 CBCE Mosquitoes were to drop sky-marker flares (red with green centers). Main force crews were to aim at the centre of the T.I.; or at the sky-markers in the leading of 152 M. If no markers were visible, crews were to aim at the T.I. and bomb blindly. H = 0110. Groundmarking Mosquitoes: 1-3 to H - 2; sky-markers from H - 1 to H + 4. Main force from H to H + 3. Reserve sky-markers (if necessary) from H + 9 to H + 14.

BOMBS

4.	1st aircraft despatched.....	109
	" " " reporting attack on primary base.....	100
	" " abortive sorties.....	9
	" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER REMARKS

5. Bases:- Much patchy low cloud in last night, cleared midnight. Then a belt of rain and low cloud moved southwards towards bases, clearing Yorks and lines by 0300.

...../Ferme d'Urville

RESULTS

16. No aircraft was lost. One was damaged in combat.

DETAILS

17. 6 Mosquitos were dispatched against the port area at Aarhus. The target was covered with 10/10ths. clouds, 2000-3000', with heavy cloud below and poor visibility. Consequently, the 2 Mosquitos and 2 other aircraft were only seen by one other crew. This aircraft made several runs over the town and bay but saw no shipping, and eventually landed at the eastern end of the dock. The 2 specially equipped aircraft also landed at the dock. The other aircraft, being unable to see either the markers or the target, brought their bombs back. No fighters were seen, and all aircraft returned unharmed.

OPERATIONS

18. 18 Mosquitos and Halifax bombers dropped 67 mines in the Hattogt and the Scheldt estuary, and off Dunkirk and the Biscay ports, without incident.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS

19. 3 SHERMAN Mosquitos, and one instructor from U.S. . . ., completed uneventful patrols over occupied territory.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

20. 40 Stirlings, Hudsons and Halifaxes were detailed on special missions. 29 were successful. One Halifax was lost without trace.

MLT/JT.
BC/S. 26342/2/CRS4,
11th. September, 1941.

TARGET	GP	ALLOTTED TYPE	SQUADS	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AGGRESSIVE SORTING		MISSING	DAMAGE				INTERDICTIONS		RESULTS		
				PREL. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH I.B.M.	NOT DUE TO E/L	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	H.E.	I.B.	
GABRIEL	5	LANG. I LANG. III HEG. IV	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	258.7	.5
			36	34	-	2	-	-	-	1 AC	-	-	3	1			
			4	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			58	53	-	5	-	-	-	1 AC	-	-	4	4			
VILLE D'ORVILLE	4	HEG. III HEG. VI	89	83	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	434.4		
			12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			5	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
VILLE D'ORVILLE TOTAL			109	100	-	3	6	-	-	-	-	1	1	1			
LAFRES	8	HEG. VI	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8		
			2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
LAFRES TOTAL			6	3	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SODREZ TOTAL			113	106	-	10	7	-	-	1 AC	-	1	5	5			
REBELLYE	4	HEG. III	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59.0		
			1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
REBELLYE TOTAL			13	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
PITCHER PARCEL			5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
GRAND TOTAL			194	177	-	10	7	-	-	1 AC	-	1	9	9			
TERRAZZOS			3	40	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
INDREZAS			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

* Not included in Grand Total.

C.P.S.3.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

2/3rd. JUNE, 1944.

DIEPPE/BERNEVAL; CAPRES; CALAIS; WISSANT; NEUFCHAPPEL; etc.

SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Trappes and the radar-jamming station at Berneval, near Dieppe, were attacked and very severely damaged by forces of rather more than 100 aircraft. Minor forces visited coastal batteries at Calais, Wissant, Wimereux, Neufchapel and Harlingholle. Mosquitos attacked Leverkusen, Laval, Lison and enemy airfields, and gunlayers and fighters were also active. The Trappes force was hotly engaged on the return route, and lost 16 aircraft. 3 more did not return from minor operations, but at least 9 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Cloud will increase, but will remain above 1,000'. Rain will spread from the W.

Germany:- Cloud will tower to great heights in a frontal belt lying through Hamburg and Frankfurt. Further E., thunderstorms will be frequent.

France:- Little cloud in N. France. Broken strato-cumulus in N.W. The frontal belt will extend from Frankfurt through Dijon and Bordeaux. Late Papa indicated a risk of strato-cumulus increasing to 10/10ths. in the Calais area by 0200.

DETAILS

PLAN OF ATTACK

3. OXE NEUHAVEN. 4 Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. Early illuminators were to run up on RRS and aim their beams at T.I. (first flare "sights on", others at 10-second intervals), or obscure them blindly. Later illuminators were only to drop flares if so ordered by the Master Bomber. In any case, they were to orbit and drop their bombs on a second run. The Master Bomber or his deputy was to release more markers as necessary, and instruct the main force and backers-up. The latter were to aim white T.I. at the centre of earlier T.I. H = 0050. 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.

SORTIES

4.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	128
"	" " " reporting attack on primary.....	124
"	" " abortive sorties.....	4
"	" " aircraft missing.....	16(12.5)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Bases:- Mainly fit, with strato-cumulus at 2,000'. Large low patches in lines before midnight, with rain:

Trappes:- No cloud. No haze. Good visibility. Wind at 10,000': 325°/30 m.p.h. $\frac{1}{2}$ moon.

...../NARRATIVE OF ATTACK.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6. Only one Mosquito made a controlled fall. Its reds fell 300 yards S.E. of the W/P. The Master Bomber then marked with yellows, followed by whites, and directed the bombing onto the yellows. The attack was concentrated, mainly in the eastern half of the target; but at H + 3 a mighty explosion occurred in the immediate vicinity of the W/P.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

7. Damage was severe and widespread. At least 23 hits were scored on the main electrified lines from Paris to Chartres, with 6 on a train of box wagons. 50 more occurred on the down reception sidings, 35 on the down marshalling sidings, 15 in the coal bunkers, and 11 in the up reception sidings. The up marshalling sidings suffered especially heavily, at least 75-100 wagons being destroyed or derailed. Rolling stock was everywhere devastated. A large concentration of craters occurred in fields S. of the target, and residential property to the N. was seriously affected.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. Opposition was very slight on the way out, but fighters appeared in strength over the target, and were active over the first 50 miles of the return route. Most of the losses occurred in this period. Then our bombers made a turn of 80° to starboard, and continued to lose height, so that they overcame the adverse effect of the N.W. wind, and engagements became less frequent. Fighters attacking from astern were seen against the moonlight sky. Even so, the total number of reported interceptions affected nearly one quarter of the total force - an abnormally high proportion for any operation. Flak was very slight at the target.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

9. Our bombers destroyed 9 enemy aircraft: 2 He. 109's, one Me. 210, 2 Ju.88's, one FV. 190, and 3 unidentified machines. One Bf.109 Mosquito probably shot down a tenth.

CASUALTIES

10. 16 aircraft (12.5%) of the Wrepper force were lost. At least 10, probably 14, fell in combat. 2 fell to flak while flying at 4,500' on the return route between Conches and Evreux. No crash landings occurred on return, but one aircraft was damaged by flak beyond repair.

WISSANT: NEUFCHAPTEL: WIMEREUX: HARINGZELLES: BERNEVAL: CALAIS:PLANS OF ATTACK

11. All targets OBOE groundmarking. 2 Mosquitos were to drop reds and 2 others greens. The main force were to aim at the centre of T.I., irrespective of colour. H = 0015 at Neufchapel; 0030 at Calais; 0100 at Haringzelles; 0125 at Dieppe; 0140 at Wimereux; and 0210 at Berneval.

SCORES

	Disp.	abt.	P/L	abt.	Miss.
12. Wissant.....	53	30	53	0	
Neufchapel.....	74	71	3	0	
Wimereux.....	68	19	46	0	
Haringzelles.....	67	50	17	0	
Berneval.....	107	104	3	0	
Calais.....	67	47	20	1 (1.5)	

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

13. No cloud at Berneval. 0-6/10ths. patchy strato-cumulus at Neufchapel, tops 6-7,000' 8/10ths, thin cloud at Calais, 9-10/10ths. at Wissant, Wimereux
...../low Haringzelles

and Haringzelles, tops 6-7,000'. 4/10/44.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

14. Wissant 3 T.I. were plotted, and 200-400 yards to the north of the W/P. Less than half of the force could identify them through the cloud, and the rest brought their bombs back.

15. Neufchapel 2 groups of T.I. were plotted, 400 and 150 yards to the N. of the W/P.

16. Vimereux Only the first arrivals were able to see the glow of the T.I. through the thick cloud, and the rest abandoned their attack.

17. Haringzelles Here, 40 aircraft were able to attack on the glow of the T.I. but it was impossible to assess results.

18. Berneval The first group of T.I. fell 200 yards W.S.W. of the W/P., but the next 2 were both within 200 yards to the N.W. and N.E., and crews easily identified them in the clear weather.

19. Calais 3 T.I. were plotted 500-750 yards N.W. of the A.P. Two-thirds of the force bombed them on their glow. 2 great explosions sent smoke up through the cloud.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

20. The Radar-jamming station at Berneval suffered severe and extensive damage. The central, major portion was destroyed; all its operational buildings, and the 7 masts supporting its aerial array, were demolished. Nearly all the subsidiary buildings received direct hits, including an isolated position 500 yards E. of the main group. No reconnaissance reports were issued for the attacks on the other targets.

ENEMY DEFENCES

21. No fighter attacks were reported on these targets except at Vimereux, and these caused no damage. Flak was slight, but at Calais was accurate.

CASUALTIES

22. One aircraft was lost on Calais without trace. Another crash-landed on return from Berneval, after damaging its undercarriage on take-off. 4 aircraft sustained slight flak damage.

LEVERKUSEN

23. 23 Mosquitos bombed Leverkusen. 3 OBECE Mk.II and 2 H2S Mosquitos dropped markers by means of their precision devices, and most of the other aircraft bombed their glow through 10/10ths. cloud. A few attacked on GLE/DE. One was damaged beyond repair by flak, but reached its base safely.

LAVAL

24. One OBECE Mk.II Mosquito made a successfully controlled run against the railway junction at Laval.

LISON

25. 3 OBECE Mk.II Mosquitos bombed the railway junction at Lison by means of their precision devices.

HELVINGE

26. 53 Halifaxes and Stirlings were ordered to lay mines off Brest, Le Havre, Dunkirk, IJmuiden and the Scheldt estuary. 44 were successful. None was lost.

LEAFLETS

27. 10 Wellingtons, out of a force of 11 detached from Training Groups, scattered leaflets over Northern France.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

28. 36 Mosquitos of 2 and 100 Groups and U.D.S.E. made SEPRATE and intruder patrols. 14 bombed enemy airfields. A SEPRATE aircraft probably destroyed a German machine in combat.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

29. 49 aircraft were sent on special operations. 2 did not return; but one was seen to make a good landing in occupied territory with a wing on fire.

MLM/JT.

BC/S. 26342/2/CRS4.

21st. September, 1944.

DIKFFS/REUNVAL, CAHAIS, WISSART, TRAPPES, WINDSOUX, NEUPHAYEL, HANGINGELLES, LEVERBEREN, LICHT, LUX, ...
Date 21/9/44.

TARGET	GP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORBING	A/C REPORTING		AGGRESSIVE SORTIES		MIS- TAKES	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTION		RESULTS		
				PRIM. AREA	ALY. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH I.B.'s	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	L.B.	
TRAPPES	1	LANC. I	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	476.0	4.8
		LANC. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		HAL. III	105	105	-	-	1	15	-	-	-	-	16	8	-	-	9 x 4000 lbs.
		LANC. III	14	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOS. IX MOS. XVI	3 1	4 1	-	-	2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TRAPPES TOTAL			128	134	-	2	2	16	-	1/2+1/2	-	-	21	12	-	-	-
WISSART	3	LANC. I	30	15	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	131.7	1.0
		LANC. II	9	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		LANC. III	20	8	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. XX MOSQ. XVI	1 1	1 1	-	1 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WISSART TOTAL			65	30	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEUPHAYEL	6	LANC. II	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	279.9	.7
		HAL. III	56	55	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. XVI	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEUPHAYEL TOTAL			74	71	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
WINDSOUX	5	LANC. I	22	2	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	80.4	1.0
		LANC. III	32	14	-	25	-	-	1/2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WINDSOUX TOTAL			65	19	-	46	-	-	1/2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
HANGINGELLES	4	HAL. III	54	37	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	222.3	1.3
		HAL. III	9	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		MOSQ. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		LANC. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HANGINGELLES TOTAL			67	50	-	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

...../Cont'd.

TARGET	GP.	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AIRCRAFT SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH I.B.'s	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	I.B.	
																	RESULTS
BREMEN	1	LANC. I.	52	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	1	540.6	1.0	
		LANC. III	51	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	8	MOSQ. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		MOSQ. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BREMEN TOTAL:			107	104	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	
CALAIS	1	LANC. I	25	15	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	254.9	1.0
		LANC. II	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	8	LANC. III	59	28	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
		MOSQ. IX	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CALAIS TOTAL:			67	47	-	-	20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVERHUSSEN	8	MOSQ. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		MOSQ. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		MOSQ. XVI	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	1+1E	-	-	-	-	-	16 x 4000 lbs.	
		MOSQ. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVERHUSSEN TOTAL:			23	23	-	-	-	-	-	1+1E	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LAVAL	8	MOSQ. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	1 x 4000 lbs.	
LISOR	8	MOSQ. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
POBING TOTAL:			598	472	-	-	122	4	17	4+1+1E	30+1E	-	1E	21	24	-	-
DUNKELING:																	
DUNKELING	6	HAL. III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		LE HAVRE	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		LJUNGEN	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		SCHLEDT	3	10	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		SCHLEDT	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		HEEST	1	5	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DUNKELING TOTAL:			53	44	-	-	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

.../cont'd.

TARGET	GP.	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AIRCRAFT SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRITISH I.B.'s	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	I.B.
LEAPLETS	92	WELL X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	93	WELL X	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
LEAPLETS TOTAL:			11	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
FIGHTER PATROL	100	MOSQ.	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBER SUPPORT	100	PORT.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTRUDERS	100	MOSQ.	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL:			680	543	-	-	12	17	4+1+1E	30+1E	-	1+0+1E	21	25	-	-
LEAPLETS:-																
ARGENTON																
ORLEANS																
LE HAVRE																
LJUNGEN																
SPECIAL OPS																
VARIOUS			3	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
VARIOUS			100	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SPECIAL OPS TOTAL:			49	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTRUDERS																
MOSQ.			2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MOSQ.			4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTRUDERS TOTAL:			21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

O.N.S. 3. + Not included in Grand Total.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

3/4th. JUNE, 1944.

PERME D'URVILLE: CALAIS: WIMEREUX: Ludwigshafen: etc.SUMMARY

1. Forces of 50-100 aircraft attacked the Radar-jamming station at Perme d'Urville, near Cherbourg, and the coastal batteries at Calais and Wimereux. All the targets were hit, and the first-named was devastated. Mosquitos attacked Ludwigshafen, Argentan and enemy airfields, and over 50 aircraft laid mines off the French, Dutch and Belgian coasts. Fighters were also active. The night's operations were completed without loss.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Much strato-cumulus. Base should remain about 1,500' in Midland bases.

France:- Much strato-cumulus in N. Good chance of little low cloud in Boulogne area before 0100 hours. Extensive clearances inland.

PERME D'URVILLE: CALAIS: WIMEREUX.PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Perme d'Urville Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. 2 S.A.B.S. Lancasters were to back these up with greens. Yellows were to be used to cancel wide markers. Aircraft leaving before H + 4 were to aim at the centre of reds; later aircraft at the centre of reds or of greens. 5 Group Mosquitos were to estimate the accuracy of the markers and advise the Controller, who was then to pass false bearings settings to the Main Force. H = 0100.

4. Calais OBOE and H2S groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. Secondary blind markers were to release greens when their H2S flight line intersected a GEE co-ordinate. Main force crews were to aim at reds or the centre of greens. H = 0130.

5. Wimereux OBOE groundmarking. 4 Mosquitos were to drop reds and greens, and the main force were to aim at the centre of all T.I. H = 0115. 25 aircraft manned by the best crews were to bomb at H + 1.

SCORTIES

	P. d'U.	Cal.	Wim.
6. No. of aircraft despatched.....	100	70	65
" " " reporting attack on P/U.....	39	69	64
" " abortive sorties.....	1	1	1
" " aircraft missing.....	1	0	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- Light rain in evening.

Perme d'Urville:- Little cloud. Good visibility.

Calais and Wimereux:- 6-10/10ths. thin medium cloud, base 15,000'. Little below.

Three quarters moon.

...../RELATIVE OF ATTACK.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

- 8. Perne d'Urville 3 Mosquitos attacked, and 5 of their T.I. have been plotted; one on the W/P, and the others 175, 250, 300 and 375 yards away, 3 to the S.E. and one to the N.E. Another 3 near 3 miles from the target received no attention. Bombing was concentrated and accurate.
- 9. Calais 3 red T.I. fell within 200 yards of the W/P. The greens were scattered to the S., but the full weight of the attack was directed on to the reds. An intense fire was visible in the target area from H + 3.
- 10. Winereux The markers fell in 3 compact groups, each centred about 200 yards from the W/P: one to the W., one to the N.W. and one to the S.E. The bombing was directed at the centre of them.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

- 11. Perne d'Urville The station used to consist of a line of W/T masts running diagonally across an old fort, and H.Q. buildings 150 yards to the S. All the masts and buildings were completely demolished by this attack.
- 12. Calais Photographs obtained on 14th. June covered this target for the first time since 15th. May. During that period, 2 gun positions received direct hits on their emplacements, and a searchlight and several minor buildings and shelters were demolished. Some damage may have been caused by near misses.
- 13. Winereux The railway station sustained considerable damage between 12th. May and 4th. June. Both of the W. turntables were hit, together with the railway servicing them.

ENEMY DEFENCES

- 14. None of the 3 main targets lay more than a few miles inland, and no fighters were encountered, although several were sighted. Flak was very meagre.

CASUALTIES

- 15. No aircraft was lost, and no damage was sustained from enemy action. One Lancaster crashed on return from Calais, and blew up.

LUDWIGSHAFEN

- 16. 20 Mosquitos attacked Ludwigshafen. All 5 Y-aircraft were successful, and the bombing was concentrated.

ARGENTAN

- 17. 10000 Mk.II Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against the railway junction at Argentan in clear weather.

HEERLEVEG

- 18. 57 Stirlings, Halifaxes and Lancasters laid 235 mines off the French, Dutch and Belgian ports without loss. One Stirling was badly damaged in a taxiing accident.

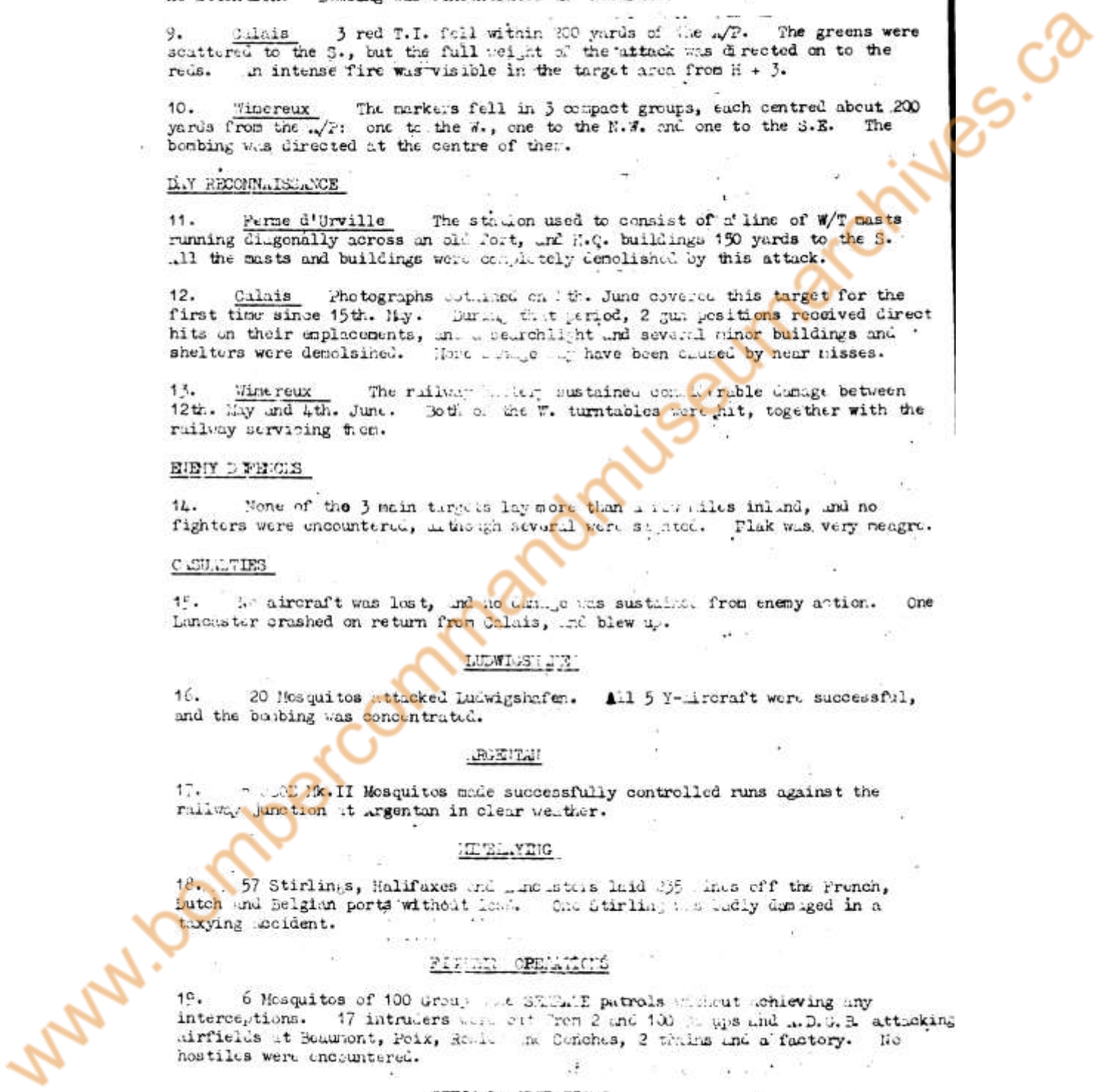
FIGHTER OPERATIONS

- 19. 6 Mosquitos of 100 Group met SPANISH patrols without achieving any interceptions. 17 intruders were shot down 2 and 100 Stirlings and A.D.C.B. attacking airfields at Beaumont, Poix, Romilly and Conches, 2 trains and a factory. No hostiles were encountered.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

- 20. 4 Wellingtons and Halifaxes of 192 Squadron completed special patrols.

MM/JT.
EC/S. 26342/3/CRSL,
22nd. September, 1944.



FORMS D'UNITE: C.I. IS: WIDEN: LINDSEY (20) (2) (2) - 3/4th. JUNE, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	INCR-PT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING ATTACK ON				% SORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ES	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. %	ST. %	OVER H.T.	NOT OVER H.T.	ALL	PRIM. OR		DRY H.C. DIRM	HOT DMS TO H.C.	ATTACK-ED	NOT AT ALL	HE.	I.B.		
FERRE D'ORVILLE	5	Lanc. I	52	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	506.9	2.4	
		Lanc. III	44	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96 x 4000	-	
		Mosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
FERRE D'ORVILLE TOTAL		100	99	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GALLIES	5	Lanc. I	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	344.9	4.9	
		Lanc. III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	36	35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1B	-	-	-	65 x 4000	-	
		Mosq. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GALLIES TOTAL		70	69	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1B	-	1	-	-	-		
WILHELM	5	Lanc. I	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.C	-	-	326.8	1.0	
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	35	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	61 x 4000	-	
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WILHELM TOTAL		63	62	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.C	-	-	-	-		
LUDWIGSBORN	8	Mosq. IV	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.0	1.1	
		Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15 x 4000	-	
		Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LUDWIGSBORN TOTAL		20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LUDWIGSBORN	8	Mosq. XVI	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.9	-	
																5 x 4000	-	
BOMBERS TOTAL			260	257	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1.C+1B	-	-	-	-		

...../Contd.

10

3/4th. JUNE, 1944 (CONT'D)

TARGET	GROUP	INCR-PT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING ATTACK ON				% SORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ES	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. %	ST. %	OVER H.T.	NOT OVER H.T.	ALL	PRIM. OR		DRY H.C. DIRM	HOT DMS TO H.C.	ATTACK-ED	NOT AT ALL	HE.	Inc		
SCHNEIDT	4	Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ROUSE	6	Hal.	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DUNKIRK	7	Hal.	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SCHNEIDT	5	Lanc.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Star. III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1B	-	-	-	-	
SCHNEIDT TOTAL			57	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1B	-	-	-	-		
BOMBERS SUPPORT	100	Mosq.	6	6	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTRUDERS	100	Mosq.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			326	321	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	1.C+1B +1	-	-	-	-		
SPEC. OPS.	100	Various	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTRUDERS	2	Mosq.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq.	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTRUDERS TOTAL			14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

D.F.S. 3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

OCT 31 01 19

4/5th. JUNE, 1944.

543780

COASTS: MAISY: SANGATTE: BOULOGNE: Cologne: etc.

SUMMARY

1. Forces of 50-100 aircraft attacked the coastal defences at Calais, Maisy, Sangatte and Boulogne in bad weather. Mosquitos bombed Cologne and Argentan, and fighters and minelayers were active. No aircraft lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Variable cloud, thickening after midnight.

Continent:- Much strato-cumulus in N. France and N. Germany, decreasing southwards in both countries. Little cloud in S. France. Frontal cloud will clear the Channel coast at about 0330, leaving thick nimbus cloud above 12,000' and patchy strato-cumulus below.

COASTS: MAISY: SANGATTE: BOULOGNE:

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Calais OBOE and H2S groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. Secondary blind markers were to drop greens when an H2S flight line intersected a GEE lattice line. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of reds or of greens. H = 0255. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 2. Secondary blind markers at H - 2. Main force in one wave from H to H + 5.

4. Maisy: Sangatte: Boulogne: OBOE groundmarking. On each target, 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop reds and greens, and the main force were to aim at the centre of T.I., irrespective of colour. H = 0110 at Sangatte; 0140 at Maisy; 0310 at Boulogne.

SORTIES

	Cal.	Mai.	San.	Boul.
5. No of aircraft despatched.....	79	56	57	67
" " " reporting attack on primary area.	77	55	54	61
" " abortive sorties.....	2	1	3	6
" " aircraft missing.....	0	0	0	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Rain and thick cloud, often based below 4,000', moved south-eastwards, clearing East Anglia after 0100.

French targets:- 10/10ths. cloud at various levels; breaks in strato-cumulus at Calais. Moderating in cloud at 6-7,000'. Nearly full moon. Visibility moderate to poor.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. Only at Calais were the T.I. clearly visible. The reds fell in a tight group, with the greens scattered to the N. Most crews bombed the reds. At Maisy and Sangatte, crews bombed the glow of markers through the cloud; at Boulogne, all the Mosquitos were abortive, and crews bombed on navigational aids.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

8. No reconnaissance reports were issued for these attacks.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. Conditions at fighter airfields in occupied territory were poor, and enemy aircraft were airborne for only a short time. None of our aircraft was attacked. Flak was slight.

CASUALTIES

10. No aircraft was lost. One Lancaster was damaged in a one-off and was badly injured. 4 aircraft were slightly damaged by flak.

COLOGNE

11. 20 Mosquitos were despatched against Cologne. 18 bombed on GEE/DR in clear weather, and achieved a fine concentration. Flak was intense, but no aircraft was hit, and the only casualty was due to a landing accident.

ARGENTAN

12. 6 OBOE Mosquitos (4 LBEU/L2AF and 2 Mk.III) were sent on a calibration test, with the railway junction at Argentan as a target. 3 LBEU/L2AF and one Mk.III made successfully controlled runs. All returned undamaged.

MINELAYING

13. 5 Lancasters and Halifaxes, out of a force of 7, laid 26 mines off Brest, Reuen, Dunkirk, IJmuiden and the Scheldt.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

14. 6 Mosquitos carried out SW/NE patrols. One destroyed a Ju.88 in the Friesland area.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

15. 21 Halifaxes and Wellingtons were despatched on special patrols. 19 were successful.

MEM/JT.
EC/S.26342/3/CR34,
23rd. September, 1944.

REPORT	GROUP	INCRPT TYPE	SORTIES	W/C REPORTING TRACK OF SORTIES				MISSED	DAMAGE				DIRECTION		RESULTS		
				PRIM. INC.	SEC. INC.	OVEN E.T.	NOZ OVER E.T.		FLAM	FRAG	IMP. INC. HOLES	NOT LAR TO ETC.	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	ME.	LB.	
CALLES	6	Lanc. I	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	273.4	1.7
		Hol. III	55	54	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
CALLES TOTAL			79	77	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
H.C.T.	5	Lanc. I	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	206.5	0.9
		Lanc. III	28	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
H.C.T. TOTAL			56	55	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SANGATHE	1	Lanc. I	28	28	-	-	-	-	-	1AC	-	-	1B	-	-	206.7	0.7
		Lanc. III	25	24	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SANGATHE TOTAL			57	54	-	-	2	-	1AC	-	-	1B	-	-	-		
BOULDER	4	Hol. III	63	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	206.5	-	
		Mosq. IX	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XVI	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOULDER TOTAL			67	61	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
COLONGE	8	Mosq. XVI	12	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	32.1	-	
		Mosq. IV	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
COLONGE TOTAL			20	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-			
BRZTELE	8	Mosq. XVI	6	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	-	
BRZTELE TOTAL			6	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOULDER TOTAL			285	269	-	-	10	-	3+1AC	-	-	-	1B+1E	-	-		

...../app.

4/5th. JUNE, 1944 (Contd.)

REPORT	GROUP	INCRPT TYPE	SORTIES	W/C REPORTING TRACK OF SORTIES				MISSED	DAMAGE				DIRECTION		RESULTS	
				PRIM. INC.	SEC. INC.	OVEN E.T.	NOZ OVER E.T.		FLAM	FRAG	IMP. INC. HOLES	NOT LAR TO ETC.	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	ME.	LB.
LINDVIG	3	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20 miles	-
		Lanc. I	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hol. III	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hol. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LINDVIG TOTAL	3		7	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOULDER	100	Various	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOULDER TOTAL			298	279	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WATERBURY	100	Various	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WATERBURY TOTAL			17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
WATERBURY TOTAL			21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

5/6th JUNE 1944 (D-Day)

COASTAL BATTERIES, ETC.SUMMARY

1. Over 1,300 aircraft of Bomber Command visited Northern France on the night of the invasion of Western Europe. 1,100 of them attacked coastal batteries between Rouch and Cherbourg; others dropped dummy paratroops, bombed enemy airfields, jammed radar transmissions and posed as naval convoys. 9 bombers and 2 fighters were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night, with little cloud and good visibility
- Germany:- Little cloud in N.W. Much cloud elsewhere
- France:- Broken strato-cumulus in A.W. (5-2/10ths in Cherbourg area). Base 3,000', tops to 5,000'. Very good visibility.

COASTAL BATTERIESPLANS OF ATTACK

3. La Pernelle OBOE groundmarking and emergency visual marking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. A flare force was to illuminate the target. If the OBOE aircraft failed, 5 Group Mosquitos were to mark the A/P with red spot fires. In either case, 5 Group Lancasters (S.A.R.F.) were to back up with green T.I. If necessary, the Controller would transmit a false vector for bombing, having assessed the accuracy of the markers. H = 0355.
4. St. Martin: Fontenay. Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. A Master Bomber was to direct each attack, dropping greens himself, if necessary. If the Main Force received no instructions, they were to aim at the centre of reds. H = 2350 at St. Martin; 2335 at Fontenay.
5. Houlgate: Sallennelles: Cuistroham: Mont Fleury: Maisy: Longues OBOE groundmarking with emergency H2S groundmarking. 5 Mosquitos were to mark each target with red T.I. Emergency blind markers either were to release green T.I. on the intersection of an H2S flight line and a GEE lattice line or might release on positive visual identification, if no T.I. were visible. But if T.I. were burning they were to hold their markers. Backers up were to aim green T.I. at the reds, the centre of greens, or the A/P itself if they could identify it visually. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of reds or of greens. H = 0350 at Houlgate; 0030 at Sallennelles; 0505 at Cuistroham; 0435 at Mont Fleury; 0320 at Maisy; and 0420 at Longues. Mosquitos from H-3 to H-1. Emergency blind markers at H-1. Backers up at H-1 and H-2. Main force from H to H-8.
6. Pointe du Hoc OBOE groundmarking with emergency visual marking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. 5 Group Mosquitos were to back up with green T.I., but if no OBOE markers had been dropped, these Mosquitos were to aim their greens visually at the A/P. The Controller was to assess the accuracy of the markers, and issue a false vector for bombing if necessary. Main force crews were to aim the centre of their bombsticks at reds or the centre of greens, unless otherwise ordered. H = 0450.

SORTIES

		<u>Desp.</u>	<u>Att.P/A</u>	<u>Abort.</u>	<u>Miss.</u>
7.	La Pernelle	131	115	16	0
	Houlgate	116	113	3	0
	Mont Fleury	124	113	11	2 (1.6%)
	Pointe du Hoc	124	114	10	3 (2.4%)
	Maisy	116	112	4	0
	Sallenelles	109	88	21	0
	Quistreham	116	114	2	0
	Fontenay	101	94	7	0
	St.Martin-de-Varreville	100	99	1	0
	Longues.....	99	96	3	1 (1.0%)
	TOTAL	1136	1053	78	6 (0.5%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. Bases:- Mainly fit, but 2 minor troughs moved southwards, bringing cloud base to 2,000' and rain.

French coastal batteries:- 5-10/10ths strato cumulus, tops about 5,000'. Full moon. Wind at 7,000'; 310°/35 m.p.h.; at 9,000', 300°/40 m.p.h.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

9. La Pernelle The first markers were scattered, but soon 2 reds and 2 greens were burning on the W/P, and the bombing was concentrated round them.

10. Houlgate The early reds fell on the battery and to the N.E. The greens were mostly 1,000 yards to the E., and one group landed on the cliffs over a mile to the N.E. Cloud increased during the attack, and results could not be observed.

11. Mont Fleury; Maisy; Sallenelles; Fontenay; St.Martin-de-Varrevilles; Longues: Cloud was too dense over these targets for photographs to give any clear picture of the course of the attacks, but all were reported as fairly well concentrated.

12. Quistreham The first 4 groups of markers were scattered 500-2,500 yards to the E. of the W/P. At H+2, however, a tight cluster of 3 T.I. was burning immediate S. of the W/P, and these attracted some of the bombing.

13. Pointe du Hoc Reds and greens were well packed around the W/P, and several sticks of bombs were seen to fall across it.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

14. No reconnaissance reports were issued for these attacks.

ENEMY DEFENCES

15. Fighters were active over the Normandy coast throughout the night, although only in the later raids did they show much readiness to engage our bombers. It is significant that no returning bomber sustained fighter damage. Flak was nowhere intense. One enemy aircraft was damaged off Sallenelles.

CASUALTIES

16. Only 6 aircraft were missing from these operations. One was shot down by fighters at Mont Fleury and 2 were seen to go down in combat near Green and Lisieux. None of the other losses were observed. One Halifax was wrecked in a taxiing accident, and another crashed on landing.

/OSNAERUCK

OSNAERUCK

17. 31 Mosquitos attacked Osnabruck. All 6 V-aircraft were successful, and the bombing was concentrated. All aircraft returned undamaged.

DIVERSIONS

18. 111 Lancasters, Halifaxes, Stirlings, Fortresses and Mosquitos carried out diversions in support of the Allied landings in Normandy. These included pretended Naval/Air attacks against Cap d'Antifer and Boulogne, a jamming barrage and the dropping of dummy paratroops. Exceptionally successful results were obtained, for the loss of only 3 aircraft. Aircraft engaged on these operations destroyed one enemy fighter and damaged another.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

19. 100 Mosquitos from 100 Group and A.D.C.B. were active on SERRATE and intruder patrols. Airfields in France and the Low Countries were also attacked. A SERRATE aircraft destroyed a Me.110. 6 Mosquitos were lost.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

20. 3 Hudsons and Halifaxes were detailed on special operations. 3 aircraft were successful. None was lost.

MLM/MFA
BC/S.26342/2/ORS4
24th September 1944

INSTRUCTIONS: HOLDING: GUY FLEURY: DISTRIBUTION: OSNAERUCK: LORRAINE: GOING TO: GUY FLEURY: LITTONIA: WESTLEY: ST. HUBERT: VANDERBILT: SPECIAL OPS: etc. 2/20/44 MLM

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	W/O REPORTING TRACK OF		AGGRESSIVE SORTIES		MIS-OPS	DIVERS				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				DOWN	DIR.	OVER R.F.	NOT OVER R.F.		FLY	DIR.	INT. ENG. CODE	NOT ENG TO R/F	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	HELD	INT.	
L. FLEURY	5	Lanc.I	43	40	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	596.8	4.7
		Lanc.III	79	69	-	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IV	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L. FLEURY TOTAL			131	115	-	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
MOOREVILLE	8	Hal.III	106	104	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	18	2	1	-	513.6	3.7
		Lanc.III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MOOREVILLE TOTAL			116	113	-	1	2	-	1	-	18	2	1	-	-	-	
MONT FLEURY	8	Hal.III	114	105	-	11	-	2	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	598.9	3.1
		Lanc.III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MONT FLEURY TOTAL			124	115	-	11	2	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	
POULLEY D'HOE	5	Lanc.I	51	47	0	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	636.8	2.5
		Lanc.III	64	61	-	3	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IV	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IX	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.XVI	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
POULLEY D'HOE TOTAL			124	114	-	10	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LORRAINE	4	Hal.III	93	91	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1+200	1	3	-	525.2	6.4
		Hal.	13	11	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc.III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LORRAINE	3	Mosq.XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LORRAINE TOTAL			116	112	-	-	4	-	1	-	1+200	1	3	-	-	-	

5/6th JUNE, 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	ALLEGED TYPE	BOBTLES	A/D RECOVERY		A/D RECOVERY		DROPS	DIVERGENCE				TOTAL			
				AREA	AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER E.T.		PLAC.	PLAC.	HIT.	NOT HIT	NO. OF	NO. OF		
SULLY	B	Lanc. X	13	70	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	337.7	1.4
		Hoq. III	21	4	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. XVI	15	6	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. IX	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			105	86	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DUNDEE	B	Lanc. I	50	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	576.0	1.7
		Lanc. II	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	35	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			113	112	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
PC. VILL.	B	Lanc. I	47	47	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	533.0	1.5
		Lanc. II	45	45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. XVI	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			94	94	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST. MARTIN'S	B	Lanc. I	29	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	565.1	2.2
		Lanc. III	60	50	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			92	88	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LONGUES	B	Lanc. X	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	534.2	3.9	
		Lanc. II	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
		Lanc. III	69	60	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
		Hoq. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
TOTAL			95	85	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

...../Contd.

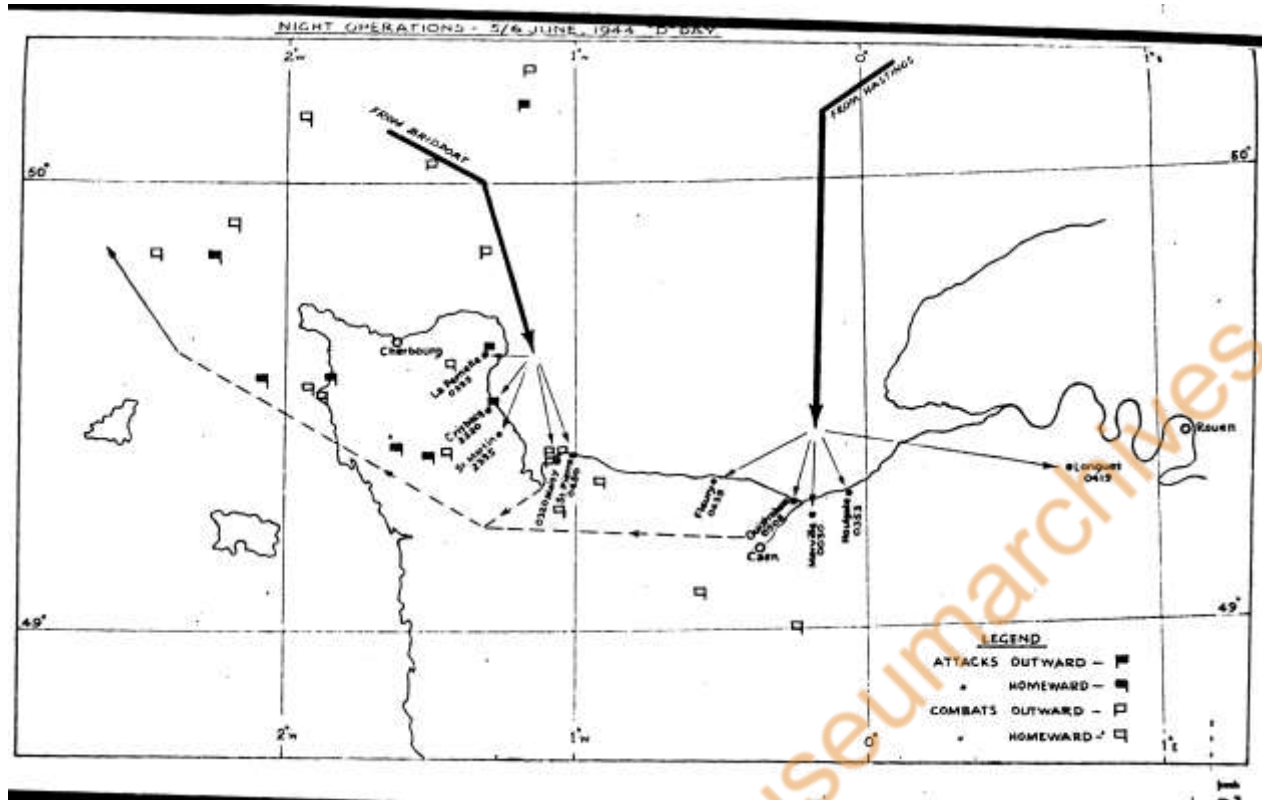
5/6th JUNE, 1944 (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	ALLEGED TYPE	BOBTLES	A/D RECOVERY		A/D RECOVERY		DROPS	DIVERGENCE				TOTAL		
				AREA	AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER E.T.		PLAC.	PLAC.	HIT.	NOT HIT	NO. OF	NO. OF	
CONCEAUX	B	Hoq. IX	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.3	1.2
		Hoq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. XVI	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			33	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DIVERGENCE	B	Lanc.	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	111	-
		Various	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc.	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Various	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DIVERGENCE	B	Hoq.	27	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-
		Various	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			52	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			1330	1137	-	71	11	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	
DIVERGENCE	B	Various	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
		Hoq.	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

O.R.S.2.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

www.bombardiermuseumarchives.ca



www.bombercommandmuseumarchives.ca

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

6/7th. JUNE, 1944.

CAEN: LISIEUX: CONDE-SUR-NOIREAU: COUTANCE: CHEATEAUDUN: ACHERES: etc.SUMMARY

1. Over 1,100 aircraft of Bomber Command were active in support of the armies in Normandy, attacking road and rail centres in the battle area and near Paris. Mosquitos bombed Ludwigshafen and enemy airfields, and intruders destroyed 8 enemy aircraft. Mines were also laid. 12 bombers were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- A trough of 10/10ths. cloud to 18,000' will move south-eastwards across the British Isles, leaving much low cloud behind, with clear lanes in medium cloud.

Continent:- Much strato-cumulus and medium cloud in N.W. France. Strato-cumulus should be very well broken in Cherbourg and Paris areas. Variable cloud inland. In Germany, cloud will disperse.

CAEN: LISIEUX: CONDE-SUR-NOIREAU: COUTANCE: CHEATEAUDUN: ACHERES:
VIRE: ARGENTAN: ST. LO:

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Caen: Visual marking. A yellow T.I. was to be dropped 5 miles from the target on a bearing of 240°T. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to release yellows. The target was then to be illuminated by flares, in the light of which 2 red spot fires were to be dropped on the A/P. If these were accurate, they were to be backed up with 6 more red spot fires and 4 green T.I. Main force crews were to aim the first bomb of each stick at the markers. Master Bomber was to direct the attack. H = 0235. Bombing height: 1,700-2,700'.

6. Lisieux: Conde-sur-Noireau: Coutance: Cheateaudun: Acheres: St. Lo. Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. The Master and his deputy were to assess the accuracy of these and, if possible, release yellows or whites. Otherwise, main force crews were to be ordered to attack the centre of the reds and greens. H = 0135 at Lisieux: 0150 at Conde-sur-Noireau: 0020 at Coutance: 0205 at Cheateaudun: 0220 at Acheres: and 0050 at St. Lo.

7. Vire Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. on the E. A/P. If these were inaccurate, the Master Bomber was to release greens and direct the main force accordingly. If the reds were accurate, no further action was to be taken by him. The E. A/P was to be marked by 1 Group S.D.F. with impact green T.I. before H Hour. Crews were to aim at the centre of these greens unless otherwise instructed. H = 0035. Bombing height: 3-4,000'.

8. Argentan 3 A/P's here were to be attacked separately. On the E. A/P., 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to release yellow T.I. ascending at 1,500'. The target was then to be illuminated by flares, in the light of which 5 Group Mosquitos were to drop green T.I. If accurate, these were to be backed up with more greens. The main force were to aim at the T.I., after the Controller had broadcast to them the strength and direction of the wind. The same method was to be used for the N. A/P., except that reds were to be employed instead of greens. For the S. A/P., no OBOE aircraft were to operate; otherwise, the same method was to be followed. H = 0105 on E., 0120 on N. and S.

...../SORTIES.

<u>SORTIES</u>		<u>Desp.</u>	<u>Att. E/W</u>	<u>Att. Alt.</u>	<u>Abort.</u>	<u>Miss.</u>
9.	Caen.....	129	126	0	3	6 (4.6%)
	Lisieux.....	104	101	0	3	1 (1.0%)
	Conde-sur-Neireau.....	122	115	1	6	0
	Couyances.....	139	132	1	6	0
	Chateaudun.....	112	102	0	7	1 (0.9%)
	Cherches.....	104	53	0	51	1 (1.0%)
	Vire.....	112	109	0	3	3 (2.7%)
	Argentan.....	128	126	0	2	0
	St. Lo.....	115	110	0	5	0
	TOTAL.....	1065	977	2	56	12 (1.1%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

10. Bases:- Much cloud, base generally 800-1,500', lifting slowly to 1,000-2,000'.

French targets:- 7-10/10ths. cloud, base 5-6,000', tops 7-9,000'. Good visibility. Wind: 320°/35 m.p.h. at 5,000', increasing to 40 m.p.h. at 10,000'. Full moon.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS.

11. Caen. The target was accurately marked from low level, and bombing was concentrated, but cloud prevented photographic cover during the attack.

12. Lisieux The first 3 sets of reds all fell 200-300 yards from the A/P., in a triangle about it. The early bombing was accurate; then cloud base lowered, and the Master Bomber ordered crews to cease bombing the reds and to attack his own yellows; but he was indistinctly heard, because crews used their R/T's.

13. Conde-sur-Neireau The first markers fell nearly a mile E. of the A/P., but the next 2 were within 250 yards. Some time elapsed before the Master Bomber was clearly understood. Then a good attack developed.

14. Couyances The A/P was visually identified, and the reds and greens were grouped closely around the road-rail crossing. Fires were also seen burning in the town.

15. Chateaudun The first and third markers fell 200-250 yards N.E. and S.E. of the A/P. The second was 700 yards away, but the attack was directed on to the accurate markers.

16. Cherches Cloud was too thick for the Master Bomber to identify the A/P., and, after long discussions with his deputy, he ordered crews to abandon the attack; but by this time, half the force had bombed from below cloud base.

17. Vire Both A/P's were well marked, especially the W., and bombing was accurate.

18. Argentan All 3 A/P's were marked from low level, and on each the T.I. were centred within 150 yards. Bombing was accurate on the N. and S. A/P's, but veered towards the E. A/P. only after the weight had gone down to the east.

19. St. Lo One T.I. fell 350 yards N. of the A/P. the rest were 450-800 yards away. A concentrated attack was delivered, although cloud was fairly thick.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

20. Caen The central area of the town was in flames on the following day, and the area to the E. was heavily damaged. Fires were burning near the Bassin, a Plot, where the lock gates leading to the R. Orne, and those to the Nouveau Bassin, were destroyed. Dockside warehouses, etc., were badly damaged. The marshalling yards and 4 road bridges were blocked by craters, as were the roads
..../ leading from Caen

leading from Caen to Falaise and Bayeux.

21. Lisieux The Lisieux-Maxillon track was cut by 5 direct hits on the loop S. W. of the town. 3 road bridges and 4 main roads sustained direct hits. Much destruction was caused in the town, particularly around the gasworks.
22. Conce-sur-Noireau Nearly every building in the town centre was gutted or demolished. The 3 choke points were plastered with craters.
23. Coutances The weight of the bombing fell on the town centre and around the road and railway bridges to the S. Both bridges were damaged, and roads and tracks were cut in many places. Some of the destruction was due to the American attack on the day before Bomber Command's visit.
26. Chateaudun No separate reconnaissance report was issued for this raid.
27. Cherches At least 17 craters were caused on the tracks at junction switches at the level crossings, and 8 more on tracks at the junction itself. Most of the tracks were now severed.
28. Vire This attack, which was delivered by American bombers on the previous morning, fell squarely on the town centre, causing great damage to 4 choke points and half destroying the railway station.
29. Argentan The marshalling yards were severely affected. The locomotive depot was half destroyed, the goods depot gutted, and a turntable severely damaged. All the lines were cut, many wagons were derailed; and the passenger station, a military stores depot and numerous minor installations were hit.
30. St. Lo The town was largely devastated.

ENEMY DEFENCES

31. The German fighter controllers ordered their fighters to the area of Le Havre before our bombers reached France and extensive fighter movements took place in that region, reinforcements being called from Belgium and Holland. This activity appears to have been concerned, however, with the reported approach of fliers, which was a cause of greater anxiety to the enemy than the operations of the main bomber forces. No interception of the latter was effected and the whole of the night's activity resulted in only 8 fighter attacks. Even the Cherches force, operating in the Paris area, encountered only one hostile aircraft. Heavy flak was nowhere troublesome, but the accuracy required at most of the targets necessitated bombing from below low cloud and some damage and losses to light flak were therefore inevitable.

CASUALTIES

32. 12 bombers (1.1%) were lost from these 9 attacks. 6 did not return from the last mission of the night on Caen: 2 fell to light flak at St. Lo and the target, and a third was destroyed in combat. A Lancaster was shot down at Cherches by a fighter, as were 2 bombers near Vire. One aircraft fell to light flak near Coutances. 4 losses may therefore definitely be attributed to fighters, and 3 to light flak. Only one returning bomber sustained severe fighter damage; but a Halifax was hit by a bomb over Coutances, and the crew had to bale out over England.

MIDWINTER

33. 32 Mosquitos attacked Ludwigshafen. All the 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers, but none of them were seen by the main force, who all bombed on GEE/DR. All returned safely.

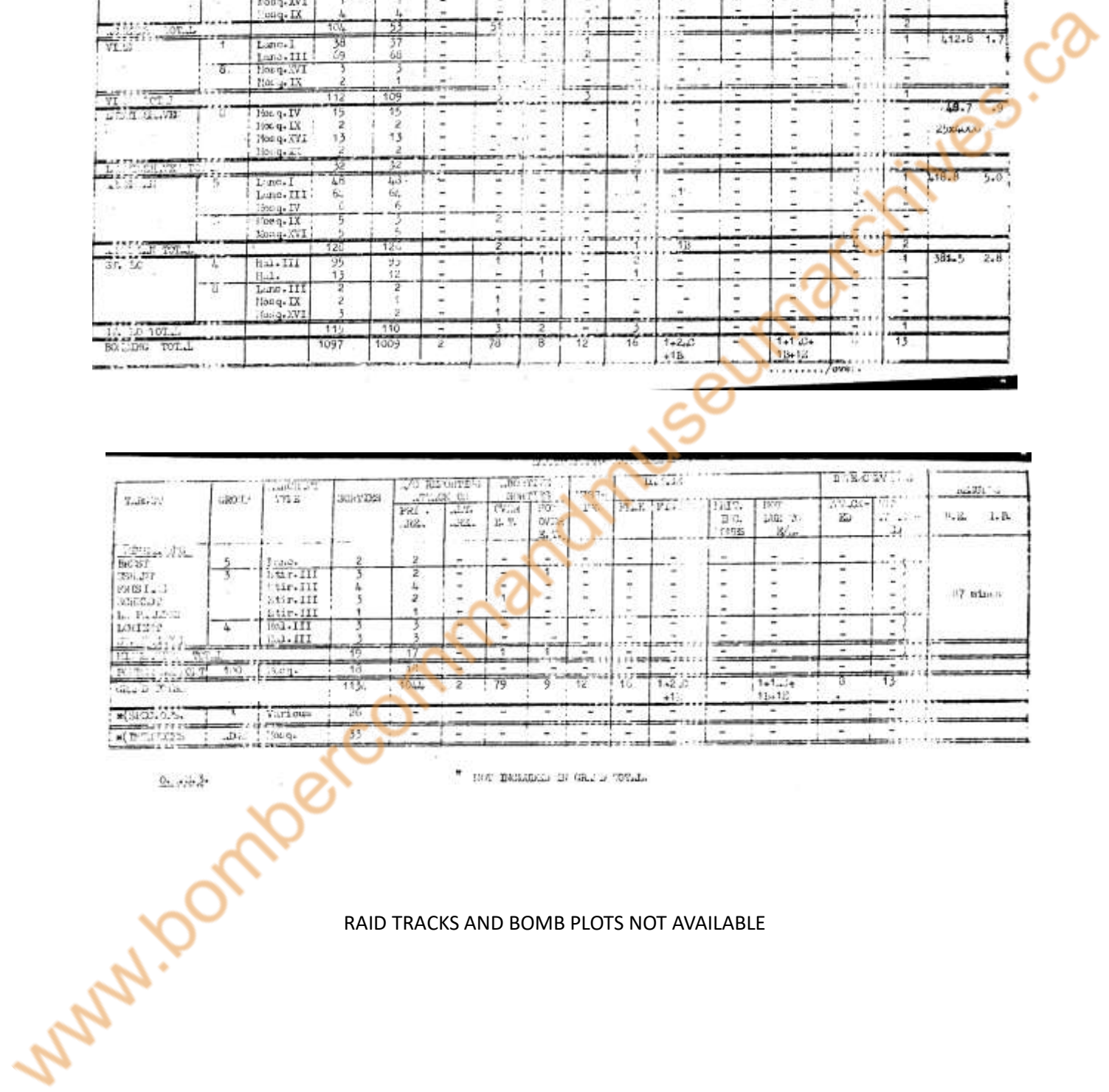
6/7th JULY, 1941. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	INCIDENT TYPE	SERIES	✓/O REPORTED TRACKS				SERIES				DIRECTIONS				TOTAL				
				PREL. LOG.	AIR LOG.	OVER B.T.	NOV O'ROD B.T.	PREL. LOG.	OVER B.T.	PL. 1	PL. 2	PL. 3	PL. 4	PL. 5	PL. 6	PL. 7	PL. 8	PL. 9	PL. 10	
COTTEN	1	Lanc-I	50	25	-	25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.08.2	1.0
		Lanc-III	47	23	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc-III	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			104	53	-	51	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
VILL	1	Lanc-I	38	37	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	412.8	1.7
		Lanc-III	69	68	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			112	109	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOMB BARRAGE	U	Hoq-IV	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48.7	0
		Hoq-IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-XVI	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-XI	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			32	32	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
L. P. J. 200	5	Lanc-I	48	43	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	416.8	5.0
		Lanc-III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-IV	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-IX	5	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			82	77	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
S.P. 50	A	Hoq-III	29	25	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	381.5	2.8
		Hoq-I	13	12	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	U	Lanc-III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			46	40	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			119	110	-	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			1097	1069	2	78	8	12	16	1+2.0	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-

TARGET	GROUP	INCIDENT TYPE	SERIES	✓/O REPORTED TRACKS				SERIES				DIRECTIONS				TOTAL				
				PREL. LOG.	AIR LOG.	OVER B.T.	NOV O'ROD B.T.	PREL. LOG.	OVER B.T.	PL. 1	PL. 2	PL. 3	PL. 4	PL. 5	PL. 6	PL. 7	PL. 8	PL. 9	PL. 10	
BOMB BARRAGE	5	Hoq-III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-III	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-III	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq-III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			13	11	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOMB BARRAGE	5	Hoq-III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoq-III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			23	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			113	109	2	79	9	12	16	1+2.0	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-

NOT INCLUDED IN GROUP TOTAL

RAID TRACKS AND BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

7/3th. JUNE, 1944.

FORET DE CERISY: VERSAILLES: MASSEY/P. LAUREN: ACHERES: JUVISY: Cologne: etc.SUMMARY

1. 212 Bombers were sent against fuel depots and tank harbours in the Foret de Cerisy, behind the German lines in Normandy. Unfortunately, a stray marker dropped 6 miles from the A/P attracted the weight of the bombing. Other forces delivered low-level attacks against 4 railway centres in the Paris area. All these operations were conducted in full moonlight, and 29 of the 549 aircraft engaged were lost. Mosquitos attacked Cologne, and line-layers and intruders were also active. No further casualties were sustained. Our bombers and fighters destroyed 13 enemy aircraft in combat.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Cloud will disperse during the night. Local visibility troubles.

Continent:- Much cloud to great heights over Germany. Much strato-cumulus in N.W. France, becoming broken E. of Cherbourg. Cloud will break over Paris soon after midnight., and will decrease to half cover or less. Much cloud all night over Low Countries.

FORET DE CERISY: VERSAILLES: MASSEY: ACHERES: JUVISY:PLANS OF ATTACK

3. All targets Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos (10 on Foret de Cerisy) were to drop green T.I. If visual identification was possible, the Master Bomber was to drop red T.I., backed up by his deputy and backscup. Otherwise, he was to direct crews to aim at the centre of greens. Mosquitos were to bomb between H - 3 and H - 1 on all except the first named target, where they were to mark at regular intervals between H - 3 and H + 11. Backers-up at H + 2. H = 0140 at Foret de Cerisy; 0225 at Versailles; 0210 at Massey; 0120 at Acheres; 0105 at Juvisy.

SCORTS

	FoC	V.	M.	A.	J.
4. No. of aircraft despatched.....	212	33	75	108	71
" " " reporting attack on prim. area..	209	81	70	96	65
" " abortive sorties.....	4	2	5	12	6
" " aircraft missing.....	1	6	13	4	5
	(0.5%)	(7.2%)	(17.3%)	(3.7%)	(7.0%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Bases:- Fair to cloudy. Some rain and low cloud.

Targets:- Thin strato-cumulus, base 6-7,000'. 10/10ths. at Massey, 7/10ths. Juvisy, 5-10/10ths. Acheres, Foret de Cerisy, and Versailles. Moon: just past full. Wind at 5,000': 350°/20 m.p.h.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

6. Foret de Cerisy The Mosquitos dropped a plentiful supply of T.I. on the A/P. but, owing to a technical defect, one group of greens was released, 6 .../miles S.W. of the main

miles S.W. of the main concentration. Both sets of markers were heavily blocked up; the Master Bomber was not properly understood, and the bombing was divided between the 2 areas. Both efforts were concentrated.

7. Versailles 4 of the 5 Mosquitos marked the A/P. The Master Bomber dropped reds, and instructed crews to aim at the centre of all T.I. Photographs showed six reds aligned within the narrow target area.

8. Massy/Palaisseau 2 groups of greens fell 100 yards E. of the A/P., followed by another twice as far away and a fourth 400 yards P.E. The Master Bomber's reds and his Deputy's fell 350 and 500 yards away to the N. and W. The target was soon obscured with thick black smoke.

9. Juvisy The greens were closely grouped round the A/P to the N. and E. The Master Bomber and his Deputy dropped reds in a 400 yard line centred 500 yards N.N.W. of the A/P. Bombing was aimed at the M.P.I. of all the T.I.

10. Achères The T.I. were estimated to have fallen on the A/P - the nearest was photographed 100 yards N.N.W. - and crews were instructed accordingly.

DAY REGIMENTAL SERVICE

11. Forêt-de-Cerisy The weight of the attack fell around the junction of the main St. Lo - Bayeux road, 3 major and 2 secondary roads. Various hits were scored on these roads, and a number of trees had fallen across it.

12. Versailles The locomotive shed was severely damaged, and all tracks leading to it, several ancillary buildings, and a number of locomotives and wagons in the vicinity were destroyed. The main Paris-Trappes line was blocked by damaged rolling stock. Direct hits damaged the embankment E. of the flyover.

13. Massy/Palaisseau. All the 3 target points (2 connections of tracks at bridges, and a flyover) were plastered with craters. Again, tracks and rolling stock suffered enormous damage.

14. Achères 4 craters were caused on the tracks, and 12 more on the junction switches and their approaches.

15. Juvisy Every track was out, and the river bridge and a flyover were wrecked.

ENEMY DEFENCES

16. Fighters were active, and over 10% of the aircraft engaged on these targets reported interceptions; but most of the losses were caused by light flak, fired in an intense barrage, particularly at Versailles against low-flying aircraft.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

17. Our bombers destroyed 7 fighters: 2 Ju.10's, 1 Ju.86, 1 FW. 190, and 3 unidentified aircraft. 3 of these fell to a single Lancaster of 5 Group. A.D.C.B. intruders shot down 6 more: 1 Ju.52, 2 Ju.88, 1 Ju.168 and U/I aircraft.

CASUALTIES

18. At least 13 of the 29 losses incurred in these 3 attacks were caused by flak. This was the first occasion of strong low-level attacks on targets in the Paris area, so that the light guns were presented with great opportunities. Of the 5 aircraft lost on Juvisy, 2 fell to light flak at the target, 2 were destroyed by were destroyed by fighters on the homeward route, and the fifth went down near Evreux. 3 of the Achères losses were probably due to flak, and one to fighters: they occurred over the coast, at Neuflhatel, N.W. of Paris and on the way in to the target. The heavy casualties incurred on Massy cannot easily be accounted for; 5 are known to have been caused by flak at Dieppe, Sierqueux and Mussy (3), and 4 by fighters in the Paris area. The Versailles and Achères crews lost 2 aircraft to fighters near Paris, and 3 to flak at Bourvais, Etampes and Versailles. The Normandy loss cannot be traced. In addition to these losses,/5 returning aircraft

5 returning aircraft were wrecked beyond repair - 3 by fighters, one by flak and one in a taxiing accident.

COLOGNE

19. 32 Mosquitos were despatched against Cologne. 4 of the 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers, and a good concentration was achieved around the T.I. despite thick cloud over the target. All aircraft returned safely.

NEHELYES

20. 23 Halifaxes and Stirlings, out of a force of 25, laid 94 mines off Brest, Lorient, St. Nazaire and Ushant. None was lost; but one crash-landed.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

21. 16 Mosquitos were active on SEERATE patrol, but reported no combats. 63 intruders were also out, from 100 Group and A.D.G.P., and aircraft from the latter Command destroyed 6 enemy fighters (see paragraph 17 above). Airfields and trains were bombed. A Mosquito of 8 Group carried out a net. recce. flight. None of our fighters was lost.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

22. 34 aircraft were detailed on special operations. All returned safely.

HM/JT.
BC/c. 26342/5/ORSI,
23th. September, 1944.

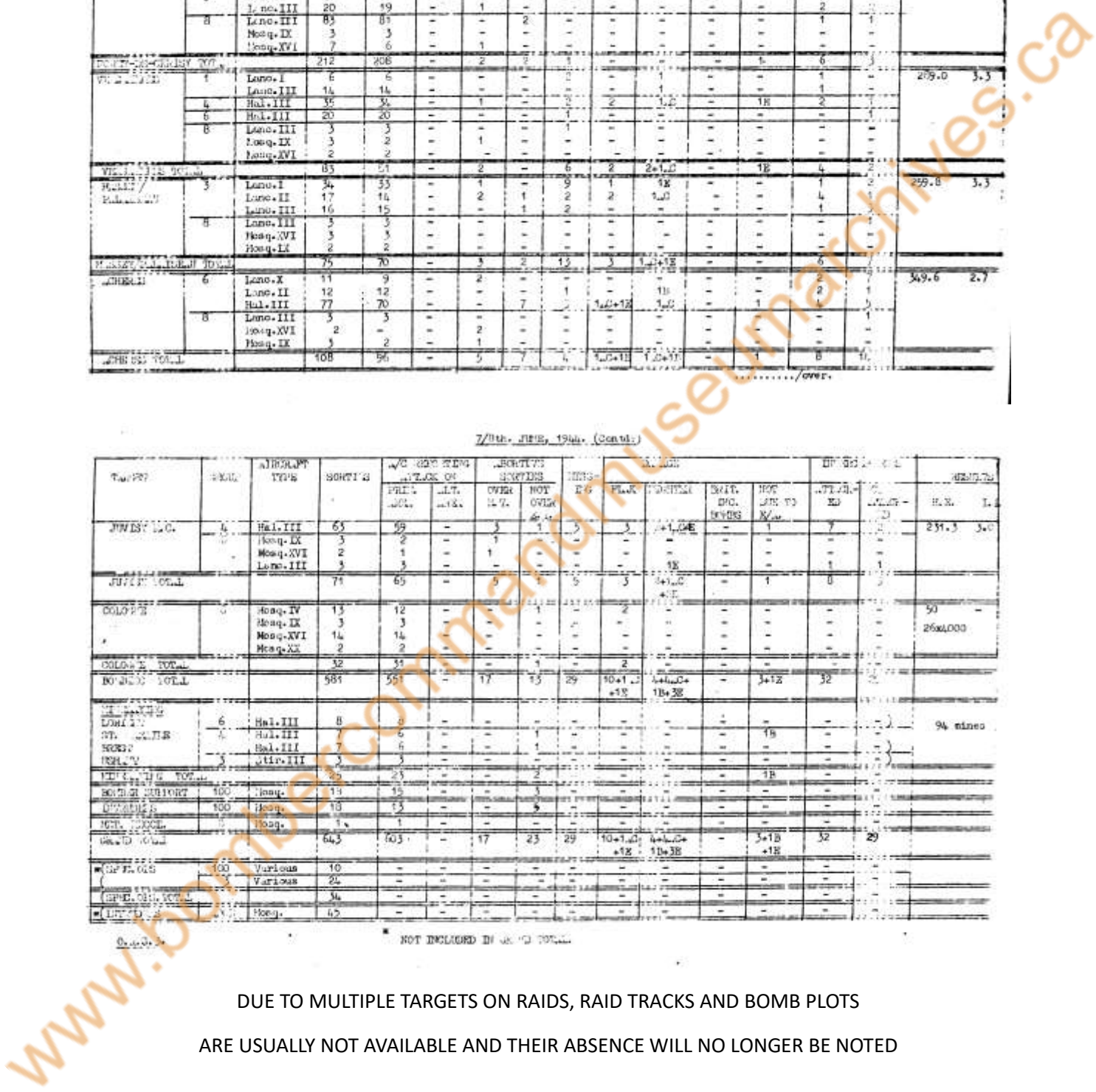
TARGET	GROUP	DESCRIPTION TYPE	BOAT'S	W/O REPORTING AT/LOC OF				BOAT'S	RESULTS				RESULTS			
				PREL. LOC.	INT. LOC.	OVER. LOC.	NOT OVER.		PLAC.	BOAT'S	DEPT. DYS. BOAT'S	NOT DYS. TO BOAT'S	PLAC. BOAT'S	NOT PLAC. BOAT'S	H.R.	I.S.
FORMER-OPERATIONS	1	Lano. I	36	36	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	789.5	6.2
		Lano. III	44	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	5	Lano. I	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2			
		Lano. III	20	19	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2			
	8	Lano. III	85	85	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1			
	Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. XVI	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FORMER-OPERATIONS TOTAL			212	208	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	5	6	3		
VICTIM'S BOAT	1	Lano. I	6	6	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	289.0	3.3
		Lano. III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1			
	4	Hal. III	35	35	-	-	1	-	2	1.0	-	1B	2			
	5	Hal. III	20	20	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1			
	8	Lano. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. IX	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
VICTIM'S BOAT TOTAL			83	81	-	-	2	6	2	2+1.0	-	1B	4	2		
HARBOR/PASSENGER	3	Lano. I	34	33	-	-	1	-	9	1	1B	-	1	2	299.8	3.3
		Lano. II	17	14	-	-	2	1	2	2	1.0	-	4			
		Lano. III	16	15	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1			
	8	Lano. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
HARBOR/PASSENGER TOTAL			75	70	-	-	3	2	13	3	1+1.0	-	6	2		
JOHN'S BOAT	6	Lano. X	11	9	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	349.6	2.7
		Lano. II	12	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	1B	-	2			
		Hal. III	77	70	-	-	7	-	1+1B	1.0	-	1	1			
	8	Lano. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XVI	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. IX	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
JOHN'S BOAT TOTAL			108	96	-	-	5	7	4	1+1B	1.0	1B	5	1		

7/8th. JUNE, 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	DESCRIPTION TYPE	BOAT'S	W/O REPORTING AT/LOC OF				BOAT'S	RESULTS				RESULTS				
				PREL. LOC.	INT. LOC.	OVER. LOC.	NOT OVER.		PLAC.	BOAT'S	DEPT. DYS. BOAT'S	NOT DYS. TO BOAT'S	PLAC. BOAT'S	NOT PLAC. BOAT'S	H.R.	I.S.	
JUVENILE	4	Hal. III	65	59	-	-	3	1	3	1+1.0B	-	1	7	1	231.3	3.0	
		Mosq. IX	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lano. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1				
JUVENILE TOTAL			71	65	-	-	3	1	3	1+1.0	-	1	8	1			
COLORED	3	Mosq. IV	13	12	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	50	-	
		Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XVI	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
COLORED TOTAL			32	31	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-				
BOAT'S TOTAL			581	561	-	-	17	13	29	10+1.0+1.0B	1B+3B	-	3+1B	32	29		
VICTIM'S BOAT	6	Hal. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	94 mines	-	
	7	Hal. III	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1B	-				
	8	Hal. III	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
	3	Hal. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
VICTIM'S BOAT TOTAL			26	23	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1B	-				
BOAT'S SUBTOTAL	100	Mosq.	19	15	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	100	Mosq.	10	13	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MGT. FORCE	100	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	100	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MGT. FORCE TOTAL			64.3	60.3	-	-	17	23	29	10+1.0+1.0B	1B+3B	-	3+1B	32	29		
MGT. FORCE	100	Various	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	100	Various	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MGT. FORCE TOTAL			34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MGT. FORCE TOTAL			67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

NOT INCLUDED IN BOAT'S TOTAL

DUE TO MULTIPLE TARGETS ON RAIDS, RAID TRACKS AND BOMB PLOTS ARE USUALLY NOT AVAILABLE AND THEIR ABSENCE WILL NO LONGER BE NOTED



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

8/9th. JUNE, 1944.

SAUMUR: FOUGERES: MAYENNE: PONTAUBAULT: ALENCON: RENNES: etc.SUMMARY

1. Forces of 50-120 aircraft made damaging attacks on marshalling yards and railway junctions in N.W. France, and special Lancasters bombed the railway tunnel at Saumur. Minelayers and intruders were also active. Weather conditions hampered enemy fighters, who provided little opposition. Only 2 bombers were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Broken strato-cumulus and 10/10ths. medium. Local rain, and patches of cloud below 1,000'.

France:- In the area extending from 47-48°N. and 00½°-02°W., there will be less than 5/10ths. below 10,000' (except near the coast, and there it will only be 1,000' thick). 10/10ths. medium cloud above.

SAUMUR: FOUGERES: MAYENNE: PONTAUBAULT: ALENCON: RENNES:PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Saumur As detailed by 54 Base Commander. H = 0200.

4. Fougeres: Mayenne: Alencon: Controlled OBOE groundmarking. On each target, 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. Illuminators were then to run up on H2S, but were to release their flares on T.I. if possible (first flare "sights on", the rest at 10-second intervals thereafter). But flares were only to be released if there was less than 5/10ths. cloud. The Master or his Deputy were to drop whites or yellows respectively, and direct the loading. A backer-up was to drop whites under the orders of the Master Bomber; if he received no instructions, he was to aim them at the centre of all T.I. H = 0015 at Fougeres; 0145 at Mayenne; 0115 at Alencon. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 1. Illuminators at H - 2. Deputy at H + 1. Backer-up at H + 2. Main force from H to H + 8.

5. Pontaubault 5 Group visual marking. After the target had been illuminated with flares, Mosquitos were to mark the $\sqrt{2}$ with red spot fires. If accurate, these were to be backed up with more spot fires and green T.I. Yellows were to be dropped to advertise wide markers; red T.I. to denote correct ones; and skymarkers (green with red stars) for extra illumination. Unless otherwise ordered by the Controller, main force crews were to aim the centre bomb of each stick at the markers. H = 0045.

6. Rennes 5 Group visual marking, assisted by OBOE groundmarking. The same method was to be employed as for Pontaubault, except that 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to open the attack by dropping yellow T.I. cascading at 3,000', and crews were to aim the first bomb of each stick at the markers, and delay release for 4 seconds, unless otherwise instructed. H = 0130.

...../SCRTIES.

<u>SCRTIES</u>	<u>Des.</u>	<u>Att./#</u>	<u>Abort.</u>	<u>Miss.</u>
7. Saumur.....	32.....	31	1	0
Fougères.....	110.....	111	3	0
Mayenne.....	93.....	92	1	0
Pontaubault.....	53.....	55	3	0
Alençon.....	110.....	110.....	2	0
Rennes.....	103.....	103	3	2 (1.9)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. Losses:- Rain became widespread by 0200, and clouds fell below 700' in patches. Visibility was poor, and diversions were arranged.

All French Targets:- Almost 10/10ths. cloud at 5-10,000', except at Saumur, (5/10ths.). At Pontaubault, there was also low stratus. Moon: just past full. Wind at 5-10,000': 260-270 / 20-25 m.p.h. Heavy rain at Rennes.

NEGATIVE OF ATTACKS

9. Saumur Markers fell in the deep cutting immediately S. of the tunnel and the bombing was concentrated round them. Later, smoke obscured the markers and some crews attacked the S. end of the railway bridge and the N. exit of the tunnel.

10. Fougères T.I. were scattered wide to the N.E. and N.W., but the Master Bomber dropped T.I. close to the A/P, and crews attacked these with good results.

11. Mayenne Apart from some greens, which fell wide to the N., the T.I. were grouped tightly round the A/P to the N. and E. During the attack, an exceptionally fine explosion sent black smoke to 7,000', and the Master Bomber ordered crews to bomb the centre of this conflagration.

12. Pontaubault 5 Groups of T.I. fell within 320 yards of the A/P, all to the N.E. Bombing was accurate, although smoke quickly obscured all ground.

13. Alençon 2 red T.I. were seen in the marshalling yards, and great fires were started in their vicinity.

14. Rennes Most of the markers fell in a close group about 300 yards W. of the A/P, but 2 fell just to the E., and a good concentration of bombing was achieved about the approximate N.E.

D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

15. Saumur One direct hit was scored on the tunnel a few feet from the S. entrance. Severe damage was caused to tracks and the embankment about 100 yards S. of the tunnel, and several roads were blocked.

16. Fougères The facilities and installations of the yards were heavily damaged. All through running lines were cut by direct hits, and a derailed goods train was thrown across the tracks. The locomotive shed sustained a direct hit; the main building of the passenger station was gutted; and many hits were scored on sidings and rolling stock. Many fires were caused in the town.

17. Mayenne The passenger station was completely destroyed, and the leading platforms were damaged in at least 2 places. All tracks at the north gathering point and all sidings were cut. The goods station was seriously hit. Many through running lines were cut, and the main road through the lines sustained 4 hits.

18. Pontaubault Reconnaissance photographs showed a lot of cloud, but hits were seen to have been scored on tracks and a railway bridge.

19. Alençon The passenger station was gutted and the transshipment shed destroyed. Direct hits were scored on the carriage and wagon repair shops, the

...../goods depot and

goods depot and the coaling point. The running through lines were cut in 16 places; 15-20 hits were scored on the sorting sidings, and 4 more on the lines to Mayenne and Argentan. The Niemen-Mortagne line was disrupted for 80 yards by, presumably, a hit on an ammunition train.

20. Rennes Direct hits were scored on the passenger station, the carriage and wagon repair shops, the goods depot and the sorting sidings. Numerous trucks were cut, and rolling stock suffered widely.

ENEMY DEFENCES

21. None of these operations took our aircraft within 90 miles of Paris and, as had been hoped, fighter opposition was slight. Only 4 attacks were reported; none of these were successful, and 3 enemy fighters were damaged. Little flak was met except at Rennes, where the light guns were intensely active.

CASUALTIES

22. The only losses occurred at Rennes, where a Lancaster and a Mosquito were shot down by light flak. 4 aircraft, however, crashed on return, and a fifth was damaged beyond repair in combat.

MINELAYING

23. 34 aircraft were despatched to lay mines off the French, Dutch and Belgian coasts. 26 were successful, laying 109 mines. None was lost, but one hit a tree on return, and was destroyed.

SEARCHER OPERATIONS

24. 30 Mosquitos of 100 Group and A.D.C.F. were active on SEARCHER and intruder patrols, but adverse weather prevented them from finding any targets or making any interceptions. All returned safely.

MLT/JT.
BC/S. 26342/5/CR34,
29th. September, 1944.

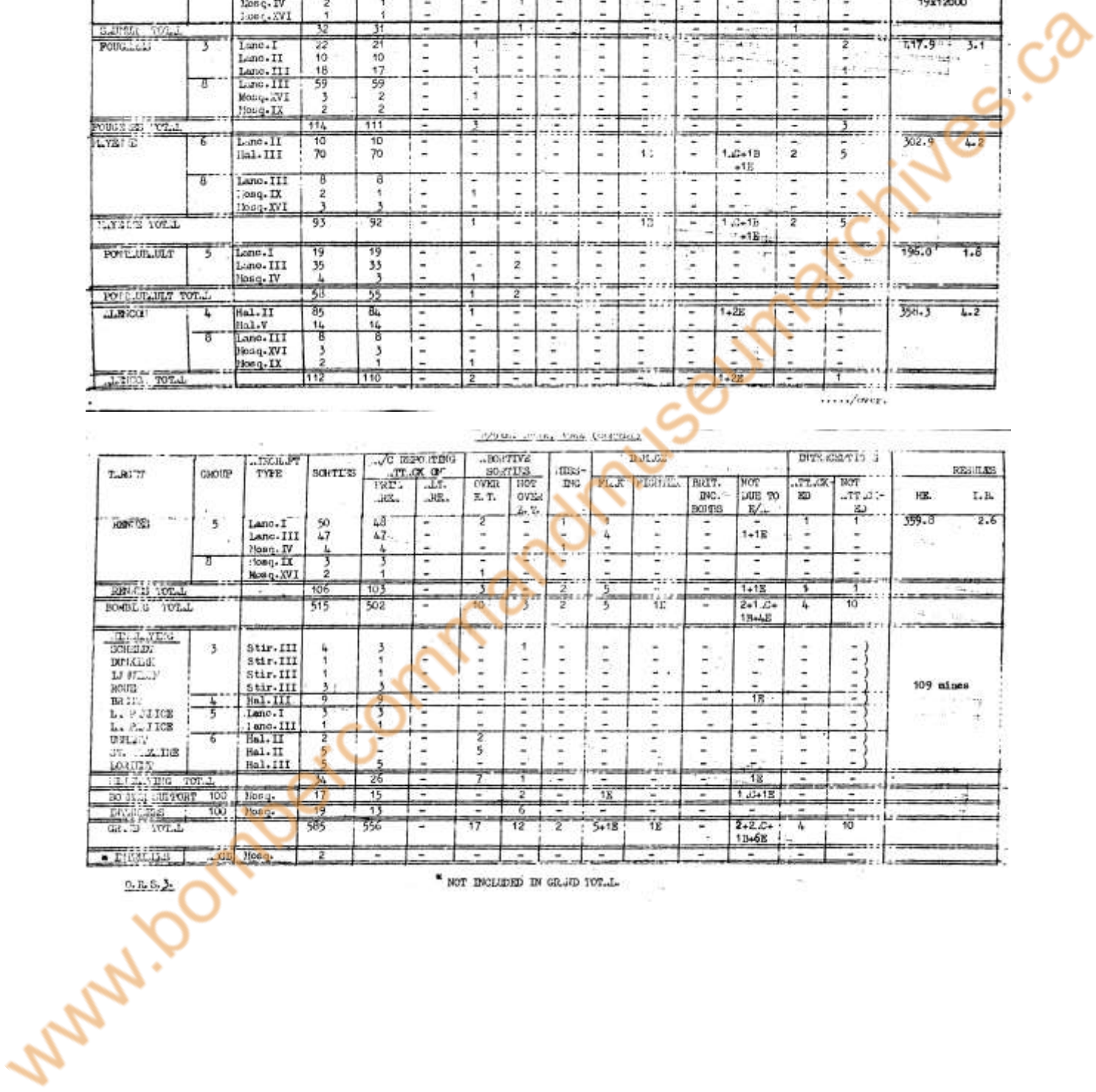
TEAM	GROUP	SCHEDULE TYPE	SCHEDULES	% REPORTING				DNC	DAYS				DIFFERENTIALS		RESULTS			
				PREL. JRS.	ALT. JRS.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLK	FLGTR	BLT. INC. BOBS	NOT DUE TO E/L	FLK-ED	NOT FLK-ED	H.B.	I.B.		
SUNBEL	5	Lanc. I	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	128.1	1.7	
		Lanc. III	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19x12000		
		Hoag. IV	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Hoag. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
SUNBEL TOTAL			32	31	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
POURCELL	3	Lanc. I	22	21	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	117.9	3.1	
		Lanc. II	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	302.9	4.2	
		Lanc. III	18	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lanc. III	59	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
POURCELL	8	Hoag. XVI	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	302.9	4.2	
		Hoag. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		POURCELL TOTAL			114	111	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		LYNCH	6	Lanc. II	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	302.9
Hal. III	70			70	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1.2+1B	2	5				
Lanc. III	8			8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	302.9	4.2	
Hoag. IX	2			1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
LYNCH	8	Hoag. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	302.9	4.2		
		Hoag. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		LYNCH TOTAL			93	92	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	1.2+1B	2	5		
		POURCELL	5	Lanc. I	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	195.0
Lanc. III	35			35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Lanc. IV	4			3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	195.0	1.8	
POURCELL TOTAL				58	57	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
LAWSON	4	Hal. II	85	84	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1+2E	-	1	354.3	4.2	
		Hal. V	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	354.3	4.2	
		Hoag. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
LAWSON	8	Hoag. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	354.3	4.2		
		Hoag. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		LAWSON TOTAL			112	110	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1+2E	-	1		

SECTION: RANKING: NUMBER: 117000: GRADES: PENDING: DATE: JUNE 6/9th, 1944.

TEAM	GROUP	SCHEDULE TYPE	SCHEDULES	% REPORTING				DNC	DAYS				DIFFERENTIALS		RESULTS			
				PREL. JRS.	ALT. JRS.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLK	FLGTR	BLT. INC. BOBS	NOT DUE TO E/L	FLK-ED	NOT FLK-ED	H.B.	I.B.		
SUNBEL	5	Lanc. I	50	48	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	359.8	2.6	
		Lanc. III	47	47	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1+1E	-	-				
		Hoag. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	359.8	2.6	
		Hoag. IX	3	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SUNBEL	8	Hoag. XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	359.8	2.6		
		SUNBEL TOTAL			106	103	-	-	3	-	2	5	-	1+1E			1	
		SUNBEL TOTAL			515	502	-	-	5	-	2	5	1E	-	2+1.2+1B+5E	4	10	
		SUNBEL	3	Stir. III	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109 miles	
Stir. III	1			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Stir. III	1			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109 miles			
Stir. III	3			3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SUNBEL	4	Hal. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1B	-	109 miles			
		Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109 miles			
		Hal. II	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SUNBEL	5	Hal. II	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109 miles			
		Hal. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		SUNBEL TOTAL			36	26	-	-	7	-	1	-	-	1B	-			
		SUNBEL	100	Hoag.	17	15	-	-	2	-	1E	-	-	-	1.2+1E	-	109 miles	
Hoag.	19			13	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SUNBEL TOTAL				585	556	-	-	17	-	12	2	5+1E	1E	-	2+2.2+1B+6E	4	10	
SUNBEL	100			Hoag.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109 miles	
		SUNBEL TOTAL			2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

O.R.S. 3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.



BOMBER COORDINATE REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

9/10th. JUNE, 1944.

LE MANS: STAMPES: RENNES: LAVAL: FLERS: Berlin: etc.

SUMMARY

1. Airfields provided the main targets on this night. Forces of about 100 aircraft visited Rennes, Le Mans, Laval and Flers, and delivered damaging attacks despite cloudy weather. 5 Group went to the railway junction at Stamps, and Mosquitos bombed Berlin. Minelayers were also active. 8 bombers were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Generally fit, with broken cloud. 6 Group may be affected by a cold front.

Continent:- An occlusion will lie at midnight from Hebrides to Douvres to 54N. 04E., becoming warm to Hannover to Luremburg, and cold to Lille to N.W. of Paris to S.E. of Nantes. Cloud will extend to great heights along the cold front; in the warm sector, there will be thick medium cloud and strato-cumulus. 10/10ths. in N.W. France, base 2,000', perhaps improving to 6-7/10ths.

LE MANS: STAMPES: RENNES: LAVAL: FLERS:

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Le Mans: Laval: Rennes: Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 2 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop green T.I., and 3 others red T.I. Illuminators, running up on H2S and GEE, were to aim their flares at T.I. if visible, otherwise blindly. But if there was more than 5/10ths. cloud, they were to hold their flares. The Master Bomber, or his Deputy, was to drop more markers if necessary, and direct bombing. If visual identification was impossible, he was to order crews to aim at the centre of all markers. A Backer-up was to aim whites at the centre of T.I., unless otherwise instructed by the Master Bomber. H = 0015 at Le Mans; 0300 at Laval; 0245 at Rennes. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 1. Illuminators at H - 2. Backer up at H + 4. Main force from H to H + 5.

4. Stamps 5 Group visual marking, with OBOE groundmarking. Datum yellow T.I. were to be dropped and maintained at 4325W. 0150E.; and a spoof yellow was to be maintained 25 miles further S. From H - 3 to H - 1, 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop yellow T.I. on the A/P, cascading from 3,000'. Then the A/P was to be illuminated with flares, by the light of which red spot fires and green T.I. were to be dropped. Yellow T.I. were to be used to denote inaccurate marks. Main force crews were to aim the centre bomb of each stick at a spot fire or green T.I. which had not been advertised as incorrect (unless otherwise ordered by the Controller). H = 2355.

5. Flers Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 2 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop green T.I. cascading from 5,000', and 3 others were to release red T.I. 2 Lancasters were to support them with green T.I. The Master Bomber was to direct crews, himself dropping yellow T.I. if necessary. But if the original marking was accurate, the Master Bomber would remain silent, and crews were to bomb on the centre of all reds and greens, remembering that the reds were likely to be more accurate. H = 0315.

...../SORTIES.

SORTIES

	10.5.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
6. No. of aircraft despatched.....	112	117	71	111	107		
" " " reporting attack on pri. tar.	109	114	67	89	102		
" " abortive sorties.....	3	3	4	22	5		
" " aircraft missing.....	2	5	0	2	0		
	(1.8%)	(3.4%)		(1.8%)			

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- During the late evening, an area of low cloud and rain covered regions S.E. of a line Wash-Thorney Island. This cleared the country by 0400. Elsewhere, there was variable cloud at 2,000' and good visibility.

Targets:- 6-10/10ths. at 6-8,000' at Le Mans, Etampes and Rennes. 10/10- at 5-6,000' (with medium cloud at 10,000') at Laval. 7-10/10ths. from 1-5,000' Flers, with medium cloud at 8-10,000'. Three quarters moon, rising at 0400 hours.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

8. Le Mans 3 groups of red S.E. were tightly packed round the A/P, with yellows slightly to the N. A concentrated attack followed, and bombs were seen to burst among the airfield buildings.
9. Etampes The marking and illuminating were accurate but late, and bombs appeared to extend for some 1,000 yards from a bridge just E. of the A/P.
10. Rennes The markers were very tightly grouped round the A/P - at least 13 were photographed within a quarter of a mile - and good fires were started.
11. Laval Cloud was too thick here for any successful photographs to be obtained during the attack, but 2 exceptionally large explosions were observed.
12. Flers The OBOE reds fell to the W. and N.E. of the A/P., with 2 greens rather closer to the P. The bombing was reported to be centred on the middle of the landing ground.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

13. Le Mans A great concentration of craters blanketed the central portion of the landing ground, with scattered damage to the dispersal areas on the outskirts. The Gnome et Rhone aero-engine factory was damaged again, and 11 aircraft on the ground suffered from fire or blast.
14. Etampes No damage was visible in the target area, but many craters were caused in the centre of the town N.E. of the junction. At least 32 of these cut the electrified railway, demolishing several overhead electrical standards. The railway station suffered from blast.
15. Rennes 9 of the 16 hangars, 7 adjacent buildings and 2 barracks were damaged, some being totally destroyed. 86 craters were caused on the runways, and many more in the centre of the field. Some of this damage was due to the American raid on 8th. June.
16. Laval Damage was confined to the E. dispersal area, where 55 craters were caused. 6 more occurred in the landing area and one on the compass swinging base. A few buildings were damaged.
17. Flers At least 120 craters occurred on the landing ground, and 100 more in the S. dispersal area. Numerous buildings, including 2 large ones, were destroyed or damaged. The railway line to Conde-sur-Noireau was cut in 7 places.

ENEMY DEFENCES

18. Fighter opposition was slight, except at Etampes. This was the only raid which threatened Paris, and the bombing lasted 35 minutes. Fairly intense light

flak was met at Rennes and Laval, and a moderate amount was fired from Le Mans and Etampes.

NEW AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

19. Our bombers destroyed 2 Ju.33, 1 Do. 217, 1 He. 109, and probably 1 Fw.190; and damaged 1 Ju.38. A SEAGATE Mosquito destroyed another Do.217.

CASUALTIES

20. 8 of the 518 aircraft engaged in these attacks were lost - 6 of them on the Etampes raid. As has been stated, the bombers were over the target for 35 minutes, and 5 aircraft were lost during this period - 3 to fighters and 2 to flak. The sixth fell between Versailles and Rambouillet, but the cause is unknown. Both the other losses occurred over Laval, but the cause of only one was established. It was destroyed by light flak at 2-3,000'. No serious landing or taxiing accidents were reported.

BERLIN

21. 36 Mosquitos attacked Berlin. The 5 Mosquitos achieved an excellent concentration of markers, and all but one of the main force landed on these, although there was 10/10ths. cloud. Flak became intense towards the close of the raid, but no aircraft was hit.

MINELAYING

22. 28 Stirlings and Halifaxes laid 105 mines off French ports in the Channel and the Bay of Biscay, without loss.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

23. 2 SEAGATE Mosquitos completed patrols, one destroying a Do.217 in combat. A third Mosquito carried out a net. recon. flight.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

24. 13 aircraft made special sorties without loss.

MEM/MT.
EC/S. 26342/4/CRS4,
1st. October, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SERVICES	A/C REPORTING STATUS				POSITIVE SERVICES				MISSED	DAMAGE				INVESTIGATED		RESULTS	
				A/C		OVER		NOT		FLAK	FIGHTER		BOMBING	NOT DUE TO E/L	A/C	NOT	IR.	DUE TO E/L	IR.	I.B.
				PRG.	REL.	A.T.	OVER	A.T.	OVER											
LE HANS	6	Lanc. X	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	383.7	3.8
		Lanc. III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hal. III	76	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	8	Lanc. III	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LE HANS TOTAL			112	109	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
KLEPPEN	5	Lanc. I	45	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	420.1	2.1
		Lanc. III	63	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	8	Mosq. XVI	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
KLEPPEN TOTAL			117	114	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
KLEPPEN TOTAL	0	Lanc. III	66	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	219.3	3.9
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
KLEPPEN TOTAL			71	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LAVAS	1	Hal. III	93	79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	308.5	3.9
		Lanc. III	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	8	Mosq. IX	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LAVAS TOTAL			111	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LAVAS TOTAL	8	Mosq. IV	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55.8	1.1
		Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LAVAS TOTAL			36	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

over.

9/10/41 - 300, 1944 (Cont.)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SERVICES	A/C REPORTING STATUS				POSITIVE SERVICES				MISSED	DAMAGE				INVESTIGATED		RESULTS	
				A/C		OVER		NOT		FLAK	FIGHTER		BOMBING	NOT DUE TO E/L	A/C	NOT	IR.	DUE TO E/L	IR.	I.B.
				PRG.	REL.	A.T.	OVER	A.T.	OVER											
FLEGG	1	Lanc. I	51	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	301.3	3.6
		Lanc. III	51	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FLEGG TOTAL			107	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FLEGG TOTAL			554	517	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIDLANDS	3	Star. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105 miles	
		Star. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		LORING	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	6	Hal. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. II	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MIDLANDS TOTAL			28	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIDLANDS TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIDLANDS TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			585	548	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
* SPARE OBS.			13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

0.1.41

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

10/11th JUNE 1944

ACHERES : ORLEANS : VERSAILLES : DREUX : Berlin : Minelaying : LeafletsSUMMARY

1. 432 aircraft were detailed to attack vital communication centre in enemy occupied territory. The targets were the great marshalling yards and supply depots of Acheres, Versailles-Matolots and Dreux in the Paris area, and the main line junction, military depot and railway centre of Orleans. 18 bombers were lost in these operations, but great damage was done to the targets, much valuable rolling stock was destroyed and many of the important supply lines to the Normandy front completely blocked. Most of the missing aircraft were shot down by fighters, which came up in strength in the Paris area, but the bombers claim to have destroyed or damaged 9 of the 18 enemy aircraft concerned in the reported interceptions. 32 Mosquitos attacked Berlin, for the second night in succession, but did not return. Mines were laid in enemy waters from Heligoland to St. Nazaire by a mixed force of Stirlings, Halifaxes and Lancasters, without loss. 10 of all the returning aircraft had sustained damage by enemy action, and five had received damage from other causes. Apart from the missing aircraft, 22 bombers, all on the main targets, were attacked by enemy fighters, but only four were damaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Generally fit for take-off and return; occasional light rain. Moderate visibility, with local deteriorations to less than 2000 yds. Good diversions, if needed, in Training Groups.
Route and Target:- Little or no cloud from Channel to Target Areas in France. Large amounts, up to 10/10ths St. Cu. and Cu in Minelaying areas. Variable St. Cu. over Eastern England on return.

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. VERSAILLES AND DREUX The method to be used on these two targets was controlled OBOE ground marking. In both cases 1 Mosquito on each of Channels 1, 3, 11, 12 and 15 was to drop T.I. red or green. (2 at H-3, 2 at H-2 and 1 at H-1). Illuminators (4 Lancasters at H-2 with 6 Clusters Hooded Flares) were to make a run-up on H2C, but to drop their bombs on T.I. if seen - the first flare at "sights on", the remainder at 10 second intervals. If there were more than 5/10ths cloud, no flares were to be dropped. The Master Bomber and his deputy were to assess the marking, dropping further markers if necessary, and to direct the bombing. If cloud prevented visual identification of the targets the Master Bomber was to instruct the Force to bomb on the centre of all markers. A Backer-up (1 Lancaster at H4 with white T.I.) was to bomb as directed by the Master Bomber, or, failing this, to aim at the centre of all the markers. The Master Bomber was to arrive at H-2 and bomb as necessary, the deputy to mark at H+1. The Main Force was divided into two waves of equal strength bombing from H - H+4 and H+4 - H+8 respectively. H was at 0040 at Versailles, the attack being timed to last from 0037 - 0043; and at 0055 at Dreux, the attack here to last from 0052 - 0103 hours.

4. ACHERES On this target the method to be employed was OBOE ground marking. Mosquitos on Channels 3 and 1 were to drop T.I. green - 1 at H-3 and 1 at H-2; and on Channels 11, 12 and 13 to drop T.I. red, 1 at H-3, 1 at H-2 and 1 at H-1. The Main Force, divided into 2 waves of 50 Lancasters each, bombing from H - H+4 and H+4 - H+8, was to aim at the centre of the red T.I.s, the centre of the red and green T.I.s, or the centre of the green T.I.s. The attack was timed to last from 0107 - 0118 hrs. and H was 0110 hrs. Aircraft were to bomb below cloud between 3 and 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

5. ORLEANS For the fourth of the main targets the planned method was 5 Green visual marking. 6 Lancasters and 4 Mosquitos were to mark the aiming point with red spot fires by the light of illuminating flares. If these markers were accurate, they were to be backed up by further red spot fires and green T.I. Yellow T.I. were to be used to cancel any markers which fell wide, and skymarker flares green with red stars to indicate that further illumination was necessary. Neither of these was to be bombed by the Main Force. They were to aim the centre bomb of the stick at the uncancelled red spot fires or green T.I. or both as directed by the Controller. 10 aircraft of 106 Squadron were to attack the railway line N. of the target providing their own illumination. Bombing heights were to be decided on by the Controller at the target, H was to be at 0040 hrs., when the Main Force was timed to arrive, and aircraft were to attack on a heading of $195^{\circ} \pm 10^{\circ}$ with a crater spacing of 15 yards.

6. SORTIES

	<u>Disp.</u>	<u>Att. P/A</u>	<u>Att. alt.</u>	<u>Ab.</u>	<u>Miss.</u>
Versailles	112	103	0	9	4 (3.6)
Dreux	102	98	0	4	6 (5.9)
Achères	106	96	1	9	7 (6.6)
Orleans	112	107	0	5	1 (0.3)
TOTAL	432	404	1	27	18 (4.2)

7. WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Bases: Patches of very low cloud and occasional rain in S.E. East Anglia at first, otherwise bases fit all night with small amounts of cloud and moderate visibility.

Route and Targets: Small amounts of St. Cu. over England, almost cloudless over Channel and N. France with 10/10ths St. Cu. starting to N. of Orleans. Achères, Dreux and Versailles, clear with slight ground haze; Orleans, 10/10ths St. Cu. base 7000 ft. Clear below this height with slight haze. Winds at Targets at 7-8000/300° - 315°/17 m.p.h. approx.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

8. ACHÈRES Marking was early but well placed. The markers became obscured by smoke during the course of the raid; the bombs being concentrated around them. One large reddish-white explosion was observed.

9. DREUX The target was successfully marked, and a good concentration of bombs around the markers was achieved. The Master Bomber instructed the Main Force to bomb on Yellow T.I. after 057 hours as no reds were to be seen, and the greens had burnt out.

10. VERSAILLES Ground detail was clearly seen by earlier crews. Some red T.I. fell to the S.W. of the A/P and Master Bomber told crews to bomb on Yellow T.I. after 0040 hours. The yellow and white T.I. were well placed around the aiming point and the bombing appeared to be concentrated around them. Several large explosions were reported, one of which rocked aircraft at nearly 8,000 ft.

11. ORLEANS Marking was punctual and accurate, markers being plotted between 265-75 yds. of the aiming point. Apart from a few loose sticks bombing was seen to be very well concentrated on the markers, although smoke and haze hampered observation of the last stages of the attack. All the aircraft of 106 Squadron detailed to make a low level attack to the N. of the main aiming point succeeded in identifying their target and attacking it.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

12. ACHÈRES Fresh damage was observed in and around the West Junction. Both the N.W. and E. Junctions were completely blocked by the cumulative effect of hits at various points along the railway lines.

13. DREUX The weight of the attack fell on the Eastern part of the railway centre. The goods sidings were completely incapacitated and all three through lines severed.

14. VERSAILLES There was not much fresh damage to the junction, but the marshalling yards were extensively damaged. All the main lines were blocked as well as most of the sidings. Much rolling stock was destroyed. Additional hits were seen on the East side of the embankment leading to the flyover.

15. ORLEANS The most severe damage was caused to the Reception sidings including the junction of the Montargis and Pithiviers lines with the main Orleans - Paris line. At least a quarter of a moderately full loading in the sidings was destroyed, damaged or derailed. The Loco. shed and repair shop was completely gutted; further extensive damage has been caused to the Military Depot west of the reception sidings. As a result of the low-level attack to the N. of the main aiming point, sticks of bombs falling on or close to the tracks had cut one or more roads in six places and immobilised two trains.

ENEMY DEFENCES

16. All four bomber forces crossed the French coast just after midnight in dark, almost cloudless weather. Although they were accurately plotted they met no enemy fighters until they reached the Paris area. Here the enemy was able to use the considerable night fighter force concentrated around the French capital and the bombers were heavily engaged for a short period. Bombers attacking Acheres met fighters in the target area, the Dreux force was engaged 40 - 50 miles to the West of the target and the aircraft which had by now left Versailles were attacked in the vicinity of Chartres. 5 Group aircraft at this time flying beneath 10/10ths cloud near Montcaudan encountered a few fighters. It was in these areas, mainly West and South West of Paris, and at Acheres, that nearly all our losses occurred. Fortunately, at this point, when the moon was about to rise, one of the fighter controls mistakenly ordered the fighters to a position south of Rouen, stating that the bombers had returned towards the coast near Dieppe, whereas they actually came back westwards across Normandy and over the Channel Islands. This error helped to reduce the interceptions after the moon rose, as the bombers met very little trouble on this part of their route.

17. It is possible that the presence of enemy fighters in relatively large numbers in and around the target areas may have been responsible for the remarkably few casualties to flak on this night. Although the bombers flew between 3,000 and 5,000 feet and the skies were clear, only five of the returning aircraft had suffered flak damage.

CASUALTIES

18. It was estimated that 10 aircraft were shot down by fighters, all in the areas mentioned above, and that only 3 losses were due to flak, at Versailles, Acheres and Chartres. A small number of aircraft were seen falling later, but this was probably due to previous damage. The bombers claim to have destroyed 5 enemy fighters, and to have damaged 4 others.

19. Five of the returning bombers had sustained fighter damage, three received damage from machine gun fire, thought to have been from British aircraft, one was damaged on landing as a result of a technical failure, and one, the only aircraft returning damaged from Orleans, had sustained slight damage from fragments of its own bombs.

20. BERLIN 32 Mosquitos were detailed to attack Berlin. They bombed on markers from above 5-10/10ths cloud. A few decoy markers were seen, which may have misled some crews. Accurate heavy flak was encountered in the target area, and of the two aircraft which failed to return, one was reported shot down by flak over Osnabruck. On their route out, the Mosquitos must have fallen in with the end of a G.C.I. practice, which was continued in earnest as one of the fighters was congratulated on a victory over what was probably the other missing Mosquito. None of the returning Mosquitos was damaged.

MINELAYING

21. 29 of the 30 aircraft detailed to lay mines in enemy waters completed their task, one being abortive in the target area. No aircraft was missing from this operation, one received damage from flak and two were intercepted by enemy fighters which did not press home their attacks.

BOMBER SUPPORT AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

22. Mosquitos of 100 Group and A.O.S.B. patrolled airfields in France, Belgium and Holland; A.O.S.B. claimed 2 enemy aircraft destroyed, one Me.110 was seen and chased by 100 Group Mosquitos, but contact was lost. 5 aircraft of 100 Group were forced to return early, mostly by bad weather conditions. Other Mosquitos of 100 Group completed uneventful patrols in support of the bombers. 100 Group also sent out 13 Mosquitos on S.D. patrols, which were completed.

DCP/MEA
BC/S.26342/5 ORS4(c)
3rd November 1944

TARGET	GRUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MIS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRI. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. INCL.	NOT DUE TO E.T.	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	H.E.	I.L.	
BRUX	1	Lanc. III	59	53	1	4	1	3	2	1	-	2+L.C.	5	7	376.5	.7	
		Lanc. I	42	47	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			106	95	1	4	1	7	2	1	-	2+L.C.	5	9	-	-	
BRUX	8	Moq. IV	14	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	51.8	.5	
		Moq. XVI	15	15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	28 x 4000	-	
		Lanc. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			32	32	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BRUX	5	Lanc. I	53	50	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	386.8	1.4	
		Lanc. III	55	53	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		Moq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			112	107	-	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	
BRUX	6	Lanc. X	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	356.5	3.6
		Hal. III	90	84	-	6	-	2	1+L.C.	1.C.	-	-	-	5	5	-	-
		Moq. XVI	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BRUX	8	Moq. IX	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. IX	7	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			112	103	-	9	-	4	1+L.C.	1.C.	-	-	6	6	375.6	2.7	
BRUX	3	Lanc. III	23	23	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	375.6	2.7
		Lanc. I	48	47	-	-	1	2	-	1.C.	-	-	-	6	6	-	-
		Lanc. II	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	1.C.	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
		Moq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BRUX	8	Moq. IX	2	0	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. IX	2	0	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	7	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			102	98	-	1	1	6	1	2.C.	-	1	10	8	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			464	436	1	24	3	20	4+L.C.	1+L.C.	-	4+L.C.	-	-	-	-	

...../cont'd

33

10/11th. JUNE, 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GRUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MIS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRI. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. INCL.	NOT DUE TO E.T.	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	H.E.	Ino.
MINEFIELD	3	Stir. III	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. I	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MINEFIELD	4	Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MINEFIELD	6	Hal. II	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
		Hal. II	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MINEFIELD	8	Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			30	29	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	
MINEFIELD	100	Moq.	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq.	18	12	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MINEFIELD	8	Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			520	484	1	25	10	20	5+L.C.	1+L.C.	-	4+L.C.	22	25	-	-
MINEFIELD	100	Various	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq.	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

C.R.S.J.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

11/12th JUNE, 1944

MASSEY-PALAISEAU: NANTES: EVREUX: TOURS: Berlin: etc.SUMMARY

After a night devoted to the bombing of airfields, Bomber Command continued its assault on railway junctions and marshalling yards. Forces of 50-110 aircraft visited Massey-Palaisseau, Nantes, Evreux and Tours, and caused useful damage, despite cloudy weather. Mosquitos attacked Berlin and enemy airfields, and minelayers and intruders also operated. 6 bombers were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

6. Bases:- Fit all night. Well broken cloud and good visibility.

N. France:- 7-9/10ths. st.-cu. from 2-5,000' over Paris and Tours. Risk of 10/10ths over Nantes, Caen and Evreux, with a chance of breaks to 4-7/10ths after 0200 hours.

MASSEY-PALAISEAU: NANTES: EVREUX: TOURSPLANS OF ATTACK

6. Massey-Palaisseau: Nantes: Tours Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 2 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop greens, and 5 others rods. Illuminators were then to run on H2S and CH, and aim their flares at T.I. (if visible) - the first flare at "lights on", and the rest at 10-second intervals. The Master Bomber (or his deputy) was to direct the bombing, dropping further markers if necessary. If visual identification was impossible, crews were to be instructed to aim at the centre of all T.I. A backer-up was to aim white T.I. at the centre of markers at H + 2, unless otherwise ordered by the Master Bomber. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 1. Illuminators at H - 2. Main force from H to H + 5. H = 0005 at Massey-Palaisseau; 0245 at Nantes; 0040 at Tours.

7. Evreux OBOE Mosquitos were to drop rods and greens commencing from 1,500', as for the other targets; but then, 1 Group Lancasters were to back those up with greens. The Master Bomber might then drop yellows to attract the attention of the main force. If the marking was accurate, he would maintain R/T silence. The main force was to aim at the centre of rods and greens (later, at the centre of greens only), unless otherwise instructed. H = 0320.

SORTIES

	M-P	N	EV.	T
5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	99	63	106	61
No. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area....	69	58	102	57
No. of abortive sorties.....	30	5	4	4
No. of aircraft missing	1	1	1	1
	(1.0%)	(1.6%)	(1.0%)	(1.6%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Fit

French targets:- 10/10ths at 2,500', with tops to 7-9,000' (4,500' at Evreux). Half moon, rising at 0200.

...../over

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. No ground detail photographs were obtained during the attacks, so that it is impossible to reconstruct the course of the raids in detail. In each instance the bombing was concentrated on the markers, and the respective Master Bombers were satisfied as to the accuracy of the latter.

DAY RECONMISSANCE

8. Massey-Palaisenau The attack was concentrated on the target, and tracks and rolling stock were widely damaged. The bridges themselves sustained no hits, but several near misses.

9. Nantes The bridges sustained no further damage, but at least 20 bombs hit railway tracks, and nearly all the through lines (most of which had been blocked by previous raids) were out. A few railway sheds were damaged. One bridge on the Nantes-Bordeaux line had collapsed still further as a result of an earlier attack, and was now shown to have been damaged in 26 places.

10. Evreux The weight of the bombing fell in the eastern half of the yard between the footbridge and the road overbridge, where a group of craters cut all tracks. The main railway station received a direct hit, and the barracks was destroyed. Roads converging upon the road overbridge from the S. and S.E. were blocked at several points by direct hits, and the footbridge was affected by a near miss.

11. Tours Direct hits were scored on the tracks leading E. to Nantes, and those running S. to Bordeaux, as well as on the lines from the passenger station and the embankments. The flyover and the bridge over the burrowing junction were damaged by near misses.

ENEMY DEFENCES

12. Fighters reacted sensitively to the Massey bombers' penetration toward Paris, but the cover of low clouds, below which our aircraft attacked, prevented them from making effective interceptions. Our returning aircraft reported only fighter attacks on all targets. Light flak was fairly intense at Tours and Nantes.

CASUALTIES

13. 4 bombers were lost - one on each target. 3 were seen to fall to light flak at Nantes, Tours and Evreux; the fate of the other is unknown.

BERLIN

14. 33 Mosquitos were despatched against Berlin. The marking and bombing were both concentrated and accurate, in conditions of 5-10/10ths thin cloud. Intense flak was encountered. 2 aircraft were lost, one W. of Bremen, and one near Fallersleben, but the causes are not known.

MINELAYING

15. 13 Halifaxes laid 50 mines off the French Channel and Biscay ports with no incident.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

16. 30 Mosquitos from 100 Group were out on SERRAIE and intruder patrols. Despite adverse weather, one SERRAIE Mosquito engaged and destroyed a Me.110 N. of Paris, and an intruder shot down another at Melun. 23 more intruders were despatched by A.D.G.E., and attacked airfields at Beaumont, Montdidier and St. ... None of our fighters was lost. A Mosquito of 8 Group completed a net. recon. ...

HLA/EMD
BC/S.26342/4/ORS.4
2nd October, 1944.

SECOND AIRCRAFT CHART NOT AVAILABLE

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C RECORDED		A/C NOT RECORDED		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				DIVERSIFICAL		RESULTS		
				PRIM. LOSS	SEC. LOSS	OVEN S.T.	NOV. S.T.		PLACED	FIGHTED	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/...	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	L. B.	L. B.	
MUSSEY-PALMER	4	Lanc. III	86	58	-	28	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	223.9	3.0
		Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. IX	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MUSSEY TOTAL		99	69	-	30	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	3			
MANNING	3	Lanc. I	24	22	-	2	-	-	1+1	-	-	-	-	-	-	203.1	3.6
		Lanc. II	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	11	11	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	8	Lanc. III	8	7	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		Mosq. IX	1	-	-	1	-	-	1+1	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MANNING TOTAL		63	58	-	5	-	1	1+1	-	-	-	1.0	1	-			
EVERETT	1	Lanc. I	50	48	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.2	2.6
		Lanc. III	51	50	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
	8	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EVERETT TOTAL		106	102	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
TOURS	8	Lanc. III	58	54	-	4	-	1	3+1	-	-	-	1	1	-	200.0	3.9
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOURS TOTAL		61	57	-	4	-	1	3+1	-	-	-	1	1	-			
BERRY	8	Mosq. IV	12	12	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	52.2	.6
		Mosq. IX	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28x4000	-
		Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BERRY TOTAL		33	32	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-			
NO. OF A/C TOTAL		362	318	-	43	-	6	10+2	-	-	-	2+1.0	3	6			

over.

SECOND AIRCRAFT CHART NOT AVAILABLE

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

12/13th. 1944.

GELSENKIRCHEN/NO. 035711: 10/10th. 1944: 10/10th. 1944: 10/10th. 1944: 10/10th. 1944:
MIEB: Cologne:

SUMMARY

1. Bomber Command returned in strength to Europe after 5 weeks devoted to the bombing of French targets, with a successful attack by 276 aircraft on a synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen. Other forces of over 100 aircraft were sent against rail junctions and bridges serving the German troops in Normandy; they met less cloud than had recently been experienced over Northern France, and all the targets were well hit. Mosquitoes bombed Cologne, and blindlayers and intruders were active. 40 bombers were lost (17 on Gelsenkirchen and 23 on the French targets) but our crews claimed to have destroyed 20 enemy fighters, and to have damaged 3 others.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night, with little cloud until dawn.

Germany:- Patchy cloud in Western G., gradually dispersing. Well broken strato-cumulus elsewhere.

France:- 10/10ths. Patchy cloud in Western F., breaking eastwards. Base 15,000' over Normandy, with little or no strato-cumulus.

GELSENKIRCHEN/NO. 035711

PLAN OF ATTACK

3. 0900 groundmarking. 0900 Mosquitoes were to drop red T.I. between H - 5 and H + 7 (with reserves to attack between H + 5 and H + 12, if any aircraft failed). 6 backers-up were to drop greens at the centre of reds, or of earlier greens, at H + 2 and H + 11. The main force, breaking in 2 waves between H and H + 8, were to aim at the centre of reds or of greens. H = 0100.

SORTIES

4. No. of aircraft despatched.....	294
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	276
" " " " alternative area.....	1
" " abortive sorties.....	17
" " aircraft missing.....	17 (5.3)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Bases:- Mainly fit, but some northern airfields had to arrange diversions.

Route and targets:- 5-5/10ths. tenuous cloud at 16-22,000' (base 25,000' at target). Good visibility. Half moon, rising at 0230 hours. Wind at 25,000': 230°/75 m.p.h. (55 m.p.h. at 1,000').

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

6. No. of aircraft plotted in target area (round detail.....6).....	13
" " " " " off " " " (file tracks.....7)	
" " " " " " " (round detail...135).....	195
" " " " " " " (file tracks..... 50)	
...../The photographic	

The photographic evidence would thereby suggest that only 15 aircraft bombed in the target area, at that 20 were within 5 miles of the L/P. Reconnaissance photographs, however, show that many more aircraft were successful than these figures indicate.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

7. The markers were, for the most part, extremely accurate, at least 8 groups of T.I. being plotted in the immediate vicinity of the L/P. One red was dropped in error 9 1/2 miles 203° away, and attracted about 35 aircraft. Bombing was accurate until 0103, when smoke began to cover the target area. After that time, the usual tendency towards undershooting began to assert itself.

DAY RESULTS

8. The target was heavily damaged over its entire area. Nearly all the important elements were affected, especially the incineration houses, generating plants, turbine house, hydroelectric plants, gas generation plant and paste preparation plant. Many oil tanks were destroyed, and all 13 cooling towers were damaged. Railway lines, sidings and wagon within the plant were widely dislocated.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. The confusion resulting from the number of approaching bomber forces caused some delay in the enemy night fighter reaction, but finally the controls for N. Germany and Holland took over responsibility for the Gelsenkirchen raid. The fighters were too late to intercept the bomber force, which approached direct from the Scheldt estuary, either on its outward journey or at the target, but, approaching the Zuyder Zee on the return, it was overtaken by free-lance fighters from at least three Gruppen. They caused at least 11 losses before the Dutch North Sea coast was reached.

Heavy flak at the target was less intense than expected, being fired in a loose barrage at 17-22,000 feet. Any searchlights in the Ruhr were exposed in static cases.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED (All targets)

10. 20 enemy fighters were destroyed on this night, including 2 by our intruders. Returning bombers claimed 1 Do. 17, 1 Ju. 88, 110, 1 FW. 109, 2 T/E., 1 Me. 109, 1 FW. 190 and 4 B/E. Fighters shot down 1 Ju. 108 and 1 Ju. 110. 8 of these victories were gained by 4 Group Hurricanes in the 2 unions raids. 8 more fighters were claimed as damaged.

RESULTS

11. 11 of the 17 missing aircraft were destroyed by fighters - all on the way home; 3 fell to flak at the target and Dettien; and 3 were lost to unknown causes. No returning aircraft was seriously damaged.

MIENS/LONGEAU: CAMBrai: ARRAS: MIENS/St. ROCH:
ARRAS:

PLANS OF ATTACK

12. Unions/Longeau: Arras: Unions/St. Roch: Cambrai: Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 2 OBOE Mosquitoes were to drop greens and 3 search lights. Illuminators were to run up on Y but aim their flares at T.I. if possible (first flare "sights on", the rest at 10 second intervals). The Master Bomber or his Deputy was to direct bombing, themselves dropping more flares on T.I. if necessary. If visual identification was impossible, crews were to be told to aim at the centre of all markers. Backer up was to aim whites at the centre of T.I., unless otherwise ordered. Mosquitoes from H - 3 to H - 1. Illuminators at H - 2. Backer-up at H + 2. Main force from H to H + 2. H = 0010 at Unions/Longeau: 0140 at Arras: 0125 at Unions/St. Roch: and 0025 at Cambrai.

13. Caen 5 Group visual marking, supplemented by CICE groundmarking. 5 CICE Mosquitos were to drop yellow T.I., beginning from 5,000'. The target was then to be illuminated with flares, in the light of which 5 Group Mosquitos were to drop red spot fires on the $\sqrt{2}$. If accurate, these were to be backed up with more red spot fires and green T.I. Yellows were to be used to advertise wide markers, and special T.I. flares as an appeal for more illumination. Main force crews were to aim the first half of each stick at the centre of markers, half the force following 5 Group's and the rest as ordered, unless otherwise ordered by the Controller. H = 0415.

14. Peitiers 5 Group visual marking, as for Caen, except that no CICE aircraft was to operate. H = 0445.

<u>SQUADS</u>	<u>Disp.</u>	<u>Att./w</u>	<u>Abort.</u>	<u>Miss.</u>	
15. <u>Amiens/Longueau</u>	113	108	5	4	(3.5%)
<u>Caen</u>	113	77	41	0	
<u>Peitiers</u>	115	115	0	0	
<u>Larras</u>	107	100	7	5	(5.5%)
<u>Cambrai</u>	105	93	7	9	(8.5%)
<u>Amiens/St. Roch</u>	112	105	5	4	(3.5%)
	965	834	85	23	(2.4%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

16. 9-10/10ths. thin layers at 10-15,000' over Amiens, Larras and Cambrai. Thin broken layers at 6-10,000' and 11-20,000' over Caen. 8-10/10ths. strato-cumulus and 1/10ths. medium at Peitiers. Half moon, rising at 0330. Wind at 5,000': 260°/25 m.p.h.

DESCRIPTIVE OF ATTACKS

17. Amiens/Longueau 2 yellows and 1 red fell within 100 yards of the $\sqrt{2}$, in a circle round it, and the bombing was concentrated on these.

18. Caen A layer of clouds was unexpectedly found at 6-10,000', over the target, and aircraft had no time to take it. Only one T.I. was plotted, 200 yards W. of the $\sqrt{2}$, which was obscured by smoke. The attack seemed scattered.

19. Peitiers The marking here was most accurate, at least 5 spot fires and one T.I. being photographed in the narrow target area, partly E. of the $\sqrt{2}$. Bombing was concentrated.

20. Larras Here, too, the markers were tightly grouped round the $\sqrt{2}$, and the attack developed well, although the Master Bomber was not clearly heard.

21. Cambrai The Master Bomber found difficulty in estimating the accuracy of markers, and the bombing spread across the town N. of the target.

22. Amiens/St. Roch An accurate attack was delivered in good weather, many crews identifying the $\sqrt{2}$ visually.

REMARKS CONCERNING DAMAGE

23. Amiens/Longueau A concentration of 45 craters lay across the target area. The western approaches to the flyover was cut in 2 places, and nearly all the rail lines at the junction were severed.

24. Caen More severe damage was caused in the area of the river bridges. The Pont de Vaucelles sustained a direct hit and was displaced in the central segment. The approaches to the bridge from the Quai Juillet and the Quai Admiral Hamelin were blocked. The Pont des Abattis had half its deck broken away over a distance of 50 feet, and the railway bridge further east collapsed into the river. Hits were also scored on the railway line. All the approaches to the bridges were pitted with craters.

...../25. Peitiers.

25. Poitiers This target was most seriously damaged. The N. loc. Depot was destroyed; the passenger station and goods depot, station sidings and loop sidings were badly damaged; many lines, and approach roads were disrupted; and at least 10 wagons were derailed or damaged.

26. Arras The turntable near the Longueueue sheds, and the bridge leading over the yards from the passenger station to the reception sidings, both received direct hits, the former being destroyed. The bombers cut all lines leading to Douai, Lille and Union, Doullen, Bailleu.

27. Combrai The weight of the attack fell on the track crossing and junction, and across the Combrai-Luncheon north sidings, causing great damage to tracks and stopping all through traffic. Every leg of the double triangular junction received direct hits.

28. Unions/St. Roch 12 bombers occurred in the Lille line junction, 7 of them causing damage to tracks. The through lines to Lille were out in 3 places; the roadbridge was hit in the centre; and the sidings to the goods sidings on the Le Havre line were blocked. Severe damage was caused to installations outside the target; and that 35 bombers occurred in the goods sidings, cutting nearly all the tracks; a main goods shed was destroyed and another was badly damaged; a wagon repair shop, and about 10 factory buildings were directly hit.

ENEMY DEFENCES

29. The Longueueue and Combrai forces entered occupied territory before nautical twilight, so as to leave before moonrise; and as they reached their targets, the St. Roch and Arras bomber streams came in over the same route, i.e. round the south of the coastal defence belt. Meanwhile, other aircraft had gone to Caen in Normandy, and Poitiers in the far south. The forces on both Unions targets, Combrai and Arras all met stiff fighter opposition, mostly on the early part of the homeward routes. The Combrai bombers, in particular, were heavily engaged from the target to Lille. The route to Arras lay over an area to which the searchlight and defence belt seemed to have been extended from the west, and these aircraft, having bombed from 4,000' and losing height as they departed, presented good targets for the light guns. The forces on Caen and Poitiers met few fighters. Flak was not severe at the targets themselves. 16 of the 20 enemy aircraft destroyed on this night went down in contact with the forces engaged on these French targets - 3 of them to the Lille and Unions.

CASUALTIES

30. No aircraft was lost on Caen or Poitiers; but 35 did not return from the other 4 French targets. 9 of these were lost on Combrai - 6 to fighters between the target and Lille, one to light flak at the latter town, and 2 to coastal defences or flak ships off Dunkirk and Ostend. 3 of the 4 Longueueue losses were due to fighters between the target and Bailleu, and the fourth to target flak. The casualties on Arras are less easily identified, but 9 seem to have been caused by light flak on the way out and 9 by fighters on the homeward route. The St. Roch force lost 4 bombers, 2 to flak at Unions and 2 to fighters between Beauvais and Rouen. No serious landing or taxiing accidents occurred, but one Halifax was struck by a bomb over Longueueue, and was wrecked beyond repair, although it made its base.

CLOSURE

31. 27 Mosquitos carried out a diversionary raid on Cologne. 4 Y-aircraft dropped markers, and the main force attacked their glow through 10/10ths. cloud. All returned undamaged.

MINELAYERS

32. 14 Stirlings and Halifaxes were despatched to lay mines off Le Havre and the Biscay ports. 12 were successful, laying 56 mines. No aircraft was lost, although 2 were attacked by fighters; but 2 Stirlings were wrecked in accidents.

...../33. Fighter Operations.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

33. 39 SPARF and intruder Mosquitos were dispatched from 100 Group, and 51 intruders of A.D.G.B. bombed enemy airfields in France, the Low Countries and Germany. The 100 Group intruders destroyed 1 Ju.110 and 1 Ju.188 in combat, and the A.D.G.B. Mosquitos severely damaged 1 Ju.188 at Chevreux airfield. One Mosquito of A.D.G.B. did not return. 3 Ju.100 Portronics operated in support of the bomber streams. 13 Halifaxes, Mustangs and Mosquitos had special sorties; and a Mosquito carried out a net. recon. flight.

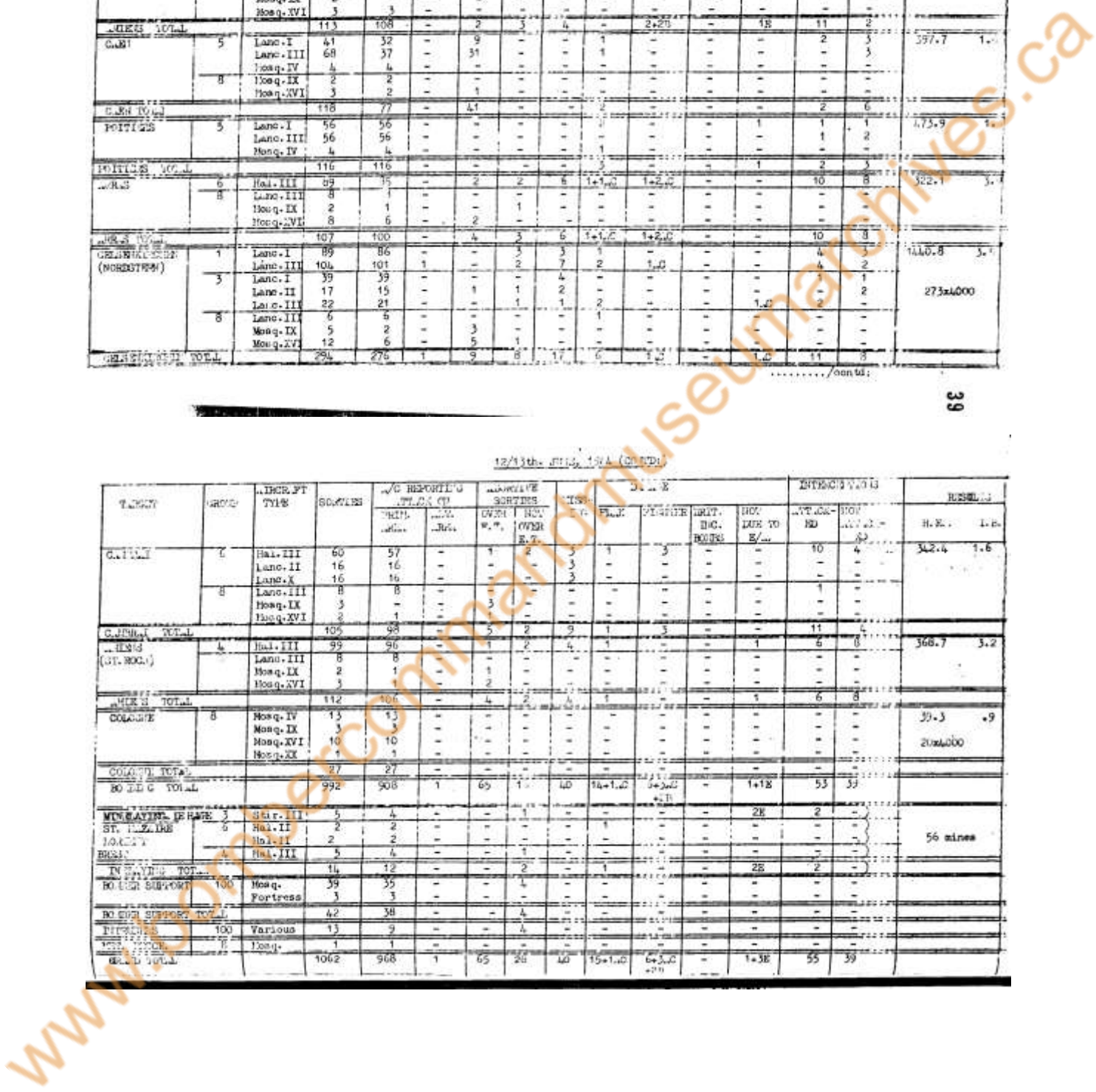
MW/JT.

FC/S. 25342/5/0:34,
7th. October, 1944.

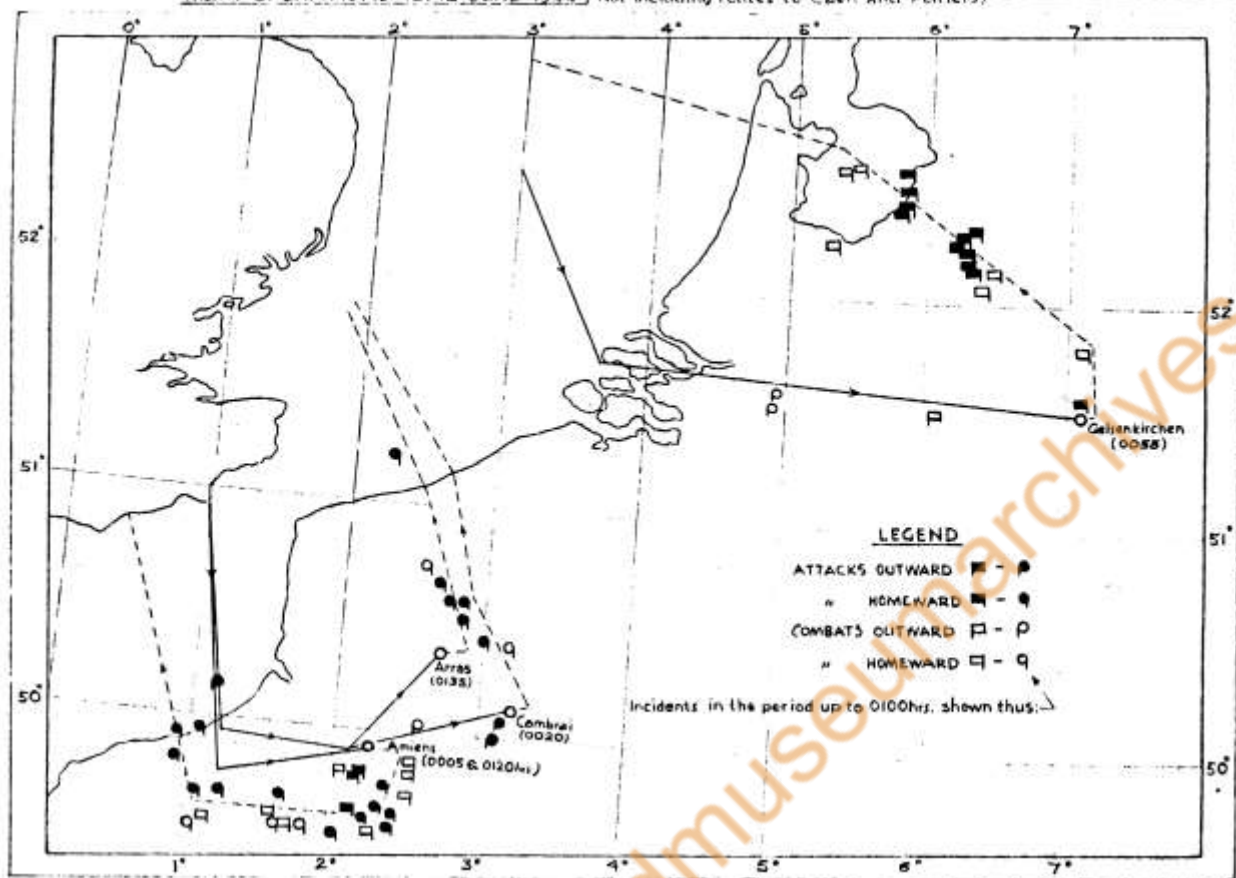
TARGET	GROUP	INCR. PT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING TRACK OF		% REPORTING SORTIES		DISEMPOWER	LADDER		DURABLE TO		RESULTS				
				PR. JCT.	LT. JCT.	OVN. R.T.	NOV. O'VER		PL. PI	PI PI	INT. B.C. TOOLS	NOT DUE TO B/W	AV. CR. NO	NOT ATTACHED	H. E.	I. B.	
MINES (LAMPREY)	4	Hal. III	86	85	-	-	1	4	-	2+10	-	12	10	2	309.1	3.9	
		Hal. V	14	12	-	-	2	-	-	10	-	1	-				
	8	Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. IX	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MINES TOTAL			113	108	-	-	2	3	4	2+20	-	12	11	2			
CAMP	5	Lanc. I	41	32	-	-	9	-	1	-	-	-	2	3	377.7	1.0	
		Lanc. III	68	57	-	-	31	-	1	-	-	-	-	3			
	8	Moq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. XVI	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
CAMP TOTAL			118	77	-	-	41	-	-	-	-	2	6				
POITINES	5	Lanc. I	56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	173.9	1.0	
		Lanc. III	56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2			
		Moq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
	POITINES TOTAL			116	116	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3			
MINE	6	Hal. III	89	85	-	-	2	2	6	1+1.0	1+2.0	-	-	10	8	322.1	3.0
		Lanc. III	8	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	8	Moq. IX	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. XVI	8	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MINE TOTAL			107	100	-	-	4	3	6	1+1.0	1+2.0	-	-	10	8		
GENERAL SCREEN (NORDBYRN)	1	Lanc. I	89	86	-	-	3	3	1	-	-	-	4	3	1110.8	3.0	
		Lanc. III	104	101	1	-	2	7	2	1.0	-	-	4	2			
	3	Lanc. I	39	39	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1			
		Lanc. II	17	15	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	2			
		Lanc. III	22	21	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	1.0	2			
	8	Lanc. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. IX	5	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. XVI	12	6	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
GENERAL SCREEN TOTAL			294	276	1	-	9	8	17	6	1.0	-	11	8			

12/11th JMS, 1941 (Contd)

TARGET	GROUP	INCR. PT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING TRACK OF		% REPORTING SORTIES		DISEMPOWER	LADDER		DURABLE TO		RESULTS					
				PR. JCT.	LT. JCT.	OVN. R.T.	NOV. O'VER		PL. PI	PI PI	INT. B.C. TOOLS	NOT DUE TO B/W	AV. CR. NO	NOT ATTACHED	H. E.	I. B.		
CAMP	6	Hal. III	60	57	-	-	1	2	3	1	3	-	-	10	4	342.4	1.6	
		Lanc. II	16	16	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-				
	8	Lanc. X	16	16	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1				
		Moq. IX	3	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				
CAMP TOTAL			105	98	-	-	5	2	9	1	3	-	-	11	4			
MINES (ST. ROCH)	4	Hal. III	99	96	-	-	1	2	4	1	-	-	1	6	8	368.7	3.2	
		Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
	8	Moq. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Moq. XVI	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
MINES TOTAL			112	106	-	-	4	2	4	1	-	-	1	6	8			
COLONIA	8	Moq. IV	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Moq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Moq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
COLONIA TOTAL			27	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
BOBBO TOTAL			992	908	1	-	65	17	40	16+1.0	14+2.0	-	-	1+18	53	39		
MINE (MINE BRIDGE)	3	Hal. III	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2E	2	-				
		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-				
MINE (MINE BRIDGE)	4	Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Hal. III	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
MINE BRIDGE TOTAL			14	12	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2E	2	-				
BOBBO SUPPORT	100	Moq.	39	35	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Fortress	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOBBO SUPPORT TOTAL			42	38	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
POITINES	100	Various	13	9	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
POITINES TOTAL			14	10	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
GRAND TOTAL			1062	908	1	-	65	20	40	16+1.0	14+2.0	-	-	1+18	55	39		



NIGHT OPERATIONS [12/13 JUNE 1944] (Not including routes to Caen and Mortiers)



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FINAL PLOT OF NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHS

SECRET

TAKEN 12/13th JUNE 1944. TARGET **GELSENKIRCHEN.**
(NORDSTERN SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT)

41



Scale: 1 inch = 1 mile

Photographs Taken with Bombs		
	PFF. Mather NE	Playforce NE
Plotted by ground detail	6	7
Plotted by fires	6	7
P-91ED	By Ground Detail	6, 7
Within target area	6	7
Outside target area	135	60
CRS B C 512A Date 22 B 44 Tracer K-H Ref N R R 632 Colld JC		

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BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

13/14th. JULY, 1944.

Munichen-Gladbach: Duren:

SUMMARY

1. Munichen Gladbach 8 OBOE Mk.I Mosquitos attacked Munichen Gladbach. 3 on OBOE and 5 on D.R. From this and all the rest of the night's operations, all aircraft returned safely.
2. Duren 3 LEBUM LEAF Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Duren.
3. Minelaying 12 Lancasters and Starlings were despatched to lay mines off N.W. France. 11 were successful, laying 57 mines.
4. Fighter patrols 5 Mosquitos carried out SPECIAL patrols, destroying one Ju.88 in combat; and 10 intruders were sent against enemy airfields. Another Mosquito completed a net. recon. flight.
5. Special operations 2 Halifaxes made special sorties.

WEATHER FORECAST

6. Bases:- Fit all night, with broken cloud and good visibility.
Continent:- Much heavy cloud to great heights, with large clear areas.

SORTIES

7.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	39
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	36
	" " abortive sorties.....	3
	" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. Bases:- Fit.
Munichen Gladbach and Duren:- 5-10/10ths. cirrus to 24,000'.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. Only one fighter attack occurred, off the Biscay coast. Slight flak was met at Munichen Gladbach.

CASUALTIES

10. No aircraft was lost. A minelayer was slightly damaged by flak.

MJM/JT.
EC/S. 25342/6/OR:4,
22nd. October, 1944.

MINUTES GENERAL DUES & DUES LIST, WEEK END - 14/15th JUNE, 1944.

TEAM	GRADE	AIRCRAFT TYPE	FORTIES	A/C REPORTING		SQUAD		LOSS	MISCELLANEOUS				RESULTS		
				PREL. JRS.	INT. USE	OVZ. E.T.	NOT OVZ. E.T.		PERCENT	REPT. INC. HOURS	NOT FOR VO. /hr	ATTN. NO.	REMARKS	HS	I.E.
REPAIR- SQUAD	B	Moq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. XVI	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DUES	B	Moq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REPAIRS															
REPAIR	B	Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57 mines
REPAIR		Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
REPAIR		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
REPAIR		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
REPAIR		Stir. III	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
REPAIR		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
REPAIRING TOTAL			12	11	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
REPAIR SUPPORT	MOQ	Moq.	15	15	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REPAIR TOTAL	B	Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			39	36	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
REPAIRS	B	Hal.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Q. S. S.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

14 JUNE - BOMBER COMMAND RESUMES DAYLIGHT RAIDS ON ALMOST A DAILY BASIS

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

14/15th. JUNE, 1944.

LUNAY-SUR-ODON: CAMBRAI: LE HAVRE: DOULAI: EVRECY: ST. POL:
Gelsenkirchen: etc.SUMMARY

1. 224 aircraft delivered a most accurate attack against troop concentrations at Lunay-sur-Odon, completely obliterating the target area. Other forces of over 100 aircraft bombed the port area at Le Havre (following the big daylight raid), railway junctions at Cambrai, Douai and St. Pol and M/T concentrations at Evreay. Mosquitos visited Gelsenkirchen and enemy airfields, and minelayers and fighters were active. Only 5 aircraft, of the total force of over 900, were lost. 6-7 enemy fighters were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night. Cloud will disperse to small amounts.

Continent:- Little cloud W. of the Rhine. Further east, convection cloud will tower to 15,000' in coastal areas, but good clearances will be found inland.

LUNAY-SUR-ODON: CAMBRAI: LE HAVRE: DOULAI: EVRECY: ST. POL:PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Lunay-sur-Odon 5 Group visual marking, with OBOE groundmarking, 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop yellow T.I. cascading from 3,000'. The target then was to be illuminated with flares, in the light of which the A/P was to be marked with red spot fires. If these were accurate, they were to be backed up with more red spot fires, and green and red T.I. Yellows were to be used to advertise wide markers, and skymarkers (G/R stars) to indicate that further illumination was required. A Controller was to direct the attack.

4. Cambrai: Le Havre (2nd. attack): Douai: Evreay: St. Pol. Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 2 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop green T.I., and 3 others reds. Illuminators were to run up on GEM and HES and drop their flares blindly (or aim at T.I., if any were yet down). But if there was more than 5/10ths. cloud, flares were to be retained. The Master Bomber, or his deputy, was to drop more markers if necessary, and direct the bombing. If visual identification was impossible, he was to order crews to aim at the centre of all markers. Backer-up was to aim whites at the centre of markers, unless otherwise instructed. Mosquitos from H - 5 to H - 3. Illuminators at H - 4 and H + 1. Backer-up at H + 3. Main force from H to H + 6. H = 0055 at Cambrai; 0115 at Le Havre (2nd. attack); 0200 at Douai; 0255 at Evreay; and 0315 at St. Pol.

5. Le Havre (1st. attack) OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop green T.I. Main force crews were to aim visually at the A/I., or at the centre of greens. 5 Group would be dropping reds, but these were to be ignored. H = 2235. Main force in 3 waves from H to H + 21. Bombing height: 18-21,000'.

...../SORTIES.

BOMBS

	D.S.	Att./A	Att.	Abort.	Miss.
6. Lunay-sur-Odon.....	224	219	1	4	0
Cambrai.....	107	105	0	2	2 (1.9)
Le Havre.....	119	116	0	1	1 (0.5)
Douai.....	112	108	0	4	2 (1.8)
Evreux.....	113	108	0	5	0
St. Pol.....	111	105	0	6	0
Total:	736	763	1	22	5 (0.6)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- Fit.

Lunay, Le Havre, Evreux:- Clear.

Cambrai:- 5-10/10ths., base 8-10,000', with large breaks.

Douai:- 10/10ths., base 10,000'.

St. Pol:- 3-8/10ths. base 8,000', with large breaks.

Less than half moon, rising at 0320.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

8. Lunay-sur-Odon The marking and bombing was accurate and concentrated.
9. Cambrai Crews found difficulty in hearing the Master Bomber, but a fair concentration was achieved. 4 groups of T.I. were plotted within 400 yards of the A/P.
10. Le Havre Both attacks - the first on the docks and harbour facilities, and the second, 2½ hours later, on shipping - were highly concentrated, in excellent weather. Great fires were started all over the dock area, and a ship was also seen to be burning. Hits were seen on the Maritime Station.
11. Douai Crews bombed beneath cloud. 2 red T.I. were seen 500 yards S.W. of the A/P., and 2 greens and a yellow further distant. Bombing was good.
12. Evreux This attack was most accurate. 7 T.I. were plotted in the immediate vicinity of the A/P., and the bombing was placed in the centre of them.
13. St. Pol Marking was good, though tending to spread 1% of the target. Haze and smoke prevented detailed observation.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

14. Lunay-sur-Odon This target, containing 14/T and troop concentrations at the time of the attack, was obliterated.
15. Cambrai No separate reconnaissance was undertaken for this attack, but severe damage resulted from it and the raid of the 12/13th. June. The track crossing and junction, and the annex sorting sidings were heavily hit, stopping all through traffic.
16. Le Havre The E-boat pens received several hits, one of which penetrated a roof. Many small craft and barges, jetties, warehouses and dock installations were destroyed by fire, and the large floating dock was half submerged. Little damage was caused to residential property outside the dock area.
17. Douai No new damage to this target was visible.
18. Evreux A concentration of craters occurred in the village and in open fields N. and E. of it. The whole target area was affected.

19. St. Pol Fresh air raids caused throughout the target area, cutting at least half the tracks and destroying 6 buildings and much rolling stock.

HEAVY DEFENCES

20. Fighter opposition was surprisingly slight. Only 14 of the 757 returning aircraft were attacked, and none of these was damaged. Little flak was encountered.

CASUALTIES

21. 5 aircraft were lost on all these targets - a very small proportion. All these losses seem to have been caused by fighters. No returning aircraft was badly damaged.

SELSKIRCHEN

22. 35 Mosquitos attacked Selskirchen. The main force were distracted by decoy markers, and most attacked on 22/10. All returned undamaged.

NEBELYDG

23. 12 Stirlings laid 57 mines off French ports without incident.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

24. 37 Mosquitos of 100 Group were out on SEARCH and intruder patrol. 33 intruders were also despatched from A.D.G.P., to bomb airfields in France and the Low Countries. 2 Ju.88, 2 He.110, 1 He.210 and 1 (probably 2) Ju.188 were destroyed. All our fighters returned safely.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

25. 18 aircraft were sent on special operations. All were successful, and none was lost.

MEM/WT.
 FC/S. 25342/4/0834,
10th. October, 1944.

TABLET	GROUP	INCIDENT TYPE	SOMEONE	W/C REPORTING				MISS-ING	J. DATE				INTRA-2.0.0.8		RESULTS		
				PLACED	PLACED	OVEN	OVEN		PLACED	PLACED	PLACED	PLACED	H.E.	L.D.			
UNLY-SUB-ODON	5	Lanc. I	95	93	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	119	118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. IX	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			224	219	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DOUL	6	Hal. III	96	95	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		107	105	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LE HAVRE	5	Lanc. I	53	53	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. II	17	16	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	30	30	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		119	118	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DOUL	6	Hal. III	100	98	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	8	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. IX	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. XVI	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		112	108	-	-	3	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SVRECY	4	Hal. III	90	86	-	-	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. V	10	9	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		113	108	-	-	3	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

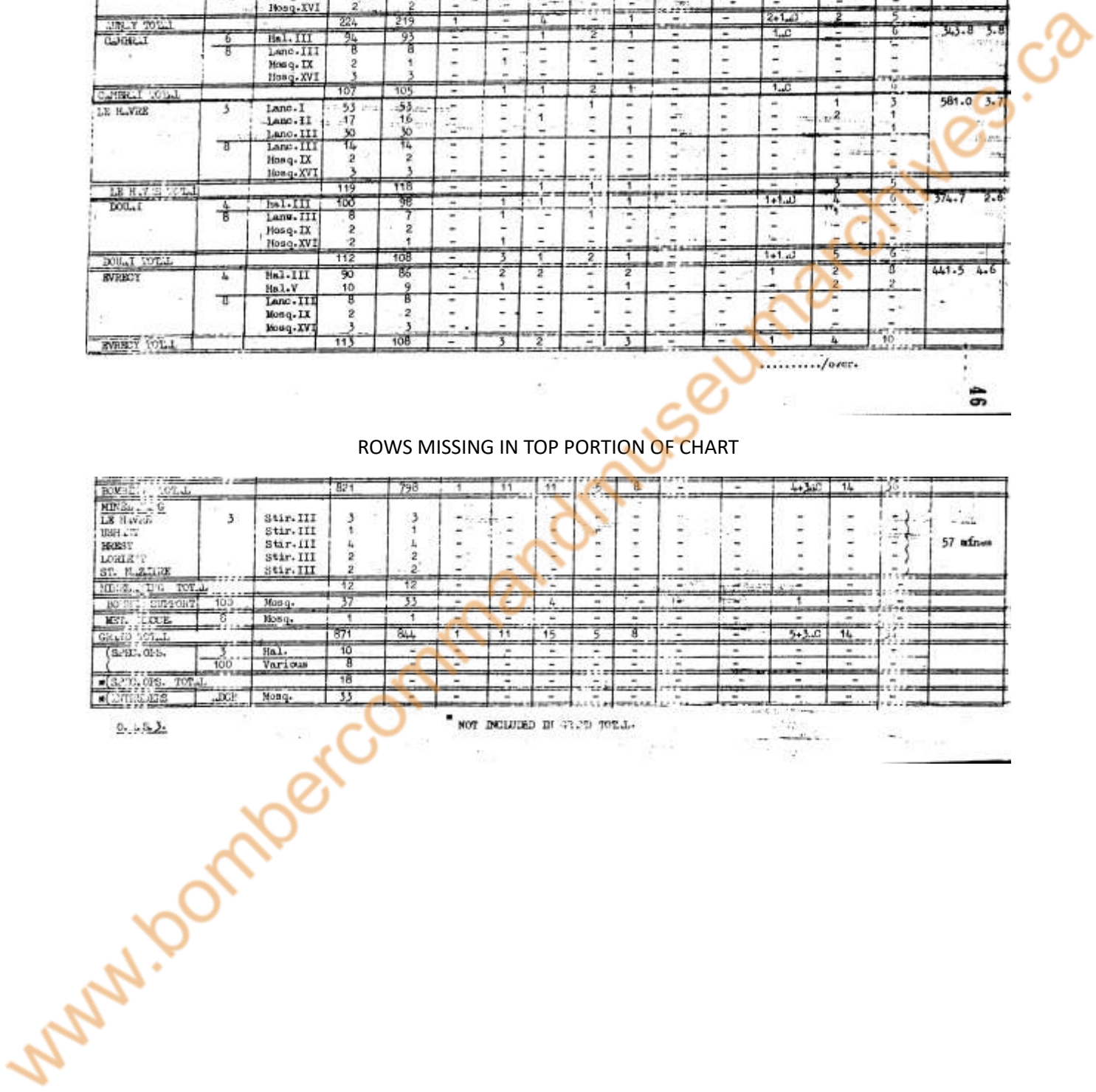
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ROWS MISSING IN TOP PORTION OF CHART

TABLET	GROUP	INCIDENT TYPE	SOMEONE	W/C REPORTING	MISS-ING	J. DATE	INTRA-2.0.0.8	RESULTS
UNLY-SUB-ODON	3	Stir. III	3	3	-	-	-	-
		Stir. III	1	1	-	-	-	-
		Stir. III	4	4	-	-	-	-
		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-
		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-
		12	12	-	-	-	-	
DOUL	100	Hosq.	37	33	-	-	-	-
		Hosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-
		871	844	1	11	15	5	
(S.V. OPS.	100	Hal.	10	8	-	-	-	-
		Various	8	-	-	-	-	-
		18	-	-	-	-	-	
DOUL	100	Hosq.	33	-	-	-	-	-

0.1.1.1.

NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

15/16th. JUNE, 1944.

543780

FOUILLARD: CHATELLERAULT: VALENCIENNES: LENS: GELSENKIRCHEN: etc.SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Lens and Valenciennes, an ammunition depot at Fouillard and a fuel dump at ChateLLerault were separately attacked by forces of about 100 aircraft. All were squarely hit. Mosquitos visited Gelsenkirchen, and over 70 of our fighters carried out patrols. 13 bombers were lost, but at least 12, probably 15 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- warm front will move eastwards across the country, reaching Newcastle-Cornwall by midnight, and Wash-Boscombe Down by 0400. On this front behind it, and 60 miles ahead of it, there will be rain and very low cloud. S.E., there will be little cloud below 1,500'.

Continent:- Low cloud and rain W. of Havre-Nantes. 10/10ths. medium cloud above 12,000' between this line and Calais-Paris-Tours, but little low cloud. Broken cloud further east.

FOUILLARD: CHATELLERAULT: VALENCIENNES: LENS.PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Fouillard: Valenciennes: Lens. DEOB groundmarking. 2 Mosquitos were to mark each A/P with greens, and 3 others were to drop reds. Illuminators were to run up on GEE and H2S, but were to bomb on T.I., if any were yet down. A backer-up was to release whites on the centre of all earlier T.I., unless otherwise instructed by the Master Bomber, who was also to direct the bombing of the main force. H = 0005 at Fouillard; 0035 at Valenciennes; and 0050 at Lens. Mosquitos from H - 5 to H - 3. Illuminators at H - 4. Backer-up at H + 3. Main force from H to H + 6 (to H + 8 on Fouillard).

4. ChateLLerault 5 Group visual marking. The target was to be illuminated with flares, in the light of which Mosquitos were to drop red spot fires on the A/P. If accurate, these were to be backed up with more red spot fires, and green and red T.I. Yellows were to be used to advertise wide markers. Main force crews were to aim the first bomb of each stick at the centre of all uncancelled markers, unless otherwise ordered by the Controller. H = 0050.

SORTIES

	F.	Ch.	V.	L.
5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	113	114	113	111
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	112	114	110	10
" " abortive sorties.....	1	0	3	4
" " aircraft missing.....	0	1	5	6
		(0.9)	(4.4)	(5.2)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Cloudy to overcast, with rain and drizzle.

Fouillard:- Thin cloud, base 14,000'. Good visibility.

.../Valenciennes:

Valenciennes:- 10/10ths. at 7-10,000'.

Lens:- 10/10ths. at 14,000'.

Chatellerault:- Clear.

No moon.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. Fouillard The marking was highly accurate, no less than 22 T.I. being grouped within 350 yards of the L/P. The Master Bomber was well heard and bombing was concentrated.
8. Chatellerault The bombing and marking were believed to be concentrated and accurate, but the thickness of the surrounding forest made it difficult to distinguish markers from fires.
9. Valenciennes The early marking was scattered, but was corrected by the Master Bomber, and later sticks were seen to fall across the yards.
10. Lens The marking and bombing were accurate and concentrated, the detail of the yards being clearly visible in the flarelight.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

11. Fouillard The N.W. section of the dump was heavily hit, 4 large and 45 small storage buildings being destroyed. In addition, 7 large and 5 small buildings were severely damaged. The surrounding roads were cut in many places.
12. Chatellerault This fuel dump contained 35 visible storage sites. Covering foliage made accurate assessment of the damage impossible, but 8 sites were definitely destroyed, and 15 more sustained very near misses. Most of the craters were within 500 yards of the L/P., centred slightly to the N.
13. Valenciennes The yards were squarely hit, and all through lines were cut. Locomotive facilities and wagon shops suffered seriously.
14. Lens Most of the damage, which was severe, occurred in the E. end of the sorting sidings and the W. end of the reception sidings. The passenger station and goods station were hit, and many wagons were derailed and destroyed.

ENEMY DEFENCES

15. An early fighter reaction was stimulated by intruders, which were mistaken for bombers, and both the incoming forces to Valenciennes and Lens were accurately plotted by the German controllers. Fighters were detailed from Florennes, Leon and Coulommiers to deal with them, and only heavy cloud prevented them from intercepting our bombers on a large scale before the attacks were well under way. The return of the Chatellerault force towards Paris, and the presence of intruders near the capital, caused fighters to be sent there, while others were ordered to Le Havre. The latter were forbidden to cross the coast, and a Ju. 88 which disobeyed this order was shot down by a Lancaster off the coast of England. Another Ju.88 was probably destroyed off Guernsey. Flak was negligible.

CASUALTIES

16. All the 12 losses were probably due to fighters. 9 bombers went down in combat in the area Cambrai-Epinoy-Arras; one off Dunkirk and one near St. Omer. No returning aircraft was badly damaged.

GELSENKIRCHEN

17. 31 Mosquitos were despatched against Gelsenkirchen. The city was covered with thick strato-cumulus, and 23 aircraft attacked on GIE/DR. One Mosquito was lost near the target, but the cause was not observed.

...../A/DELING.

MINE LAYING

18. 9 Halifaxes and Stirlings, out of a force of 11, laid mines off Dutch, French and Belgian ports. None was lost.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

19. 71 Mosquitos from 100 Group and A.D.G.B. were active on SEARCH and intruder patrols. The 100 Group intruders destroyed 2 Ju.88 and 2 Me.110; those from A.D.G.B. shot down 1 Fw. 190, 1 Me.109, 1 Ju.88, 4 U/I aircraft and 2 probables, as well as damaging 4 others. None of our fighters was lost. A Mosquito of 8 Group carried out a net. recce. flight.

MEM/JT.
EC/S. 26342/4/ORS4,
12th. OCTOBER, 1944.

FOUILLARD, CHATELERAULT, VILHAINCENNES, LENS, GELSENKIRCHEN, MINELAYING Etc.

JUNE 15/16th, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				DESCRIPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	I.B.
FOUILLARD	4 8	BoL. III	99	98	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	371.5	4.6
		Mos. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mos. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOUILLARD TOTAL			113	112	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-
CHATELERAULT	5	Lanc. I	52	52	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	414.5	3.1
		Lanc. III	58	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-
		Mos. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		CHATELERAULT TOTAL			114	114	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	2
VILHAINCENNES	3	Lanc. I	47	47	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	4	406.3	3.9
		Lanc. II	19	18	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
		Lanc. III	55	55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
	8	Mos. IX	4	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mos. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
VILHAINCENNES TOTAL			113	110	-	2	1	5	1	-	-	-	2	7	-	-
LENS	3 8	BoL. III	30	29	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	424.6	3.6
		Mos. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mos. XVI	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	76	76	-	-	-	6	1/2	-	-	-	2	3	-	-
LENS TOTAL			111	107	-	3	1	6	1/2	-	-	2	4	-	-	
GELSENKIRCHEN	8	Mos. IV	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.1	-
		Mos. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24 x 4000	-
		Mos. XVI	20	18	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GELSENKIRCHEN TOTAL			31	29	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING TOTAL			482	472	-	5	5	13	2+1/2	-	-	5	5	15	-	-

..../cont'd

60

JUNE 15/16th, 1944 - Cont'd.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				DESCRIPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	I.B.
MINELAYING	3	Stur. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46 Mines	
		Stur. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Stur. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Stur. III	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Stur. III	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		BoL. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MINELAYING TOTAL			11	9	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOMBER SUPPORT	100	Various	34	29	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MET. RECOE.	8	Lnc.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			526	511	-	7	10	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
* DIVERGERS	ADGB	Monq.	37	-	-	-	-	-	2+1/2	-	-	5	5	15	-	

* Not included in Grand Total.

9.1.1.1

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

16/17th. JUNE, 1944.

STERKRADE: DOMLEGER: SAUTRECCOURT: BEAUVOIR: RENESCURE: Berlin:SUMMARY

1. The synthetic oil plant at Sterkrade, in W. Germany, was visited by 321 bombers; but it was covered with thick cloud, and the attack was scattered. Some damage was caused. Opposition from both fighters and flak was severe, and 31 bombers were lost. 4 flying-bomb sites in the Pas de Calais were attacked by forces of 70-120 aircraft; Mosquitos went to Berlin, and minelayers and fighters were active as usual. One more aircraft was lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Much strato-cumulus. Good visibility.
 Ruhr:- 8-10/10ths. strato-cumulus, base 1,500-2,000', tops 9,000', possibly with patchy layers above.
 France:- Much strato-cumulus in T., becoming broken in S. and N.E.

STERKRADE: DOMLEGER: SAUTRECCOURT: BEAUVOIR: RENESCURE.PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Sterkrade OBOE groundmarking. 10 Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. Backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of reds, or of earlier greens; and the main force were to bomb on the same principle. If the T.I. appeared only as a glow, they were to aim at the near side of the glow. H = 0120. Mosquitos from H - 5 to H + 5. Backers-up at H + 2 and H + 6. Main force in 2 waves from H to H + 8. Bombing height: 19-22,000'.
4. Domleger: Sautreccourt: Beauvoir: Renescure. OBOE groundmarking. 5 Mosquitos were to mark each target with red T.I., and the main force were to aim at the centre of the markers. At Domleger and Renescure, main force crews were to run up on GEE, cross-checking on H2S. H = 0150 at Domleger; 0315 at Sautreccourt; 0040 at Beauvoir; and 0055 at Renescure.

<u>SORTIES</u>	Disp.	Att. 2/1.	Att. alt.	Abort.	Miss.
5. Sterkrade.....	321.....	301.....	1.....	19.....	31 (10.0%)
Domleger.....	108.....	103.....	0.....	5.....	0
Sautreccourt.....	105.....	102.....	0.....	3.....	0
Beauvoir.....	117.....	116.....	0.....	1.....	0
Renescure.....	75.....	70.....	0.....	5.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Cloudy. Light rain. Moderate to good visibility.
 Sterkrade:- 10/10ths. thick cloud over target and whole route. Tops at target, 14,000'. No moon. Wind: 340°/35 n.p.h.
 French targets:- 10/10ths. to 6-10,000', except at Sautreccourt (6-8/10ths).

...../...../.....: OF MILCKS.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. Sterkrade The markers quickly disappeared into the cloud. Most aircraft bombed their glow, but the attack seemed scattered.

8. French targets All these attacks appeared to be accurate and concentrated but the thickness of the cloud made it impossible for ground detail photographs to be obtained during the attacks.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

9. Sterkrade 9 units of this plant were damaged; an oil storage tank, a small building E. of the main refinery, a contact oven house, a gas purification tank, a compressor house, a fertilizer silo, a research building, the catalyst plant and the office buildings.

10. French targets The sites at Doolager, Sautrecourt and Renescure were severely damaged, several buildings in each being destroyed. At Beauvoir, groups of craters were visible just outside the target, which appeared to be unaffected.

ENEMY DEFENCES

11. The Sterkrade force was divided into 2 roughly equal streams, which took separate routes, passing respectively N. and S. of Rotterdam. Unable to determine where the main attack would develop, the enemy controllers reverted to the old beacon system, first assembling their fighters near Bocholt. The 2 bomber routes converged towards this beacon, which is usually used for the defence of the Ruhr and lies only 40 miles from Sterkrade, and so met severe fighter opposition. Flak was also intense, and is thought to have accounted for a third of the losses. The forces engaged on French coastal targets met little opposition from flak or fighters. One enemy aircraft was destroyed.

COUNTER-MEASURES

12. 2 new radio-countermeasures were used on this night, for the first time in support of operations. MANDREL SCREEN, in which MANDREL-fitted aircraft orbit positions 80 miles from the enemy coast to jam the early warning system, and FIDGET, a ground jammer directed at those M/F beacons used to transmit information to fighters.

CASUALTIES

13. 31 aircraft were lost on Sterkrade - 7 on the first wave (attacking from H to H + 4) and 24 on the second (H+4 to H + 8). 14 appear to have been due to fighters, 9 to flak and 8 to unknown causes (probably fighters). No losses were incurred on the French targets. One returning aircraft was irreparably damaged by flak, and another was wrecked in a tamping accident.

BERLIN

14. 26 Mosquitos carried out a harassing attack on the German capital. The target was covered with 10/10ths. cloud in layers, and although the Y-aircraft dropped their markers in a good group, only 9 aircraft were able to bomb their glow. The rest attacked on OEE/DR. All returned safely.

IRELAND

15. 12 aircraft were sent to lay mines off the Friesians and the Biscay coast. 11 were successful. All returned safely.

FIGHTERS AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

16. 34 Mosquitos of 100 Group and 19 of A.D.G. 2 carried out SERRATE patrols without loss, destroying 1 Ju.88 and 1 Me.110, and damaging a third aircraft. 41 Stirlings, Halifaxes, Fortresses and Mosquitos were engaged on special operations including bomber support. One Stirling was lost without trace.

MEM/JT.

PO/2. 25/3. 42/1. TRSL.

TARGET	GROUP	LAUNCHER TYPE	SORTIES	W/O REPAIRS		SOME REPAIRS		MISS-ING	LOSS				REPAIRS		RESULTS		
				PHIL. ISL.	U.S. ISL.	OVER K. T.	NO. OF CVFA		FLIGHT	BRIT. INC. LOSS	NOT DUN. BY	REPAIRS	H. K.	L. B.			
STRENGTH	1	Hal. III	99	99	-	-	6	12	5	1+2.0	-	-	11	3	1272.1	2.0	
		Lanc. I	43	41	-	-	2	5	1+1.0	+1.8	-	-	9	3			
	8	Lanc. III	57	55	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	2	128x1000		
		Mosq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	5	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	6	Lanc. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. II	10	15	-	-	-	1	2	1+1.0	-	-	2	2			
	Lanc. X	21	20	-	-	-	1	2	1.0	-	-	2	3				
	Hal. III	63	59	-	-	4	10	1	1	-	2	4	1				
STRENGTH TOTAL			321	301	1	6	13	31	10+2.0	3+3.0	-	2	11				
									+1.8								
DOLEMAN	1	Lanc. I	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	305.6	1.3	
		Lanc. III	33	33	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	1	-			
	4	Hal. III	37	35	-	-	2	-	-	1.0	-	1.0+1.8	3	-			
		Hal. V	12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
	DOLEMAN TOTAL			106	103	-	2	2	-	2.0	-	1.0+1.8	4	-			
SUFFICIENT	6	Hal. III	100	98	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2.0	4	2	350.8	1.7	
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	3	Mosq. XVI	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
SUFFICIENT TOTAL			105	102	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2.0	4	2			
BEJWIDE	5	Lanc. I	43	42	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	440.2	1.9	
		Lanc. III	69	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BEJWIDE TOTAL			117	116	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-				

TARGET	GROUP	LAUNCHER TYPE	SORTIES	W/O REPAIRS		SOME REPAIRS		MISS-ING	LOSS				REPAIRS		RESULTS	
				PHIL. ISL.	U.S. ISL.	OVER K. T.	NO. OF CVFA		FLIGHT	BRIT. INC. LOSS	NOT DUN. BY	REPAIRS	H. K.	L. B.		
BOMBING	8	Mosq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	262.7	1.3
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	70	67	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMBING TOTAL			75	70	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BEJWIDE	8	Mosq. IV	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39.5	.8
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20x1000	
		Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BEJWIDE TOTAL			26	26	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			
BOMBING TOTAL			752	718	1	14	19	31	11+2.0	5+5.0	-	3+3.0	39	2		
									+1.8							
MILITARY	3	Stir. III	6	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MILITARY TOTAL			12	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBING	100	Various	54	48	-	-	6	1	13	-	-	-	-	-		
		BOMBING TOTAL			818	777	1	15	25	35	14+2.0	3+5.0	-	3+3.0	39	2
									+2.8							
W/O REPAIRS	100	Various	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hal. III	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
W/O REPAIRS TOTAL			21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
SOME REPAIRS	100	Mosq.	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		SOME REPAIRS TOTAL			19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

17/18th. JUNE, 1944.

AULNOYE: MONTDIDIER: ST. MARTIN L'HORTIER: OISEMONT: Berlin: Ruhr:SUMMARY

1. N. France was covered with thick cloud, and a comparatively small effort was despatched. Forces of about 100 aircraft visited the marshalling yards at Aulnoye and Montdidier, and flying bomb sites in the Pas de Calais. The markers were invisible through the cloud at both the yards, and most crews brought their bombs back. At the other targets, crews bombed on the glow of T.I., or on GEE. Mosquitos went to Berlin and the Ruhr. One aircraft was lost on Montdidier.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night. Variable cloud.

Continents:- Variable strato-cumulus in Germany and France. 8-10/10ths. in N.E. France, maximum thickness 1,500', base probably 2,000'.

AULNOYE: MONTDIDIER: ST. MARTIN L'HORTIER: OISEMONT.PLANS OF ATTACKS

3. Aulnoye Controlled OBCE groundmarking. 5 Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. A Master Bomber from 1 Group was to back them up or re-mark the T.I. with impact greens. Yellows were to be used as correctives. Crews were to aim at the centre of greens unless otherwise ordered. H = 0135.

4. Montdidier: Oisemont. Controlled OBCE groundmarking. 2 Mosquitos were to drop greens, and 3 others reds. Illuminators were to run up on GEE and HZS, but were to aim flares at T.I., if possible. The Master Bomber or deputy was to direct the main force, and a backer-up, who was to attack with whites at H + 3. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of markers if visual identification was impossible. H 0255 at Montdidier; 0310 at Oisemont.

5. St. Martin L'Hortier OBCE groundmarking. 5 Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. The main force were to aim at the centre of these, or bomb blindly on GEE if none were visible. H = 0100.

SORTIES

	Aul.	Mont.	St.M.	Oise.
6. No. of aircraft despatched.....	112	110	95	114
" " " reporting attack on prime area.....	14	12	90	111
" " abortive sorties.....	98	98	5	3
" " aircraft missing.....	0	1	0	0
		(0.9:3)		

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- Fit.

N.E. France:- 10/10ths. thick cloud, base 500', tops 7-8,000'. No moon.

RELATIVE OF ATTACKS

8. Aulnoye The Master Bomber orbited for 5 minutes at 1,000-1,500', but could see no ground detail nor any T.I. Crews were ordered to aim at red T.I. if they
....could see them.

could see them. Nearly all the force brought their bombs back.

9. Montdidier The Master Bomber ordered all crews to bring their bombs back.

10. St. Martin L'Hortier; Oisemont. At these targets, the glow of markers was visible through the cloud, and crews aimed at this or bombed on GEE.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

11. No reconnaissance was undertaken for Aulnoye, Montdidier, or Oisemont. Severe damage was shown to have been caused at St. Martin, several buildings and installations being hit. The attack was apparently centred 500 yards W. of the A/P.

ENEMY DEFENCES

12. Few fighters were met. Plan was accurate en route at Dieppe and Le Treport.

CASUALTIES

13. One aircraft was lost on Montdidier, but the cause is unknown. No other aircraft was appreciably damaged.

BERLIN

14. 30 Mosquitos were sent to Berlin. The marking was reasonably concentrated in clear weather, and the bombing was accurate. 29 aircraft attacked.

BUER

15. 4 CBOE Mk.II Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against the synthetic oil plant at Buer.

MINELAYING

16. 12 Halifaxes and Stirlings laid 55 mines off Brest, Lorient, St. Nazaire, St. Malo and Guernsey without incident.

FIGHTER AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

17. 31 Mosquitos from 100 Group and 13 from ...D.C.T. were active on SERGLITE and intruder patrols. They destroyed 1 Ju.88 and damaged another. 14 Stirlings operated on MANDREL SCREEN, orbiting 80 miles from the enemy coast; and 9 A.B.C. Fortresses patrolled in support of the bombers. 1 Mosquito carried out a net. recon. flight, and 12 Halifaxes made special sorties. None of our aircraft was lost.

MLV/JT.

EC/S. 26342/4/ORS4,

14th. October, 1944.

ST. MATHIEU L'HOUCHEUR; ANNOUYE; MONTMADIER; OISEMONT; BELLU; BURE; MORG; YING; etc. - 17/10th. FEB, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS				
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. HOUSES	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	H.K.	I.B.			
ST. MATHIEU L'HOUCHEUR	B	Hal. III	90	87	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	322.0	1.0		
		Mosq. IX	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		B sq. XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
ST. MATHIEU TOTAL			97	90	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
ANNOUYE	B	Mosq. IX	5	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.9	1.1		
		Mosq. XVI	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lano. I	50	3	-	-	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1				
ANNOUYE TOTAL	B	Lano. III	53	4	-	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1			
		ANNOUYE TOTAL		112	14	-	-	2	96	-	-	-	-	-	1	2			
		MONTMADIER		3	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.0	1.2	
MONTMADIER	B	Mosq. IX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	514.1	3.9		
		Mosq. XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lano. III	9	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
MONTMADIER TOTAL	B	Lano. I	39	6	-	-	33	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.2	.9		
		Lano. II	12	2	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lano. III	53	-	-	-	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1				
MONTMADIER TOTAL	B	Star. III	12	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	114	111		
		MONTMADIER TOTAL		110	12	-	-	96	-	1	-	-	-	1	2				
		OISEMONT		12	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			-	514.1
OISEMONT	B	Lano. II	90	89	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	114	111		
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XVI	4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
OISEMONT TOTAL	B	Lano. III	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114	111		
		OISEMONT TOTAL		114	111	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	2				
		BELLU		10	9	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			-	44.2
BELLU	B	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	230000			
		Mosq. XVI	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-				
BELLU TOTAL			30	29	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-					
MORG			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	40000			
MORG TOTAL			469	260	-	-	103	102	1	5	-	-	2	4	8				

...../over.

14

17/18th. FEB, 1944 (CONT'D)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. HOUSES	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	H.K.	I.B.	
MONTMADIER	B	Hal. II	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55 mines	
		Star. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2			
		Star. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Star. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Star. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MONTMADIER TOTAL			12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8			
SUPPORT			50	43	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MONTMADIER TOTAL			62	55	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MONTMADIER TOTAL			253	217	-	-	103	113	1	5	-	-	2	4	10		
S.P.C. OPS.			10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
S.P.C. OPS. TOTAL			12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
S.P.C. OPS. TOTAL			22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MONTMADIER TOTAL			13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

O.B.S.I.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

18/19th. JULY, 1944.

Watten

SUMMARY

1. Watten 10 OBOE Mosquitos (4 Mk.I, 4 Mk.II and 2 Mk.III) were despatched against a flying-bomb constructional works at Watten. 9 made successfully controlled runs; the tenth, a Mk.II, was abortive. From this and the rest of the night's operations, all aircraft returned safely.
2. Mine-laying 7 Stirlings and Halifaxes laid 30 mines off Brest, Guernsey and St. Malo without incident.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Bases:- Low stratus and radiation fog will become widespread after midnight.

Continent:- Much cloud at 1,000' in Pas de Calais. Little cloud in N.W. France.

SORTIES

4.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	17
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	16
	" " abortive sorties.....	1
	" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Bases:- Low stratus affected Yorks and Lincs by 0100, and became widespread

Watten:- 2-3/10ths. to 13,000' at first, clearing during the attack.

ENEMY DEFENCES

6. No opposition was met from flak or fighters.

CONCLUSIONS

7. None.

MEM/JT.
 EC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
22nd. October, 1944.

EQUIP	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SQUADS	A/C ACCOUNTING				MIS- SING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				ATTACK ON		AGGRESSIVE			PLAN	FIGHTER	BRIE. INC. NO BS	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK- ED	NOT ATTACK- ED			
				PREL. ATT.	FIN. ATT.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.										
W.1111	8	Mosq. XVI	10	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.1	-
REMARKS:																	
BOMB	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30 Miles	
GURNEY	6	Hal. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST. HALL		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REMARKS TOTAL			7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL:			17	16	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

O.R.S. 1.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS.21/22nd. JUNE, 1944.WESSELING: SCHOLVEN-BUER: Berlin: Hindenburg.SUMMARY

1. 265 Lancasters and Mosquitos were despatched against the synthetic oil plants at Wesseling and Scholven-Buer; but both were covered with thick low cloud, and neither was seriously damaged. Fighters found our aircraft easy targets against the bright midsummer sky, and 45 bombers were lost. Fighters and minelayers operated without loss, and Mosquitos attacked Berlin.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Low stratus will become widespread after dusk, S. of the Humber. Good diversions in S.W. and N.W.

Continent:- Ruhr will remain clear all night. Paris will have little cloud until after midnight. Pas de Calais will have 10/10ths. low stratus after 0200.

WESSELING: SCHOLVEN-BUER:PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Wesseling 5 Group visual marking. The target was to be illuminated with flares, in the light of which Mosquitos were to drop red spot fires on the A/P. If accurate, these were to be backed up with more red spot fires, and green and red T.I. Yellows were to be used to cancel wide markers. Main force crews were to aim the centre bomb of each stick at the centre of all visible markers, unless otherwise ordered by the Controller. If no markers were visible, crews were not to wait, but were to bomb on H2S. H = 0132. Main force: H + 8 to H + 17. Bombing height: 17-22,000'.

4. Scholven-Buer OBOE groundmarking, assisted by 5 Group visual marking. The same method as for Wesseling, except that 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to open the attack by dropping yellow T.I. The visual Mosquitos were then to mark the A/P with red spot fires by flarelight. H = 0132. Bombing height: 17-20,000'.

SORTIES

	Wes.	S-B
5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	133.....	132
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	124.....	125
" " " " " " alternative area.....	1.....	0
" " abortive sorties.....	8.....	7
" " aircraft missing.....	37.....	8
	(27.8%)	(6.1%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Low stratus became widespread after dusk.

Wesseling and Scholven:- 10/10ths. cloud, tops 3,000'. No moon. 10/10ths. over whole route.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. Neither attack can be described in detail, since the thick cloud prevented all but a very few aircraft from photographing ground detail. At both targets,/ crews attacked on

crews attacked on the glow of markers.

DAY ACCOMPLISHANCE

8. The only apparent damage caused to either target affected an oil storage tank in the N.W. corner of the Wessling plant, which suffered from blast.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. These operations were carried out without the assistance of supporting diversions or the MAJOREL SCREEN. Our aircraft all took the same route as far as a point N. of Gilze Rijen, and then diverged to their respective targets. The enemy controllers plotted our bombers from the Hague, and concentrated almost all their fighters on the southerly (Wessling) force. The brightness of the moonless sky - it was midsummer night - was undoubtedly the chief cause of the unusual measure of success obtained by the fighters. Intense flak was met at both targets, accurately predicted up to 18-20,000'. There is no evidence that our bombers destroyed any fighters.

CASUALTIES

10. 7 of the 37 losses incurred on Wessling were attributed to heavy flak, 2 bombers falling at the target and the others as defences on track, mostly located at airfields. The remaining 30 missing aircraft cannot be fully accounted for, and, while it is presumed that fighters were responsible for nearly all, only 18 can confidently be traced to this cause. Of the 3 aircraft lost on Scholven, 5 were destroyed in combat and three by flak. One aircraft of each force sustained irreparable damage from fighters. No landing or taxiing accidents occurred.

BERLIN

11. 52 Mosquitos were despatched against Berlin. Some markers were accurate, but others were scattered. 30 Mosquitos attacked. Many fires were seen burning from the daylight raid of VIII U.S.B.C. The remaining 2 aircraft bombed Kiel. No aircraft was lost; but 3 were hit by flak, one seriously.

HIDEWYING

12. 13 Stirlings laid 65 mines off N.W. France without incident.

FIGHTERS AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

13. 58 Mosquitos from 100 Group and A.D.G.B. were active on SERATE and intru-patrols. They destroyed one Do.217 and damaged a He. 177 and an U/I aircraft. 10 Halifaxes made special sorties. All returned safely.

MLJ/JT.
BC/S. 26342/2/OKS4,
18th. October, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISSING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	I.B.	
WESSELING	5	Lanc. I	45	40	-	2	3	10	-	1/0+1E	-	-	-	2	3	575.9	2.5
		Lanc. III	75	71	1	3	-	17	2	3+4/0+1B	-	-	-	19	8	100 x 4000	
		Mess. IV	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	1	Lanc. I	5	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WESSELING TOTAL			133	124	1	5	3	37	9+1/0	3+5/0+1B+1E	-	-	1/0	21	11		
SCHOLVEN-BRER	5	Lanc. I	63	61	-	-	2	5	4	1/0	-	-	-	4	5	567.8	2.3
		Lanc. III	57	53	-	2	2	3	11+1/0	2/0+1E	-	-	-	4	2		
		Mess. IV	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. I	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1/0	-	-	-	2	1	106 x 4000	
	1	Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mess. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	8	Mess. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mess. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
SCHOLVEN TOTAL			132	125	-	3	4	8	15+1/0	4/0+1E	-	-	1/0	10	8		
BERLIN	8	Mess. IV	7	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.6	1.1
		Mess. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mess. XVI	19	17	2	-	-	-	-	2+1B	-	-	-	-	-	23 x 4000	
		Mess. XX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BERLIN TOTAL			32	30	2	-	-	1	3+1B	-	-	-	-	-			
GRAND TOTAL			297	279	3	8	7	45	27+2/0+1B	3+9/0+1B+1E	-	-	1/0	31	19		

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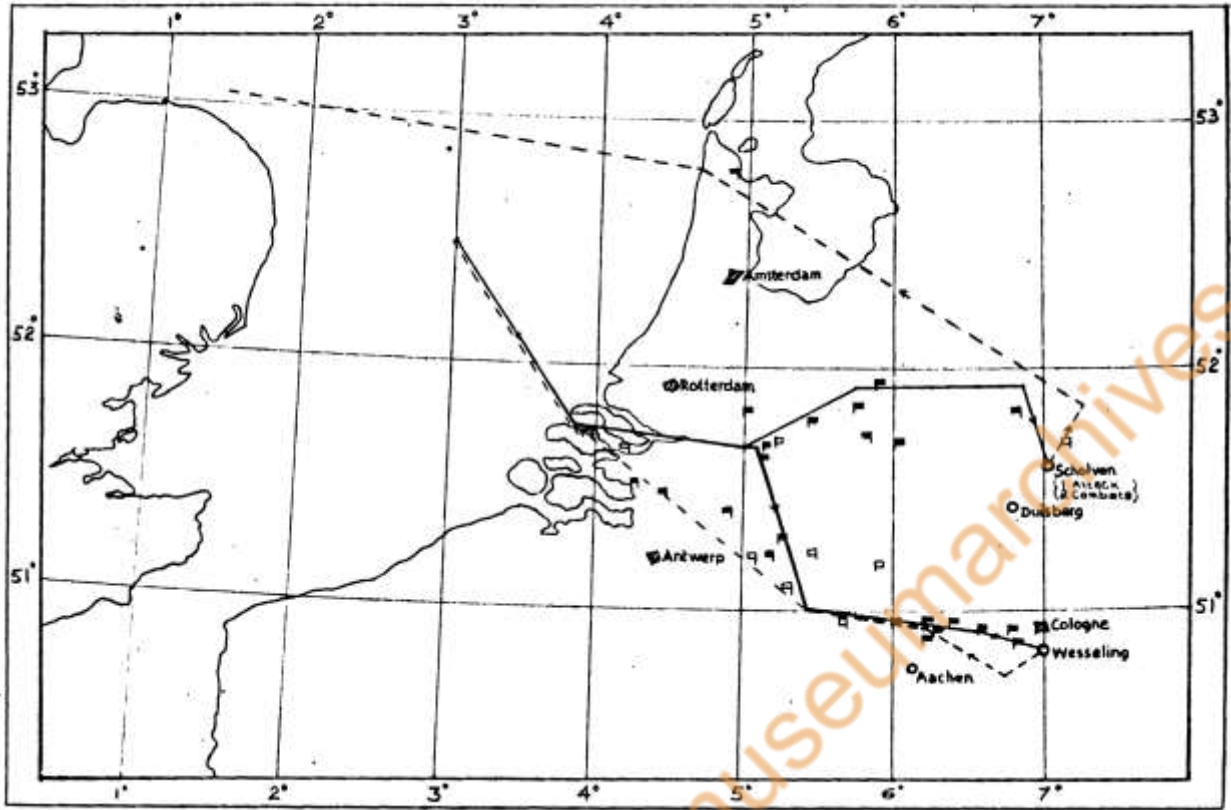
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JUNE 21/22, 1944 - Cont'd.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISSING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.E.	I.B.	
WINDLATING	3	Stir. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GURNESSY		Stir. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST. MALO		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
HEIST		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LORIENT		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST. NAZAIRE	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
WINDLATING TOTAL			13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
BOMBER SUPPORT	100	Various	41	34	-	-	7	1	1B	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			351	326	3	8	14	46	27+2/0+1B	3+9/0+1B+1E	-	-	1/0	31	20		
(SPECIAL OP.)	3	Halb.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(INCRIDERS)	ADGE	Mos.	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

* Not included in Grand Total.

NIGHT OPERATIONS - 21/22 JUNE, 1944.



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BOMBER COMPLAINT REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

22/23rd. JUNE, 1944.

RHEIMS: LAON: Hamburg: Rouen.

SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Rheims and Laon were accurately bombed by forces of 100 aircraft. Mosquitos visited Hamburg, and a railway junction near Rouen. 8 bombers were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Much low cloud.

Continent:- Residual thin cirrus over Central and Southern France and Germany. Little cloud in N. France until midnight. Rheims will have 10/10ths. strato-cumulus at 0100. This cloud will be well broken in N.W. France.

RHEIMS: LAON.

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Rheims Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop yellow T.I. These were to be assessed by the Master Bomber, and would then be backed up with impact reds. Impact greens were to be used to emphasise the \sqrt{P} . Crews were to aim at the centre of reds or of yellows, unless otherwise ordered by the Master Bomber. H = 0045. Bombing height: 8-10,000'.

4. Laon Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. Illuminators were to run up on GEE and H2S, but were to aim their flares at T.I. if possible. A backer-up was to drop greens at H + 2, as ordered by the Master Bomber who was also to direct the main force. H = 0100.

SORTIES

	RH.	L.
5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	107.....	114
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	101.....	110
" " " reporting attack on alt. area.....	1.....	0
" " abortive sorties.....	5.....	4
" " aircraft missing.....	4.....	4
	(3.7.2)	(3.5.2)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Much low cloud.

Rheims:- 7-8/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops 4,000'.

Laon:- Clear patch over target. Wind at 10,000': 020°/25 m.p.h.

No moon.

...../NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS.

NAIGATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. Rheims The early marking was scattered, and the Master Bomber ordered crews to aim at his red spot fires, which were surrounded by yellows. Some crews could not see the markers, and most bombed on the glow of T.I. The attack seemed dispersed.

8. Laon The weather here was described as ideal. The T.I. were tightly grouped round the A/P, and the bombing was concentrated round them.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

8. Rheims Reconnaissance photographs showed that the bombing was more accurate than had been at first thought. The weight of the attack fell across the sorting sidings in a SW-NE direction, cutting every line and ruining 61 wagons. The tracks serving the goods depot and reception sidings were similarly affected.

9. Laon Here, too, the sorting sidings received the brunt of the bombing but in addition the passenger station suffered very severely, and the yards were evidently blocked to through traffic.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. Medium range fighters were active. They were first gathered from their base at Coulommiers and assembled at Beacon Benno, near Paris, before being sent to intercept the bombers returning from Rheims. Fighters based at Laon were sent to Scissons to intercept the force making for the former town. The MANDREL SCREEN was in use, and appears to have effectively detained groups of fighters in the area E. of the Dutch Islands. Some confusion also arose in the plotting of two streams so closely adjacent, and this was later accentuated by a repeated announcement that our bombers were flying towards Lille, whereas they all returned as far W. as Dieppe. Nevertheless, the Laon force reported as many as 16 attack. Flak was opposition was slight. No fighters were claimed by our bomber crews.

CASUALTIES

11. Each force lost 4 aircraft. One on Rheims fell to light flak, and 2 to fighters. 3 Laon losses were due to fighters (one near Boulogne and 2 at Dieppe). The other 2 aircraft were lost without trace. One returning Halifax was damaged beyond repair in an accident.

HAMBURG

12. 29 Mosquitos were despatched against Hamburg. 28 attacked through 10/10th cloud, on cascading markers or their glow. 4 of the 5 Y-aircraft were successful. A large fire was started, visible for 50 miles. All aircraft returned undamaged.

ROUEN

13. 4 OBOE Mk.I and 4 Mk.II Mosquitos were sent to bomb the railway junction at Le Grand Verdret, near Rouen. 3 Mk.I and 2 Mk.II made successfully controlled runs. The others brought their bombs back. No casualties were sustained.

LINCOLN

14. 9 Stirlings and Halifaxes, out of a force of 10, laid 42 mines off N.W. France. All returned undamaged.

FIGHTERS AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

15. 35 Mosquitos of 100 Group were active on SEARCH and intruder patrols. All completed their sorties, without making any claims. 10 Stirlings operated the MANDREL SCREEN; and 5 Fortresses acted as L.I.C. aircraft. All returned safely.

MEM/JT.
FC/S. 26342/2/OKSL,
19th. October, 1944.

JUNE 22/23, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	L/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ADROITIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERUPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		PLAN	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. POLS	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	H.B.	L.B.
HEIDS	1	Lanc. I	55	52	1	1	1	1	-	1 AC	-	-	6	-	380.6	3.0
		Lanc. III	47	45	-	1	1	3	-	1 AC	-	1 AC	1	5		
	8	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HEIDS TOTAL			107	101	1	3	2	4	-	2 AC	-	1 AC	7	5		
LACN	4	Hal. III	100	97	-	-	3	4	-	3+1 AC	-	1+1AC+1E	16	3	347.3	4.0
		Lanc. III	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	8	Mosq. IX	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LACN TOTAL			114	110	-	1	3	4	-	3+1 AC	-	1+1AC+1E	16	3		
HAMBURG	8	Mosq. IV	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43.3	4
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	16	15	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23 x 4000	
HAMBURG TOTAL			29	28	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
R/C NK. ROSEN	8	Mosq. IX	4	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ROSEN TOTAL			8	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ROSEN TOTAL			250	244	1	8	5	8	1	3+3AC	-	1+2AC+1E	23	8		
HINDELAYING																
DRESE	4	Hal. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42 Miles	
BURNSEY	3	Stir. III	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
USHANT		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
HINDELAYING TOTAL			10	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOARDER SUPPORT	100	Various	50	43	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
CHAND TOTAL			310	302	1	8	7	8	1	3+3AC	-	1+2AC+1E	23	8		
SPECIAL OPS	3	Hala.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

x Not included in Grand Total.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

23/24th. JUNE, 1944.

SAINTES: L'HEY: LIMOGES: OISEMONT: BIENTQUES: COUBRONNE: Boves.

SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Saintes and Limoges were most severely hit in clear weather. 4 flying bomb sites in the Pas de Calais were strongly raided, and Mosquitos went to Bremen and the junction at Boves. 8 of the 704 aircraft engaged were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night, with variable strato-cumulus and good visibility.
 Continent:- 10/10ths. cu. and st. cu over Germany, with good clearances in Hamburg-Kiel area. Little or no cloud in S. France. 5-7/10ths. in Pas de Calais and Low Countries at 21-22,000'. 10/10ths. later. Much cloud in N.W. France.

SAINTES: L'HEY: LIMOGES: OISEMONT: BIENTQUES: COUBRONNE.

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Saintes 1 Group visual marking. An assembly point at 455N. 0040W. was to be marked with impact greens. All aircraft were to make their bombing run from here, running over then at the exact height and speed at which they were to bomb. The A/P was to be illuminated with flares, in the light of which it was to be marked with impact yellows. If accurate, these were to be backed up with red spot fires. The Master Bomber was to drop impact yellows to indicate a change of aiming-point, at the same time broadcasting instructions. If the Master Bomber was not well received, crews were to aim at the centre of red spot fires. H = 0200. Bombing height:- 6-8,000'.

4. L'Hey: Oisemont: Bientques: Coubronne. Visual bombing, assisted by controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. The Master Bomber was to direct the bombing, dropping yellows if necessary. If he could not see the target, crews were to attack on GEE. H = 0015 at L'Hey; 0030 at Oisemont; 0045 at Bientques; and 0100 at Coubronne.

5. Limoges 5 Group visual marking. The target was to be illuminated with flares, in the light of which the A/P was to be marked with red spot fires. If accurate these were to be backed up with more red spot fires, and green and red T.I. Yellows were to be used to cancel wide markers, and skymarker flares to ask for more illumination. Main force crews were to aim as directed by the Controller. T.O.T. = 0200-0215.

SORTIES

	Desp.	Att.P.A.	Abort.	Miss.
6. Saintes.....	106.....	105.....	1.....	2 (1.9)
L'Hey.....	107.....	105.....	2.....	1 (0.9)
Limoges.....	101.....	100.....	1.....	0
Oisemont.....	111.....	108.....	3.....	0
Bientques.....	111.....	110.....	1.....	0
Coubronne.....	86.....	84.....	2.....	4 (4.7)

...../WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- Fit all night, with little cloud and good visibility.

French targets:- 8-10/10ths. thin str.-cu. over L'Hey, Bientques and Coubronne, tops 4,000'. No cloud at Saintes, Linoges or Oisemont. Good visibility. Wind at 15-17,000': N., 30 m.p.h. Much haze at Saintes.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

8. Saintes The assembly point was well marked, but a red spot fire was also dropped there by accident, and confused a few crews. The Master Bomber identified the A/P by flarelight, despite the haze, and the resultant bombing was accurate and concentrated. One great explosion momentarily lit up the whole town.
9. L'Hey Crews bombed on the glow of reds under the Master Bomber's instructions.
10. Linoges The markers were beautifully placed round the A/P and within the yards. The bombing was equally accurate.
11. Oisemont The reds were grouped closely around the A/P, 2 of them falling so near as to illuminate the ground detail of the target. The Master Bomber's yellows fell 1,000 yards to the S.W.
12. Bientques Crews bombed the glow of T.I. through the cloud.
13. Coubronne The Master Bomber ordered crews to bomb the glow of T.I., but most attacked on GEE.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

14. Saintes Nearly every building in the yard was destroyed or severely damaged. Every through line was cut, and many wagons were smashed.
15. L'Hey 15 craters were visible in the target area, including a near miss on the launching point. Some of these may have resulted from the American attack of 16th. June.
16. Linoges The weight of the attack fell on the sorting sidings, where tracks and wagons were badly smashed. Many other lines were cut, and the transshipment shed was burned to the ground.
17. Oisemont This target suffered severely between 20th. and 24th. June, during which period it was also attacked several times in daylight. 8 elements sustained direct hits or near misses.
18. Bientques The attack fell squarely across the target, damaging both the square building and the launching point. 5 hits were scored on the main road.
19. Coubronne Only 3 fresh craters occurred in the target area, but 2 were near misses on the launching point.

ENEMY DEFENCES

20. The enemy reacted strongly to the Pas de Calais raids, but hit fighters made few interceptions. Most of these occurred while our bombers were returning from the last raid of the night, on Coubronne. Flak was slight.

CASUALTIES

21. 7 bombers were lost, 4 of them on Coubronne. Two of these were destroyed by fighters near Dunkirk, and one by light flak at the target. The L'Hey loss was also due to fighter near Dunkirk; and a Saintes bomber fell to flak at Belle Ile. The other loss was not identified. No returning aircraft was badly damaged.

...../BREMEN.

3.

BREMEN

22. 32 Mosquitos were sent to Bremen. Both the marking and bombing were accurately placed within the built up area. One aircraft was lost.

BOVES

23. 10 OBOE Mosquitos (5 Mk.I and 5 Mk.II) were despatched against the railway junction at Boves. All made successfully controlled runs, and returned undamaged.

MINELAYING

24. 12 Stirlings and Halifaxes were detailed to lay mines off N.W. France. 10 were successful; 49 mines were laid. One Stirling was lost; it was seen to blow up near St. Mathieu, but the cause is not known.

FIGHTERS AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

25. 54 Mosquitos from 100 Group and A.D.G.F. were active on SEPRATE and intruder patrols. One Ju.88 was destroyed over Coulamiers. 14 Halifaxes, Wellingtons and Mosquitos of 192 Squadron made special sorties, and an 8 Group Mosquito carried out a net. recc. flight. All returned safely.

HELV/OT.
IC/S.26342/2/Oct34,
20th. October, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING TRACK OF SORTIES				MISS-ING	LOSS				RESULTS				
				FRONT AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER R.T.		PLACED	DITCHED	BRIT. INC. (ROBBS)	NOT DUE TO R/L	FLYING	NOT TRACKED	H. K.	I. B.	
S. GAMES	1	Lanc. I	44	44	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	190.6	2.3	
		Lanc. III	62	61	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	
S. GAMES TOTAL			106	105	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	
D. REY	3	Lanc. I	55	55	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	388.0	3.0	
		Lanc. II	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Lanc. III	31	31	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2			
	8	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	1	2		
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
D. REY TOTAL			107	105	-	1	1	1	2	1.0	-	-	1	4	-	-	
L. DODGE / Y	5	Lanc. I	48	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1	1	360.9	1.1
		Lanc. III	49	48	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
L. DODGE TOTAL			101	100	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1	1	-	-
O. BENT	4	Hal. III	104	104	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	361.2	4.0
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
O. BENT TOTAL			111	108	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
B. VINTAGE	4	Hal. III	50	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.7	2.2	
		Hal. VII	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Lanc. II	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Lanc. X	22	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	8	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
B. VINTAGE TOTAL			111	110	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	

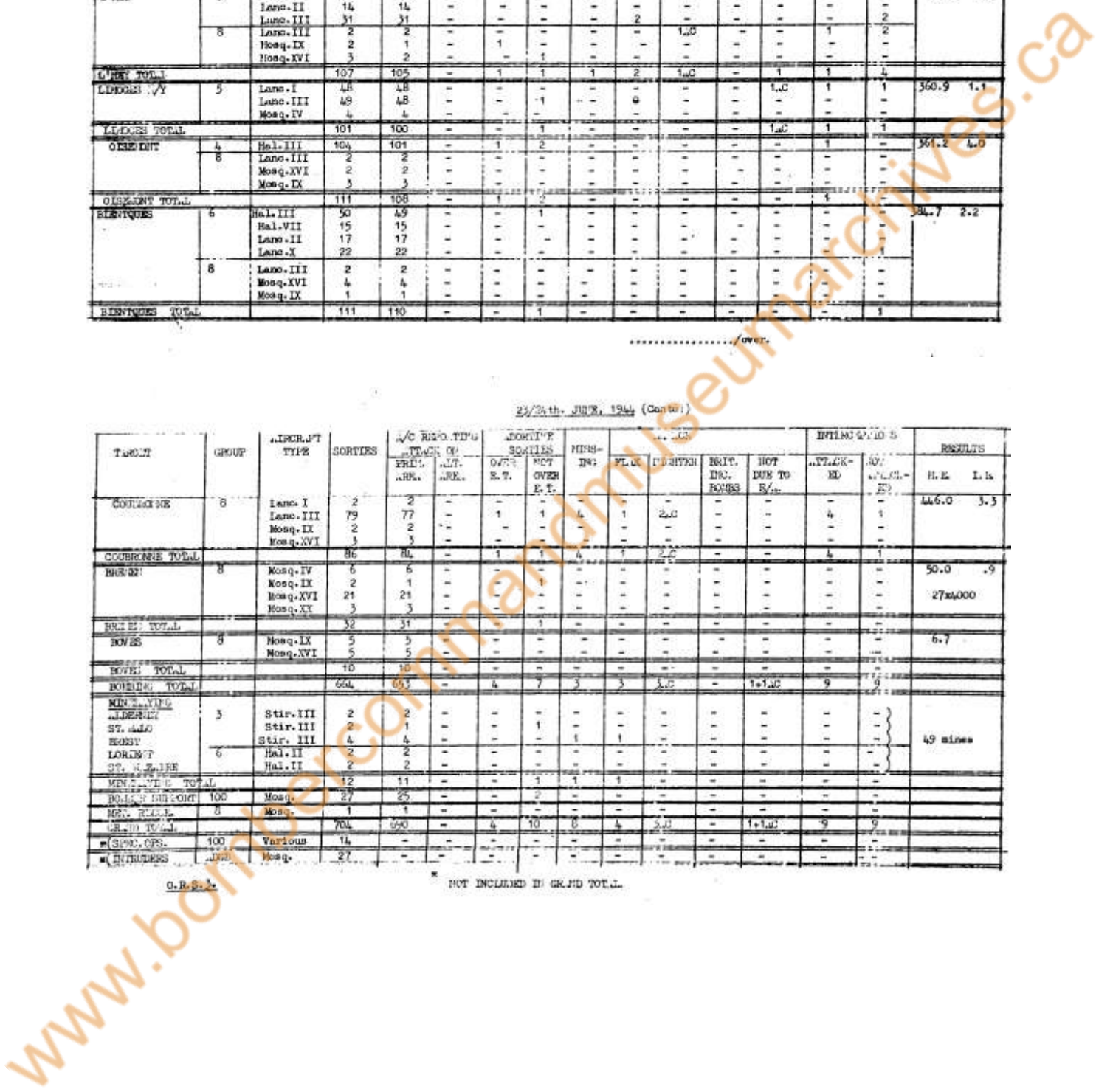
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23/24th. JULY, 1944 (Contd)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING TRACK OF SORTIES				MISS-ING	LOSS				RESULTS				
				FRONT AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER R.T.		PLACED	DITCHED	BRIT. INC. (ROBBS)	NOT DUE TO R/L	FLYING	NOT TRACKED	H. K.	I. B.	
COORNAKE	8	Lanc. I	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	446.0	3.3	
		Lanc. III	79	77	-	1	1	4	1	2.0	-	-	-	4			1
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
COORNAKE TOTAL			86	84	-	1	1	4	1	2.0	-	-	-	4	1	-	
B. REE	8	Mosq. IV	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.0	.9	
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XVI	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mosq. XX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B. REE TOTAL			32	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOVES	8	Mosq. IX	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.7		
		Mosq. XVI	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOVES TOTAL			10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOVES TOTAL			64	63	-	4	7	3	3	1.0	-	1+1.0	9	9	-	-	
MIN. SAVING	5	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49 mines		
		St. 440	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		ROST	4	4	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-			
		LORDST	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
ST. H. S. IRE	6	Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIN. SAVING TOTAL			12	11	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOVES TOTAL			100	99	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIN. SAVING TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOVES TOTAL			704	690	-	4	10	6	4	2.0	-	1+1.0	9	9	-		
MIN. SAVING TOTAL			100	Various	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIN. SAVING TOTAL			27	Mosq.	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

O.R.S. 2

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

24/25th. JUNE, 1944.

PROUVILLE: MIDDEL STRAETE: LE GRAND ROSSIGNOL: RINEUX: FLERS: POMNERVAL:
BANIERES.SUMMARY

1. 7 launching-sites in the Pas de Calais were strongly attacked in cloudless weather. 5 were damaged. Opposition was severe, and 23 of the 739 aircraft engaged were lost. Mosquitos attacked Berlin, and our minelayers and fighters were active. One more aircraft was lost on subsidiary operations.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Mainly fit, with well broken st-cu. Local smoke in Midlands.

Continent:- Little or no cloud in N. France and Belgium. Medium cloud and st-cu. will increase eastwards, affecting the Ruhr soon after midnight.

PROUVILLE: MIDDEL STRAETE: LE GRAND ROSSIGNOL: RINEUX: FLERS: POMNERVAL: BANIERES:PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Prouville: Pomnerval 5 Group technique. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to mark each A/P with yellow T.I. The other details of the method to be employed were to be decided by the A.C.C. 5 Group. A Controller was to direct each attack. H = 0015 at Prouville; 2355 at Pomnerval.

4. Middel Straete OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I. at the centre of which the main force were to aim. H = 0125.

5. Le Grand Rossignol: Rineux: Banieres. As for Middel Straete, except that backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of reds, and the main forces were to bomb on the centre of reds or of greens, or blindly. H = 0300 at Le Grand Rossignol; 0030 at Rineux; 0145 at Banieres.

6. Flers Controlled OBOE groundmarking. As for Middel Straete; except that a Master Bomber or his deputy was to keep the A/P marked with greens, and the main force were to aim at the centre of his markers. If the OBOE marking was accurate, the Master Bomber would remain silent; but if necessary, yellows were to be used to distinguish the A/P. H = 0315.

<u>BASES</u>	Disp.	Att. P/L	Att. Alt.	Abort.	Miss.
7. Prouville.....	113.....	106.....	2.....	4.....	13 (11.6%)
Middel Straete.....	85.....	82.....	0.....	1.....	0
Le Grand Rossignol.....	107.....	107.....	3.....	0.....	0
Rineux.....	107.....	107.....	0.....	0.....	4 (3.7%)
Flers.....	107.....	102.....	0.....	5.....	1 (0.9%)
Pomnerval.....	111.....	109.....	0.....	2.....	4 (3.7%)
Banieres.....	110.....	108.....	0.....	2.....	0
TOTAL.....	739.....	733.....	2.....	14.....	22 (3.0%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. Bases:- Broken st.-cu. and medium cloud. Moderate to good visibility.

Targets:- All cloudless. Slight haze. New moon, setting at 0045.

...../Wind at

Wind at 15,000': 300°/30 m.p.h., except at Flers (270°/20 m.p.h.).

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

9. All the attacks were reported to be accurate and concentrated.

DAY RECOGNITION

10. Prouville All visible craters were to the N. of the target.

11. Middel Straete Several new craters occurred in the target area, including 3 hits on the launching point.

12. Le Grand Rossignol Many bombs had fallen on the target, including 5 on square building, 1 on the launching platform and 20 on the road which traverses the target.

13. Rimeux This target also suffered severely. 2 hits wrecked the base of the launching point, which also sustained 3 near misses. The square building suffered roof damage.

14. Flers This attack fell to the S. and E. of the target, which appeared not to have been damaged.

15. Pommerival Many craters occurred in the target area. 4 target buildings, 10 houses and several other installations within the perimeter wire were destroyed or damaged.

16. Bunieres 60 fresh craters were visible in the area of this target. The square building was completely destroyed, and the launching point sustained a very near miss.

FLY DEFENCES

17. Fighters, searchlights and light guns co-operated effectively against our aircraft, especially while the moon was up (i.e., against the forces visiting Prouville, Pommerival and Rimeux). There was no cloud to hamper them. The fighters were airborne early, coming from their bases between Le Culot and Chateaudun to beacons in the Lille-Cambrai-St. Quentin area. They arrived in time to chase the Pommerival force home to St. Valery, and met the Prouville and Rimeux forces over their targets. The Prouville attack unfortunately lasted for over half an hour, and the fighters destroyed 5 aircraft over the target during the last 20 minutes. The ground defences left most of the shooting to the fighters who were assisted by the accurate work of the searchlight crews.

FLY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

18. A Lancaster returning from Pommerival destroyed a Ju.88 and a He.109, and another Lancaster shot down a second He. 109. A 3rd Bomb Group Mosquito of 100 Group shot down a Ju.88.

CASUALTIES

19. 22 of the 739 aircraft detailed for the Pas de Calais targets were lost - 3.0%. This was the first night on which severe opposition had been encountered in this area. 13 of the losses were sustained by the Prouville force; as has been explained, the attack was unduly prolonged, and fighters claimed at least 8 victims and the light guns 2 more. At Pommerival, 2 bombers were lost to fighters and 2 to flak. At Rimeux, one fell to a fighter and another to flak. The causes of the remaining 6 losses are not known. No returning aircraft was seriously damaged.

...../BERLIN.

BOMBING

20. 27 Mosquitos went to Berlin. 2 of the 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers, which were seen in the clear weather to fall in the built up area; but the bombing was scattered. 26 aircraft attacked. The other bomber was lost without trace.

MINELAYING

21. 10 Stirlings and Halifaxes were detailed to lay mines off N.W. France; and 3 Mosquitos were despatched to the Kattegat. All completed their missions without incident.

FIGHTERS & SPECIAL OPERATIONS

22. 42 Mosquitos of 100 Group W.A.D.G.B. were detailed on SEARCH and intruder patrols. A SEARCH aircraft shot down a Ju.88. 5 Wellingtons, 2 Mosquitos and 13 Halifaxes were active on special operations. None was lost.

MEM/JT.
 DC/S. 26342/4/OPS4,
20th. October, 1944.

SPECIAL OPS, ETC.

24/25th JUNE, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERDICTIONS		RESULTS H.E. I.D.	
				PHIL. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. DOWN	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED		
PROVILLAS	5	Lanc. I	47	44	2	1	1	4	1	2 AC	-	-	7	1	366.1	1.7
		Lanc. III	56	55	-	1	1	5	1	1+5AC	-	-	5	-		
	Mosq. IV	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
PROVILLAS TOTAL			112	106	2	3	1	13	2	1+5AC	-	-	10	1		
MIDDEL STRAAT	3	Lanc. I	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	319.6	1.5
		Lanc. III	78	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MIDDEL TOTAL			85	84	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
LE GRAND BOSSIGNOL	8	Hal. III	100	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	363.1	3.4
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOSSIGNOL TOTAL			107	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
RIBBEUX	3	Lanc. I	32	32	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	330.1	3.4
		Lanc. II	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	30	30	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
	Stur. III	26	26	-	-	-	2	1	1 AC	-	-	1	2			
	8	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Mosq. IX		1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
RIBBEUX TOTAL			107	107	-	-	4	2	1 AC	-	-	-	2			
FLEURS	1	Lanc. I	43	42	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	393.5	2.7
		Lanc. III	59	58	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
	Mosq. IX	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Mosq. XVI	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FLEURS TOTAL			107	102	-	4	1	1	1	-	-	-	-			

..../cont'd

JUNE 24/25th, 1944 - Cont'd.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERDICTIONS		RESULTS
				PHIL. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. DOWN	NOT DUE TO E/A	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	
BOMBER SUPPORT	100	Mosq.	34	32	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			815	795	2	11	5	23	8	1+5AC	-	1	19	12	
SPECIAL OPS.	100	Various	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Hal.	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SPECIAL OPS. TOTAL			20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
VINCENNES	ALB	Mosq.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

x Not included in Grand Total.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

25/26th. JUNE, 1944.

Honberg

SUMMARY

1. Honberg 42 Mosquitos were sent against the synthetic oil plant at Honberg/Meerbeck. The marking and bombing were both concentrated, in clear weather: but the target was not damaged. 39 aircraft attacked; 2 bombed other targets, and one was abortive. All aircraft returned safely, from all the night's operations.
2. Fighter patrols 3 Mosquitos of 100 Group completed SEPRATE patrols, and 13 others intruded. No claims were made.
3. Special operations 8 Mosquitos carried out special operations.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases:- Much cloud at 1,500'.
Continent:- Broken medium cloud in Pas de Calais, base 8-10,000'. Much st.-cu. over Brest peninsula. Thick st.-cu and medium cloud over Normandy.

SORTIES

5.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	59
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	55
	" " " " alternative area.....	2
	" " abortive sorties.....	2
	" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Much cloud.
Honberg:- Clear. Slight haze. Good visibility.

D.V. RECONSTRUCTION

7. No damage or craters were apparent in the synthetic oil plant.

WRECK DEFENCES

8. Searchlights coned effectively at Honberg, and flak was intense. No fighters were encountered.

CASUALTIES

9. No aircraft was lost. One Mosquito was slightly damaged by flak over Honberg.

MLM/JT.
DC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
23rd. October, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SURVIVED	A/C REPORTED				MISS- ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				ATTACK ON		ENEMY MORTARS			WALK	FIGHTER	SAIL- ING BOATS	BOY DUE TO S/A.	AVIATION SQ	NOT ATTACKED	H.A.	I.B.
				SHILL AREA	INDIA AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.									
HONGKONG	8	Moq. IV	6	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	43.5 800,000	.7
		Moq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XVI	2	31	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HONGKONG TOTAL			10	39	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BEIJING	100	Moq.	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INDONESIA	100	Moq.	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INDONESIA	8	Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			33	55	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISSING	100	Moq.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

O. B. S. S.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

26/27th. JUNE, 1944.

Gottingen

SUMMARY

1. Gottingen 35 Mosquitos were despatched against the railway workshops at Gottingen. The attack opened in clear weather, but haze was thick, and the Master Bomber could not identify the A/R. A wild green P.I. attracted some early bombing, but the Master Bomber assessed a red dropped by the deputy, and a number of crews aimed at them under his orders. One aircraft was lost.
2. Minelaying 8 Halifaxes laid 24 mines off French ports without incident.
3. Met. Recce. 4 Mosquito carried out a met. recce. flight.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases:- Rain and low cloud.
- Continent:- Little cloud in Germany, except along N. coast. Residual thunder in Central and S. France. Much layer cloud over N. France.

SORTIES

5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	44
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	41
" " " " alternative area.....	2
" " abortive sorties.....	1
" " aircraft missing.....	1 (2.3.)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Rain and low cloud.
- Gottingen:- No cloud. Thick haze.

ENEMY DEFENCES

7. No returning aircraft met any fighters. No flak was met at Gottingen, but 2 Mosquitos were hit en route.

CASUALTIES

8. One Mosquito was lost on Gottingen. There is some evidence that it tried to ram a German fighter from astern, and was shot down by the enemy aircraft.

MLM/JT.
 BC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
23rd. October, 1944.

UNIT	GROUP	INCIDENT TYPE	SOWINGS	✓C REPORTING TRACK OF				SUSPECTIVE SOWINGS		MISSING	DAMAGE				ATTACKED		S. E. I. L.	
				PRIM. SRS.	S.T. SRS.	OVER. W. S.	NOV. OVER	FLYER	FIGHTER		BRIT. DFC. DC/DB	NOT DUE TO E/W	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	H.E.	I.L.		
GOTTENBERG	B	Msg. IV	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	46.2	.4	
		Msg. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Msg. XVI	22	20	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	25x4000	
		Msg. XI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GOTTENBERG & BOMBERS: TOTAL			35	32	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE. TYPE	G	Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		LORINT	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24 mines	
		ST. N. & IIE	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE. TYPE TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MET. SOWING	B	Msg.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			44	41	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	

0.3.3.3.

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BOMBER CONTROL REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

27/28th. JUNE, 1944.

WIZERNES: VITRY: BIENNAIS: CH. BERNAPRES: MONTCANDON: MINOYECQUES: ARDOUVAL:
OISEMONT: VAIRES:SUMMARY

1. Over 1,000 aircraft were out. The marshalling yards at Vaires, in the Paris area, and at Vitry, were severely hit; and 7 flying bomb sites in the Pas de Calais were visited again. Minelayers and fighters were active. 6 bombers and 2 fighters were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night.

Continent:- Residual thunder cloud will persist over France and W. Germany, with frontal conditions along a line 56N.00 - Bremen - Frankfurt - Alps. 2/10ths. in Paris-Rheins area. 5/10ths. cu. and st.-cu. in Pas de Calais, base 2-4,000', tops to 13,000'.

MARSHALLING YARDS AND FLYING BOMB SITESPLANS OF ATTACK

3. Wizernes: Mont Candon: Ardouval: Biennais: Oisemont: OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to mark each A/P with red T.I. Backers-up were to aim greens at the reds. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of reds, if possible; otherwise at the centre of greens, or on GZE. H = 0245 at Wizernes; 0015 at Mont Candon; 0030 at Ardouval; 0110 at Biennais; and 0130 at Oisemont.
4. Vitry 5 Group visual marking. The target was to be illuminated with flares at H - 10, and the A/P was then to be marked with red spot fires or green T.I. If accurate, these were to be backed up with more red spot fires and red and green T.I. Yellows were to be used to cancel wide markers, and skymarker flares as an appeal for more illumination. Main force crews were to aim the centre bomb of each stick at the centre of all uncancelled markers. H = 0145.
5. Chateau Bernapres: Vaires. Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop yellow T.I. Flares were then to be released, in the light of which the Master Bomber was to assess the accuracy of the T.I., backing them up with yellows and, if necessary, dropping greens to emphasise the position of the A/P. Aircraft were to aim at the centre of yellows, unless otherwise ordered. H = 0330 at Chateau Bernapre; 0300 at Vaires.
6. Minoyecques Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop reds. Crews were to aim at the centre of reds, unless otherwise ordered by the 5 Group controller. Wide markers were not to be cancelled. H = 0050.

..../SORTIES.

<u>SORTIES</u>		Desp.	Att. P./...	Att. Lt.	Abort.	Miss.
7.	<u>Vizernes</u>	111	103	0	8	0
	<u>Vitry</u>	110	79	1	36	2 (1.7)
	<u>Biennais</u>	107	104	3	43	0
	<u>Chateau Bernapre</u>	104	100	0	4	1 (1.0)
	<u>Mont Canton</u>	110	109	3	1	0
	<u>Hinoyecques</u>	91	39	0	2	1 (1.1)
	<u>Arrouval</u>	113	111	0	2	0
	<u>Oisemont</u>	85	85	0	0	0
	<u>Vaires</u>	107	99	0	8	2 (1.9)
	TOTAL	944	379	1	64	6 (0.6)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. Bases:- Pit.

Targets:- Clear at Vizernes, Hinoyecques and Vaires.

3-6/10ths. at Chateau Bernapre, Arrouval and Oisemont; tops 7-8,000'.

5-10/10ths. at Vitry; tops 5-8,000'.

10/10ths. at Biennais and Mont Canton; tops 10,000'.

Half moon, setting at 0200.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS9. Vizernes The early markers were scattered, but the later T.I. were closely grouped round the A/P, and were accurately bombed.10. Vitry The early bombing was aimed at 2 red spot fires, which seemed to be well placed. Smoke obscured the markers-up, and was abortive on attempt to remark the A/P. Some reds were then accidentally dropped 1,000 yards N.W. of the target, and attracted some attention. A number of late aircraft did not bomb, because the markers were then completely obscured by smoke.11. Biennais The reds were tightly grouped, and the greens scattered. Most crews bombed on the glow of reds; a few found gaps in the cloud.12. Chateau Bernapre The early markers overshot to the N.E., but subsequent illumination showed that a heavy concentration of bombing fell around the target.13. Mont Canton The T.I. were compactly grouped, apart from one short cluster of greens. The bombing suffered at first from undershooting, but later increased in accuracy.14. Hinoyecques The reds fell in 2 groups, one centred 380 yards N.N.E. and the other half a mile W. of the A/P. Both were accurately bombed.15. Arrouval The reds fell in 3 groups, one on the A/P and the others to the N. and E. respectively. The bombing was divided between the first and second of these. Several crews photographed the A/P.16. Oisemont The reds and greens were accurate, apart from one green cluster which fell wide to the S. The bombing seemed accurate.17. Vaires The T.I. fell in 2 groups. The Master Bomber backed up the easterly. Railway lines and sheds were clearly visible, and a heavy attack developed, resulting in many fires and explosions.U.V. RECONNAISSANCE18. Vizernes No reconnaissance report is to hand for this attack.

..../Vitry.

19. Vitry Damage was confined to the N. end of the yards, where 23 direct hits cut all the tracks. 35-40 wagons were destroyed or damaged here. An unidentified factory N. of the target sustained several hits, and 3 roads were blocked with craters.

20. Biennais The target was surrounded by craters, but had sustained no visible damage.

21. Chateau Bernapre Many craters occurred in the target area, including some round the launching point; but no damage was visible from the air.

22. Mont Candon This target also appeared to be intact, despite several craters.

23. Minoycoques The rectangular building sustained roof damage, and a pole or mast was lying from it across the road. The small building to the E. had disappeared.

24. Ardeuval All the craters occurred N. of the target, cutting the main road.

25. Oisemont This target area was pitted with craters. One building was damaged by a near miss.

26. Vaires Extensive damage was caused to the yards. All the lines at the eastern entrance of the sorting sidings (westbound traffic) were cut, and more than 50 craters were visible in the sidings, 5 having apparently been caused by exploding ammunition. 25 craters occurred in the sorting sidings for north - and east-bound traffic, and all the western entrance and many of the eastern exit lines were cut. 11 bombs fell on the reception sidings, and 5 on the storage sidings. All the through running lines between the station and the loop were cut. Many wagons were derailed and destroyed throughout the yards. The repair shops, locomotive shed and coaling point were not affected.

ENEMY DEFENSES

27. Heavy bombers and Mosquitos were over France for 3½ hours without a break. The IV DIVE SQUADRON was again in operation, and it was penetrated by a force of O.T.U. aircraft, which flew over the Norfolk coast to a point 20 miles S.E. of Harwich. The enemy controllers mistakenly guessed that the main attack would come out of the screen towards the Dutch Islands, and held 3 Gruppen around Brussels until the O.T.U. aircraft had turned back. These fighters were then sent to the Calais area, but the preliminary misjudgments had completely upset the ground controls. More confusion was caused by the intruders, the number of fighters and the overcrowding of fighters into so small an area as the Pas de Calais. The controllers were notably concerned lest their fighters should fly into the searchlight belt at the mouth of the Somme. Our bombers reported very few attacks - one of them was made with rockets over Suffolk - and little flak.

CASUALTIES

28. 6 aircraft were lost. 4 fell to fighters - S. of Troyes, at Vaires, Paris and Dieppe. One was destroyed by flak S. of Calais. The sixth was lost without trace. One returning aircraft was damaged beyond repair by fighter attack, and another was wrecked through striking a stationary aircraft while landing.

REMARKS

29. 13 Halifaxes, out of a force of 14, hit 35 mines in the Bay of Biscay. All returned undamaged.

RESULTS OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS

30. 61 aircraft of 100 Group, and 7 intruders from A.D.G.R. were active on Bomber Support. 6 enemy aircraft - 4 Ju.88, 1 Me. 410 and 1 Fw.190 were destroyed for the loss of 2 of our aircraft. 36 aircraft were engaged on special operations none of these was lost.

M.V./JT.
EC/S. 26342/4/0164,
21st. October, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		DROPOUT SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTER-RECTIONS		RESULTS		
				PREL. JETS	ALT. JETS	OVER E/A	NOT OVER E/A		FLAK	FIGHTED	B. IT. INC. DGBS	NOT DUE TO E/A	INT. CR-ED	NOT INT. CR-ED	H.E.	I.B.	
WIZARDS	6	Hnl. III	104	98	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	339.1	1.9
	8	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XVI	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WIZARDS TOTAL			111	103	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
VIGY	1	Lanc. I	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	304.6	.7
		Lanc. III	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2		
	5	Lanc. I	51	36	-	14	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc. III	52	36	1	13	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
VIGY TOTAL			116	79	1	33	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	7		
BENGLIS	3	Lanc. I	50	50	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2+1G	3	2	399.6	1.5	
		Lanc. II	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			1
		Lanc. III	20	27	-	-	1	-	-	15	-	1	3	5			
	8	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
		Moq. IV	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
		Moq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-
BENGLIS TOTAL			107	104	-	2	1	-	-	1+1E	-	3+1G	6	8			
ORATEAU DE NAGES	1	Lanc. I	43	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	377.0	2.0
		Lanc. III	55	55	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	6	Moq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XVI	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ORATEAU DE NAGES TOTAL			104	100	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
MONTAGNON	4	Hnl. III	91	91	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	345.6	3.5
		Hnl. V	12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
	8	Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MONTAGNON TOTAL			110	109	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3		

...../Cont'd

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		DROPOUT SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTER-RECTIONS		RESULTS		
				PREL. JETS	ALT. JETS	OVER E/A	NOT OVER E/A		FLAK	FIGHTED	B. IT. INC. DGBS	NOT DUE TO E/A	INT. CR-ED	NOT INT. CR-ED	H.E.	I.B.	
BO-BK SUPPORT	100	Various	61	55	-	-	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			1019	947	1	43	23	8	1	1+1E+1E	-	3+2G+1E	17	28			
SPEC. OPS.	100	Various	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	3	Hnl. V	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SPEC. OPS. TOTAL			26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INT. OPS.	DGB	Moq.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

x Not included in Grand Total.

www.bombercommand.com/museum/matchfiles.ca

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

28/29th JUNE, 1944

METZ : BLAINVILLE : Buer : SaarbruckenSUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Metz and Blainville were successfully attacked by forces of about 100 aircraft. Fighters were active, and 20 bombers were lost. Mosquitos went to Scholven and Saarbrucken. 11 fighters were destroyed

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Much rain and low cloud S.E. of Spurn Head-Pembroke.
Targets:- Frontal conditions from Le Havre to Nantes. Layers of thick to medium cloud to the E. Good clearances in S. France. Little or no cloud in Metz area.

METZ : BLAINVILLEPLANS OF ATTACK

3. (Both targets) 3 Group visual marking. Illuminators were to run up on H2S or P.M., and drop white flares. The Master Bomber and deputy were to mark the A/Ps with reds, at the centre of which the backers up were to aim greens. Crews were to bomb as instructed by the Master Bomber. H = 0145 at Metz; 0130 at Blainville.

RESULTS

	<u>Metz</u>	<u>Blainville</u>
4. No. of aircraft despatched	114	116
No. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area .	107	110
No. of aircraft reporting attack on alternative area	0	1
No. of abortive sorties	7	5
No. of aircraft missing	3	12
	(7.0%)	(10.4%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Bases:- Very low cloud and rain S.E. of Swansen-Boston at dusk. Bases further N. remained fit until 0300, when the rain spread.

Metz, Blainville:- No cloud and good visibility in target areas. 10/10ths in various layers to 3500. Half moon, setting at 0215.

RELATIVE OF ATTACKS

- Metz The marking and bombing were both reported as accurate.
- Blainville The first reds were misplaced and the Master Bomber's corrections were not heard by all crews, so that the early bombing was scattered; but later the attack improved considerably.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE

6. Metz Many craters occurred in the S.E. part of the yards and the surrounding fields. The junction was severely damaged, every track being cut. The sorting sidings and through running lines sustained direct hits.

7. Blainville The weight of the attack fell on the triangular junction S.E. of the yards. 65 hits were scored on the tracks and embankments comprising the triangle, including 2 on both rail bridges over the river. The line to Strasbourg was

/cut in 4 places

cut in 4 places and a goods train was stranded there. In the yards, the trans-shipment shed suffered a direct hit and 12 trucks in the sorting sidings were out.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. The MANDREL SCREEN was in operation, and O.T.U. aircraft penetrated it as far as 521AN. 024DE. Profiting by his experience of the previous night, the controller did not commit himself to the disposition of his forces until the position was reasonably clear; but he held a force of fighters near the Zuyder Zee. The bomber forces detailed for Metz and Blainville followed a common route to within 40 miles of their targets, crossing the coast near Dieppe and passing 30 miles N. of Paris on a 90-mile eastward leg. It was along this leg that combats and casualties occurred. Enemy fighters from 4 Gruppen were gathered to the N.W. of Paris, including some from St.Dizier which must have flown on a reciprocal course to that of the bombers. Moonlight aided the fighters during this period. Combats ceased almost entirely after the routes had diverged, and only recurred for a brief period near Rouen on the return journey. Little flak was encountered.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

11. Our bombers claimed to have destroyed 10 enemy aircraft (4 Me.109, 3 Fw.190, 1 S/E and 2 T/E); one probable (Fw.190); and 5 damaged (1 Fw.190, 2 S/E, 1 Me.410, 1 Me.110). A Mosquito destroyed a Me.110 E. of Douni.

CASUALTIES

12. 15 of the 20 losses are thought to have been due to fighters, 2 to flak and 3 to unknown causes. The flak losses occurred at Beauvais and Compiègne. Fighter losses were observed at Dieppe, between Rouen and St.Dizier (10) and near Rouen on return (4). No returning bomber was badly damaged.

BUER

13. 10 Mosquitos (4 Mk.I, 4 Mk.II and 2 Mk.III) were despatched against the Scholven/Buer synthetic oil plant. 3 Mk.I and 1 Mk.II made successfully controlled runs; one of each type attacked the primary on D.R.; one Mk.III bombed Rheine. The rest were abortive. No aircraft was lost, but one was attacked twice near Overflakke by a fighter, and burnt out after crash-landing.

SAARBRUCKEN

14. 33 Mosquitos were sent to Saarbrücken. Only one of the Y-aircraft was successful, and after 20 minutes the Master Bomber ordered crews to bomb the fires at Metz. 2 minutes later, however, he told crews to use their discretion which target they attacked. 11 bombed Saarbrücken, and 22 Metz. No casualties were sustained.

WEDNESDAY

15. 11 Stirlings and Halifaxes of a force of 12 laid 39 mines off N.W. France.

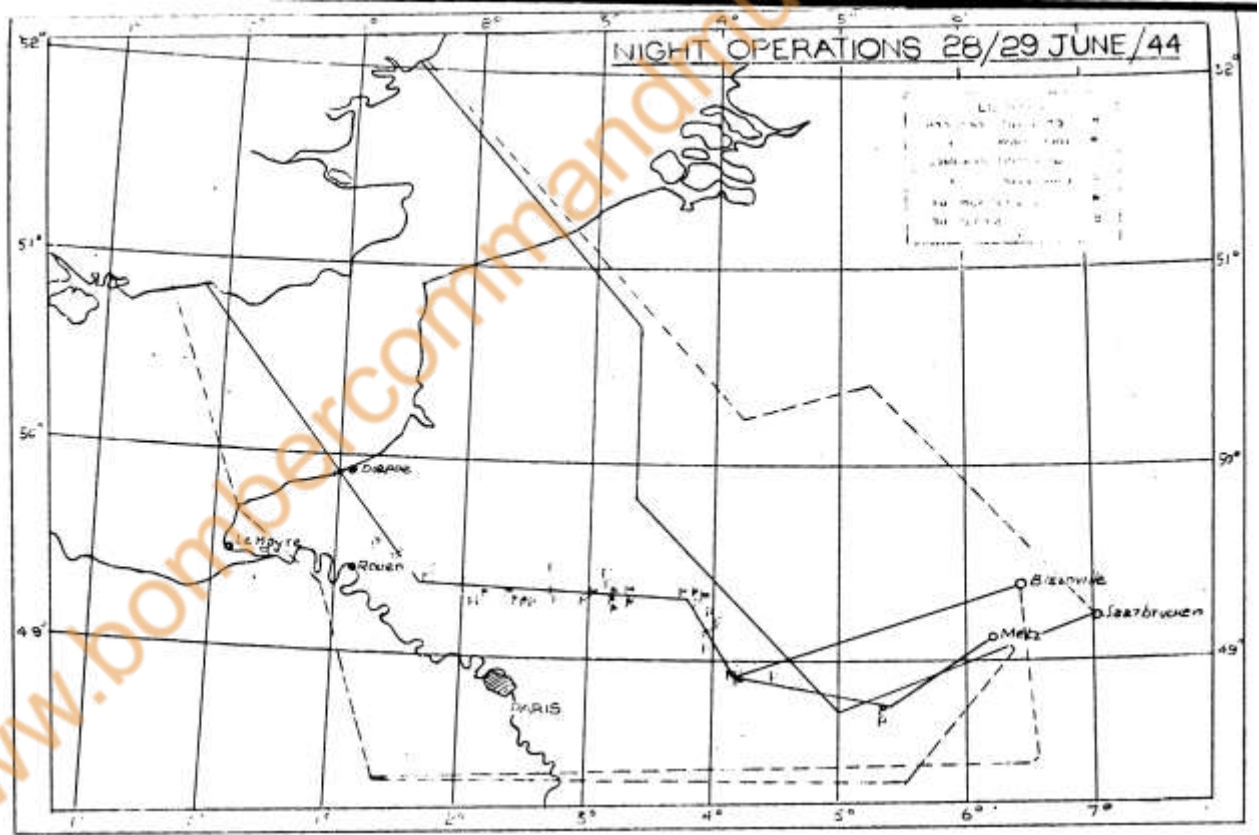
FIGHTERS & SPECIAL OPERATIONS

16. 14 Mosquitos of 100 Group carried out SERRATE patrols, destroying 1 Me.110 near Douni. 13 others, with 6 from A.D.G.B., intruded without incident. 14 Stirlings and 5 Fortresses operated the MANDREL SCREEN. 3 Mosquitos made anti-flying-bomb patrols, destroying 2 and damaging another. 2 Mosquitos of 192 Squadron made special sorties. No more losses were sustained.

MEM/MT.
BC/S.26342/ORS
26th October, 1944

GROUP	GROUP	ALIGHT TYPE	GAINS	% RESPONSIBLE		AGGRESSIVE		NO. -	DAMAGE				INTEGRATIONS		RESULTS		
				PRIM. SBA.	SEC. SBA.	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.		PLAN	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMB.	NOT DUE TO E/A	APPROX- ED	LOG. PLUCK- ED	H.S.	I.B.	
METZ	6	Hal. III	81	75	-	-	6	5	1+1AC	1+2AC	-	1+1AC	12	10	360.7	4.1	
	8	Lang. VII	19	18	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	15 x 4000	-	
METZ TOTAL			100	93	-	-	7	7	1+1AC	1+2AC	-	1+1AC	12	10			
RAINVILLE	4	Hal. III	102	95	1	-	3	11	-	-	-	1	15	12	336.4	4.0	
	8	Lang. III	14	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	
RAINVILLE TOTAL			116	110	1	-	3	12	-	-	-	2	17	16			
SARREBRUCKEN	8	Hosq. IX	4	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	9.8	-	
	8	Hosq. XVI	6	4	1	-	1	-	-	1E	-	-	-	-	4 x 4000	-	
SARREBRUCKEN TOTAL			10	7	1	-	2	-	1	1E	-	-	-	-			
SARREBRUCKEN TOTAL	8	Hosq. IV	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18.5	.1	
	8	Hosq. IX	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10 x 4000	-	
SARREBRUCKEN TOTAL			7	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
GRAND TOTAL			273	235	24	-	3	11	12	2+1AC	1+2AC+1E	-	3+1AC	31	24		
INCL. YMG.																	
ST. MILD	3	Str. III	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39 Miles
	6	Str. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WEST	6	Hal. II	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	6	Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
INCL. YMG. TOTAL			12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
OPER. REPORT	100	Various	55	40	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
NOT. RECORD	8	Hosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			332	287	24	-	3	18	12	2+1AC	1+2AC+1E	-	3+1AC	31	24		
OPER. RPT.	100	Hosq.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
OPER. RPT.	100	Hosq.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

G.R.S. 3. x Not included in Grand Total.



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

29/30th. JUNE, 1944.

Minelaying, etc.SUMMARY

1. Minelaying 8 Stirlings were detailed to lay mines off the Biscay ports. 5 were successful. No aircraft was lost from the night's operations.
2. Fighters 14 Mosquitos were active on anti-flying bomb patrols. One missile was destroyed. 2 other Mosquitos completed net. recon. flight.
3. Special operations 12 Halifaxes, 4 Hurricanes and 2 Mustangs made special sorties.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases:- Widespread thunderstorms. Low stratus in southern bases by 0300.

Targets:- Thunderstorms in N. France. Little cloud elsewhere.

SORTIES

5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	24
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	19
" " abortive sorties.....	5
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Local rain in 3 Group for take-off. Broken cu. and st.-cu, increasing southwards.

Biscay ports:- 10/10ths. st.-cu., base 2,000', tops 5-6,000', breaking S. of 48°N. to 3-5/10ths. Good visibility.

ENEMY DEFENCES

7. Nothing to report.

CASUALTIES

8. None.

MEM/RT.

BC/S. 26342/3/CRS4,
25th. October, 1944.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

30th JUNE/1st JULY, 1944

VIERZON: Homberg

SUMMARY

118 Lancasters carried out a damaging attack on the marshalling yards at Vierzon, 40 miles S. of Orleans, an important junction for through traffic to the Germans in Normandy. All the through lines were cut and much rolling stock was destroyed. Fighters were active in the moonlight, and 14 bombers were lost. 40 Mosquitos visited the synthetic oil plant at Homberg, and caused good fire. One aircraft of this force did not return.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases: Rain after 0100; low cloud from 0300.

Targets: Paris, Cherbourg, Le Havre and Pas de Calais will have much rain and low cloud.

Vierzon: 6-9/10ths. st-cu., base 2-3,000', with well broken medium cloud 12,000'.

VIERZON

PLAN OF ATTACK

1 Group visual groundmarking. An assembly point at 471930 N 015430 E was to be marked with impact green T.I. The A/P was to be illuminated with flares and marked with impact yellows. If accurate, the latter were to be backed up with 2 spot fires. Cascading yellows might be used to re-centre the bombing. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of the red spot fires unless otherwise directed by the Master Bomber. H = 0110. Bombing height: 6-8,000'.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	118
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	115
" " abortive sorties.....	3
" " aircraft missing.....	14 (11.9%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Low cloud and rain covered all bases S.W. of Silloth-Humber by 0300. Much fog in Yorkshire.

Target:- 4-3/10ths medium cloud, base 15,000'. No cloud below. Good visibility. Half moon until 0300. Wind at 7,000': 250°/30 m.p.h.

DESCRIPTIVE OF ATTACK

The T.I. fell to the N.E. of the yards, but the red spot fires were very accurate, and the bombing was concentrated on them.

...../DAY RECONNAISSANCE

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

7. Severe damage was caused throughout the yards. All through lines were cut; the loco. depot was two-thirds destroyed; a transshipment shed sustained 2 direct hits; and at least 80 wagons were derailed.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. The bombers crossed the French coast just N. of Le Havre. Several Gruppen of fighters had been assembled between Dieppe and Rouen for the previous 45 minutes, but they were given plots which suggested that the bombers were much farther east. Consequently, our aircraft reached the target without much opposition, and it was not until they had been over enemy occupied territory for 54 minutes that fighters were ordered to Beacon Venus, near Orleans. These fighters apparently identified the target by the fires burning there, made their contacts in moonlight and held our stream for the first 80 miles of the return route, over which stretch almost all the losses occurred. Flak was very slight. Our bombers claimed no combat victories.

CASUALTIES

9. At least 9 of the 14 losses were caused by fighters over the target and on the early part of the homeward leg. 2 fell to light flak while flying low a few miles S.W. of the target. 2 more may have been lost in a collision near Chateaudun. No returning aircraft was seriously damaged.

HOMBERG

10. 40 Mosquitos were despatched against the synthetic oil plant at Homberg. 5 OBOD aircraft carried T.I., and 4 of these (1 Mk.I, 2, Mk.II and 1 Mk.III) made successfully controlled runs. Their markers fell in a tight group and were accurately bombed. One great explosion caused a fire which was visible for 100 miles. Flak was moderate, but accurately predicted, and probably destroyed the one Mosquito which failed to return. Useful damage was caused in this attack and those which followed on 1/2nd and 3/4th July. The benzine fractionation and ammonia sulphate by-products plants were especially affected, and several other buildings suffered in a minor degree.

MINELAYING

11. 6 Stirlings laid 36 mines off the Scheldt estuary and IJmuiden without incident.

FIGHTERS & SPECIAL OPERATIONS

12. 13 Mosquitos were active on STRIKE and intruder patrols, destroying one Ju.88 near Dieppe. 16 others kept watch for flying-bombs, and destroyed 3 of them. One made a nat. recon. flight, and 6 made special sorties. No casualties were sustained.

MM/EMD

BC/S.26542/2/ORS.4

25th October, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	ALYDUT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REQUISITE				DISB-ING	RESULTS				INTERDICTIONS		RESULTS	
				NO. OF A/C		ADVERSE EFFECTS			FLY	FIRE	DAN. INC. DOLL.	NOV. DUE TO 3/A	IMPACT-ED	NOY. DUE TO-ED	H.E.	L.B.
				ACT.	ACT.	OVER E.T.	ACT. OVER E.T.									
VILSON	1	Lano. I Lano. III	55 63	53 62	-	1	100	4	1.00	-	-	-	1	2	631.5	3.2
VILSON TOTAL			118	115	-	1	2	14	1.00	-	-	1.00	0	3		
HOLBROOK	0	Moq. IV Moq. IX Moq. XVI	3 4 33	2 3 32	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	53.4	.4
HOLBROOK TOTAL			40	37	1	1	1	1	2+1.00	-	-	-	-	-	25 x 4000	
SOILING TOTAL			158	152	1	2	3	15	3+2.00	-	-	1.00	0	3		
MINELAYING SCHMIDT LUBBER	3	Stir. III Stir. III	4 2	4 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36 mins	
MINELAYING TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMBER SUPPORT	100	Moq.	25	20	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTERDICTION	100	Moq.	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INT. BOMBING	0	Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			194	185	1	2	6	15	3+2.00	-	-	1.00	0	3		
x(SPEC. OPS.)	100	Moq.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

x Not included in Grand Total.

1 0008-3

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