

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

31st. OCTOBER/1st. NOVEMBER, 1944

COLOGNE: Hamburg: Saarbrücken: Schweinfurt:

SUMMARY

Cologne was heavily attacked for the second successive night; but again the target was covered with thick cloud, and the resultant damage was largely confined to the western suburbs. An early point attack on the target deceived the enemy into thinking that the night's bombing had ended before midnight; and when the main force crossed the frontier, they were accompanied by ME109 fighters who drew the fighters south towards the darkness. Mosquitos bombed Hamburg and carried out OBOE tests. 2/656 aircraft (0.5%) were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- An occlusion will pass across operational bases, giving rain and much cloud; but the base should remain above 1,000' in most areas. Visibility will be reduced to 1,000-1,500 yards in some areas; elsewhere, 2 miles. Good diversions in S.W. England and S. Wales.

Targets:- 10/10ths. over the whole of Germany, base 600' in many areas.

DETAILS

LINE OF ATTACK

OBOE and H2S skymarking. H = 2100.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	493
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	477
" " " " " alternative area.....	1
" " abortive sorties.....	15
" " aircraft missing.....	1 (0.2%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Mist and stratus, especially in S. and S. Groups.

Target:- 10/10ths. stratus, base 10-12,000'. Full moon, up all night. Wind at 18,000': 070°/30 m.p.h. 10/10ths. over whole route.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

The skymarkers were well placed and tightly grouped. The bombing was equally concentrated, and as the attack developed, a glow appeared beneath the cloud.

RECONNAISSANCE

Photographic cover was not obtained until 1st. November. Considerable damage was then revealed in the western districts of Cologne, with scattered accidents throughout the rest of the city. Some of this destruction must have been caused by the attack of the previous night, when 867 aircraft bombed through ... thick cloud.

thick cloud. Klotzenberg, Linenthal and Ehrenfeld were all seriously damaged, especially the last-named district, where 4 priority-3 industries were affected. 34 un-rated industries were also hit; but none of the great steel mills suffered damage. The Bifelter marshalling yard (pr.2), the general goods yard and station (pr.3) and the Ehrenfeld goods station suffered severely. Ironways depots were hit at Braunsfeld and Ehrenfeld. No devastation was caused to the city centre.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. Fighter opposition was again exceptionally slight, only 3 attacks being made on our bombers. After a MEDELL screen had been set up from N to S, just E. of 05°E., WINDOW Droppers and Mosquitoes carried out a feint attack on Cologne, and deceived the enemy into thinking that this constituted the whole of the night's work. When the real force emerged from the MEDELL screen, they were accompanied by WINDOW Droppers feigning a major raid on Frankfurt. The latter force was admirably plotted, and the fighters were sent to a point just E. of Coblenz about 15 minutes before the first markers went down on Cologne. As a result, fighter opposition over the target was almost negligible. The flak guns fired a slight to moderate barrage, even less effective than that encountered on the previous night. After their failure to intercept the bombers, the fighter controllers attempted to attack the heavies operating the MEDELL screen, and one Stirling was engaged and damaged.

C.SULTRIES

9. Only 1/493 aircraft (0.2%) was lost; almost certainly to flak at or near the target. Another aircraft was irreparably damaged, either by flak or by bombs from another aircraft, but landed safely in Belgium. No more than 6 aircraft were hit by flak, and none by fighters.

COLOGNE (FEINT ATTACK)

10. Three-quarters of an hour before the main attack, 15/15 Mosquitos attacked Cologne from 23-32,000'. The markers were well grouped, and all the main force attacked either them or their glow in the cloud. WINDOW droppers accompanied these bombers, in order to confuse the reception of the German fighter controllers. All these aircraft returned safely.

HAMBURG

11. 48/49 Mosquitos bombed Hamburg in 2 waves. The first attack began a few minutes before the main effort on Cologne, and the second force arrived about half an hour later. The target was covered on both occasions with 10/10th cloud; but the marking and bombing were well concentrated. No fighters were met, but the flak was fairly intense, and probably accounted for the one aircraft which failed to return.

SARBRUCKEN

12. 4/4 OBOE Mosquitos attacked Sarbrucken, 3 on OBOE and one on GEE.

SCHWEINFURT

13. 1/2 OBOE Mosquitos made a successfully controlled run against Schweinfurt, the other bombing the approximate target area on D.R.

BOMBER SUPPORT Etc.

14. 59 Mosquitos carried out intruder and SEARCHER patrols, destroying one Ju. 88 near Frankfurt. 24 heavies operated MEDELL and WINDOW, as described in paragraph 8 above; and 5 Fortresses operated JOSTLE. 7 aircraft of 192 Squadron carried out signals investigation patrols. All returned safely, although one MEDELL Stirling was engaged and damaged by a night-fighter.

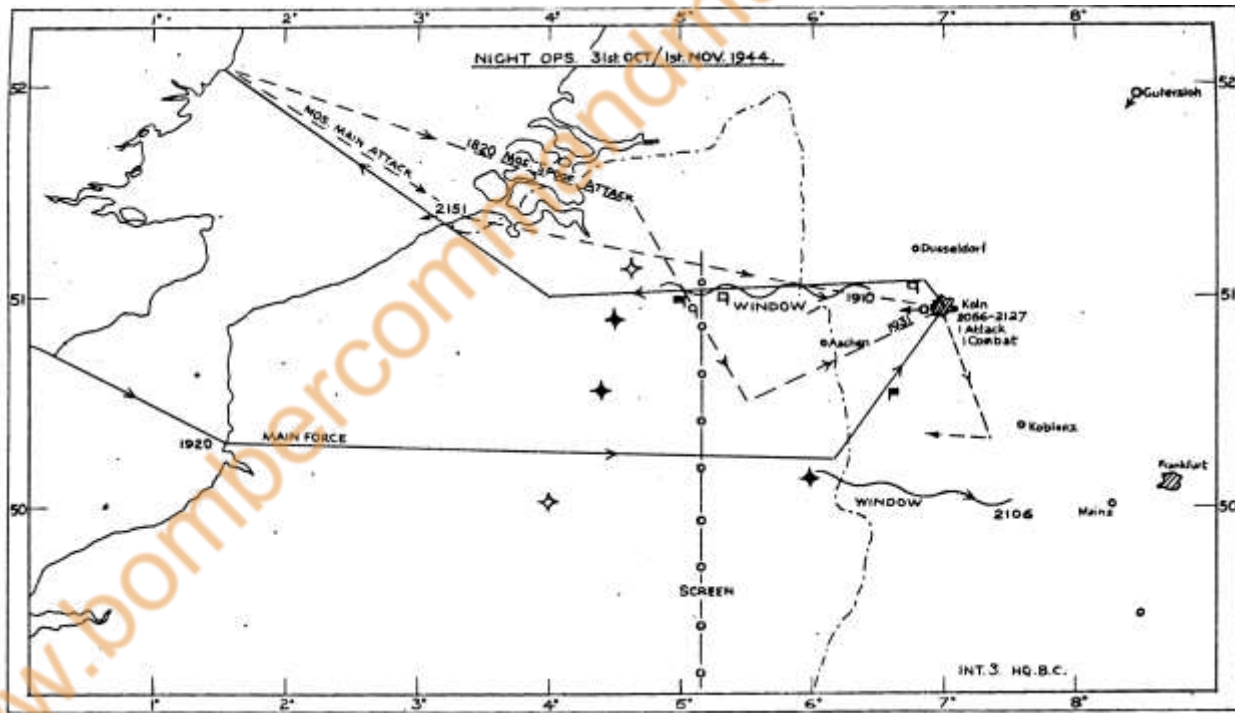
15/17.

BC/S. 26342/3/ORS4,
19th. February, 1945.

REFERENCES:

Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Report
No.K.3357
Enemy Defences - Interception/Tactics
No. 272/1945

UNIT	GROUP	TARGET TYPE	COORDS	NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		RESULTS		
				PLN.	J.F.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	HL
CHARGE	1	Lanc. I	106	103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2032.1	370.3
		Lanc. III	113	111	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	Lanc. I	56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	15	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4	Hal. III	14	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Lanc. III	41	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Mosq. IX	10	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Mosq. XVI	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COLOMB TOTAL			493	477	1	3	12	1	5+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COLOGNE (SPOOF)	8	Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XIV	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COLOGNE (SPOOF) TOTAL			15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DUISBURG	8	Mosq. XVI	14	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60.3	1.9
		Mosq. XX	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1st ATTACK	8	Mosq. XVI	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XX	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XIV	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1st ATTACK TOTAL			29	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2nd ATTACK	8	Mosq. XVI	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XX	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2nd ATTACK TOTAL			23	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3rd ATTACK	8	Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	4.0
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3rd ATTACK TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SCHWEDFURT	8	Mosq. XVI	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	2.0
		Mosq. XVI	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SCHWEDFURT TOTAL			4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			563	545	2	4	12	2	11+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL SUPPORT			88	79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PATROLS			7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			658	631	2	4	21	2	11+1.0	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



NIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 757

COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS1/2nd NOVEMBER, 1944OBERHAUSEN: Berlin: Cologne: Karlsruhe: MulheimRY

6 Group went in strength to Oberhausen, in the Ruhr; but the town was covered with thick cloud, and the suburbs received most of the bombing. Mosquitos bombed Berlin and Cologne, and carried out OBOE tests. 6/432 aircraft were lost. 1 E/A were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases Local mist or fog by 23-2400, becoming widespread by 01-0200; 4 and 6 Groups will retain 2 miles visibility.

Targets Much st.-cu over Germany. Good clearances in Munich area. 10ths. to 6-7,000' over Ruhr, with patchy medium cloud.

OBERHAUSENTIME OF ATTACK

OBOE Skymarking H = 2030.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	288
" " " reporting attack on, primary area.....	280
" " " " " alt. area.....	3
" " abortive sorties.....	5
" " aircraft missing.....	6 (2.1%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Bases Mainly fit during operational period.

Target 7-8/10ths. st-cu., tops 6-7,000'. Full moon, up all night. at 20,000': 330°/20-25 m.p.h. Much layer cloud en route.

NATURE OF ATTACK

The marking was concentrated and well maintained. The bombing was mostly limited to the marked area.

RECONNAISSANCE

The centre of Oberhausen sustained only light and scattered damage, but far more destruction was caused in the southern and eastern suburbs. The Hoesch-Hammagusschutte Oberhausen A.G. (steelworks, pr. 1) was severely hit, the Siemens steel shops and rolling mills, gas producers and gas blowing house all being seriously affected. Concordie Bergbau A.G. (coking plant, pr. 3) and a branch of Vereinigte Stahlwerke in Mulheim to the south, were also damaged. 2 locomotive sheds, a loco. shed and a hatted camp were partially wrecked.

DEFENCES

Mosquitos and WINDOW droppers feigned attacks on Cologne and Mainz, and enemy controllers were only able to send up 4 Gruppen of fighters over the Ruhr.

..../These were

These were too late to intercept the bombers over the target, and only succeeded in engaging a few aircraft in the Vervlo area on the return route. Most of these combats ended disastrously for the fighters. Flak was moderate.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

9. 6 E/A (including 3 alleged jet-propelled aircraft) were claimed as destroyed by our bomber crews on this night: and Mosquito intruders shot down a seventh.

CASUALTIES

10. 6/288 (2.1%) aircraft were lost - 2 to flak at Oberhausen and Sterkrad, 3 to fighters near Vervlo (2) and Brussels, and 1 to "unknown causes". 2 other aircraft were irreparably damaged, one by flak and one in combat.

COLOGNE

11. Shortly before the attack on Oberhausen, 10/12 Mosquitos carried out a feint raid on Cologne. There was a gap in the cloud over the target, and most crews were able visually to identify the accurate markers. Strong fires were still burning from the attacks delivered on the 2 previous nights.

BERLIN

12. 47/49 Mosquitos delivered a concentrated attack on Berlin in clear weather.

KARLSRUHE

13. 4 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Karlsruhe.

MULHEIM

14. 3/4 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Mulheim, the fourth aircraft being abortive.

BOMBER SUPPORT ETC.

15. 46 Mosquitos carried out SERENATE and intruder patrols, destroying 1 Ju 88. 6 Stirlings operated the MUNDREL screen: 13 heavies dropped WILDOW to divert the enemy's fighters from the main force on Oberhausen: and a Fortress operated JOSTLE. All returned safely. 25 aircraft made special sorties, 5 carried out signals investigation patrols, and a Mosquito completed a nat. recon. flight.

HLL/EMD
BC/S. 26342/3/GRS.
13th February, 1945

REFERENCES

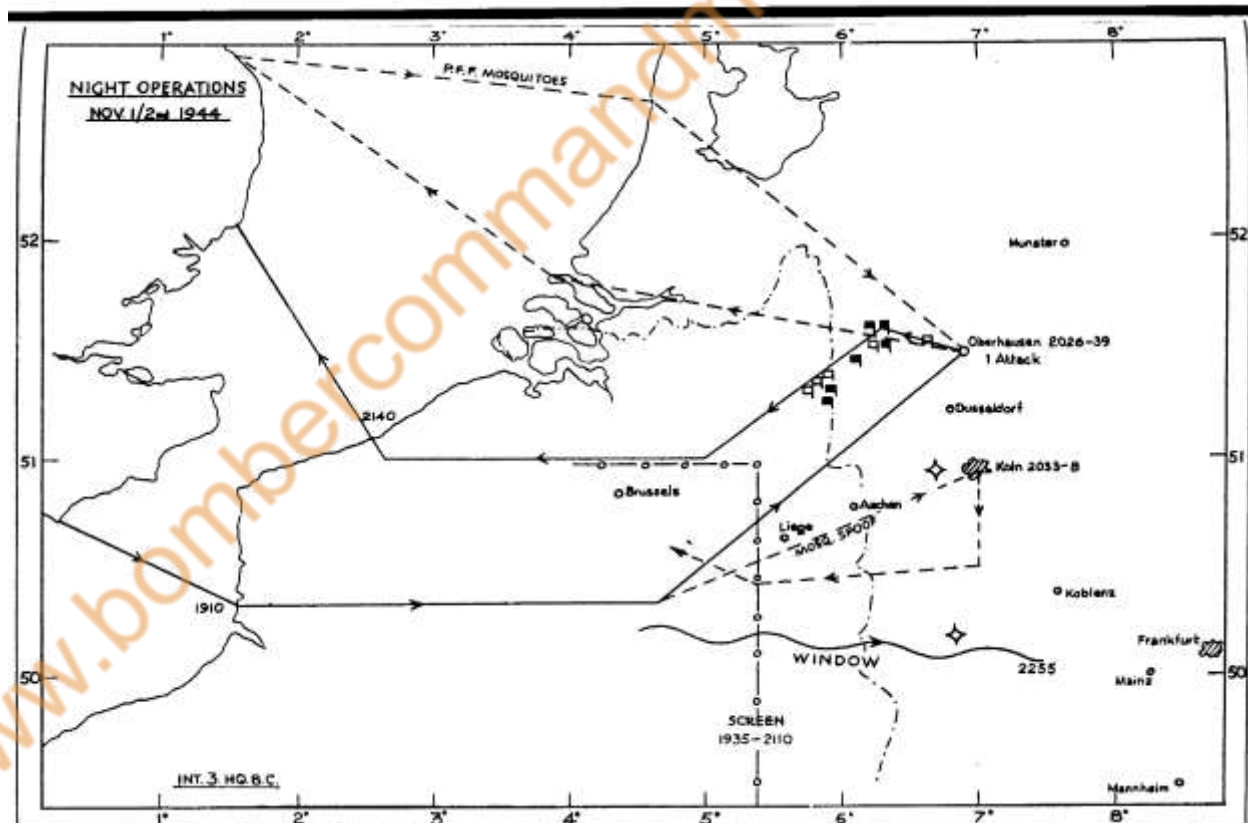
Day reconnaissance - Interpretation Report No. K. 3406.
Enemy defences - Interception/Tactics No. 273/44.

TYPE	GROUP	SQUADRON	SERIES	TOTAL RESULTS			NEGATIVE RESULTS		MISSED	OPERATIONS				RESULTS		
				DOWN	NOT DOWN	OVER R.T.	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER R.T.		PLACED	FIGHTS	PERCENT DOWN	TOTAL DOWN	PERCENT DOWN	TOTAL DOWN	IB.
BOMBERS	B	Hal. III	142	140	1	-	1	3	7+10	1	-	-	4	2	1022.5	103.4
		Hal. VII	60	58	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lang. I	48	48	-	-	-	1	1E	-	-	1	1	-	-	
	B	Lang. III	20	25	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	730000
		Houg. IX	5	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Houg. XVI	7	6	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL		288	280	3	2	6	12+1E	1+1E			6	5			
COLONNE (SPOOF)	B	Houg. XVI	6	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.3	1.1
		Houg. XX	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60000	
		Houg. XXV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL		12	10		1	1									
HELIUM	B	Houg. XVI	27	26	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	62.5	1.3
		Houg. XX	13	13	-	-	-	1+2	-	-	-	-	-	-	260000	
		Houg. XXV	9	8	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL		49	47	1	1		3+2								
KREUZER	B	Houg. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.4	20000
		Houg. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL		4	4				1								
MILITARY	B	Houg. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.4	20000
		Houg. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL		4	3		1										
BOAT	TOTAL		35	34	4	5	4	6	16+10	1+12		6	5			
BOMBER SQUADRON 100	Various		6	6	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STRIKE SQUADRON 100	Various		5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MET. RESERVE	B	Houg.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GUARD TOTAL			432	415	4	5	8	6	10+10	1+11		6	5			
WIPAC OPS.	Various		25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

O.R.S. 3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GLEAD TOTAL

302



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

2/3rd. NOVEMBER, 1944.

DUSSELDORF: Osnabruck: Hallendorf: etc.

SUMMARY

A force of 992 aircraft was despatched to Dusseldorf and found the target clear. Marking was accurate and bombing was well concentrated on the markers. 246 aircraft attacked the primary area and four others the approximate target area. From this attack 15 aircraft failed to return. Mosquitos attacked Osnabruck and Hallendorf and all aircraft returned safely. Intruder patrols etc. were carried out, all without loss. 12 E/A were claimed destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- fit for take off, but local fog on return.
Ruhr:- 6-9/10ths. St.-cu. (tops 8,000 to 9,000 ft.). Small amounts of thin medium cloud between 12,000 and 14,000 ft.

DUSSELDORF

STATE OF SKY

Mixed OROE ground marking and sky marking. H = 1915.

SORTIES

No. of aircraft despatched.....	992
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	946
" " " " " alternative area.....	4
" " abortive sorties.....	42
" " aircraft missing.....	15 (1.5%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Full moon, rising at 1905 hours. Small amounts of st.-cu (tops 8,000 ft.). Visibility good. Winds, 18,000 ft: 010° 20-25 m.p.h.; 20,000 ft. 030° 10-15 m.p.h.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

Visibility was excellent over Dusseldorf and made possible visual identification of river, railway and built-up area. Marking was accurate and bombing was well concentrated on the ground markers. Between 1915 and 1935 hours several explosions occurred, and fires were visibly gaining a good hold of the built-up area.

REMARKS

Further damage was effected in an area in the northern part of the town of Dusseldorf which had been less heavily hit on previous occasions. Among the chief factories damaged was the Rheinmetall Borsig W.G. in the Derendorf area where every floor building was hit. Another plant belonging to the same firm in the Rath area was also heavily damaged. Over 50 industrial premises were affected in various degrees of fresh damage. In the Derendorf marshalling yard, the installations were destroyed. 2 train depots were entirely destroyed and a number of streets and thoroughfares were blocked with debris and ordnance. A large military barracks was destroyed in the Morsenbroich

in the Horsaebroich district was largely destroyed, and in the same district 3 flak sites received direct hits. There was also no damage to business and residential property in Dusseldorf.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. Fighters were active over the target and on the return route, and nearly all the losses were caused by Ju.88, Me.110 and Me.109's directed into the bomber stream. A heavy flak barrage was put up between 17/20,000 ft. decreasing during the attack.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

9. Bomber crews claimed the destruction of 12 E/A (1 Me.110, 2 Ju.88, 1 FW.190 and 8 alleged jet-propelled aircraft); also, 1 Me.110 probably destroyed and 2 Ju.88, 2 FW.190 and 1 Me.109 damaged. (The alleged jet-propelled may, however, have been self-destructive projectiles). British fighters claimed to have destroyed 4 Ju.88 and 2 Me.110, and to have damaged 1 Ju.88 and 1 Me.110.

CASUALTIES

10. 15/992 aircraft (1.5%) were lost, and 7 others crashed in liberated territory. 12 were seen to be destroyed by fighters: 5 over the target, 6 on the way out to Aachen and Duren, and 3 in combats further west. 3 were lost to flak: one at target, one W. of Cologne and one near the battle area. The other 5 casualties must be attributed to "unknown causes". 25 aircraft were hit by flak, and 11 sustained damage from fighters, 6 slightly and 5 badly. 8 aircraft sustained injuries not due to enemy action.

OSNABRUCK

11. 41/42 Mosquitos bombed Osnabruck through 6-10/10ths. cloud (tops 8-10,000 ft.). Marking was scattered with the exception of one small cluster around which the bombing appeared to be fairly well concentrated. 1 aircraft was abortive. All the Mosquitos returned safely.

HAILELORNE

12. 1/9 OBOE Mosquitos made a successfully controlled run. 5 aircraft bombed in the target area on D.R. 2 aircraft bombed Brunswick and 1 Hannover on D.R. None was lost.

BOMBING SUPPORT

13. 13 Stirlings and Liberators operated a HEDRE screen. 20 heavies dropped WEDOW. 51 Mosquitos made Intruder and SEATTLE patrols, destroying 4 Ju.88 and 2 Me.110, and damaging 1 Ju.88 and 1 Me.110. 12 aircraft made special investigation patrols. 1 Mosquito was dispatched on a Mat.Recco. All these aircraft returned safely.

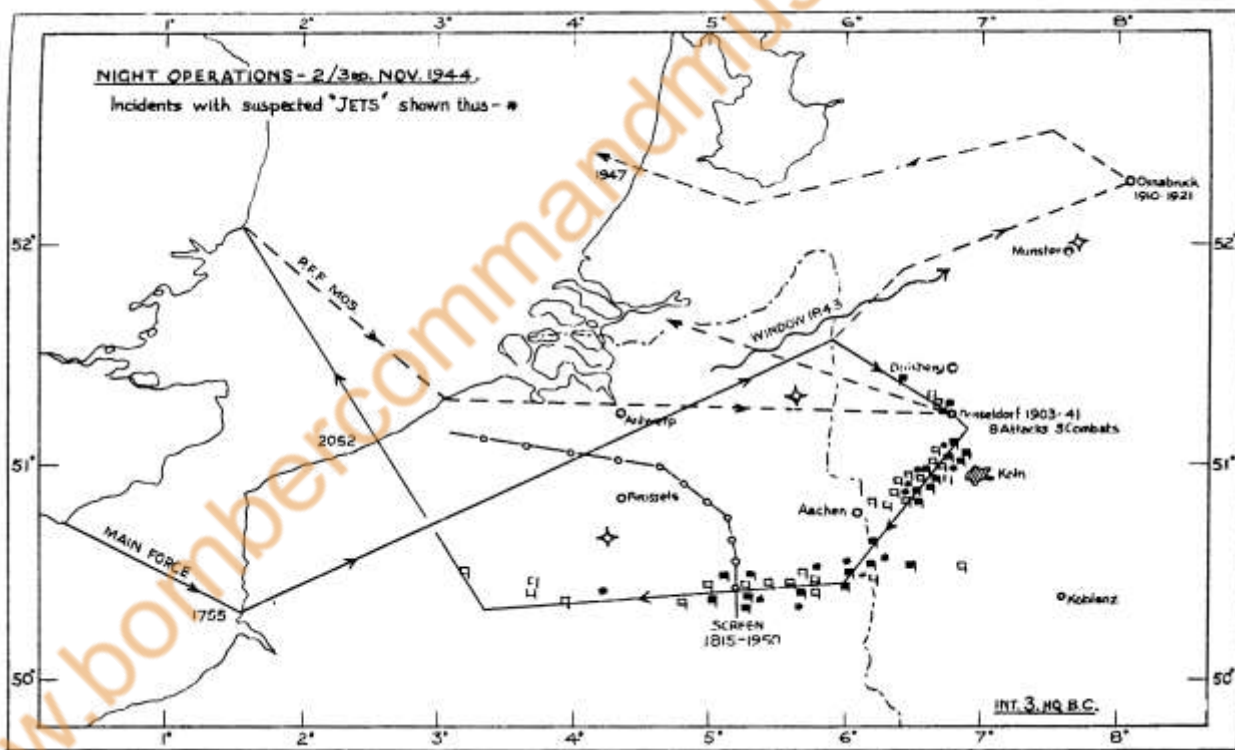
HCC/A.T.
EC/S.263,2/3/ORS4,
20th. February, 1945.

REFERENCES

Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Report No.K.3386.
Enemy Defences - Interception/Tactics Report No. 275/44.

TYPE	GROUP	ICR. PT TYPE	COMBATS	1./C REPORTED DOWN		1./C REPORTED DOWN		1./C DOWN	LOSS				REMARKS		
				PH. .RE.	ALT. .RE.	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.		M. A.	REPAIRS	WRT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO REPAIRS	REPAIRS	REPAIRS	REPAIRS
DUSSLELDORF	1	Leano. I	127	125	-	-	2	1+10	3+20	-	-	1.0	2	7	503x4000
		Leano. III	125	-	-	-	2	2	4	1+20	-	1.0	7	4	
	4	Hul. III	220	207	1	1	11	1+20	5+10	20C+1B	-	1+10	15	5	
		Leano. I	89	86	-	-	3	1+30	-	-	-	-	2	2	
	5	Leano. III	98	95	-	-	1	2	3	1.0+2B	-	-	5	2	
		Leano. X	42	41	-	-	1	1	1+10	-	-	-	1	4	
	6	Hul. III	129	127	-	-	2	3+10	4	2B	-	1.0	3	3	
		Hul. VII	51	48	-	-	1	2	2+20	-	-	-	3	3	
	8	Leano. III	73	74	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3	
		Leano. VI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nonq. IX		10	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Nonq. XVI		15	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Nonq. XX		2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Nonq. XXV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF TOTAL			992	940	4	14	20	150	294.0	1+50	-	1+10	40	27	
DUSSLELDORF	8	Nonq. XVI	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.0 1x4000
		Nonq. XX	15	14	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Nonq. XXV	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF TOTAL			42	41	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF	8	Nonq. IX	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0 1x4000	
		Nonq. XVI	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF TOTAL			9	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF TOTAL			1043	988	12	14	21	150	294.0	1+50	-	1+10	40	27	
DUSSLELDORF	100	Various	76	70	-	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	12.5 3x4000	
		Various	12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF TOTAL			88	81	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUSSLELDORF TOTAL			1132	1070	12	14	28	150	294.0	1+50	-	1+10	40	27	

1./C. Cat. B Battle Area - Obscure. 1./C. Cat. B Battle Area - Lighter.
 1./C. Later known to have crashed near Yverdon. 1./C. Cat. E in A.O.T. - Fighter.
 1./C. Cat. B Lowland - Flak, N/G. near Halifax, shot down by 1./C. Cat. B in Lowland - Heavy Flak.
 1./C. Cat. B Lowland - Flak, N/G. near Halifax, shot down by 1./C. Cat. B in Lowland - Flak (?)
 1./C. Cat. B Lowland - Flak, N/G. near Halifax, shot down by 1./C. Cat. B in Lowland - Flak (?)
 1./C. Cat. B Lowland - Flak, N/G. near Halifax, shot down by 1./C. Cat. B in Lowland - Flak (?)



SECRET

NIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 759

COPY NO. 16BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS3/4 NOVEMBER 1944Berlin : HerfordSUMMARY

1. Berlin 54/55 Mosquitos bombed Berlin in conditions of 10/10ths thin cloud (tops 10/16,000 ft.). Markers were well concentrated and bombing was well confined to the marked area. The remaining Mosquito bombed the approximate target area. No aircraft was lost.
2. Herford 9 Mosquitos fitted with special equipment were despatched to attack Herford. 3 aircraft bombed the target and 5 the approximate target area. 1 was abortive. None was lost from this operation.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Bases Frontal system crossing bases during day. Much low cloud at about 1,000 ft. with rain and poor visibility.

Target Medium cloud spreading eastwards over W.Germany. Beneath medium cloud, considerable stratu.

SORTIES

4. No. of aircraft despatched	54
No. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area	57
No. of aircraft reporting attack on alternative area ...	6
No. of abortive sorties	1
No. of aircraft missing	-

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Very cloudy over the Continent.

ENEMY DEFENCES

6. The flak at Berlin was slight to moderate but with some predictor control. Jet propelled aircraft were sighted near Bremen. 1 Mosquito was attacked by an enemy aircraft.

CASUALTIES

7. No aircraft was lost from these two raids. 1 Mosquito was wrecked in a landing accident, and 1 was badly damaged in a taxiing accident.

HCC/MTA
BC/S.26342/6/ORS4
5th March, 1945

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

4/5th. NOVEMBER, 1944.

BOCHUM: LADBERGEN: Hannover: Herford.

SUMMARY

1. One of the most devastating attacks of recent months was delivered by 705 aircraft against Bochum. This raid, together with that of the 9/10ths. October, destroyed 92% of the built-up area. Factories and rail centres sustained terrible damage. At the same time, 5 Group Lancasters breached the embankment of the Dortmund-Ems canal at Ladbergen. Mosquitos bombed Hannover and Herford, and intruders destroyed 6 enemy aircraft. Enemy opposition was more serious than of late, for the enemy plotted our aircraft over the last 60 miles over the North Sea, and fighters were up in strength over the Ruhr. 24/1081 aircraft (2.2%) were lost, and 9 others were wrecked from various causes.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Bases will be affected by both a cold and a warm front during the night. There will be much cloud, but this should generally be based above 10,000'. Moderate visibility.

Targets:- Much low and broken cloud over Germany, nearly all below 2,000'. 5/10ths. st.-ou. or less over Ruhr, base 2-5,000', tops 8-10,000'.

BOCHUM: LADBERGEN

PLAN OF ATTACK

- Bochum OBCE groundmarking, with sp of sky marking. H = 1930.
- Ladbergen 5 Group MEMPHIS, with direct bombing. H = 1930.

RESULTS

	D.	L.
No. of aircraft despatched.....	749	176
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	705	172
" " " " " alt. "	1	0
" " abortive sorties.....	43	4
" " aircraft missing.....	24	3
	(3.2%)	(1.7%)

WRECK EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Fit.
 Bochum:- 2-5/10ths. st.-ou. 6-7,000'. Wind at 18,000': 275°/40 m.p.h.
 Ladbergen:- Clear. Good visibility. Win. at 15,000': 290°/45 m.p.h.
 • Three quarters moon, rising at 2010.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ATTACKS

Both attacks were reported as being very accurate and concentrated, though the early bombing tended to overshoot at Ladbergen.

2.1.1. Results

8. Bochum Exceptionally severe damage was caused throughout Bochum. Four branches of the Vereinigte Stahlwerke (all pr.1) were heavily hit, and so were the main station, gasworks, tramway depot and many lesser priority industries and facilities. As a result of this attack and that of the 9/10th. October, 92% of the fully built-up area was destroyed.

9. Ladbergen Serious damage was caused to the embanked stretch of the Dortmund-Ems canal, especially on the eastern branch of the by-pass, where 2 lengths of the embankment totalling nearly 1,500' were destroyed. Moreover, that portion of the eastern branch of the by-pass which crosses the river Glane (siphoned underneath) was pierced by at least 2 bombs, leaving a hole (70 x 130 ft) through to the river bed. 12 craters were caused on the embankment near the safety gates in the Dortmund by-pass. Both by-passes were rendered impassable by this attack; the main locks were exposed, and water leaked into the surrounding country.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. For the first time since August, the Ruhr was approached via the North Sea and Holland. The forces diverged at the Dutch coast between Amsterdam and Rotterdam, the Ladbergen raiders being accompanied by 100 droppers, in the hope of being mistaken for a spoof force. Mosquitos flew with these aircraft, and continued straight on to Hannover. The enemy fighters, however, succeeded somehow in plotting the spearhead of the Ladbergen force off Yarmouth, and plotted it for the last 60 miles over the North Sea. Fighters were up over the Dutch coast, and engaged the heavier force of bombers in earnest over the Ruhr, where there was little cloud cover, and none above 7,000'. Losses might have been severe if our aircraft had not been protected by 10/10ths. cloud over Belgium on the way home; as it was, fighters followed the stream as far as Liege. Peculiar projectiles were encountered over the target and on the way out, looking and behaving like aircraft; but only 3 of the 34 were reported to have launched any attack, and 21 were alleged to have been destroyed. Probably the fire of our crews merely helped in the self-destruction of these phenomena. The Ladbergen force reported only 2 fighter attacks. Heavy flak was slight to moderate at Bochum, but noticeably accurate against seen targets. Spoof sky markers attracted only a little flak. 6-18 light guns defended Ladbergen, and there was little heavy flak here.

CASUALTIES

11. 24/749 aircraft (3.2%) were lost on Bochum, and 5/176 (1.7%) on Ladbergen. 2 of the Ladbergen losses were caused by fighters, near the target on the way out. The third was not observed. 14 of the Bochum raiders were seen to go down in combat (4 over the target, 5 in the Cologne area, 2 near Aachen and 2 in isolated combats further W.). Flak claimed 2 victims on the approach to the Ruhr, 2 at Bochum and 3 on the way out of the defended area - 7 in all. 2 bombers collided over the Dutch coast and went down in flames; and one was bombed and destroyed by allied anti-aircraft fire over the Charleroi-Louvain area. 8 other aircraft were destroyed, but remains of them were found, and the consequently counted as "Damaged - Cat. B". 3 of these fell in combat, one was wrecked by incendiaries, and the rest crash-landed or were destroyed by "unknown causes." 54 aircraft were hit by flak over Bochum, but none was seriously damaged.

HANNOVER

12. 41/43 Mosquitos flew as far as Ladbergen with 5000 lb, and then proceeded to carry out a feint attack on Hannover. There was little cloud over the town, and the marking and bombing were well concentrated. No further losses were sustained on this night.

...../RECORD

REPORT

1/6 BOBE Mosquitos made a successfully controlled run against Herford. Other attacks the primary on D. 1, and 2 more bombs are approximate target area. The others were abortive.

NUMBER SUPPORT etc.

68 Mosquitos were active on SHILLON and intra-territory, destroying 4 Mc.118 and 2 Mc.110, as well as damaging 1 Mc.110 and 1 Mc.118. 6 Stirlings (with Liberators) operated a WIDOW screen over the North Sea; and 30 heavies (with 1 WIDOW) operated a WIDOW screen over the North Sea; and 30 heavies (with 1 WIDOW) operated a WIDOW screen over the North Sea; and 30 heavies (with 1 WIDOW) operated a WIDOW screen over the North Sea.

1/17.
S. 26542/3/ORS4,
th. February, 1945.

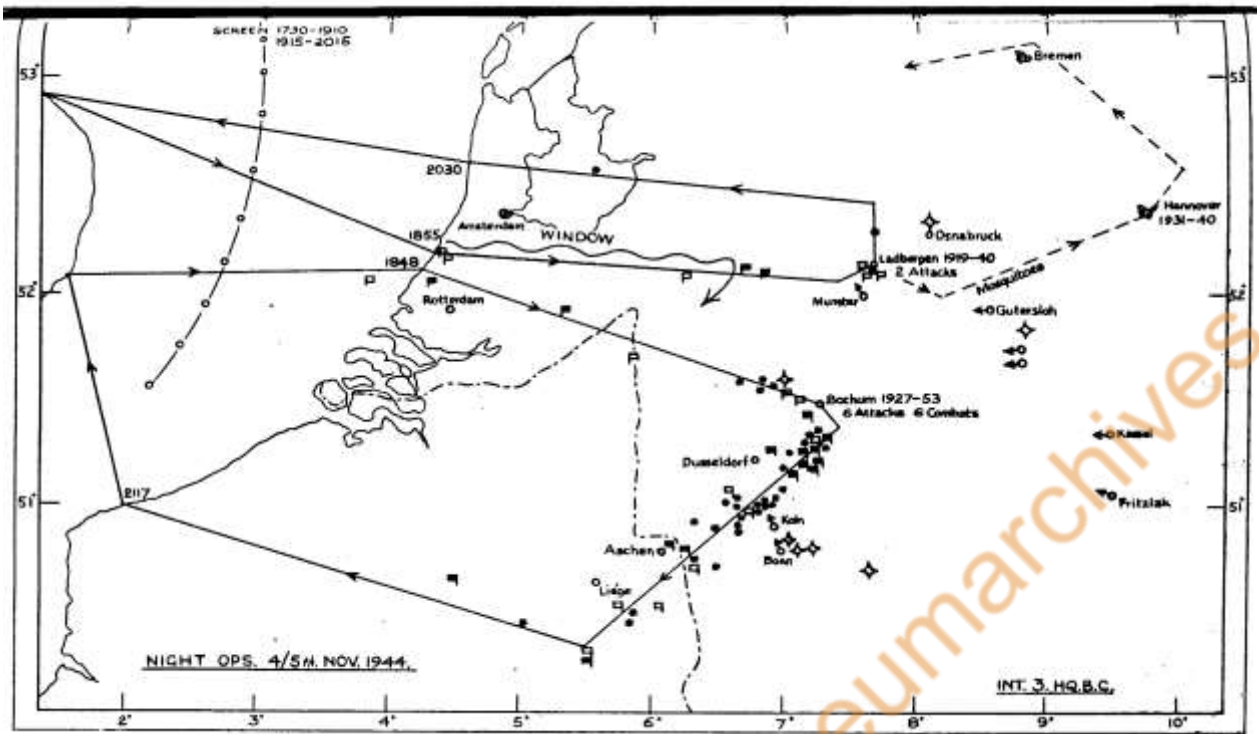
REFERENCES

- Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Reports Nos. K. 3348 and K.3351.
- Enemy Defences - Interception/Tactics No. 276/44.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	W/O REPORTING				TOTAL	RESULTS				TOTALS			
				PHYS. DESTROYED	PHYS. DAMAGED	PHYS. BURNED	PHYS. CAPTURED		DOWNED	RECOVERED	RECOVERED	RECOVERED				
BOHEMIA	1	Lanc.I	130	125	-	2	3	3+1*	5+2.0	1+2.0	-	1+1.0	3	5	27.2.0	509.3
		Lanc.III	105	104	-	-	1	1	4+1.0	-	-	-	1	2		
		Hel.III	211	196	-	4	11	15+2*	17	2+1.0	-	1+1B	7	5	326.000	
		Lanc.X	41	41	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	1B	1	1		
		Hel.III	125	120	-	2	3	3	4+3.0	-	-	1+1B	2	6	117.000	
		Hel.VII	60	48	-	-	-	2+1*	7	1B	-	-	1	2		
		Heav.IX	13	5	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.0	
		Heav.XVI	12	3	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.000	
		Heav.XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Heav.XXV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Heav.III	60	59	1	-	-	-	10+1.0	-	-	-	-	1				
BOHEMIA TOTAL		11.9	705	1	25	10	26+5	27+7.0	3+4.0	-	3+1.0+1B+3B	20	22			
LIEGE (DOLLMEIDEN G.L.L.)	5	Lanc.I	73	72	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	225.9	4.5	
		Lanc.III	95	92	-	3	-	3	1.0	-	-	-	2			
		Heav.IV	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Heav.XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Heav.XXV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LIEGE TOTAL		176	172	-	4	-	3	1.0	-	-	-	2	5	24.0	2.5	
BRUNNEN	2	Heav.XVI	30	20	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24.0	2.5	
		Heav.XX	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.000		
		Heav.XXV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BRUNNEN TOTAL		43	41	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
BRUNNEN	8	Heav.IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.2		
		Heav.XVI	5	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.000		
BRUNNEN TOTAL		6	2	2	2	-	7	-	-	-	-	-				
BOHEMIA TOTAL		974	920	4	32	10	34+5	37+7.0	3+4.0	-	3+1.0+1B+3B	22	27			
BOHEMIA SUPPORT	100	Various	98	97	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BRUNNEN SUPPORT	100	Various	9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BRUNNEN TOTAL		1084	1015	4	32	30	27+5	37+7.0	3+4.0	-	3+1.0+1B+3B	22	27			

* 1 w/o. Cat.B in a.B.T. - unknown.
† 1 w/o. Cat.B able - Fighter.

(1 w/o. Cat.C - Fighter.
(1 w/o. Cat.C. - L. Flak.
(1 w/o. Later known to have crashed at Liege.



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SECRETNIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 761COPY NO 66BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS5/6th NOVEMBER, 1944Stuttgart: Aschaffenburg: etc.SUMMARY

1. Stuttgart. Mosquitos made 2 attacks on Stuttgart. The first attack was made by 33/33 Mosquitos in 5/10ths cloud (tops 6/10,000 ft). Markers formed a good cluster, and bombs were confined within this area. Several substantial fires were started. In the second attack 30/32 Mosquitos bombed the target in conditions of no cloud and good visibility. Marking and bombing were well concentrated. Large explosions occurred, and fires were left burning. All aircraft returned safely.
2. Aschaffenburg 5/6 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Aschaffenburg. The other aircraft bombed the approximate target area on D.R.
3. Met. Recce. 1 aircraft carried out a Met. Reconnaissance patrol.

WEATHER FORECAST

1. Bases. Much rain.
2. Targets Little cloud in W. Germany.

SORTIES

3.	N ^o of aircraft dispatched.....	72
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	69
	" " " " " alternative area.....	1
	" " abortive sorties.....	2
	" " aircraft missing.....	-

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

1. 5/10ths cloud at Stuttgart for first attack, tops 6-10,000'. No cloud for second attack. 3/10ths. st-cu. at Aschaffenburg.

ENEMY DEFENCES

1. A few fighters were seen, but no combats developed. Heavy flak was slight.

RESULTS

1. None.

P/EXO
 /S. 6342/6/ORS.4
 14th March, 1945.

TARGET	GROUP	BOMB TYPE	BOMBING	BOMB REPORTING				BOMB- DROPS	BOMB				OTHER DATA		RESULTS	
				ATTACK ON		ADVERSE			FALL	PERCENT	DROPS PER BOMB	DROPS PER BOMB	DROPS PER BOMB	DROPS PER BOMB	HE.	IB.
				FRONT	REAR	OVER	UNDER									
STUTTGART 1st. STAGE	G	Moq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.6	1.4
		Moq. XVI	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	314000	
		Moq. XXI	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XXV	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
STUTTGART 1st. STAGE			33	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
STUTTGART 2nd. STAGE	G	Moq. XVI	22	21	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XX	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq. XXV	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
STUTTGART 2nd. STAGE			32	30	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
STUTTGART 3rd. STAGE	G	Moq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.7	
		Moq. XVI	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62000	
STUTTGART 3rd. STAGE			6	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMBING TOTAL			71	68	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBING TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			72	69	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

0.12.3.

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UNCLASSIFIED REPORT G. 762

COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COORDINATED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

6/7th. NOVEMBER, 1944.

KOBLENZ: GRAVENHORST: Rheine: Gelsenkirchen: etc.

SUMMARY

1. 122 Lancasters of 3 Group delivered a devastating attack against Koblenz in clear weather. 5 Group visited the synthetic oil depot at Gravenhorst near Rheine, but darkness and haze made it impossible to identify the aiming-point, and the mission was abandoned. Mosquitoes bombed Hannover, Gelsenkirchen, Rheine and Herford, and intruded successfully: 6 (probably 8) B/L were destroyed during the night. We lost 15/57 aircraft (2.6%).

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit until midnight. Moon, moon set.

Targets:- Small amounts of residual cloud at Koblenz and Gravenhorst, base 2-4,000', tops 8-10,000'. 5/10ths. cumulus in cloud over Heligoland.

KOBLENZ: GRAVENHORST.

PLANS OF ATTACK

- 3. Koblenz G-H groundmarking, with emergency G-H sky-marking. H = 1930.
- Gravenhorst 5 Group NEMM.VEL. H = 2000.

SORTIES

4. No. of aircraft despatched.....	120	235
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	112	31
" " " abortive sorties.....	3	204
" " " aircraft missing.....	1	10
	(0.8%)	(4.3%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Koblenz No low cloud; thin patchy mist at 18,000'. Wind at 18,000: 27-290°/50-60 m.p.h.

Gravenhorst 0-2/10ths., tops below 10,000', excellent visibility. Wind at 25,000': 280°/80 m.p.h.

Half moon, rising after the moon's eruptions at 1930.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

6. Koblenz The target was visually definite, and both the marking and bombing were extremely accurate and concentrated. At the end of the attack, the whole town appeared to be ablaze, with smoke rising to 10,000'.

7. Gravenhorst Although this target is clear of cloud, the darkness and haze made it most difficult to identify the A.P., and the Master Bomber finally ordered crews to abandon the mission.

...../LAWYER

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

8. Koblenz Very severe destruction was caused by this attack, and by those delivered on 1st. and 11th. November by the U.S. 8th Air Force. The worst damage occurred in the centre of the city, where a very high proportion of the built-up area was demolished. Lutzel, across the Moselle, and Ehrenbreitein, across the Rhine, received their share of the bombing. The town gasworks and the main passenger station (both pr.3) were both most seriously hit.

9. Gravenhorst Since the attempt on this target was abortive, no reconnaissance was undertaken.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. Nearly 50 Mosquitos visited Gelsenkirchen with FELLOW droppers, and deceived the enemy into supposing that the main effort would be directed against the Ruhr. The German controllers did not announce the presence of the Koblenz force until it was S. of Cologne, and none of these aircraft reported being engaged in combat. The Gravenhorst raiders met some fighter opposition in the neighbourhood of the target, and several losses were caused. Flak was slight and inaccurate at both targets.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

11. 6 E/A. were destroyed on this night, with 2 more probables. The Gravenhorst raiders shot down a Do. 17 and an unidentified E/A on the return route; a SERGEANT Mosquito destroyed a Ju.86; and intruders claimed 3 He.110, and probably 2 Ju.88.'s.

CASUALTIES

12. 1/128 aircraft (0.8%) was lost on Koblenz, and 10/235 (4.3%) on Gravenhorst. The Koblenz loss occurred over the target, probably as a result of air-to-air bombing. 6 of the Gravenhorst raiders went down in combat (5 near the target and 1 over S. Holland) and a sixth was destroyed by flak E. of the Zuyder Zee. The remaining losses cannot be accounted for. One Lancaster from Koblenz crash-landed in Florennes after its engines had failed; and another undershot on return from Gravenhorst, and was destroyed.

MEINE

13. 11/11 Lancasters attacked Meine in clear weather. Results were unobserved.

GELSENKIRCHEN

14. 44/48 Mosquitos carried out a feint attack on Gelsenkirchen, distracting the enemy's Ruhr fighters from the main forces flying to Koblenz and Gravenhorst. Great fires were burning over an area of 5 square miles as the result of the afternoon attack; only 3/12 OBOE aircraft were successful, but all the markers fell into the middle of the burning area, and the bombing was well concentrated on them. One Mosquito was lost without trace.

FELLOW

15. 18 Mosquitos (6 OBOE and 12 H2S) were despatched against Hannover. 4 OBOE and 9 H2S aircraft bombed by means of their precision devices. 4 others bombed on D.R. (no T.I. were carried). The remaining aircraft was abortive.

HERFORD

15. 6/8 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Herford in clear weather. The other 2 aircraft attacked the approximate target area on D.R.

5.

RESULTS

16. 12/12 Lancasters in. 59 times off Heligoland without incident.

BOEY SUPPORT etc.

17. 74 Mosquitos were active on SEARCH and intruder patrols. They destroyed 3 He.110 and 1 Ju.88, and probably 2 more Ju.88. 19 Fortresses, Halifaxes, Stirling and Liberators dropped WINDOY towards the Ruhr while the Mosquitos were visiting Gelsenkirchen: 8 Stirlings operated the MADREX screen, and 5 Fortresses operated JOSTLE. 2 Mosquitos and 1 Fortress failed to return. 9 Mosquitos, Halifaxes and Wellingtons carried out signals investigation patrols without loss.

M.H./CT.

E/S. 26342/3/ORSA,

20th. February, 1945.

REFERENCES

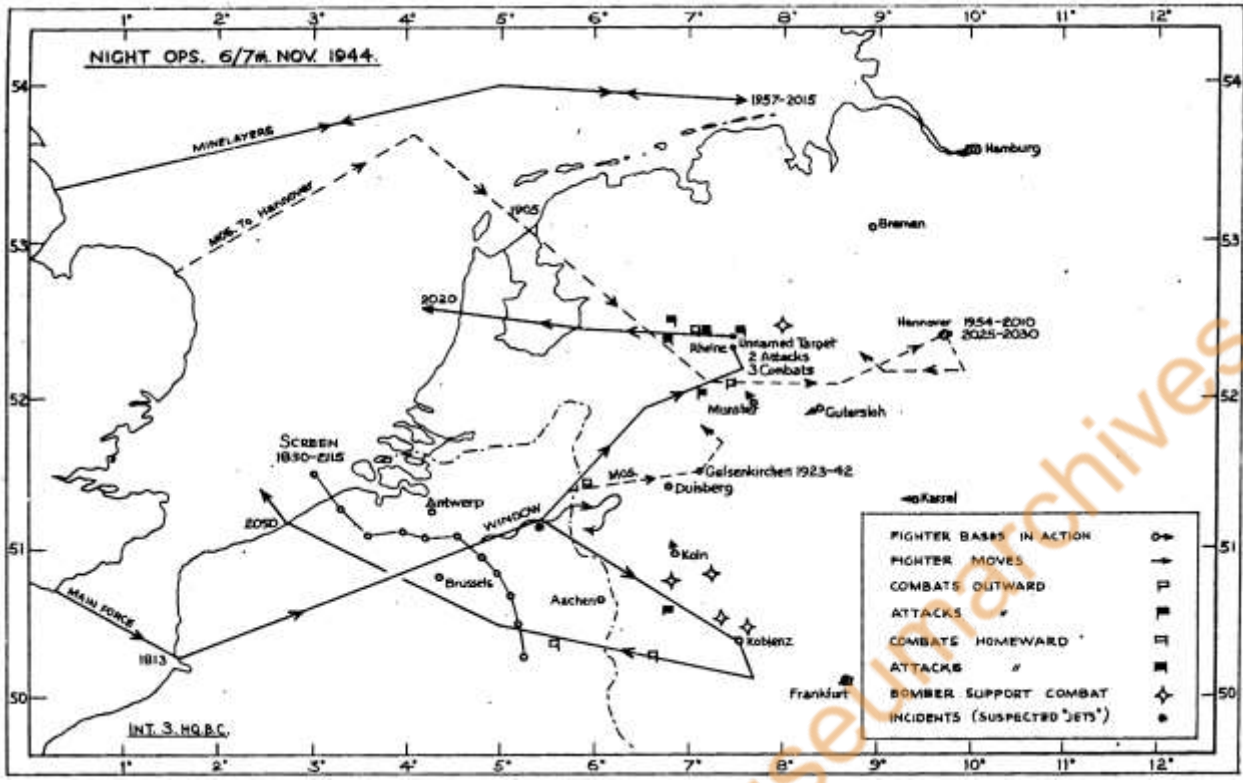
Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Report No. 11405

Aerby Defences - Interception/Practics No. 273/44.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING TRACK ON				LOSS- % 2	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTION		RESULTS	
				PRIM. REL.	INT. REL.	OVER S.T.	NOV OVER % 2		PLUG	FIGHTER	BUT. DNC.	OF DUE TO S/A	PLUG- ED	NO. A/C. CL-	HE.	IB.
KOHLERZ	3	Lanc. I Lanc. III	103 25	100 22	-	1 2	1+1 ¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	234.6	283.6
KOHLERZ TOTAL			128	122	-	2	1+1 ¹	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	117x1000	5x8000
GRUVENHORST	5	Lanc. I Lanc. III Mosq. IV Mosq. XV	100 128 6 1	5 24 1 1	-	-	95 104 5 -	4 2 -	2 2	2 2	-	1E 1+2B	4 6	4 6	65.4	1.3
GRUVENHORST			235	31	-	-	204	10	2 2	2 2	-	1+2B +1E	4 10			
RODDE	5	Lanc. III	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	49.1	
GRASE KIRCHEN	5	Mosq. IX Mosq. XVI Mosq. XX Mosq. XXV	6 23 9 10	3 22 9 10	-	1 -	- -	- 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17x1000
GRASEKIRCHEN TOTAL			48	44	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HILFENBERG	3	Mosq. IX Mosq. XVI Mosq. XX Mosq. XXV	2 4 9 3	2 4 8 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.7	4x1000
HILFENBERG TOTAL			18	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HELD	1	Mosq. IX Mosq. XVI	1 7	- 6	1 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.3	8x1000
HELD TOTAL			8	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMBER TOTAL			448	231	2	6	209	12+1	2 2	2 2	-	1+1E +2B	4 14	14		
MINELAYING	1	Lanc. I Lanc. III	5 7	5 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	mines
MINELAYING TOTAL			12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOEY SUPPORT	100	Various	105	93	-	-	12	3	1+1 0	-	-	-	-	-		
SIGNAL PATROLS	100	Various	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			574	345	2	6	221	15+1	1+3 1	2 0	-	1+1E +2B	4 14	14		

O.P.S. 2-

1 w/o Out-B on Flowness - Engine failure.



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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

8/9TH NOVEMBER, 1944

Hannover: Herford

SUMMARY

1. Hannover. 2 forces of Mosquitos attacked Hannover. 21/24 attacked in the first raid, and 24/26 in the second. On both occasions the target was cloud-covered, and crews had to aim at the glow of markers. No aircraft was lost on this night, except 2 aircraft engaged on special operations.
2. Herford 8/9 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Herford. The ninth bombed the approximate target area on a Loren fix.
3. Signals patrols, etc. 4 Mosquitos carried out signals patrols, and 24 Stirlings were active on special operations. 2 of the latter force were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases. Generally fit.
- Targets Much cloud over Germany.

SORTIES

5.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	63
"	" " " reporting attacks on primary area.....	57
"	" " " " " alt. area.....	1
"	" abortive sorties.....	5
"	" aircraft missing.....	0

* But 2 aircraft were lost on "special operations", which are not included in the above figures.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. 10/10ths at Hannover and Herford.

ENEMY DEFENCES

7. No fighters. Very slight flak.

CASUALTIES

8. 2 aircraft were lost without trace on "special operations".

HLG/EMD
C/S. 26342/6/CRS.4
7th March, 1945.

SQUADRON	GROUP	MACHINE TYPE	SERIES	% REPORTING		ADVERSE		MIS- D.C.	DAMAGE				EXPERIENCE		REMARKS			
				PROG. J.R.	ALL J.R.	OVER M. T.	OFF OVER M. T.		PLANT	PISTON	WING INC. HOLE	NO. DUE TO E/C	APPROX. NO.	REMARKS	RE.	IB.		
100	B	Mosq. XVI	12	10	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56.3	1.0
		Mosq. XX	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MOSQUITO Tot. TOTAL			24	21	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
100	B	Mosq. XVI	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XX	10	8	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MOSQUITO TOTAL (2nd)			26	24	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
100	B	Mosq. XVI	9	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		16.1
TOTAL			59	53	1	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		92,800
SQUADRON TOTAL 100			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			63	57	1	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MISCELLANEOUS			21	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

D.A.S.S.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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SECRET

NIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 764

COPY NO. 16BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

9/10th. 10/3 D.R., 1945.

Pforzheim: Kassel: Schwein: Gotha: etc.SUMMARY

1. Pforzheim 3/6 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Pforzheim. The other 3 aircraft bombed the approximate target area on D.R.
2. Kassel 3 OBOE Mosquitos attacked Kassel, but 2 of them had OBOE failure and bombed on D.R.
3. Schwein 4 Mosquitos were despatched to attack Schwein. 1 was abortive. 1 bombed the approximate target area on D.R. 1 bombed Cologne and 1 Solingen.
4. Gotha 6 OBOE Mosquitos despatched to attack Gotha had complete OBOE failure. 5 bombed the target area on D.R. The other aircraft bombed the Rheine area.
5. Bomber Support 15 heavies dropped WINDON. 8 Mosquitos were active on Intruder and Perfectos patrols. In addition, 7 Liberators operated a WINDON screen.
6. Met. Reconnaissance 1 aircraft was despatched on Met. Reconnaissance.
7. Special Operations 3 Stirlings were active on special operations.

WEATHER FORECAST

8. Bases:- Frequent wintry showers. Cloud base mainly above 1,500 ft.
Target:- Much very heavy convection cloud with tops 30-25,000' or above spreading to S.W. Germany from North Sea and Western Germany.

SORTIES

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 9. | No. of aircraft despatched..... | 19 |
| | " " " reporting attack on primary area..... | 5 |
| | " " " " " " alt. " | 13 |
| | " " abortive sorties..... | 1 |
| | " " aircraft missing..... | - |

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

10. 7 to 10/10ths. cu. and st. cu. over Germany with tops 10-20,000 ft.

ENEMY DEFENCES

11. Although a few night fighters were sent up in the Westrich and Cologne area, having been drawn away from the target area by a force of WINDON droppers, no aircraft was lost.

CASUALTIES

12. All aircraft returned safely.

HOC/JT.
 BC/S. 26342/6/ORS,
 11th. March, 1945.

TABLE	GRUP	INSTRUMENT TYPE	QUANTITY	NO. RECHINUT				TOTAL	TOTAL				TOTAL		
				BLOCK ON		SPECIFIC			TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	
				PREL. RECH.	RECH.	OVER E. G.	OVER E. G.								
FORNIST	B	Mod. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.8	
		Mod. XVI	5	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5x1000	
FORNIST TOTAL			6	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FORNIST	C	Mod. IX	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.5	
		Mod. IX	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.7	
		Mod. XV	3	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1x1000	
FORNIST TOTAL			4	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FORNIST	B	Mod. XVI	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.9	
														5x1000	
FORNIST TOTAL			19	5	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FORNIST SUBTOTAL	200	Various	23	14	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FORNIST			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			43	20	15	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-		
FORNIST	3	Star	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

Table 3

* NOT DELETED IN GRAND TOTAL

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS.

10/11TH NOVEMBER, 1944.

Headquarters: Hannover, Gotha, Erfurt, etc.

1. Hannover: 2 attacks were made against Hannover. In the first attack 29/30 Mosquitos bombed the target from 20/28,000 ft. through 8 to 10/10ths cloud (tops 10/13,000 ft). Markers and bombing were accurate. 1 aircraft was abortive. Approximately four hours later a second attack was carried out by 29 aircraft from 24/26,000 ft. in clear sky with 2/10ths thin. The markers fell close together in a line N.W./S.E. and bombing was confined to the marked area.
2. Gotha: 3/4 Mosquitos attacked Gotha. The remaining aircraft bombed the approximate target area.
3. Erfurt: 4 Mosquitos bombed the approximate target area.
4. Bomber Support. 8 Stirlings operated a MANDREL screen. 22 heavies dropped WINDOW. 35 Mosquitos were active on SERRAGE and intruder patrols.
5. Signals Patrols. 5 Mosquitos were despatched on Signals patrols.
6. Met. Reconnaissance. 2 Mosquitos carried out Met. Reconnaissance patrols.

WEATHER FORECAST.

7. Base. In Southern Groups - fit, with moderate or poor visibility. Northern Groups will have trouble with smoke.

Target. Possibly two broken sheets of layer cloud - probably between 3,000 and 6,000 ft. and 10,000 and 12,000 ft.

SORTIES.

8. No. of aircraft despatched.	67
No. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area.	61
No. of aircraft reporting attack on alternative area.	5
No. of abortive sorties	1
No. of aircraft missing	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

9. 8-10/10ths cloud over Hannover.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

10. 7 Gruppen of night fighters were active but were drawn away in the wrong direction by a MANDREL screen and a WINDOW spoof. There was slight to moderate heavy flak.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED.

11. 1 Ju.88 was destroyed and a Ju.188 was damaged.

CASUALTIES.

12. No aircraft was lost on this night. 1 Mosquito was hit by flak. 1 Mosquito was wrecked in a taxiing accident.

HCC/EUB.
BC/S. 26342/6/ORS.
11th March, 1945.

GROUP	TYPE	BOOMERS	NO. OF BOMBS				MILES	DAMAGE				INTERPRETATION		RESULTS		
			PRIM. TARGETS	SEC. TARGETS	OVSE. TARGETS	UNK. TARGETS		1. A.	2. B.	3. C.	4. D.	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	HE.	IB.	
B-29 SUPERFORTRESS	B	Mosq. XVI	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71.6	2.2
1st Ltack		Mosq. XX	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	4	4	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-		31x1000
2nd Ltack		Mosq. XVI	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XX	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
3rd Ltack		Mosq. XVI	29	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.2	1x1000
4th Ltack		Mosq. XVI	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	67	61	-	5	-	1	1.0	-	-	1E	-	-		
5th Ltack		Mosq. XVI	65	57	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XX	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq. XXV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			139	125	-	1	8	1	1.0	-	-	1E	-	-		

O.L.S. 2.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

11/12th. NO. 11, 1944.

DORTMUND: HARBURG: WIESBADEN: OSNABRUCK: GÖTTINGEN: ETC.

OPERATIONS

Successful attacks were made on oil targets at Dortmund and Harburg. One of the 228 Mosquitos and Lancasters attacking Dortmund was lost, but 7/245 (2.8%) heavies failed to return from Harburg. Attacks were also made against Osnabruck, Wiesbaden, Gotha and Emden. Lancasters and Halifaxes laid 28 mines off Oslo and in the Kattegat etc. No further losses were sustained.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Visibility 2 - 4 miles and no cloud below 1500 ft., but smoke will reduce visibility to 1-2 miles in 8 and 5 Groups and to the West of 1 Group.

Dortmund:- Patches of St.-cu., on an average rather more than 5/10ths. tops 6-10,000 ft.). Little or no medium cloud.

Harburg:- Beneath edge of 10/10ths. layer cloud. Little medium cloud.

PLAN OF ATTACK

- Dortmund OBOE ground marking. H = 1900.
- Harburg 5 Group W/4 H/10 with ground marking. No indirect bombing. H = 1915.

SORTIES

	D.	H.
No. of aircraft despatched	228	245
" " " reporting attack on primary target	205	233
" " " " " alt. "	12	-
" " abortive sorties	11	12
" " aircraft missing	-	7
		(2.8%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Dortmund 8-10/10ths. (tops 10,000 ft.) with broken medium cloud layers between 12,000 and 19,000 ft. Wind at 0700 E: 345°/50 knots.

Harburg No cloud. Wind: 026°/38 knots. Static and icing E. of 100°E.

No moon during operational period.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

Dortmund The majority of crews noted the glow of markers, the remainder by means of navigational aids. Flashes of large explosions were seen at 1902 hours and continuing for 15-20 minutes.

Harburg Marking was accurate. The initial bombing was a little scattered but later became more concentrated. Good fires were left burning. A particularly large explosion occurred at 1928 hours followed by an oil blaze.

D. V. ACCIDENTS AND DAMAGE

7. Dortmund On photographs of fair quality, damage ranging from moderate to severe was visible throughout the Hoesch-Bensin synthetic oil plant. The gas plant was hit as well as the contact house, boiler house and cracking plant. A number of pipe lines were broken and several storage tanks destroyed or damaged. The rolling mill of Hoesch A.G. (priority 1) was again severely hit. Scattered damage extended westward into the remainder of the Hoesch works.

Harburg Photographic cover revealed further destruction in the already heavily damaged Thenania-Ossag Oil refinery. Chiefly involved were the asphalt treatment and storage area, where three buildings were hit and ten small tanks destroyed. One 85 ft. storage tank at the north end of the plant was gutted and four others, previously warped, were gutted or had collapsed. Several small unidentified buildings west of the north boiler house were also hit. Incidents to the Eband-Asphalt Oil refinery were confined to the contact portion where two buildings immediately east of the distillation plant were moderately damaged and one 80 ft. tank was well as three of 25 tanks were destroyed. Incidents of damage were visible throughout the rest area. Between See Hafens II and III, three large buildings and one of 25 tanks of Noelce and Thörl G.m.b.H. were destroyed. Between See Hafens I and II a grain warehouse was gutted and four other buildings damaged. Seven buildings of the Brinckmann and Kergell oil factory were gutted. Other damage in the town included 10 craters, the marshalling yard immediately south of Hafens. 2 private warehouses directly north of Thenania-Ossag were hit as business and residential property was affected through the northern half.

BRIEF DEFENSES

8. Dortmund A BLIND screen was generated which prevented plotting until 19 minutes before the attack began when fighters were sent up to cover the Ruhr. A spoof WINDOW force headed towards Fritz in Westfalen and diverted fighters to the Frankfurt area. The fact that no bombers were attacked was probably due to insufficient control of fighters at short range, and the jamming of their airborne homing radar. Flak was slight to moderate.

Harburg The Harburg force was plotted soon after it crossed the English coast and fighters were sent up early over Homburg, Mordholz and Heligol. The controllers correctly identified the target 10 minutes before bombing began; but they then plotted the Dortmund markers flying eastwards across Holland and, mistaking the Harburg raid for a "spoof", drew their fighters away to the south. Fighter opposition was consequently moderate. Flak varied from slight to intense.

C. RESULTS

9. Dortmund No aircraft was lost. 3 aircraft were damaged by flak and one wrecked in a landing accident.

Harburg 7/245 aircraft were missing from this raid (2.8%). 3 fell to fighters (1 at target and 2 near the Ruhr), 2 to flak (target area Wenschen) and 2 to unknown causes. 21 aircraft were hit by flak, 1 being badly damaged. 2 were slightly damaged by fighters. 5 suffered serious injuries in landing accidents.

K. III

10. 41 Mosquitoes were sent against the synthetic oil plant at Kamen. All the 5 CB03 markers failed, however. 17 aircraft bombed the target on D. R. of the glow of fires and 18 attacked the surrounding area by navigational aids in conditions of 10/10ths. cloud (tops 10,000 ft.). 3 were abortive. No losses were sustained.

OSNABRUCK

11. 8/12 Mosquitoes bombed Osnabruck by routes A, H2S through 8/10 ths. to 10/10ths. cloud. The other 4 attacked the primary on D.R. All aircraft returned safely.

WIESBADEN

12. 7/9 Mosquitoes attacked Wiesbaden in 10/10ths. cloud (tops 10-15,000') with good visibility. The attack was well coordinated. 1 aircraft bombed an unidentified target S.W. of Wiesbaden, was found abortive. No aircraft was lost.

COVL.

13. 6 OBOE Mosquitoes made an experimental attack on COVL, two landing the primary area. Only 1 of these made a successful controlled run. The other four attacked the approximate target area on D.R. All aircraft returned safely.

ESURT.

14. 3 Mosquitoes made an experimental attack on ESURT, 1 landing on OBOE, the other 2 on D.R.

HELVINGE

15. 4/5/50 Lancasters and Halifaxes laid 220 mines in the Kattegat, off Oslo, these being near Halborg, and in the Elbe. 4 were abortive, and all returned safely.

BOMBER SUPPORT

16. 59 Mosquitoes were active on SEARCH and Intruder patrols destroying 1 Pw.190 and damaging a Ju.38. 10 heavies operated a MCDREL screen, 13 dropped WILLOW, and 4 Fortresses operated a JOSTLE. 9 aircraft carried out signals patrols and 1 Mosquito was despatched on a det. recon.

HCC/JT.

EC/S. 20342/3/OKS,

20th. February, 1945.

REFERENCES

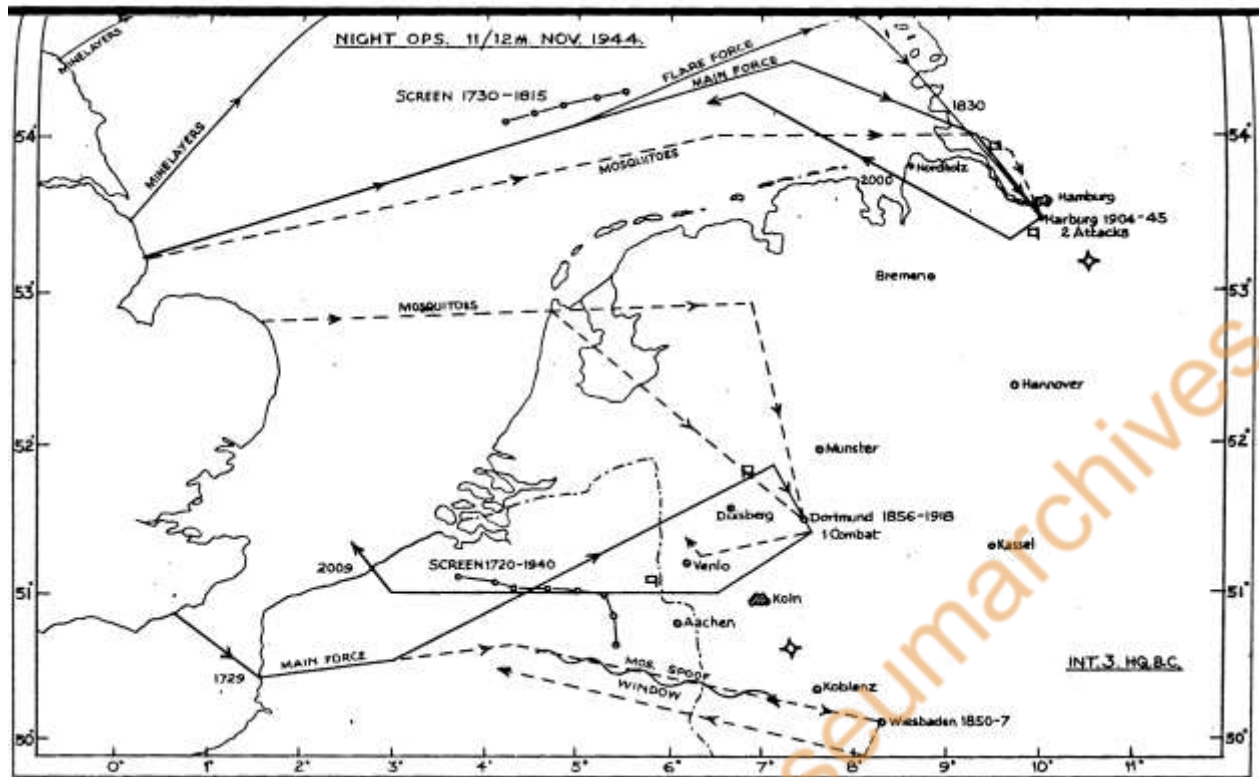
Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Reports Nos. K.3398 & K.3395.
 Enemy Defences - Interception/Analysis No. 222/44.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	NO HOSTILE ATTACK ON		POSITIVE SORTIES		MISS-ES	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS			
				PRD. AREL.	ALT. AREL.	OVER K.T.	NOT OVER B.T.		PLANE	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO BOMBS	PLANE	NOT	HE.	ID.		
DORTMUND (HORSCH-BENZIN)	1	Lanc. I	99	97	-	-	2	-	1+1C	-	-	-	-	-	1	1123.5	3.6	
		Lanc. III	84	82	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	B	Lanc. III	26	17	9	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	197x1000
		Mosq. IX	6	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	7	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALTERNATIVE DORTMUND TOTAL																		
DORTMUND TOTAL			228	202	12	9	2	-	5+1C	-	-	1B	-	1	-	-	-	
HAMBURG	5	Lanc. I	106	100	-	4	2	4	6	2C	-	1B	2	2	2	897.3	201.7	
		Lanc. III	131	126	-	3	2	3	13+1B	-	-	2B	2	2	-	-	204x1000	
	B	Mosq. IV	6	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XXV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HAMBURG TOTAL			245	233	-	7	5	7	20+1B	2C	3B	4	4	-	-	-		
KASSEL	B	Mosq. IX	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.9
		Mosq. XVI	34	12	18	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12x1000
		Mosq. XI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.3
		Mosq. XXV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17x1000
KASSEL TOTAL			41	17	18	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.3	
OSNABRUCK	B	Mosq. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1x1000
		Mosq. XX	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XXV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OSNABRUCK TOTAL			12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WIESBADEN	B	Mosq. IX	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.4
		Mosq. XXV	4	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WIESBADEN TOTAL			9	7	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GOETL	B	Mosq. XVI	6	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.7
IMPULG	B	Mosq. XVI	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6
TOTAL			644	577	37	4	9	7	20+1C	2C	-	4B	4	7	-	-	-	

11/12th, NOVEMBER, 1944. (CONT'D.)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	NO HOSTILE ATTACK ON		POSITIVE SORTIES		MISS-ES	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRD. AREL.	ALT. AREL.	OVER K.T.	NOT OVER B.T.		PLANE	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO BOMBS	PLANE	NOT	HE.	ID.	
MINEHEAD	1	Lanc. I	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
		Lanc. III	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OSLO	3	Lanc. I	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
		Lanc. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LASSO REIDE	4	Hal. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
		Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KATTMONT	5	Hal. III	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KLEBE 2	5	Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
OSLO	6	Hal. III	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225
WESST. TOG TOTAL			50	46	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING REPORT	100	Various	86	83	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SIGNALS BOMBERS	100	Various	9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NOT RECORDED	3	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			690	615	37	25	13	7	20+1C	2C	-	4B	4	7	-	-	-

O. H. S. J.



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SECRET

FINAL PLOT OF NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHS

NOVEMBER 11 12th 1944

TARGET HARBURG 409

N



Marking Point

in Target area	41
outside Target area	132
over a/c	⊙
Focus a/c	•
Scale 1 inch = 1 mile	

ORD BC 708A
Date 12-13-44
Ref. P-06 OmJ

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NIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 767

CCF NO. 16

BOMBER COMBINED REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS

15/16th. NOVEMBER, 1944.

Berlin: Scholven/Buer: Wanne Eickel: Gotha: Karlsruhe: etc.SUMMARY

1. Berlin 34/36 Mosquitos bombed Berlin through 10/10ths. st.eu. (tops 15,000') from 21-28,000'. Markers were well grouped and bombing was concentrated within the marked area. One aircraft was lost.
2. Scholven/Buer 3/4 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against the synthetic oil plant at Scholven/Buer. The fourth aircraft bombed the oil plant on D.R.
3. Wanne Eickel 6 Mosquitos attacked the synthetic oil plant at Wanne Eickel: 3 on OBOE and 3 on D.R.
4. Gotha 4/6 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Gotha. 2 aircraft bombed the target on D.R. and 1 bombed Gsnabruck on D.R.
5. Karlsruhe 4/5 Mosquitos attacked Karlsruhe - 2 on OBOE and 2 on D.R. 1 was abortive.
6. Bomber Support 21 howies were on WILLOW. 50 Mosquitos were active on SMOULDER and Intruder patrols. 4 Starlings operated on the DUTCH screen.
7. Signals Patrols 4 aircraft were active on signals patrols.
8. Met. Reconnaissance 1 Mosquito was despatched on a Met. Reconnaissance flight.

WEATHER FORECAST

9. Bases:- Showers of snow or sleet.
- Target:- 8-10/10ths. st.eu. over Germany generally.

SORTIES

10. No. of aircraft despatched.....	57
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	53
" " " " " alt. "	2
" " abortive sorties.....	2
" " aircraft missing.....	1 (1.7%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

11. 10/10ths. st.eu. over Berlin.

ENEMY DEFENCES

12. There was slight heavy flak. Two forces of spoof Windowing aircraft - one taking a North Easterly course towards the Ruhr and the other a South Easterly course towards Koblenz, kept night fighters away from the capital.

CASUALTIES

13. 1 Mosquito was lost - cause unknown. 1 was hit by flak.

HCO/JT.
 DC/No. 2042/6/CRS,
 11th. March, 1945.

TAG#	GROUP	DESCRIPTION TYPE	SERIES	NO. OF COPIES		SERIES		DATE				INITIALS		REMARKS		
				FRONT COVER	INT. COVER	WATER MARK	OVER PRINT	NO.	TIME	MONTH	YEAR	INIT. NO.	INIT. NO.	INIT. NO.	INIT. NO.	
BOMB	B	Nonq. XVI	17	15	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.0	1.0
		Nonq. XX	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14x4000	
		Nonq. XXV	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMB TOTAL			36	34	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-			
SCHOLAR	B	Nonq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	.7	
SCHOLAR TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	.7	
WATER MARK	B	Nonq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.8	.7	
WATER MARK TOTAL			3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.8	.7	
OTHER	B	Nonq. XVI	6	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.7	6x2000	
OTHER TOTAL			6	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.7	6x2000	
K. J. J. J. J.	B	Nonq. XVI	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	4x4000	
K. J. J. J. J. TOTAL			5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	4x4000	
TOTAL			57	53	2	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL BY GROUP			55	48	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL BY TYPE			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL BY DATE			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL TOTAL			117	106	2	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-			

0.2.8.3.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

13/19 NOVEMBER, 1944

Wanne Bickel ; Wiesbaden ; Hannover ; Erfurt ; etc.SUMMARY

295/309 Lancasters and Mosquitos bombed the synthetic oil plant at Wanne Bickel, causing further damage to it. Only 1 aircraft was lost in this attack. Mosquitos also bombed Wiesbaden, Hannover and Erfurt. 67 aircraft were engaged in other support activities. All these aircraft returned safely.

THE WEATHER

Bases A narrow belt of very low cloud with poor visibility beneath will drift slowly northwards from East Anglia. Bases will generally be fit for take-off, diversions may be necessary on return.

Target Ruhr : probably cloud.

Wanne BickelREMARKS

Good ground marking. H = 1900

RESULTS

Nb. of aircraft despatched	309
Nb. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area	295
Nb. of aircraft reporting attack on alternative area	-
Nb. of abortive sorties	14
Nb. of aircraft missing	1 (0.3%)

THE WEATHER

5-10ths thin st.cu. Wind at 19,000 ft., 250-270 degs. 50 m.p.h. New moon at 1930 hrs.

REMARKS

Markers were generally well concentrated with some tendency to scatter in the later stages. There were many large explosions, one particularly large one at Erfurt. The glow of fires could be seen for 70 miles on homeward route.

REMARKS

A photographic cover of the synthetic oil plant at Wanne Bickel revealed that the contact house had received at least one direct hit which blew off 2/3 of roof. The workshop and the old colliery were both 90 destroyed. The Eastern processor house showed blast damage. The second contact oven house suffered blast from three near misses. Three cooling towers were also seriously damaged.

REMARKS

A Mosquito "spoof" attack was made against Wiesbaden at the same time as the Wanne Bickel raid, coupled with a "WINDO" spoof. Both these broke away from the force just after they had passed through the Wanne Bickel screen. Helped also by a "WINDO" cloud, the aircraft were able to reach Wanne Bickel without seeing many others. There was slight to moderate heavy flak, which accounted for the only aircraft lost in this attack. Combats and sightings were insignificant.

CASUALTIES

9. Of the 309 Lancasters and Mosquitos sent to Wanne-Liekel only 1 was lost (0.3). This was shot down by flak. 13 other aircraft were hit by flak. 1 aircraft was completely wrecked in a landing accident. 4 other aircraft were damaged in landing accidents - 3 badly and 2 slightly.

WIESBADEN

10. 31/33 Mosquitos made a concentrated attack on Wiesbaden. All the aircraft bombed on markers. At the close of the attack a fire was seen to be developing.

HANNOVER

11. 13/21 Mosquitos attacked Hannover in 10/10ths cloud. Markers quickly disappeared into the clouds. 4 aircraft bombed on H2S, 6 on D.R. and 3 on markers. 3 aircraft were abortive. 1 aircraft was badly damaged in a taxiing accident.

ERFURT

12. 3/6 Mosquitos bombed Erfurt on D.R. 1 aircraft was abortive, the other 2 bombed Kassel and Rheinburg.

BOMBER SUPPORT

13. 7 Stirlings operated a HINDER screen. 44 Mosquitos carried out SERRATE and Intruder patrols. 2 Portresses operated JOSTLE. 14 heavies dropped WINDOW. 6 other aircraft were active on special signals patrols. All returned safely.

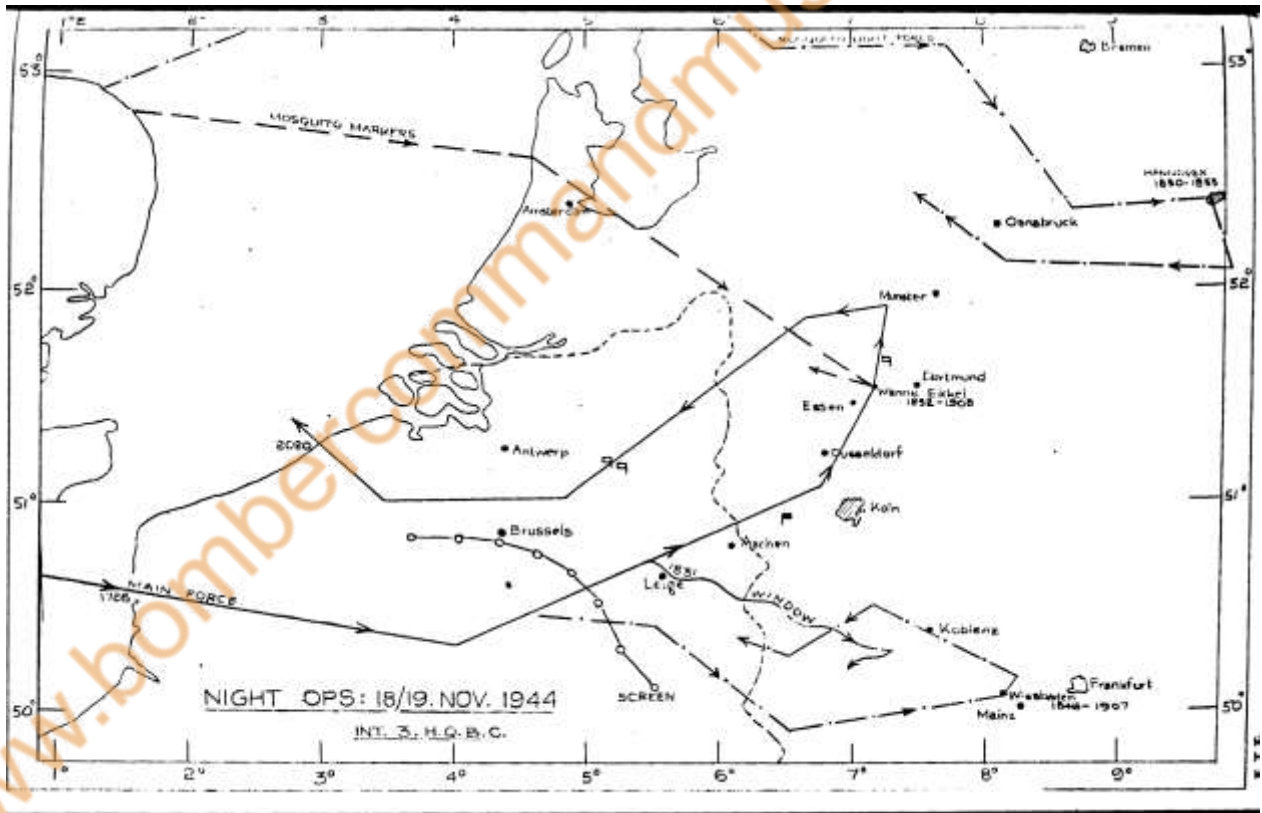
HCC/MEL
BC/S.26342/2/ORS
3rd March, 1945.

REFERENCES:

Day Reconnaissance - Interceptor Report No. 26/10.
Enemy Defences - - Interceptor Report No. 26/11.

GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTED ATTACK ON		DEFENSIVE WEAPON		TOTAL		LOSS			DAMAGE		MISSION		
			PREL. AREA	ACT. AREA	CONF. S. I.	CONF. S. I.	DOWN	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR	REPAIR		
A. AND BICKEL	1	Lanc. I	133	133	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	5	1504.0	11.5
		Lanc. III	120	119	-	-	1	1	6	-	-	-	1	2		
	8	Lanc. III	32	32	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1B	-		
		Hoaq. IX	5	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoaq. XVI	16	6	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-		
		Hoaq. XXV	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
A. AND BICKEL TOTAL			309	295	-	-	12	2	-	15	-	-	2.0+2B+1B	2	7	
FLORIAN (Spool)	8	Hoaq. XVI	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38.6	1.7
		Hoaq. XX	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoaq. XXV	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	174.000	
FLORIAN TOTAL			31	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MUSKETEER	6	Hoaq. XVI	13	11	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1B	-	22.3	.9
		Hoaq. XX	5	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	102.000	
		Hoaq. XXV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MUSKETEER TOTAL			21	18	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1B			
BAMBI	6	Hoaq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	
		Hoaq. XVI	5	2	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24.000	
BAMBI TOTAL			6	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BAMBI TOTAL			367	347	2	14	4	1	13	-	-	-	2.0+3B+1B	2		
BOMBER SUPPORT		100	Various	67	61	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SCREENS & FUELERS		100	Various	6	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			440	412	2	14	12	1	13	-	-	-	2.0+3B+1B	2	7	

0-15-3-



ENEMY DEFENCES

11. There was very little enemy fighter reaction. Over Hannover there was slight heavy flak, reaching moderate volume during the second attack. There were a few bursts of inaccurate predicted flak at Koblenz.

CASUALTIES

12. All our aircraft returned safely. 2 aircraft were hit by flak and slightly damaged. 2 aircraft were damaged in taxing accidents, 1 being completely wrecked. 2 aircraft were damaged in landing accidents - one being completely wrecked and the other very badly damaged.

HCC/JT
BC/S. 26342/6/CRS,
11th. March, 1945.

BACKWIND: CASUALTY RATHER: POSITIVE: 100%: 11/11/45: 100%: 10/21st. NOVEMBER, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	NO REPORTS		POSITIVE		MISS-	TOTAL	REPAIRS	DITCHED	NOT	ATTACKED	NOT	RESULTS		
				AREA	AREA	S.T.	OVER								RE-	RE-	RE-
HANNOVER	B	Boeq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65.2	1.1
		Boeq. XX	12	11	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Boeq. XIV	4	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21x1000
HANNOVER 1st. TOTAL			26	22	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HANNOVER	B	Boeq. XVI	17	16	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Boeq. XX	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Boeq. XIV	10	9	-	-	1	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HANNOVER 2nd. TOTAL			37	35	1	-	1	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COBLENZ	B	Boeq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.8
		Boeq. XVI	11	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COBLENZ TOTAL			14	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BRISBANE	B	Boeq. XVI	9	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.5
BOMBAY	B	Boeq. IX	8	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.6
		Boeq. XVI	6	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.8
BOMBAY TOTAL			14	11	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.9
KOBLENZ	B	Boeq. III	41	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	221.9
KOBLENZ TOTAL			103	129	5	4	5	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBAY SUPPORT	100	Various	29	20	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1+1.0
SINGLE FIGHTERS	100	Various	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2+1.0+1B+2E
GRAND TOTAL			177	156	5	4	14	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2+1.0+1B+2E

C.R.S.J.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

21/22nd. NOVEMBER, 1944.

ASCHAFFENBURG M/Y: CASTROP/RAUXEL Synthetic oil plant; STERKRADE/HOLTEN synthetic oil plant; GRAVENHORST (Mittelland canal); LADBERGEN (Dortmund-Ems canal); Wesel; Hannover; Stuttgart; Worms.

SUMMARY

1. 1,396 sorties were despatched, for the loss of only 13 aircraft (1.0%). The synthetic oil plant at Castrop Rauxel was severely hit by a mixed force of Lancasters and Halifaxes; Lancasters reached the oil works of the Mittelland and the Dortmund-Ems canal, causing light stretches of both; and useful damage was caused to the marshalling yards at Aschaffenburg and the synthetic oil plant at Sterkrade. Bomber forces attacked Hannover, Stuttgart, Worms and Wesel, and 191 mines were laid in Caiso harbour. The enemy's defences were completely deceived on this night.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Continuous rain and low cloud after 0200; fit until then.

Targets:- 5/10ths. or less over Ruhr and Raster. Little cloud at Aschaffenburg.

ASCHAFFENBURG; CASTROP RAUXEL; STERKRADE; GRAVENHORST; LADBERGEN.

PLANS OF ATTACK

- 3. Aschaffenburg Mixed: Controlled OBOE groundmarking, and NEH.VEN II. H = 1915.
4. Castrop-Rauxel & Sterkrade OBOE groundmarking. H = 1900 at Castrop-Rauxel; 1915 at Sterkrade.
5. Ladbergen and Gravenhorst 5 Group NEH.VEN. H = 1915 at each target.

SORTIES

Table with 6 rows of sortie data and columns for aircraft type (C-R, S, G, L), showing counts and loss percentages.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

1. Bases:- Local mist patches in Yorkshire and Wales. during operational period.
Aschaffenburg:- 9-10/10ths., tops 8-10,000', with breaks to 5/10ths. wind at 14,000': 330°/50 s.p.m.
Castrop Rauxel 0-5/10ths. thin st.-cu., tops 8,000'.
Sterkrade " " " " "
..../ Ladbergen and Gravenhorst.

Ladbergen and Gravenhorst 6-10/10ths. thin st.-cu., tops 4,500-5,000 with local breaks to 6/10ths. Wind at 6,000': 310-/25-30 m.p.h.

Moon: first quarter, setting at 2100 at 67°E.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

8. The marking and bombing were reported as accurate and concentrated on every target except Aschaffenburg, where the Master Bomber and deputy both failed to identify the A/P, and crews were ordered to loob on E.T.A. or navigational aids. Here, too, the bombing was concentrated.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

9. Aschaffenburg Severe damage was caused to the entrance of the main station building, a portion of the platform roofs, the express goods depot, and a shed in the goods depot; and moderate damage to the main goods shed and 2 subsidiary sheds. Only one through line was cut; several craters were caused in the sorting sidings; and great damage was caused outside the target area to residential property.

10. Castrop Rauxel Extremely severe damage was caused throughout the synthetic oil plant. Almost every building was damaged, most of them severely. The coking plant and power station were also hit.

11. Sterkrade The attack was evidently centred on the northern edge of the target, where a labour camp of 21 huts suffered severely. Few incidents occurred in the plant itself; but the compressor house, the power station, 3 minor buildings and 2 storage tanks were hit.

12. Gravenhorst A heavy concentration of craters extended from E. to W. across the target. The west embankment was breached in one place, through which water had leaked into the river. Many more direct hits were scored on both the E. and W. embankments, but no more breaches were visible; and the escape gates were apparently undamaged, although they sustained a near miss. The water level in the canal had fallen considerably, and numerous barges were stranded, while 7 had been damaged by the bombing. The approaches to 2 bridges over the canal were cut in several places.

13. Ladbergen Very severe damage was caused to the E. and W. branches of the Dortmund Bas canal. A 190-foot section of the W. embankment of the W. canal was destroyed 200 yards S. of the aqueduct, and 100 yards of the W. canal were consequently drained dry. The aqueduct over the W. canal received at least 4 hits, which left a hole measuring 60x90 sq. feet; and another smaller hole was caused nearby. The adjacent embankments were damaged by several hits. The hole in the aqueduct over the E. canal which the R.A.F. had punched on 4/5th. November was enlarged by at least one hit, and more water had escaped, flooding the river Glane and the surrounding countryside. 200 yards of the E. canal S. of the aqueduct were drained. Many hits were scored on the embankments of the E. canal; and a safety lock 180' N. of the aqueduct was sheared. As a result of this attack, the Dortmund Bas canal was rendered 10% non-functional.

ENEMY DEFENCES

14. Opposition from both flak and fighters was extremely light. Only 14 fighter attacks were reported altogether, and even the ground fire met by the Lancasters attacking the aqueducts from low level was ineffective. The comparatively clear weather should, moreover, have assisted the defenders.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

15. Our bombers made no combat claims, but intruders destroyed 2 Ju.88, a Ju.188 and a Me.110.

...../C.SJ.LTRES.

ASCHAFFENBURG

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16. Only 10/1,097 aircraft (3.3%) are lost from these 5 attacks - an extraordinarily small proportion, especially considering that 2 of the attacks were delivered by Lancasters from low-level. The 2 losses on Aschaffenburg were probably caused by fighters on the way home. 4 aircraft were missing from Castrop Rauxel, 3 to fighters and 1 to flak. One Halifax on Sterkrade was destroyed in a collision, with either a signals patrol aircraft or one of the Aschaffenburg force; the other Sterkrade loss must be attributed to "unknown causes". 2 Lancasters fell to light flak at Gravenhorst. Only 2 returning aircraft were wrecked beyond repair - one by fighter attack, and the other through striking a tree.

WESEL

17. 4 Lancasters, equipped with CBOE, were despatched against the marshalling yards at Wesel. 2 made successfully controlled runs, the other 2 bombing the approximate target area on L.N.

HANNOVER

18. 24/26 Mosquitos attacked Hannover in clear weather. The bombing was well confined within the marked area.

STUTTGART

19. 25/29 Mosquitos bombed Stuttgart, through 10/10ths. cloud. 5 of the 6 Y-aircraft dropped markers on H2S, and most crews bombed on their glow. One aircraft crashed on return.

WORMS

20. 17/19 Lancasters of a group dropped WILLOW over Aschaffenburg, and then proceeded to bomb Worms. The latter town was covered with 10/10ths. cloud; 13 aircraft attacked on H2S, and the others on L.N. No losses were sustained in any of these subsidiary attacks.

OSLO HARBOUR

21. 41/42 Halifaxes and Lancasters laid 191 mines in Oslo harbour. One Lancaster did not return; but the cause of its loss is unknown.

BOMBER SUPPORT Etc.

22. 80 Mosquitos were active on SERPATE and intruder patrols, destroying a Ju.88 over Bonn airfield, another Ju.88 30 miles W. of Frankfurt, a Ju.188 near Duisburg and a Me.110 in the Mannheim area. One Mosquito was lost, and another was irreparably wrecked by fighter attack. 11 Stirlings provided a MADDREL screen; 7 Fortresses operated JOSTLE, and 11 Halifaxes, Liberators and Fortresses dropped WINDOW. 9 aircraft carried out signals patrols - one Halifax being lost - and 9 others were engaged on special operations. One Mosquito completed a photo recon. flight.

MLP/JT.
EC/S. 26342/4/ORS4,
11th. March, 1945.

REFERENCES

Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Report No. K.3434 (Aschaffenburg)
K.3427 (Castrop Rauxel)
K.3417 (Sterkrade)
K.3409 (Gravenhorst)
K.3410 (Ludbergen)
Enemy Defences - Interception/Tactics No. 250/44.

UNIT	GROUP	LIBERATION TYPE	SOMES	100 REPORTING				NORTHERN		MILES	DAYS				RESULTS			
				PREM.		LT.		OVER			FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/W	FLAK-KID	NOT DUE TO E/W	HE.	IR.
				ARR.	ARR.	E.T.	OVER E.T.	E.T.	OVER E.T.									
C. STRECH-BADDER	1	Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	952.4	8.0		
		Lanc. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
	6	Lanc. X	55	55	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3				
		Hal. III	123	118	1	-	4	3	3	1.0+1E	-	1.0+1E	4	4				
		Hal. VII	52	50	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3				
		Lanc. III	17	17	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-				
		Lanc. VI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
8	Mosq. XVI	13	5	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
	Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
	Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
	Mosq. XXV	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTAL			273	258	1	0	0	4	7	1.0+1E	-	1.0+1E	4	10				
C. STRECH-BADDER	1	Lanc. I	150	128	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1360.3	2.1			
		Lanc. III	108	107	-	-	-	-	2	1	1.0	-	1					
	6	Lanc. III	36	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
		Mosq. IX	3	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTAL			283	274	1	0	3	2	1	1.0	-	1	2					
WRE.	6	Lanc. III	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21.4				
		Lanc. VI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTAL			4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
H. J. COVER	8	Mosq. XVI	20	19	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.4	.4			
		Mosq. XX	5	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-					
		Mosq. XXV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTAL			26	24	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-					
STURM. KFT	8	Mosq. XVI	12	10	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1E	28.1	1.0			
		Mosq. XX	9	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-					
		Mosq. XXV	8	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTAL			29	25	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-					

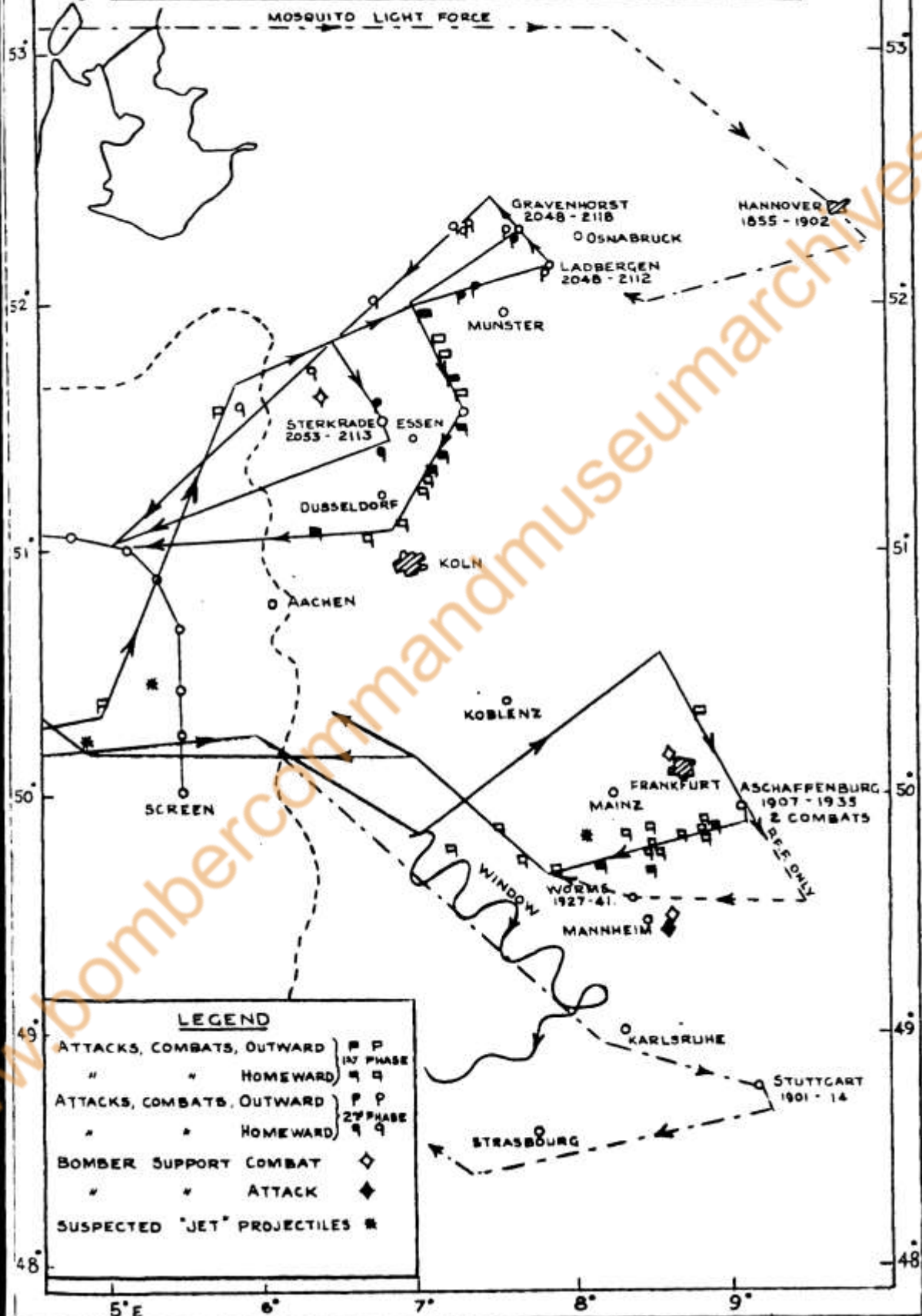
21/22nd. NOVEMBER, 1944.

UNIT	GROUP	LIBERATION TYPE	SOMES	100 REPORTING				NORTHERN		MILES	DAYS				RESULTS			
				PREM.		LT.		OVER			FLAK	FIGHTER	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/W	FLAK-KID	NOT DUE TO E/W	HE.	IR.
				ARR.	ARR.	E.T.	OVER E.T.	E.T.	OVER E.T.									
STAGGLED/HOLTO	4	Hal. III	238	217	1	1	13	2	8+1.0	-	-	-	3+1E +1E	4	861.6	7.3		
		Lanc. III	18	16	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-				
	8	Mosq. IX	7	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XVI	12	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
TOTAL			270	245	1	1	13	2	10+1.0	-	-	-	3+1E +1E	4				
WRE.	8	Lanc. III	19	17	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.7	19.8		
		Lanc. I	67	66	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	3				
TOTAL			128	127	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	2	3				
G. V. H. HORSY (L. STRECH-BADDER)	5	Lanc. I	85	85	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	611.0	2.3		
		Lanc. III	91	86	4	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	6				
		Mosq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Mosq. XX	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
TOTAL			183	186	5	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	2	6				
TOTAL			1175	1108	11	27	25	10	21+1.0	1+1.0+1E	-	4+1.0+1E	14	35				
MIN. ST. OSLO	1	Lanc. I	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	191	none			
		Lanc. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
	3	Lanc. I	4	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-					
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
		Hal. III	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
TOTAL			32	31	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-						
WRE.	8	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
		Various	109	103	-	-	-	1	-	1+1E	-	1.0	-					
TOTAL			9	9	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-	-					

413

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NIGHT OPERATIONS 21ST/22ND NOVEMBER, 1944.

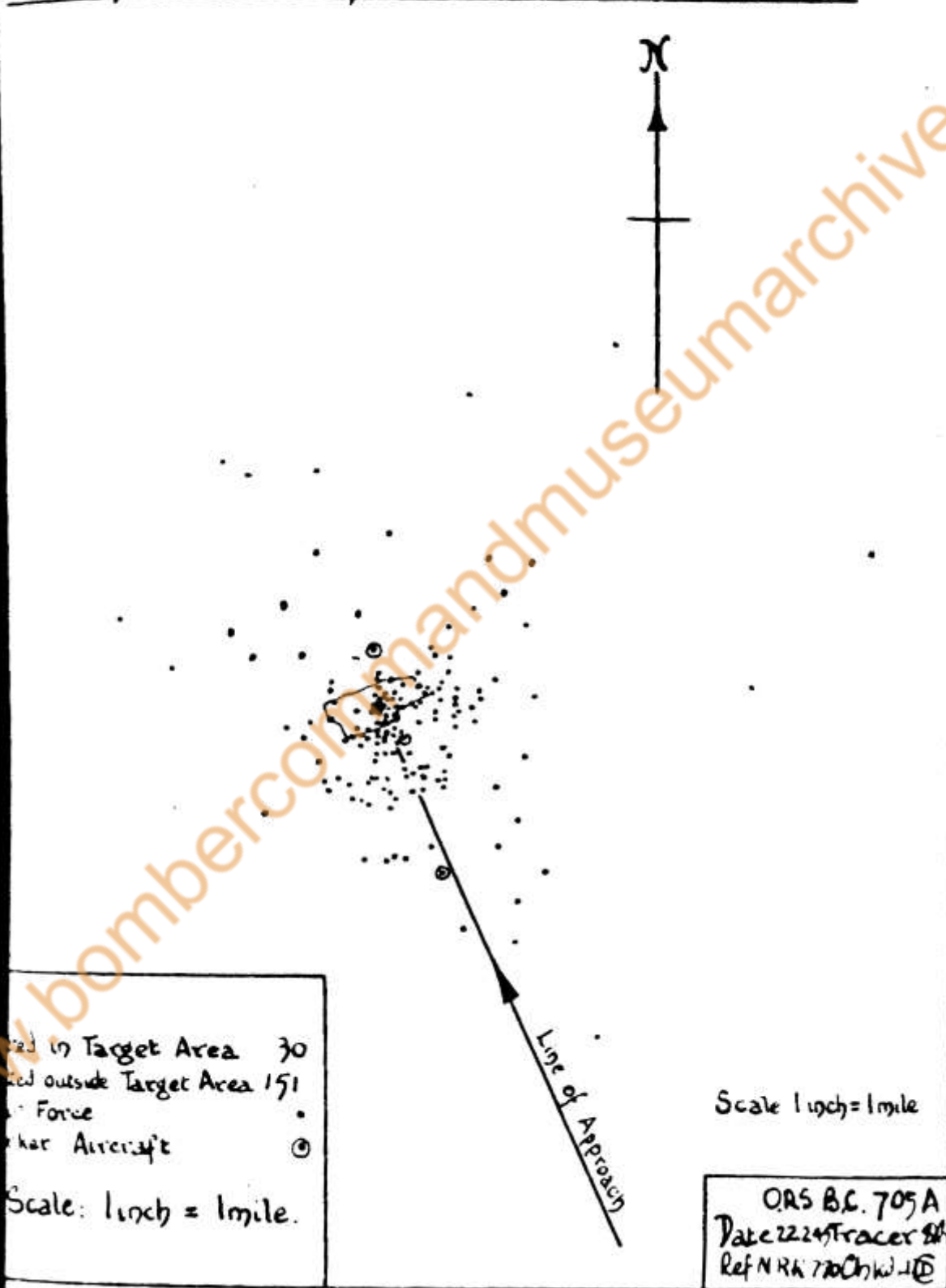


SECRET

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FINAL PLOT OF NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHS

TAKEN 21/22nd NOVEMBER 1944 TARGET CASTROP-RAUXEL



30 in Target Area
151 outside Target Area
Force
Aircraft

Scale: 1 inch = 1 mile.

Scale 1 inch = 1 mile

ORS BL. 705A
Date 22245 Tracer 88
Ref N RA 720 Ch W 116

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SECRET

FINAL PLOT OF NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHS 421



WEN 21/22nd NOVEMBER 1944 TARGET STERKRADE HOLTEN

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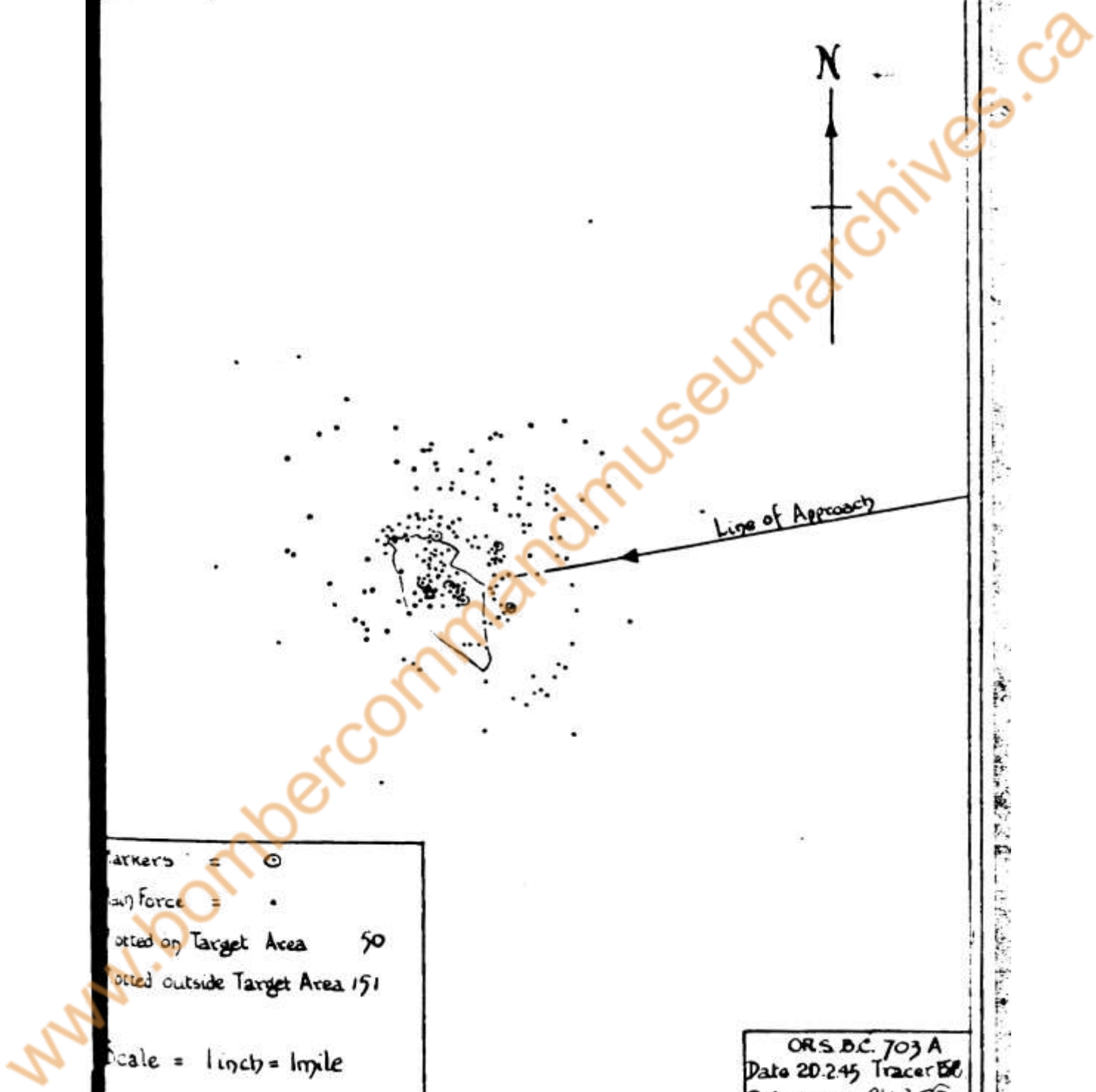


Line of Approach



Markers = 
Main Force = 
Dotted on Target Area 50
Dotted outside Target Area 151
Scale = 1 inch = 1 mile

ORS D.C. 703 A
Date 20.2.45 Tracer 58
Ref NRR.770 Chkd J.D.



SECRET

WIGHTFIELD REPORT NO. 771

423

COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

22/23rd. NOVEMBER, 1944.

TRONDHEIM (Submarine pens)

SUMMARY

1. Rain and low cloud developed soon after dusk in most Groups, and only 5 Group operated. 178 aircraft were sent to attack the submarine pens at Trondheim, in Norway; the target was clear of cloud, but a most effective smoke screen was generated, which completely obscured all round detail. The Master Bomber cancelled the attack. Other aircraft had bases off N.W. Germany. 3 aircraft were lost, and a fourth crashed on return.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Widespread rain from 2200, and very low cloud.
Targets:- Good chance of no low cloud and good visibility at Trondheim.

TRONDHEIM

PLAN OF ATTACK

3. 5 Group NEMHUVEN. H = 2100.

SORTIES

4. No. of aircraft despatched.....	178
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	13
" " abortive sorties.....	160
" " aircraft missing.....	3 (1-2-1)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. No cloud at Trondheim; but a smoke screen completely obscured the target. Nearly half moon, setting at 2310.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6. 16 generators operated a smoke screen so effectively that the target was quite unidentifiable; and, after the Mosquitos had made several unsuccessful attempts, the Master Bomber cancelled the attack.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

7. Since only 18 aircraft attacked the target, including flare-droppers, no reconnaissance was undertaken.

HEAVY DEFENCES

8. A surprising number of fighters were seen in the neighbourhood of the target; but none of the returning aircraft were attacked. Light flak was fairly intense at the target, and additional opposition was provided by flak-ships off the Norwegian coast.

.... / CASUALTIES.

RESULTS

9. 3/178 aircraft (1.3%) were lost - 2 Lancasters and 1 Mosquito. Nothing is known of their fate. Another Mosquito crashed in Scotland on return, probably because of the bad weather. All the crew were killed.

MINELAYING

10. 16/17 Lancasters laid 96 mines off Heligoland and in the Elbe estuary. Both targets were covered with 10/10ths. layer cloud. No casualties occurred.

MET. RECCE.

11. 1 Mosquito of 8 Group completed an uneventful met. recce. flight.

M.M./JT.
EC/S. 26342/4/ORG4,
10th. March, 1945.

TRONDHEIM: MINELAYING Etc. - 22/23rd. MARCH, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	NO. OF AIRCRAFT	NO. OF AIRCRAFT				MISSED	LOSS				DAMAGE		CASUALTY		
				PRD. LOST	INT. LOST	OVER OCEAN	OVER SEA		FLY. LOSS	FIGHTER LOSS	WIT. LOSS	W/O LOSS	ATTACKED	TOTAL	HE.	IR.	
TRONDHEIM	5	Lanc. I	77	2	-	75	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3.8
		Lanc. III	94	14	-	80	-	1	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. IV	6	1	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XXV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TRONDHEIM TOTAL		178	35	-	160	-	5	1	-	-	1.1.0	-	-	-	-		
MINELAYING HELIGOLAND	5	Lanc. I	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96 mines
		Lanc. III	10	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINELAYING TOTAL		17	16	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MET. RECCE.	8	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			196	55	-	161	-	5	1	-	-	1.1.0	-	-	-		

G.L.S.P.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS23/24th. NOVEMBER, 1944.Hannover: Hagen: Eisenach: Gottingen: etc.SUMMARY

1. Hannover 61 Mosquitos attacked Hannover from 21/26,000 ft. in 9 to 10/10ths. cloud (tops 10-15,000'). Marking was well placed and bombing concentrated. A large red glow in the target area was seen by aircraft for some distance on return. 1 aircraft was lost.
2. Hagen 1/6 OBOE Mosquitos made a successfully controlled run. 3 attacked Hagen on D.R. 1 aircraft attacked Dortmund on D.R. 1 was abortive. None was lost.
3. Eisenach 6/9 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Eisenach, and 3 bombed the target on D.R. All aircraft returned safely.
4. Gottingen 5/6 Mosquitos bombed Gottingen on OBOE. The remaining aircraft bombed on D.R.
5. Bomber Support 39 aircraft were despatched on Bomber Support activities. 3 were abortive. All returned safely.
6. Signals Patrols 4 aircraft were engaged on Signals patrols.

WEATHER FORECAST

7. Bases:- Thick medium cloud.
- Target:- 10/10ths. st.cu. cloud below 10,000 ft.

SORTIES

8.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	82
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	80
	" " " " " alt. "	1
	" " abortive sorties.....	1
	" " aircraft missing.....	1 (1.2)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

9. 9-10/10ths. cloud (tops 10-15,000') over Hannover.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. There was no fighter activity and only slight heavy flak.

CASUALTIES

11. 1 Mosquito was lost over Hannover - cause unknown.

HCC/JT.
 BC/S. 26342/6/CRS,
9th. March, 1945.

TEAM	GROUP	MACHINE TYPE	SORTIES	W/O REPORTING				MIS-ING	REASON				RESULTS			
				PREL. ACC.	RE-ACC.	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	ENGT. DOWN	NOT DUE TO	AUT. DOWN	REASON	HE.	IB.
BOMBERS	B	Mosq. XVI	37	37	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	79.0	.8
		Mosq. XX	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31x4000	
		Mosq. XIV	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMBERS TOTAL			61	61	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS	B	Mosq. IX	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.0	
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2x4000	
BOMBERS TOTAL			6	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS	B	Mosq. XVI	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.1	
															2x4000	
BOMBERS TOTAL			9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS	B	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.9	
		Mosq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4x4000	
BOMBERS TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS TOTAL			82	80	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS REPORT 100			39	30	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS REPORT 100			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBERS TOTAL			125	120	1	1	3	1	1	-	-	-	-			

O.R.S. 3.

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SECRET

MILITARY REPORT NO. 773

COPY NO. 16BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS24/25th. NOVEMBER, 1944.Berlin: Gottingen: Minelaying: etc.SUMMARY

1. Berlin 57/58 Mosquitos attacked Berlin through 10/10ths. cloud (tops 27,000 ft.). Some aircraft bombed on glow of markers and some by means of navigational aids. 1 aircraft was abortive. None was lost.
2. Gottingen 5/5 GLOBE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Gottingen. The other one bombed the target on D.R.
3. Minelaying 10/13 Halifaxes laid 40 mines off Laeso Kende and in the Kattegat. 3 were abortive.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases:- Fog expected to be widespread.
- Target:- 5 to 7/10ths. st. cu. over target area.

SORTIES

5.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	64
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	63
	" " abortive sorties.....	1
	" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. 10/10ths. cloud (tops 27,000 ft.) over Berlin.

INEMY DEFENCES

7. One aircraft was fired on by an unseen aircraft, but this was the only evidence of fighter opposition. Flak was negligible.

CASUALTIES

8. No aircraft was missing from this raid. One minelayer was hit by flak.

HCC/JT.
EC/S. 26342/6/ORS,
11th. March, 1945.

UNIT	GROUP	INSTR. PT. TYPE	SOCIETIES	A/C REPORTING				L.A.S. NO.	D. L.A.S.				INTERVIEWS		RESULTS		
				FRIN. AREA.	J.T. AREA.	OVZ. E.T.	OVZ. O.T.		PLT.	PLT. Lt.	PLT. INC. BOYS	NOT DUB. NO. E/L.	PLACED	RE -	HE	RE	
REAR	B	Inst. XVI	34	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75.4	-
		Inst. XX	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Inst. XXV	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32x1000
REAR TOTAL			58	57	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GOTTEN	B	Inst. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.9
		Inst. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4x1000
GOTTEN TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			64	63	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L.A.S. UNIT		Inst. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40 mins
		Inst. VII	6	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L.A.S. TOTAL			11	10	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			77	73	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Q. 1-8. 3.

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BOHEM CORPUS REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS.

25/26TH NOVEMBER, 1944.

Nuremberg: Erfurt: Stuttgart: Hagen.

SUMMARY.

1. Nuremberg. Two Mosquito attacks were carried out against Nuremberg. 38/39 aircraft arrived just before midnight, and found the lights of the city blazing; they were extinguished, but came on again as the markers dropped their II, and an excellent concentration was achieved in the built-up area. The target was clear of cloud for this attack, but the second force, three hours later, had to bomb through 7/10ths. cloud, and their results were difficult to assess. 25/29 aircraft attacked in the second raid from which one aircraft failed to return - the only loss of the night.
2. Erfurt. 5/9 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Erfurt. Two others attacked the primary on D.L.
3. Stuttgart. 4/9 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Stuttgart, three others attacking on D.L.
4. Hagen. 7/10 OBOE Mosquitos attacked Hagen, but only three made successfully controlled runs. The rest bombed on D.L.
5. Bomber support etc. 38 Mosquitos carried out intruder and signals patrols, but made no interceptions. 6 Stirlings (with three Liberators) operated a WILLOW screen W. of the battle front, stretching 80 miles southwards from St. Trond, and 27 heavies emerged from this screen, dropping WILLOW towards Mainz and Karlsruhe. The German fighter controllers reacted vigorously to this supposed threat; after discovering their mistake, they allowed the Mosquito forces to proceed to Nuremberg and the other targets unhindered. 2/3 aircraft completed signals patrols and a Mosquito carried out a Met. Recon. flight.

WEATHER FORECAST.

6. Basos. Generally fit. Moderate to poor visibility.
Targets. Variable, probably small amounts of cloud over Rhineland. Thick medium and low cloud over S. Germany.

SCORES.

7. No. of aircraft despatched.	171.
No. " " reporting attack on primary area.	144.
No. " " " " alt. area.	7.
No. " abortive sorties.	20.
No. " aircraft missing.	1.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

8. No. cloud at Nuremberg for first attack; 7/10ths. for second. 4-8/10ths. at Stuttgart: 10/10ths. over Hagen and Erfurt.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

9. Fighters reacted strongly to 100 Group's feint attacks early in the night, but allowed the genuine raiders to proceed unhindered. No combats were reported. No flick was met except at Nuremberg, where opposition was described as moderate.

OSI LTIAS.

10. One Mosquito failed to return from the second attack on Nuremberg, but the cause and place of its loss are unknown. Only one aircraft was hit by flick.

MIN/SJD.
DG/C.26342/4/ORS.4.
19th March, 1945.

REMARKS: SOURCE: STUTTGART: HANNO: Etc. - 25/26th. NOV 1944

CLASS	UNIT	ALLEGED TYPE	BOATIES	NO. OF PROFILES				LOSS- SIC	DAMAGE				INVESTIGATIONS		RESULTS		
				FRONT SIC	REAR SIC	OVER SIC	OTHER SIC		COLL.	FIRE EN- GINS	SMIT. BOARDS	NOT DUE TO K/O	ATTACK ED	RE- SEARCH	NO.	ED.	
MUNSTER 1st. ATACK	8	Monq. XVI	11	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	77.9	-4
		Monq. XX	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Monq. XXV	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MUNSTER 1st. TOTAL			39	38	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29x1000	
MUNSTER 2nd. ATACK	8	Monq. XVI	24	22	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.3	8x1000
		Monq. XI	4	2	1	-	1	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Monq. XXV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MUNSTER 2nd. TOTAL			29	25	2	1	1	1	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	5x1000	
STUTTGART	8	Monq. XVI	9	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.6	5x1000
STUTTGART TOTAL			9	7	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.8	
HANNOVER	8	Monq. IX	6	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.8	3x1000
		Monq. XVI	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HANNOVER TOTAL			10	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3x1000	
TOTAL			96	80	7	2	3	1	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	144x1000	
DOZES SUPPORT	100	Various	71	57	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SIC I. PROBS	100	Various	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NEW PROBS	8	Monq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			171	144	7	2	18	1	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	144x1000	

G. R. S. 3.

BOMB & CASUALTY REPORT - NIGHT OF A BOMB

26/7 NOVEMBER 1944

MUNICH : Erfurt : Karlsruhe : etc.

SUMMARY

1. Cloudless conditions prevailed over Munich when 257 Lancasters and Mosquitos bombed the town. With the exception of 1 Lancaster which crash-landed in France, all the aircraft returned safely. Mosquitos also bombed Erfurt and Karlsruhe on GBOE, and aircraft were despatched on bomber support mission. 4 aircraft were lost on subsidiary operations.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Beases Most groups will be affected by a frontal trough, which may cause snow. Stations west of Groups may show signs of improvement behind the trough. Visibility 500-1500 yards in North, 1-3 miles south of about 53°N.

Target High expectation of clear skies over Munich. Western flps clear of cloud. Variable broken cu. and st. cu. en route to target.

MUNICHPLAN OF ATTACK

3. 5 Group - NEMHVEN H₁ = 0500.

STATISTICS

4. No. of aircraft despatched	273
No. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area	256
No. of aircraft reporting attack on alternative area	1
No. of abortive sorties	21
No. of aircraft missing	-

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Cloudless conditions existed over Munich. Visibility was good. The moon was threequarters full.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6. The attack was made in conditions of no cloud and good visibility. Marking was accurate and bombing well concentrated.

DAY REPORT ASSISTANCE

7. Crash damage was caused around the main station and marshalling yard, stretching to the northwest area. The important aluminium and silumin foundry of Vorderstermann u. Steitz was hit. In the central area several public buildings were damaged. The main railway centre suffered damage, part of the station roofing having been stripped. On the other side of the River Isar the east station was also slightly damaged. 4 military barracks were hit. 2 sheds were gutted at the slaughter house and cattle market.

DECELY DEFENCES

8. A "spoof" attack was made on Karlsruhe by Mosquitos with the idea of drawing night fighters away from the Munich area. This spoof emerged from a MINNANE Screen while the bombers were still in the Alpine region. Therefore when the main raid developed the fighters were on the ground refuelling. There was a slight, increasing

to moderate, heavy flak barrage. No aircraft was lost from this raid. Several enemy aircraft were seen over Munich but only 3 made contact.

CASUALTIES

9. No aircraft were missing from this raid, although 1 Lancaster crash landed in Bricselles owing to error in navigation. 3 aircraft were hit by flak. 2 Lancasters were completely wrecked, 1 in a landing accident and 1 in a taxiing accident.

MURURT

10. 3/7 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs. The other 4 bombed the target area on D.R.

KARLSRUHE

11. 5/6 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against Karlsruhe. The other aircraft bombing the target area on D.R.

BOMBER SUPPORT

12. 20 heavies were despatched on bomber support missions. 4 Stirlings operated a MANDREL Screen. 14 Fortresses, Liberators and Halifaxes dropped WINDOW and 2 Fortresses operated JOSTLE. 19 Mosquitos were active on SERRATE and Intruder Patrols, but made no contacts. 1 Mosquito was sent out on a Signals patrol and 31 aircraft on "special operations". One Halifax, one Stirling, one Hudson and one Mosquito were lost without trace.

HCC/HEI.
BC/S. 26342/2/GR3
4th March, 1945

REFERENCES

D.Y. RECONNAISSANCE - Interpretation Report No. 113425
ENEMY DEFENCES - Interception/Tactics No. 233/44

MUNICH: BRISCEL: KARLSRUHE: ETC. - 2/379: POW/218, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING		SORTIVE		LOSS	DAMAGE				RESULTS			
				FRM. LREL.	ALT. LREL.	OVER S.T.	TOV OVER E.T.		FLAC	FIGHTER	IRIT. TPC. 10000	NOT LUX TO B/W	STUCK TO	DE	HR.	IR.
MUNICH	5	Lanc.I	126	119	-	2	5	+1	5	-	-	-	12	-	6	256.7 524.1 494000 15x12000 H.C.
		L. no.III	144	130	-	5	9	-	3	-	-	-	18	3	4	
		Mosq.IV	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq.IX	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq.XV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			278	256	1	7	14	+1	8	-	-	22	3	10		
BRISCEL	0	Mosq.XVI	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.5 740000	
KARLSRUHE	0	Mosq.IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.2 1.3	
		Mosq.XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
KARLSRUHE TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BRISCEL TOTAL			291	269	1	7	14	-	8	-	-	22	3	10		
BOMBER SUPPORT	100	Various	39	29	-	-	10	1	1,3	1,0	-	18	-	-		
INTR. PATROLS	100	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			351	299	1	7	24	2	8+1,0	-	-	38	3	10		
EXC. OS.	3	Various	31	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-		

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

C.L.S.S.

Missing + (1 aircraft Cat. 10. in Bricselles - Nav. error)

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

27/28th. NOVEMBER, 1944.

FREIBURG: NEUSS: Bremen: Luxembourg: etc.SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Freiburg and Neuss, just over the German border at the southern and northern ends of the Western Front, were attacked by 345 and 277 aircraft respectively. Neither of the yards was hit, but severe damage was caused elsewhere in the towns, the centre of Freiburg being entirely devastated. Mosquitos bombed Berlin and carried out OBOE tests; and mines were laid in northern waters. Only 2/354 aircraft (0.2%) were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Rain, low cloud and poor visibility in Yorkshire and Lincs. by 2200. East Anglia will hold until midnight. Continuous rain everywhere thereafter.

Targets:- Variable str.-cu. over Continent below 12,000'; little above 12,000'. Even chance of less than 5/10ths. at Neuss; less hope at Freiburg.

FREIBURG: NEUSSPLANS OF ATTACK

3. Freiburg Controlled OBOE and NEBELVEI II, with emergency WAG. NUI. H = 2000.

4. Neuss OBOE ground-marking, with emergency WAG. NUI. H = 2020.

SORTIES

	F.	N.
5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	351.....	290
" " " reporting action on primary.....	345.....	277
" " abortive sorties.....	6.....	13
" " aircraft missing.....	1.....	1
	(0.3%)	(0.3%)

WEATHER AT TARGETS

6. Freiburg 5-10/10ths. cloud, tops 6-8,000', with a good break over the southern half of the town.

Neuss 7-10/10ths. low cloud, tops 4-5,000'. Three quarters moon, setting at 0600.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

7. Freiburg The A.P. was well illuminated with flares. The first markers were assessed as accurate and were well backed up. The marking was continuous and accurate, and the main force achieved a good concentration around the T.I. The late recon. aircraft reported at 2054 that the whole town was ablaze, with other fires to the S.E.

8. Neuss The attack opened punctually with flares and concentrated markers. The main force attacked the ground-markers accurately. The late recon. aircraft .../reported an

reported an excellent concentration of fires in the E. of the town, with many explosions; and scattered fires in the centre and western half.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

9. Freiburg The rail facilities of the town escaped with little damage, but the town itself suffered terrible devastation. This single raid destroyed 59% of the fully built-up area, and 40% of the whole built-up area, including all the city centre. Military barracks were widely affected, nearly every building of the large artillery barracks in Stahlihof being burnt out; and numerous bombs fell on the airfield. The only rail damage involved the main passenger station, which was rendered 50% u/s; and to the warehouses in the northern goods yard. Photographic cover was not obtained until nearly a month after the raid, but in that time little attempt had apparently been made to clear the debris, even from the damaged station.

10. Neuss Neuss was attacked again on the following night and on 31st. December by American aircraft; and photographs obtained on 31st. December showed much useful damage, especially in the industrial area N.E. of the marshalling yards. About 10 factories were hit, together with 3 buildings in the port area, the gasworks and several barracks. No industries of high priority were affected.

ENEMY DEFENCES

11. Neither of the main bomber forces had to penetrate more than a few miles into enemy territory on this night, and only one fighter attack was reported, on the way back from Neuss. Flak was very slight at both targets.

CASUALTIES

12. One aircraft was lost on each of the above raids. A Lancaster was destroyed over Freiburg by a falling bomb; there is no evidence to show what happened to the Mosquito marker which failed to return from Neuss. One Halifax crash-landed because of engine failure, and was wrecked. No serious damage was sustained from enemy action, except possibly the single loss on Neuss.

BERLIN

13. 60/67 Mosquitos attacked Berlin between 1902 and 1914 hours. The capital was clear of cloud, and the bombing was good, although the marking was rather scattered. Crews identified several landmarks in the city, and reported that the bombing was accurately placed in the built-up area. No further losses were sustained on this night.

MUNICH

14. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were despatched against Munich, but only one made a successfully controlled run. The others bombed the approximate target area on D.R.

LUDWIGSHAFEN

15. 5 H2S Mosquitos and 2 OBOE Mosquitos attacked Ludwigshafen. All except one H2S aircraft bombed by means of their precision devices. Results could not be observed, because the target was covered with thick cloud.

HALLENDORF

16. 7 OBOE Mosquitos were sent to attack the Hermann Goring works at Hallendorf. 2 made successfully controlled runs; 4 attacked the primary or other targets on D.R. and one was abortive.

3.

INCIDENTS

17. 26/30 Lancasters and Halifaxes laid 126 mines in northern waters: 70 in the Kattegat and off Laese Rende, 4 off Oslo and 16 off Frederikstad. No incidents were reported.

BOMBER SUPPORT etc.

18. 61 Mosquitos of 100 Group were active on SERRATE and intruder patrols, together with 12 Mosquitos of Fighter Command. 1 Mosquito was damaged. 12 Stirlings operated a MADREL screen across Belgium; 12 heavies dropped WINDOW towards Mannheim from Alsace; and 2 Fortresses operated JOSTLE. 9 aircraft of 192 Squadron carried out signals investigation patrols; and a Mosquito completed a net-recce. flight. All these operations were completed without loss.

HEV/JT.

BC/S. 26342/3/0R34,

21st. February, 1945.

REFERENCES -

Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Reports Nos. K. 3496 & K. 3521.
Army Defences - Interception/Tactics. No. 294/44.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING		A/C REPORTING		MIS- L.G.	RESULTS				RESULTS				
				PRIM. RE.	ALT. RE.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		PLAC.	FLAMING	BRIT. INC. BOGIES	NOT DUE TO E.T.	FLAME- ED	NOT RECOR- DED	HE.	IB.	
BOMBING	1	Lanc. I	174	173	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	143.0	262.0
		Lanc. III	118	118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	Lanc. III	49	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. IX Mosq. XVI	8 2	4 1	-	4 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING TOTAL			351	345	-	6	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MISSES	1	Lanc. I	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1039.3	104.9
		Lanc. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	Lanc. X	52	52	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. III Hal. VII	109 61	104 61	-	-	5	-	5	-	-	1+1B	1	1	-	-	932.000
	8	Lanc. III Lanc. IV Mosq. IX Mosq. XVI	41 1 5 10	41 1 2 5	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISSES TOTAL			250	247	-	6	5	1	9	-	-	1+1B +1B	1	1	-	-	
BOMBING	8	Mosq. XVI	39	35	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	76.3	7.7
		Mosq. XX	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XXV	10	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING TOTAL			57	62	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NUMBERS	1	Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	-
		Mosq. XVI	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.000
NUMBERS TOTAL			5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LUMINESCEN	6	Mosq. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.4	1.0
		Mosq. XX	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LUMINESCEN TOTAL			7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING	8	Mosq. XVI	7	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.9	52.000
		BOMBING TOTAL			72	697	7	16	7	2	10	-	-	2+1B +1B	1	1	-

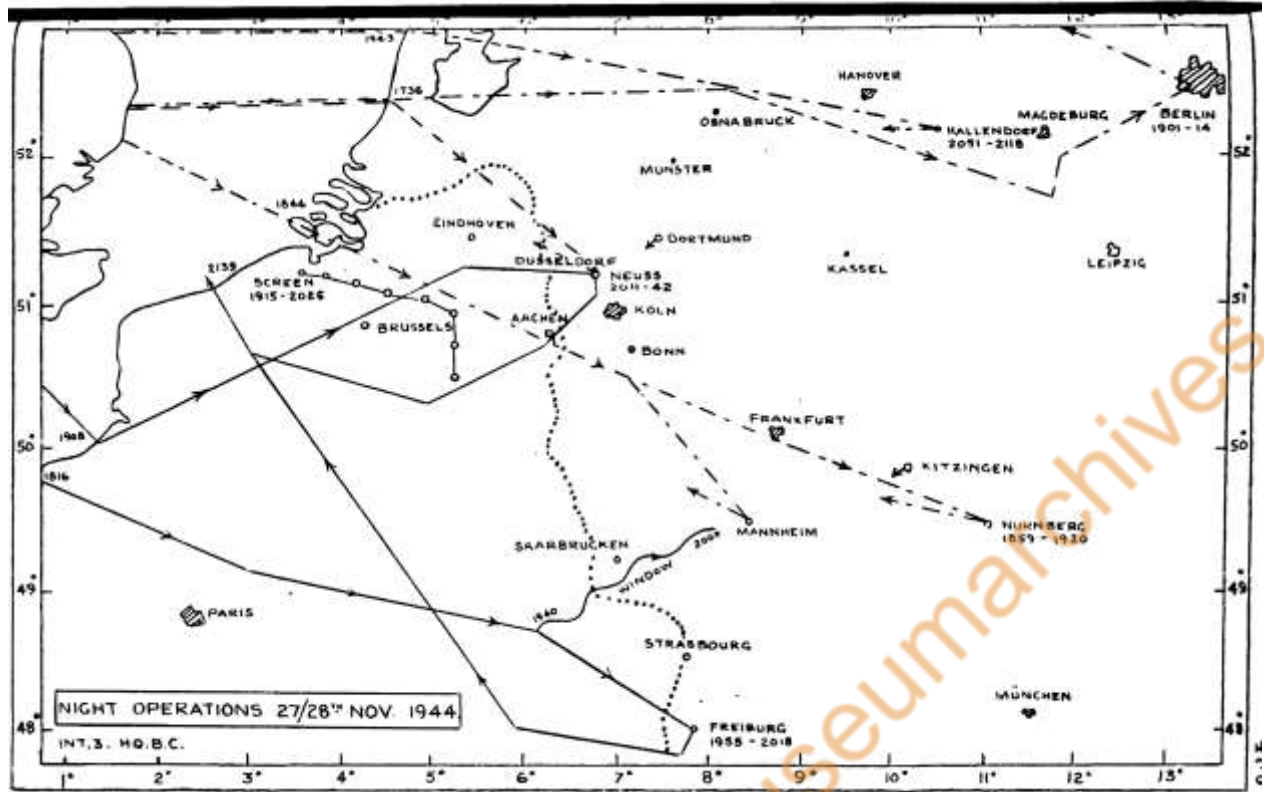
...../over.

435

27/28th. 10/20/44. 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING		A/C REPORTING		MIS- L.G.	RESULTS				RESULTS				
				PRIM. RE.	ALT. RE.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		PLAC.	FLAMING	BRIT. INC. BOGIES	NOT DUE TO E.T.	FLAME- ED	NOT RECOR- DED	HE.	IB.	
MINEFIELD	1	Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70 mines	-
		Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4	Lanc. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. III	12	10	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40 mines
MINEFIELD TOTAL			24	22	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	120 mines	-
BOMBING	100	Various	87	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING	100	Various	9	7	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBING TOTAL			96	88	7	2	15	-	12	-	-	2+1B +1B	1	1	-	-	

G.R.S.3.



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ENEMY DEFENCES

10. A new method of confusing the enemy fighter controllers was tried for the first time. WINDOW aircraft fanned out over a wide area of the Ruhr with the object of saturating the whole area with WINDOW and preventing any clear track on the bombers from being obtained. Both ground and fighter defences were also hampered by large amounts of cloud below 10,000 feet. The few fighters airborne concentrated on the Essen area, but made few attacks, while the Heuss force was not intercepted. Heavy clouds slight to cooperate at both targets.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

11. No E/- were claimed destroyed. Our bombers damaged a Ju.88 and a Ju.87.

CASUALTIES

12. No aircraft was missing from these attacks. 2, however, crash-landed in France - one because of engine failure, the other after it had been severely burnt by British incendiaries.

MISSIONS

13. Earlier in the night, 71/75 Mosquitos attacked Lureburg. There was no cloud over the target; the markers were well placed, and an excellent concentration was achieved by the bombers. Good fires were started. No fighters were encountered, and flak was slight. One Mosquito was lost without trace; and 2 others were badly damaged in landing and taxiing incidents.

HOLLENDORF

14. 2/9 OBOE Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against the Reichwerke A.G. Hermann Goring at Hollendorf. 3 others attacked the target on D.L., and the rest bombed alternative targets. No incidents were reported.

BOHEM SALACHT Etc.

15. 31/35 Mosquitos carried out SERATE and intruder patrols, without effecting any interceptions. Bombs were dropped on Bonn, but the results could not be observed. 12/12 Stirlings provided a WINDOW screen, and 15/16 aircraft dropped WINDOW over a wide area of the Ruhr. 1/2 Portresses operated JOSTLE. 5/5 completed signals patrols, and 2/2 carried out straggler flights. No losses were sustained.

MLM/JT.

BC/S. 26342/4/CISL,
12th. March, 1945.

REFERENCES

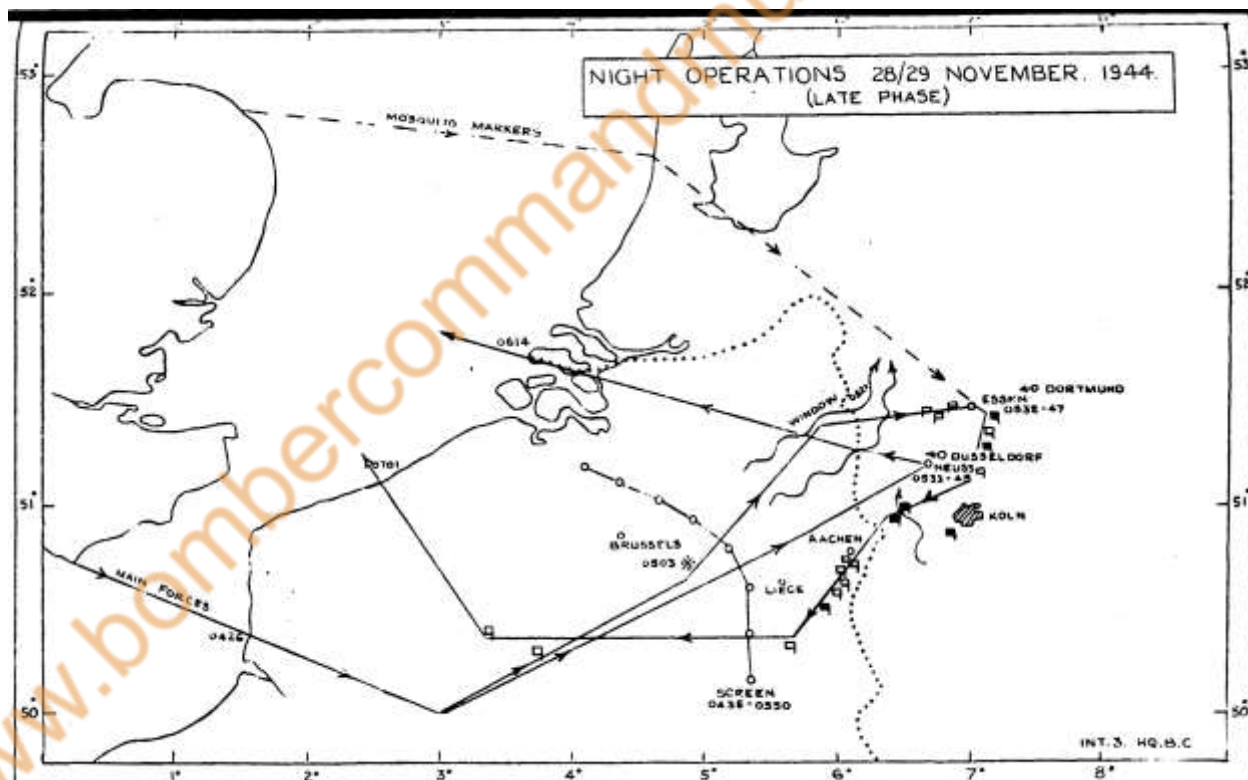
- Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Reports Nos. K. 3451 (Essen)
K. 3521 (Heuss)
Enemy Defences - Interception/Tactics No. 295/44.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	BORNEO	NO. AIRCRAFT		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		NO. BOMBERS		TOTAL	TOTAL	
				PLACED ON	ALT.	OV/1	OV/2	PLACED ON	ALT.	OV/1	OV/2	PLACED ON	ALT.			OV/1
RUSSIA	3	Mosq. IX	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	1.3	
		Mosq. XVI	4	40	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XI	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XIV	18	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2B	-	-	
RUSSIA TOTAL			78	71	1	1	2	1	1	-	-	2B	-	-		
HALLS DORP	3	Mosq. IX	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.5		
		Mosq. XVI	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.000	
HALLS DORP TOTAL			5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.500		
ESSE	1	Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1023.7	175.1	
		Lanc. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Bal. III	270	261	1	1	7	-	4+1.0	1.0	-	1+1B	3	14	224000	
		Lanc. III	24	23	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1412000	
ESSE	3	Mosq. IX	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ESSE TOTAL			310	305	1	2	8	4+1.0	1.0	-	1+1.0	9	14	-	-	
BRUSS	1	Lanc. I	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	623.6	100.2	
		Lanc. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1300000	
BRUSS	3	Lanc. I	121	117	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	70000		
		Lanc. III	24	23	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1212000	
BRUSS TOTAL			153	148	2	2	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BRUSS TOTAL			553	529	0	4	12	4+1.0	1.0	-	1+1.0	9	14	-	-	
BOULEL AIRPORT	130	Various	25	20	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SIGNAL STATIONS	100	H.A.H.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NET. BOMB.	3	Mosq.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			625	590	1	4	17	4+1.0	1.0	-	1+1.0	9	14	-	-	

O.R.S. 2

(1 w/o. Cat. E. in Gaines - Eng. Failure.
 (1 w/o. Cat. B. in Juvinourt - Fighter.
 (1 w/o. Cat. E. in Chemy - Inc. Docks (3)

428



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS.

29/30th. NOVEMBER, 1944.

Hannover: Bielefeld.

SUMMARY.

1. Hannover. 60 Mosquitos were sent to Hannover. The target was first marked by 4/7 H2S Mosquitos, which had just bombed Bielefeld; their TI were well grouped around the A/P at Hannover, and the bombing was concentrated. No aircraft was lost on this night.
2. Mine-laying. 6 Mosquitos were despatched to lay mines in the Weser, but found the target covered with 10/10ths. cloud and brought their mines back.
3. Bomber support etc. 38 Mosquitos were active on SERRATE and intruder patrols, but effected no interceptions. 100 Group had 6 Stirlings operating a KANDEL screen and 25 heavies dropping WINDOW over the Ruhr, troubling the German fighter controllers and incidentally distracting them from the Mosquitos attacking Hannover. 2/2 Mosquitos carried out signals patrols and a third completed a Mt. Rose. flight. 19 Stirlings were active on special operations.

WEATHER FORECAST.

4. Basics. Generally fit. Fog for short periods in S.
- Targets. 5/10ths or less over Ruhr. Well broken cloud inland in E.

SORTIES.

5. No. of aircraft despatched.	139.
" " " reporting attack on primary area.	126.
" " " " " alternative area.	4.
" " abortive sorties.	9.
" " aircraft missing.	0.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

6. 3-6/10ths. st-cu over Hannover, tops 5-10,000 ft. Good visibility. 10/10ths over Bielefeld and mining area.

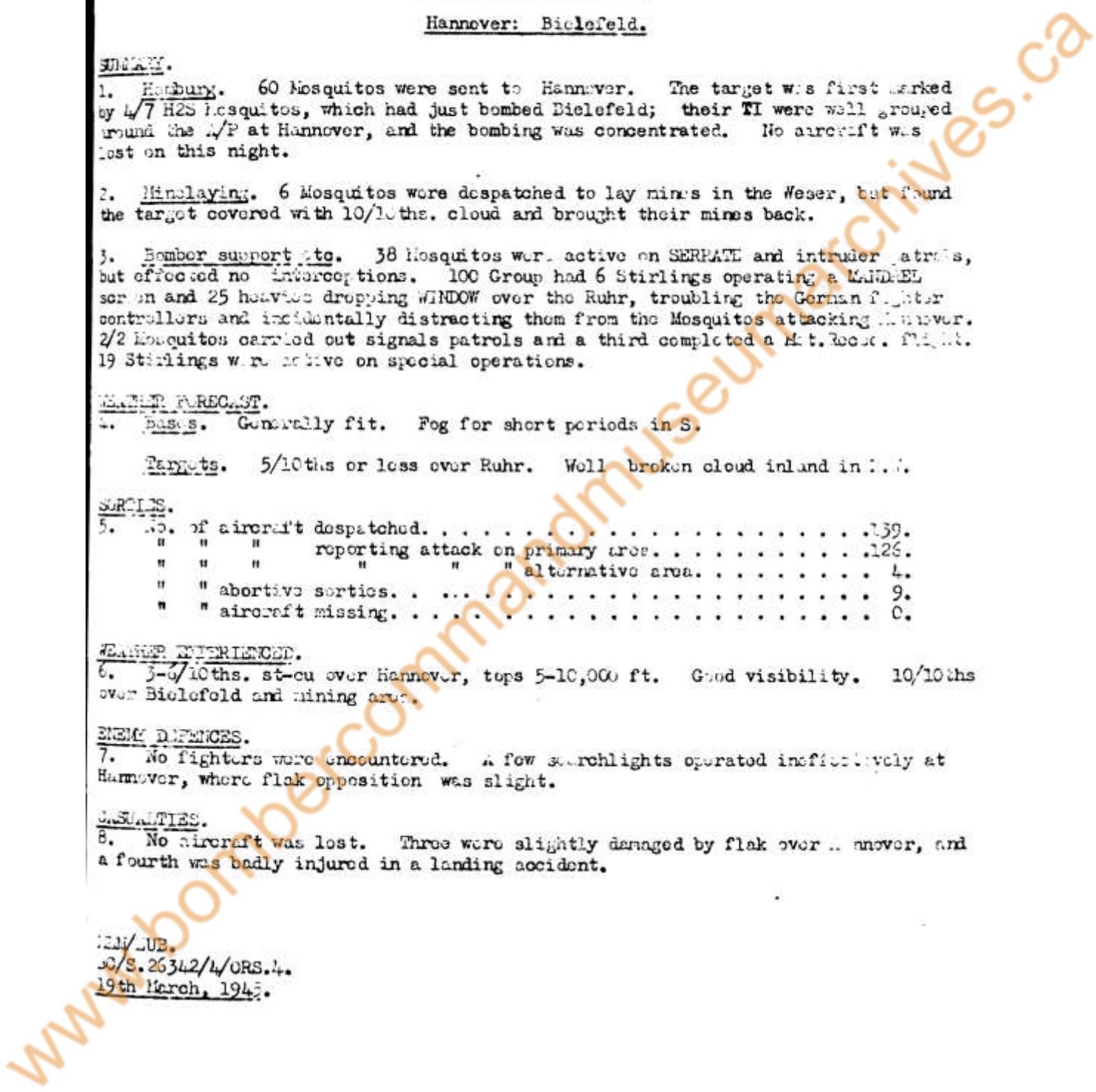
ENEMY DEFENCES.

7. No fighters were encountered. A few searchlights operated ineffectively at Hannover, where flak opposition was slight.

CASUALTIES.

8. No aircraft was lost. Three were slightly damaged by flak over Hannover, and a fourth was badly injured in a landing accident.

MEM/LUB.
 JC/S. 26342/4/ORS.4.
 19th March, 1945.



CLASS	GRADE	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SERIES	AC REPORTS				LOSS- DNG	REASON				RESULTS			
				REASON		REASON			FLW	FIGHTER	INT. DNG.	NOT DNG TO B/C	STUCK ED	RE- ED	RE- ED	RE- ED
				PRE- RE.	RE- RE.	OVER K.T.	NOT OVER E.P.									
RECOVERED	B	Moq. XVI	37	36	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80.8	1.2
		Moq. XX	10	6	3	1	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. XXV	20	20	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RECOVERED TOTAL			67	62	4	1	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RECOVERED	5	Moq. IV	6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOMBED	100	Various	63	61	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SIGHTED	100	Moq.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HT. DNG.	6	Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	1	Var.	139	126	4	7	2	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	3	Var.	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

D. L. S. 2.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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NIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 779

COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS30th.NCV/1st.DECM.BR, 1944.DUISBURG: Hamburg: Hildesheim: etc.SUMMARY

1. 576 aircraft were despatched on night 30 the Ruhr zone of Duisburg and although they found the target covered in 10/10ths. cloud, they achieved a good concentration and effected considerable damage in the town. 3 aircraft were lost in this attack. Mosquitoes also bombed Hamburg and Hildesheim, without loss. 88 aircraft were active on bomber support activities, from which 1 aircraft failed to return.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Generally fit.

Target:- Above variable St.Cu. averaging 5/10ths. or less (tops not above 6-7,000 ft.) there will be little or no cloud apart from extensive cirrus.

DUISBURGPLAN OF ATTACK

3. OBCE ground marking with emergency sky-marking. M = 2000.

SORTIES

4.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	576
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	553
	" " " " " alternative area.....	1
	" " abortive sorties.....	22
	" " aircraft missing.....	3 (0.5)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. 10/10ths. st.-cu. with tops 7/ ,000' over Duisburg. Full moon all night.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6. The attack opened with ground markers and the resulting red glow from beneath suggested that these markers were well grouped. Sky-marking commenced six minutes later and an effective concentration was built up, well positioned in relation to the glow from ground markers. Markers fell in good succession throughout the attack.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

7. Photographic cover revealed scattered damage over a wide area stretching from Hambern in the North to Ruckingen in the South. The most important industrial target hit was the distillation plant of gas. Für Iceerverwertung (Heiderich) which suffered considerably. South of Duisburg the priority factory of Heiderich was severely damaged, and the Duisburg Kabelwerke was also hit. In the same area, two factories making bicycles and light electrical apparatus was also hit. In the town of Duisburg a direct hit was scored on the main railway station and at least 6 hits on tracks south of it. Immediately north at least 14 hits were visible on railway sidings by the Inner Hafen, and 4

....factories in the same

factories in the same area were also damaged. Several railway bridges near the main station, and railway yards in vicinity east of the Rheinhausen/Hochfeld railway bridges also suffered damage.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. Our bombers flew across the Channel to the Bommersund and turned eastwards into the Ruhr, consequently having only 50 miles of enemy territory to cross. They were aided by the protection of a strong WILLOW screen, and the enemy was kept guessing as to our objective. WILLOW also managed to swamp the enemy's radar plotting in Holland; he managed to plot these aircraft, but could not ascertain the size of the approaching force. Unfortunately he was able to plot the formations over the Channel, off Le Touquet long before he should have had any indications of a force in that direction. Even so only 3 aircraft were missing from this raid. The ground defences put up a slight to moderate barrage of heavy flak. Very few night fighters made contact.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

9. 1 He.117 and 1 Ju.88 were claimed destroyed and 1 Ju.188 and 1 He.410 probably destroyed - all by intruders.

CASUALTIES

10. 3/576 (0.5%) were lost. 1 was destroyed by flak and 2 were lost in collision. 20 aircraft were damaged by flak, 1 of these very badly. 1 aircraft was slightly damaged by fighters.

HAMBURG

11. 51/53 Mosquitos attacked Hamburg in 10/10ths. cloud (tops 10/15,000 ft.), from 22/28,000 ft. The majority of the aircraft were able to bomb on the markers or their glow and the attack appeared to have been quite concentrated. The other 2 aircraft bombed the approximate target area.

HALLENDORF

12. 3/7 OBOE Mosquitos made a successfully controlled run against Hallendorf. 3 bombed the target area on D.R. 1 was abortive.

BOEING REPORT

13. 52 Mosquitos and Fortresses were active on Intruder, SERPENTE and JOSTLE patrols. They destroyed 1 He.177 and 1 Ju.88, and probably also 1 He.410 and 1 Ju.188. 20 aircraft dropped WILLOW. 12 Stirlings and 1 Halifax operated a MANDREL screen: 1 of these aircraft was lost. 2 Mosquitos were despatched on a Net.Recco., and 4 Mosquitos and Halifaxes were active on special signals patrols.

HCC/JT
BC/S. 26342/2/ORS,
21st. February, 1945.

REFERENCES

- Day Reconnaissance - Interpretation Report No.K. 3424.
- Enemy Defences - Interception/Tactics No. 297/44.

TARGET	CLASS	ALLOTTED TYPE	QUANTITY	MOSQUITO TYPE				TOTAL	DISTRIBUTION				TOTAL	REMARKS
				TYPE	NO.	NO.	NO.		NO.	NO.	NO.	NO.		
DUTCH	1	Lanc. I	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123x1000
	4	Lanc. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	6	Hal. III	256	256	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. X	52	48	1	2	1	-	1+1B	-	1	2	-	
		Hal. III	125	121	-	1	3	2	7	-	1	1	-	
	Hal. VII	60	64	-	1	1	-	3	-	2	-	2		
	8	Lanc. III	58	50	-	-	-	-	1	1+1B	-	1	-	
		Mosq. IX	11	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	10	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XXV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			576	553	1	4	7	3	19+1B	1+1B	-	4	5	12
100 BOMB	8	Mosq. XVI	28	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62.1
		Mosq. XX	11	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23x1000
		Mosq. XXV	14	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41.7x1000
TOTAL			53	51	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
100 BOMB	8	Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.6
		Mosq. XVI	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6x1000
TOTAL			7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			656	610	3	10	7	3	19+1B	1+1B	-	4	5	12
100 BOMB	100	Various	84	71	-	-	13	1	-	-	-	1+1B	-	-
100 BOMB	100	li. & H	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100 BOMB	8	Mosq.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			726	687	3	16	20	4	19+1B	1+1B	-	5+1B	5	12
MOB. OPS.	3	Various	9	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-

O. & S. 3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

