

HOME

ASSOCIATION

GROUP HISTORY

MISSIONS

PERSONNEL

AIRCRAFT

ME

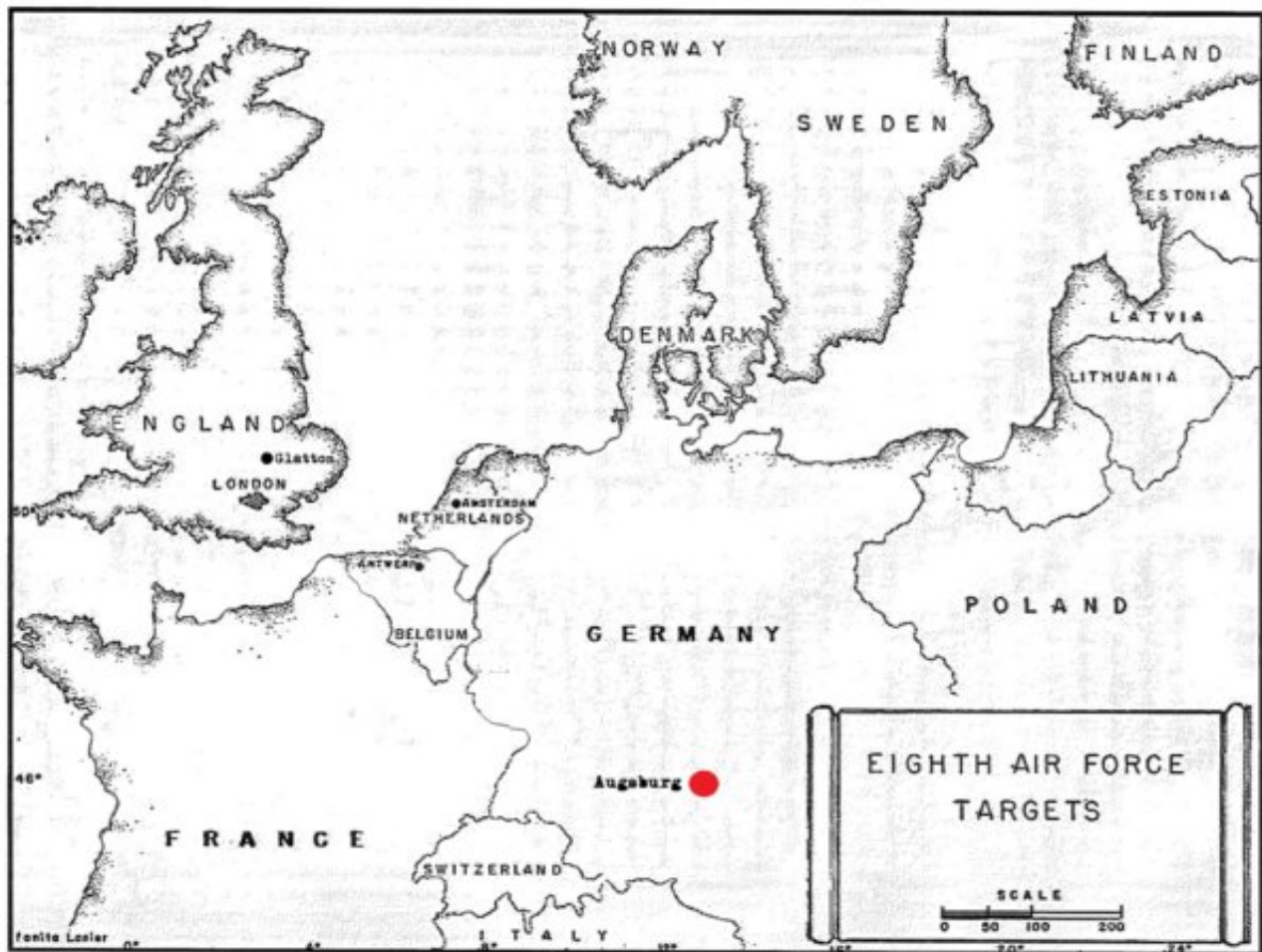
MISSION NO. 4

Missions

TARGET: AIRCRAFT PLANT

AUGSBURG, GERMANY

25 FEBRUARY 1944



The Eighth Air Force penetrated in south Germany to attack three aircraft plants and production centers, and a ball bearing plant at Stuttgart. Augsburg, the 457th's assigned target, was the site of the production of Me-210 jet planes. The Germans were busy producing there an aircraft, unknown to aerial warfare at the time, that would be faster and capable of producing more firepower than any other fighter plane then in service.

The Group comprised the 94th Combat Wing's low box. In addition, the Group provided six planes for the low squadron of the high box. Col. Luper was Air Commander and Lt. Donald E. Lady was pilot. Enemy opposition was heavy. The Group attacked the primary target with good results. For the Eighth Air Force the mission was another costly one, thirty-one aircraft lost to enemy forces.

Just inside the French Coast on the way to the target, flak knocked out an engine on Lt. Edward J. Reppa's craft, but he continued toward the target.

Lt. James R. Chinn was shot down by enemy fighters and crashed in France. Two of his crew evaded capture and later returned to England. Lt. Chinn did not survive. Seven crew members lost their lives.

Lt. Archie F. Bowers' ship was hit by flak in the target area, dropped out of formation and was attacked by enemy fighters. Six crew members were killed in action.

On the way back to England, Lt. Reppa lost another engine and ultimately crash landed at another base in England without any brakes to stop the craft, which finally came to a stop at a deep ditch after first hitting a tree. There were no serious injuries in the crew. The plane did not fare as well. It had come to its final resting place.

Lt. Green B. Poore, badly shot up, landed at another base with little gasoline remaining. Lt. Robert D. Lane landed with two engines out.

Lt. Clarence E. Schuchmann lost three engines, and in making a down wind landing, with another craft landing from the opposite direction, lost the fourth engine and made a dead stick landing. The other craft made a touch-and-go landing, avoiding a collision. Twenty-three, of the twenty-four aircraft completing the mission, suffered battle damage.

Though not directly attacked by the "Abbeville Kids", the Group got their first glimpse of the highly trained Me-109 Squadron with the yellow noses.

In summary the first week in combat had been rough. If there were any doubts of what lay ahead for the Group, the format was on the map in the briefing room. The Eighth Bomber Command had identified strategic and tactical targets in all parts of The Third Reich.

MISSION NO. 4

February 25th 1944

		748th Squadron		749th Squadron		750th Squadron		751th	
		A/C # 470		A/C # 113		A/C # 592		A/C #	
p	Lt	Raymond A. Syptak	Lt	Donald E. Lady	Lt	Edward M. Bender	Lt		Lt
cp	Lt	Leroy H. Watson	Lt	James R. Luper	Lt	Leo R. Gren	Lt		Lt
n	Lt	William H. Dupont	Lt	Arthur N. Hoffman	Lt	R. O. Bvers	Lt		Lt
b	Lt	Irwin Rosen	Lt	Judson E. Krueser	Lt	Edwin K. Fuller	Lt		Lt
tt	Sgt	William C. Bolger	Sgt	David B. Jones	Sgt	James L. Free	Sgt		Sgt
ro	Sgt	Eldon D. Krug	Sgt	Monroe J. Hotalling	Sgt	John P. Sarico	Sgt		Sgt
bt	Sgt	Byron E. Smull	Sgt	Bernard L. Baker	Sgt	Laymon M. Mahan	Sgt		Sgt
lwg	Sgt	Robert B. Hooper	Sgt	Marvin H. Sloan	Sgt	Charles O. Webber	Sgt		Sgt
rwg	Sgt	Owen L. McDonough	Sgt	Carl W. Ostling	Sgt	Thomas G. Leahy	Sgt		Sgt
tg	Sgt	Wodrow W. Hammons	Sgt	Rose D. Pogue	Sgt	Michael Woyurka	Sgt		Sgt
			Sgt	Wade E. Knudson					
		A/C # 552		A/C # 545		A/C # 469		A/C #	
p	Lt	Thomas E. Lee	Lt	Robert L. Wetherald	Lt	Clarence E. Schuchmann	Lt		Lt
cp	Lt	John M. Bristow	Lt	Francis G. Bogle	Lt	Franklin J. Marra	Lt		Lt
n	Lt	John C. Sherwin	Lt	Thomas W. Burns	Lt	Thomas A. Goff	Lt		Lt
b	Lt	Regis J. Creehan	Lt	Alex W. Fisher	Lt	Charles S. Gelber	Lt		Lt
tt	Sgt	Clayton L. Betterton	Sgt	Cleo F. Corder	Sgt	Joseph I. Hibbs	Sgt		Sgt
ro	Sgt	Jasper Stewart	Sgt	John J. Orazem	Sgt	Lorne G. Smith	Sgt		Sgt
bt	Sgt	John Barber	Sgt	Reorge Stiller	Sgt	Billy K. Hightower	Sgt		Sgt
lwe	Set	John A. Robinson	Set	Secondo P. Pentacolone	Set	Robert Bridges	Set		Set

rwg	Sgt	Irvin V. Gerlich	Sgt	Onnie B. Baskette, Jr	Sgt	Edgar D. Lanzoni	Sgt
tg	Sgt	Ralph H. Zagorski	Sgt	Frank R. Machak	Sgt	Anthony Toizzi	Sgt
		A/C # 458		A/C # 064		A/C # 629	
p	Lt	Edward J. Reppa	Lt	Richard J. Dudek	Lt	William F. Rogers	Lt
cp	Lt	Aaron J. Ayres	Lt	Russell M. Dobyns	Lt	Stanley J. Wolczanski	Lt
n	Lt	Robert E. Jackson	Lt	John F. Moore	Lt	Wilbert J. Collard	Lt
b	Lt	George H. Stateman	Lt	James H. Coonrod	Lt	Dino H. Tonelli	Lt
tt	Sgt	Ivan W. Browning	Sgt	John J. Connell	Sgt	Joshua D. Lane	Sgt
ro	Sgt	Stephen F. Billisits	Sgt	John Kessock	Sgt	Orion H. Shumway	Sgt
bt	Sgt	Francis A. Boyson	Sgt	Alfred A. Sabory	Sgt	John Chumas	Sgt
lwg	Sgt	Charles W. Mehring	Sgt	Henri A. Boulay	Sgt	William C. Young	Sgt
rwg	Sgt	Irving Feldman	Sgt	Harold D. McFarland	Sgt	David H. Quick	Sgt
tg	Sgt	John Harmke	Sgt	Robert E. Bergeron	Sgt	Ray Jones	Sgt
		A/C # 467		A/C # 457		A/C # 468	
		A/C #		A/C #		A/C #	

Download [48.82 KB]



LEAVE A COMMENT

Message*

Name Do

Mail ▼