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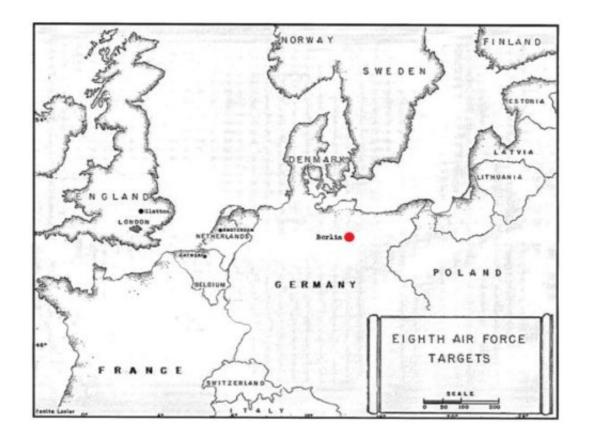
AIRCRAFT

ME

MISSION NO. 46

Uncategorized

MISSION NO. 46 **BERLIN, GERMANY** 19 MAY, 1944



The Group sent thirty-six planes comprising the lead and low boxes of the 94th A Combat Wing to Berlin. Targets were government buildings near the center of the city where other targets had previously been bombed.

Lt. Col. Raymond L. Cobb flew as Air Commander of the lead box in a PFF ship. Major George C. Hozier led the low box with Captain Jerry Godfrey as pilot, and Major Theodore C. Hoffman led the high box with Lt. Malcolm E. Johnson as pilot. En route to the target, Me-109s and FW-190s were observed away from the formation. The 109s and 190s peeled off and attacked the low squadron of the lead Group. As a result of the attack, the plane piloted by Lt. Phillip H. Birong was hit and left the formation with two engines on fire. The craft went into a spiral and all the crewmen, except one, successfully bailed out and became POWs.

There was seven-tenths cloud cover over the target area, so bombing was by PFF. Bombing results were fair. Flak was moderate but accurate, damaging seven planes. Fighter Protection was good except for the interval prior to the bomb run Overall, the Eighth lost twenty-eight aircraft.

The first crew in the Group to do so, Lt. Robert D. Lane, Pilot, completed its tour with this mission, and celebrated by the traditional buzzing of the field and shooting of flares.

The Daily Bulletin called the attention of personnel to military discipline, personal appearance, and other elementary things that should have been learned in basic training. Also, a simulated briefing of combat crews was given for the benefit of all ground personnel.

The crew of Lt Phillip H. Birong was lost on this date.

Duration of mission 9 hours

Formed over splasher 4 4000ft above briefed altitude. Left English coast 20 minutes late but entered Germany near Denmark on time. At I.P 70 fighters attacked group. After target three planes in wing went down. FLAK at Flensburg.

2nd Lt. John O. Millham, navigator 749th BS:

Berlin 09.00 - 18.00

Ship Y - 067

Formed over Splasher 4, 4000 ft above briefed alt. Left English coast twenty minutes late but entered Germany near Denmark on time. At I.P. we met about seventy fighters. Forgot all about them because they looked like P-51 escorts. Before we knew what was happening they 109's were attacking us. Saw twenty millimeter hit plane that went down. After target three planes in wing before us went down burning from FLAK or something. Stohl asked me for heading to Sweden because gas was low. Decided to try to make England. Tail gunner awol Billington took his place. Got some FLAK from Flensburg. After getting a hundred miles out on North Sea we asked for permission to leave formation because of low gas. Later Wing leader complained because we left so fast and seemingly with all the gas in the world. Had fun buzzing water and shooting at waves. Before we left English coast starting out we lost a part of oxygen supply. Two men on crew had to lay down and take life easy so as not to use much oxygen. Ball turret, right waist when we landed gas tanks were punctured and plane laid up for a few days. Flux Gate Compass went out.

				MISSION NO. 46 May 19th 1944						
	748th Squadron A/C # 615		7491	h Squadron	750th Squadron		751th			
			A/C #692		A/C # 535		A/C#			
р	Lt	Adrian W. Seabock	Lt	Benny M. Flowers	Lt	Joseph O. Paschal	Lt			
ср	Lt	Lloyd. E. Icenogle	Lt	Joseph F. Reilly	Lt	Donald S. Hain	Lt			
n	Lt	Glen S. Thornton	Lt	Robert D. Newcomb	Lt	Russell L. Scott	Lt			
b	Lt	William G. Smith, Jr	Lt	John J. Gides	Lt	Vincent L. Vaccarro	Lt			
tt	Sgt	Louis M. Castelucci	Sgt	Andrew H. Bouchard	Sgt	Arthur J. Russell, Jr	Sgt			
ro	Sgt	Leonard C. Comstock	Sgt	William L. Finley	Sgt	Charles R. Miller	Sgt			
bt	Sgt	Floyd E. Larson	Sgt	William Zamecnik	Sgt	Edward F. Rugg	Sgt			
rwg	Sgt	Herbert W. Shaurette	Sgt	Reginald W. Buxton	Sgt	Harry C. Minor	Sgt			
lwg	Sgt	Earl W. Holton	Sgt	Virgil G. Maier	Sgt	Sidney W. Brunick	Sgt			
tg	Sgt	Francis E. Comue	Sgt	Victor U. Meador	Sgt	Clifford R. Wilson	Sgt			
							A/C#			
	A/C # 568		A/C #	A/C # 545		A/C#063				
p	Lt	Clyde R. Weid	Lt	James V. Elduff	Lt	Winfred L. Pugh	Lt			
ср	Lt	Edward L. Cavanaugh	Lt	William E. Dee	Lt	Arthur H. Richards	Lt			
n	Lt	Solon J. Boydston	Lt	Lawrence Oberstein	Lt	Julius H. Drummond	Lt			
b	Lt	George A. Sipp	Lt	Ras M. Clausen	Lt	Clifford E. Page	Lt			
tt	Sgt	James R. Powell	Sgt	Norbert A Meeuwsen	Sgt	James E. Woodgate	Sgt			
ro	Sgt	Earl Pledger	Sgt	Andrew G. Voytko	Sgt	Edward M. Szumierz	Sgt			
bt	Sgt	Abraham H. Feller	Sgt	Patrick J. Fusci	Sgt	Joseph R. Wheatley	Sgt			

rwg	Sgt	Norman C. Bonney	Sgt	Mildredge C. Doan	Sgt	John T. Poshefko	Sgt
lwg	Sgt	Michael Stasko	Sgt	Thomas L. Treadwell	Sgt	Howard W. Martin	Sgt
tg	Sgt	Edwin Dempsey	Sgt	Charles R. Carlisle	Sgt	Karl E. Kramer	Sgt
	A/C # 055		A/C # 067		A/C# 620		A/C#
p	Lt	Edward J. Reppa	Lt	Rudolph M. Stohl	Lt	William F. Rogers	Lt
ср	Lt	Aaron J. Ayres	Lt	David W. Schellenger	Lt	Stanley J. Wolczanski	Lt
n	Lt	Curtis J. Overdahl	Lt	John O. Millham	Lt	Wilbert J. Collard	Lt
b	Lt	George H. Stateman	Lt	James E. Thomas	Lt	Con F. Poyner	Lt
tt	Sgt	Stephen F. Billisits	Sgt	Robert C. Kreite	Sgt	Joshua D. Lane	Sgt
ro	Sgt	William L. Black	Sgt	William F. Bemus	Sgt	Orion H. Shumway	Sgt
bt	Sgt	Irving Feldman	Sgt	Walter W. Wagoner	Sgt	John Chumas	Sgt
rwg	Sgt	Kenneth L. Holder	Sgt	Sheldon T. Moore	Sgt	Sol Pollack	Sgt
lwg	Sgt	Charles W. Mehring	Sgt	Erwin A. Welling	Sgt	David H. Quick	Sgt
tg	Sgt	Ivan W. Browning	Sgt	John R. Billington	Sgt	Ray Jones	Sgt
		•					
	A/C # 662		A/C #	A/C # 060		A/C# 568	
n	Lt	Leonard P. Soenke	l t	Richard J. Dudek	l t	Robert D. Lane	Lt

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