

398th Operations Officer's Report

15 August 1944

Target: Ostheim, Germany

HEADQUARTERS 398TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (K-B-6)

Office of the Operations Officer

APO 557, U.S. Army

15 August, 1944

SUBJECT: Operations Officer's Report of Mission 15 August 1944

TO: Commanding General, First Bombardment Division, APO 557

Commanding General, 1st Combat Wing, APO 557

1. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS:

A. Data:

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|--------------------------|---|
| (1) Date of Mission: | 15 August 1944. |
| (2) Target Assigned: | Ostheim, Germany |
| (3) Target Attacked: | Ostheim, Germany |
| (4) Units Participating: | 36 A/C of the 398th Gp. formed the 1st "B" CBW. |
| (5) Returned Early: | None. |
| (6) Lost: | None. |

2. NARRATIVE:

Lead Group 1st "B" CBW [602nd]

Take-off was normal and assembly very good. While assembling "Cycle" called and stated the Division assembly had been changed. This CBW was moved from position number ten to number four and the time for arriving at [control point 1] was changed. The flight to the target was as briefed except at control point 3 the wing was out of its position in the division formation. We were unable to get back into our right position. Bombing was visual and results were excellent.

Route back was as briefed.

No enemy fighters were seen. Fighter support was good.

Flak over target was intense and accurate.

Low Group 1st "B" CBW [600th]

Take-off was normal and on time. Assembly over the Debden Bunsher was very good. This group was fully formed with twelve (12) aircraft upon departure from the assembly point. The route to the target was flown as briefed. Bombing was in ___ by individual groups. Bombing results were fair. The return trip to the coast was flown as briefed. Bad contrails were encountered ___ to and from the target. Return to the base was without incident.

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Flak was intense and accurate over the target.

No enemy aircraft were sighted.

Weather was as briefed.

No aircraft were lost.

High Group 1st "B" CBW [603rd]

Take-off was normal and on time. The assembly over the Debden Bunsher was excellent, all twelve aircraft being in formation before the last circle of the buncher. The route was flown as briefed and bombing was visual by individual groups. Approximately ten minutes before I.P. lead aircraft of the high group tested its bomb bay doors and they functioned perfectly, however, upon bomb run the doors of this aircraft failed to open and Deputy Lead took over the lead. Bombing results were excellent. The lead aircraft, A/C No. A3-38075, dropped its bombs on railroad yard at coordinates 5008N - 0710E. Return trip to coast was flown as briefed. Contrails were the only weather encountered on the mission.

No enemy aircraft were sighted.

Flak over the target was intense and accurate.

No aircraft were lost.

JEAN B. MILLER

Major, Air Corps

Operations Officer

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Transcribed by: Ann Collins, Sept. 2003