

8978

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Classification changed

to RESTRICTED
by E. DR. DONAH, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG
Date 15 1946

**GERMAN RECORDS
COMPLETED**

Date	Written	Wrote About
	/ REFINISHED	WADSWORTH
		CLIFFORD
		FONTANA
		JANNEY
		JANNEY
		CLIFFORD

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Classification changed

to **RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG

by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG

Date MAR 15 1946

8918

WING ENGINE COMPANY REPORT

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name NUTHAMSTEAD, ENG Group 398th Bomb Hq
Squadron 600th Bomb Hq; Detachment None
Command or Air Force 8th Air Force
2. SPECIFIC: Place of Report AAF Station 131 per stchd chart
Target or Intended Destination Stuttgart, Germany
Type of Mission Operational Bombing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Eight to Ten tenths clouds, Tops 8,000 ft, no contrails, Vis. Unlimited
4. TIME: (a) Day 10 Month SEPT Year 1944, Approx 1118 and Location aloft
4848N-0910-E of last known location of missing A/C.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (x); last contacted by radio (); Force down (); down to crash (); or information not available ().
5. AIRCRAFT WAS DOWN, OR TO BE DOWN, ON DATE 10 SEPT 1944, AND A RESULT OF: (Check only one box, Aircraft); Enemy Anti-Aircraft (); Other Circumstances as Follows: _____
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B17G; AAF Serial No. 42-107103
7. CREWNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any Maria Notre Dame
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97
AAF Serial No. (a) SW-00464, (b) 43-60881, (c) 43-65198
(d) 43-59565
9. INSTALLATION(S) AMONG (Furnish below Name, Type and Serial Number):
SEE ATTACHED SHEET; (a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
(e) _____ (f) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____
(i) _____ (j) _____ (k) _____ (l) _____
(m) _____ (n) _____ (o) _____ (p) _____
10. THE CREW WAS KILLED BY: (a) Battle Casualty
MIA or (b) Non Battle Casualty
11. NUMBER OF CREW MEMBERS REPORTED: Crew 9 Passengers 0
Total 9

(Starting with 1001, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons are aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form.)

Crew Position	Name in Full	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
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<i>Exec.</i> Pilot	<u>WRIGHT, PARKE III</u>	2nd Lt	0-817563	MIA <i>Pow</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Co-Pilot	<u>CLIFTON, CLINTON B</u>	2nd Lt	0-705477	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Bombardier	<u>ECK, HAROLD L</u>	2nd Lt	0-712278	MIA <i>Pow</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Navigator	<u>FLIBSE, DAVID E</u>	2nd Lt	0-2058451	MIA <i>Pow</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Eng Turret Gunner	<u>FRANKLIN, RICHARD S</u>	Sgt	16150677	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Radio Opr Gunner	<u>FONTANA, LOUIS S</u>	Sgt	36346719	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Right Waist Gunner	<u>MILLER, WALTER F</u>	Cpl	33678460	MIA <i>Pow</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Ball Turret Gunner	<u>LIBBY, LORIN S</u>	Cpl	35892236	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>Exec.</i> Tail Gunner	<u>WADLEIGH, THOMAS D</u>	Sgt	20100112	MIA <i>KIA</i>

12/16/44

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14. NAME: BROWN, ORLAND D. GRADE: 2nd Lt. SERIAL: 0-555721. TO HAVE NAME
 CHECKED BY: (a) [unclear], (b) [unclear], (c) [unclear] TO DETERMINE
 IF HE IS A MEMBER OF THE [unclear]:


Name in Full (Last, First, Middle)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only One Column	
			By Initials	Date Sighted
1. BALLARD, CHARLES W	1st Lt	0-798417		X
CUCCO, JOSEPH F	1st Lt	0-818838		X
DEVLIN, STEPHEN P	2nd Lt	0-718258		X
BROWN, ORLAND D	2nd Lt	0-555721		X

15. NAME: [unclear] GRADE: [unclear] SERIAL: [unclear]. TO HAVE NAME
 CHECKED BY: (a) [unclear], (b) [unclear], (c) [unclear] TO DETERMINE
 IF HE IS A MEMBER OF THE [unclear]:

16. GIVE NAME, GRADE, SERIAL, AND SERVICE NUMBER OF ALL PERSONS WHOSE
 NAMES ARE KNOWN TO YOU AS BEING ON THE [unclear] OF THE [unclear] AT
 [unclear] ON [unclear] 13 September 1944.

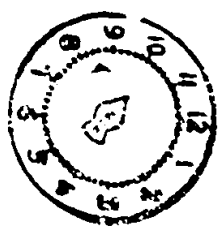
No knowledge of any search being made.

Date of Report 13 September 1944


 WALLIS L. CAMPBELL
 1st Lt Air Corps, Officer
 Statistical Control Officer

17. [unclear] TO HAVE NAME
 CHECKED BY: [unclear] TO DETERMINE
 IF HE IS A MEMBER OF THE [unclear]:

See Statements.

RECEIVED

 OCT 9 1944

INSTALLED WEAPONS

<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Serial number</u>
1. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1292873
2. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1293159
3. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1293397
4. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1294740
5. High Standard	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1528606
6. General Motors	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	653193
7. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1294921
8. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1295161
9. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1294790
10. Buffalo Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1294985
11. General Motors	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	647913
12. High Standard	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	602156

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Eye Witness Description of Missing Aircraft B17G 42-107103, Pilot, 2nd Lt Parke Wright III, O-817563, 600th Bomb Sq, 398th Bomb Group on Combat Mission to Stuttgart, Germany 10 September 1944.

Between the IP and the target on 10 September 1944, I saw Lt Wright's ship hit by 105 MM flak between the radio room and the ball turret. The ship angled down in a vertical dive dropping his bombs. I called my ball turret gunner to watch him. He reported that no bodies or parachutes came out before the plane disappeared into the clouds at about fifteen or seventeen thousand feet.

Charles W. Ballard

CHARLES W BALLARD, O-798417
1st Lt, Air Corps
Pilot, B17G 43-37846

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Eye Witness Description of Missing Aircraft B17G 42-107103, Pilot,
2nd Lt Parke Wright III, O-817563, 600th Bomb Sq, 398th Bomb Group,
on Combat Mission to Stuttgart, Germany 10 September 1944.

Approximately one minute before bombs away in a heavy flak area,
I saw Lt Wrights ship nose down in front of me. As far as I could see
the ship was in good condition with all motors running. I saw a few
bombs released from his ship and fall as he went down. I lost sight of
him two thousand feet below us at one o'clock in a vertical dive.

Joseph F. Cucco

JOSEPH F CUCCO, O-818838
1st Lt, Air Corps
Pilot, B17G 42-102536

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Eye Witness Description of Missing Aircraft B17G 42-107103, Pilot
2nd Lt Parke Wright III, O-817563, 600th Bomb Squadron, 398th Bomb
Group on Combat Mission to Stuttgart, Germany 10 September 1944.

Just as we came on the target, approximately one-half minute before
bombs away, one ship from the lead group dove right down in front of us--
almost a vertical dive, salvoing its bombs as it went. I saw no smoke
or fire. I followed it down to the cloud bank at about fifteen to seven-
teen thousand feet and saw no chutes before the ship disappeared thru the
clouds.

Stephen P. Devlin

STEPHEN P DEVLIN, O-718258
2nd Lt, Air Corps
Navigator, B17G 42-97810-S

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Eye Witness Description of Missing Aircraft B17G 42-107103, Pilot,
2nd Lt Parke Wright III, O-817563, 600th Bomb Squadron, 398th Bomb
Group on Combat Mission to Stuttgart, Germany 10 September 1944.

About one minute before bombs away I saw Lt Wright's ship get hit by flak and started into a power dive. Just as he was going under our right wing I saw what looked like two bodies come out the rear of the ship-- following the ship down. Just then they went out of sight and I called for the rest of the crew to look for chutes opening. No one else could locate either the ship or the two bodies.

Orland D. Brown

ORLAND D BROWN, O-555721
2nd Lt, Air Corps
Co-Pilot, B17G 42-97338

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

S-2 SUMMARY OF A/C - IENEEL ACCOUNTS

Instructions: 1. If aircraft returned, only questions 6 and 7 are applicable. 2. Question number 5 not applicable to Fighter Group. 3. Summary will be prepared in five copies, four of which will be forwarded. 4. Interrogating Officer will sign original and second copy.

GROUP 398 B.G. (H)² 600 B.S. (H)² 44-107103 MISSION DATE 10 Sept, '44
0-817563
FIRST PILOT Wright, Park III (NMI) 2nd Lt. DESTINATION Stuttgart, Ger.
NAME RANK SER.#

1. Position of missing aircraft when last sighted or contacted:

- (a) By coordinates 4848N-0910E
- (b) Approximate altitude Approximately 18,000 ft.
- (c) Last noted heading Going nearly straight down
- (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation Went down

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing aircraft): No enemy fighters. Flak was intense and accurate. This A/C was believed to have had at least one direct hit.

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc): Pieces of the A/C were seen to be flying off the A/C. No fires or explosions were observed. A trace of smoke was seen before the plane disappeared into the clouds.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance: The plane was observed to be travelling approximately 400 miles per hour in a power dive at an angle of from 50 to 70 degrees.

(Cont)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation as it last seen with escort? No escort If so, give distinguishing markings of Fighter group if noted (Group number, color and/or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.). _____

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.):

No parachutes were observed.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

One crew (Rogers-601) reported 2 bodies fell out of the A/C.

8. Date of report 11 September 1944

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERIAL</u>	<u>A/C NO.</u>
1. Sleeman, Harry I.	603	1st Lt.	0-686530	8086-C
2. Ullom, Robert E.	603	1st Lt.	0-693435	7977-R
3. Lee, John J. Jr.	603	1st Lt.	0-818079	7810-S
4. Rogers, Lynn, R.	601	2nd Lt.	0-555633	7338-C

DELEGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

Charles H. Pol Captain 0568990 Air Intel. O.
RANK SERIAL DUTY

NOTE: Supplemental information developing subsequent to this account will be forwarded in manner prescribed in par 6, letter 1, AG, 704 (5 July 44) OS-3-24 F-4, subject "Missing Air Crew Reports", 7 July 1944.

Ballard, Charles W.	600	1st Lt.	0-798417	7846-F
Blackwell, Wallace H. Jr.	601	1st Lt.	0-817100	8064-H

C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. Anderson, Ralph G.	601	1st Lt.	0-693725	7889-B
6. Holstead, James O.	600	1st Lt.	0-433526	2390-X
7. Matthews, Thomas M.	600	2nd Lt.	0-755590	7094-M
8. Hansard, V.A. Jr.	600	2nd Lt.	0-764004	2519-A
9. Cucco, Joseph F.	601	1st Lt.	0-818838	2536-C
10. Zimmer, Charles D.	600	2nd Lt.	0-814622	7387-H

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398th Bombardment Group Bv
Stuttgart, Germany 10 Sept 44

LEAD GROUP 1st "B" CBW Formation ^{AT IP} OVER TARGET

			F-10 Douglas Bestervelt E-7746-T (PFF)	C-9	
		C-2 McLaughlin M-2487-B		Wheeler K-6157-W	
		F-6 Zimmer E-7387-H		F-6 Matthews E-7094-M	
	C-9 Ballard M-7846-T	C-8 Hansard M-2519-A			C-4 Mann M-2507-F
C-3 Cummings M-8126-J				C-1 Holstead M-2390-X	F-1 Wright E-7103

LOW GROUP 1st "B" CBW Formation OVER TARGET

			B-3 Kaufman Fisher A-8075-A	B-7 Magnan A-7053-M	
		B-8 Ullom A-7977-R	B-8 Sleaman A-8086-C	C-1 Cucco M-2536-C	
		D-5 Blackwell N-8064-H			F-3 Rehne E-2593-C
	B-7 Howden A-7138-T	P-9 Lehner E-2610-Y			F-4 Meyran E-7183-J
F-7 Wiener E-2597-V					F-8 Lee E-7810-S

HIGH GROUP 1st "B" CBW Formation OVER TARGET

			D-7 Scofield Hornshuh N-7874-W	D-1 Brown N-8121-Q	
		D-8 Rogers N-7638-C	D-3 Matias N-8129-A		
		F-2 Conrow E-2543-B			D-8 McCarty N-8172-P
	D-2 Anderson N-7889-B	D-6 Sitler N-2596-N		D-1 Morrison N-7080-S	D-8 DeLancey N-7203-Z
D-10 Hysman N-2607-F					

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CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

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1. Your name Eck, HAROLD L. Rank 1ST LT. Serial No. 0-712278
2. Organization 398th B.G. - 600th Sq. Gp Commander _____ Rank _____ Sqn CO _____ Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Sept. day 10 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, STUTTGART, Ger., target, FW-ENGINE REPAIR PLANT, target time, 12:00 Noon, altitude, 26,000' route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? ABOUT 30 seconds from Bombs Away
6. Did you bail out? No - Ship Evidently Blew Up
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No - Blown Out
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". PILOT - (PARK WRIGHT - 2nd Lt.), NAVIGATOR (DAVID FLIPSE 2nd Lt.), WAIST GUNNER (WALTER MILLER S/S) + MYSELF - ALL HAD CHUTES - ATTACHED BY ONE HOOK - THE REST OF THE CREW (ALL KILLED) (ASSUMED) ARE IN QUESTION WHETHER THEY HAD CHUTES OR THEIR PERSONS. ALL THAT LANDED SAFELY - LANDED JUST NORTH OF THE TOWN (STUTTGART) I LANDED IN AN APPLE ORCHARD NORTH OF TOWN - NORTH OF RIVER RUNNING E-W ON NORTH SIDE OF TOWN
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? UNKNOWN
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) _____
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? LAST saw men that were lost - in aircraft - just before we were HIT. Those assumed killed (German information) - Co Pilot name unknown - Engineer Richard Torentham; - RADIO operator Louis Fontana, Ball Turret Oper. Lauren Liby, Tail Gunner Thomas Wadleigh
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. _____

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

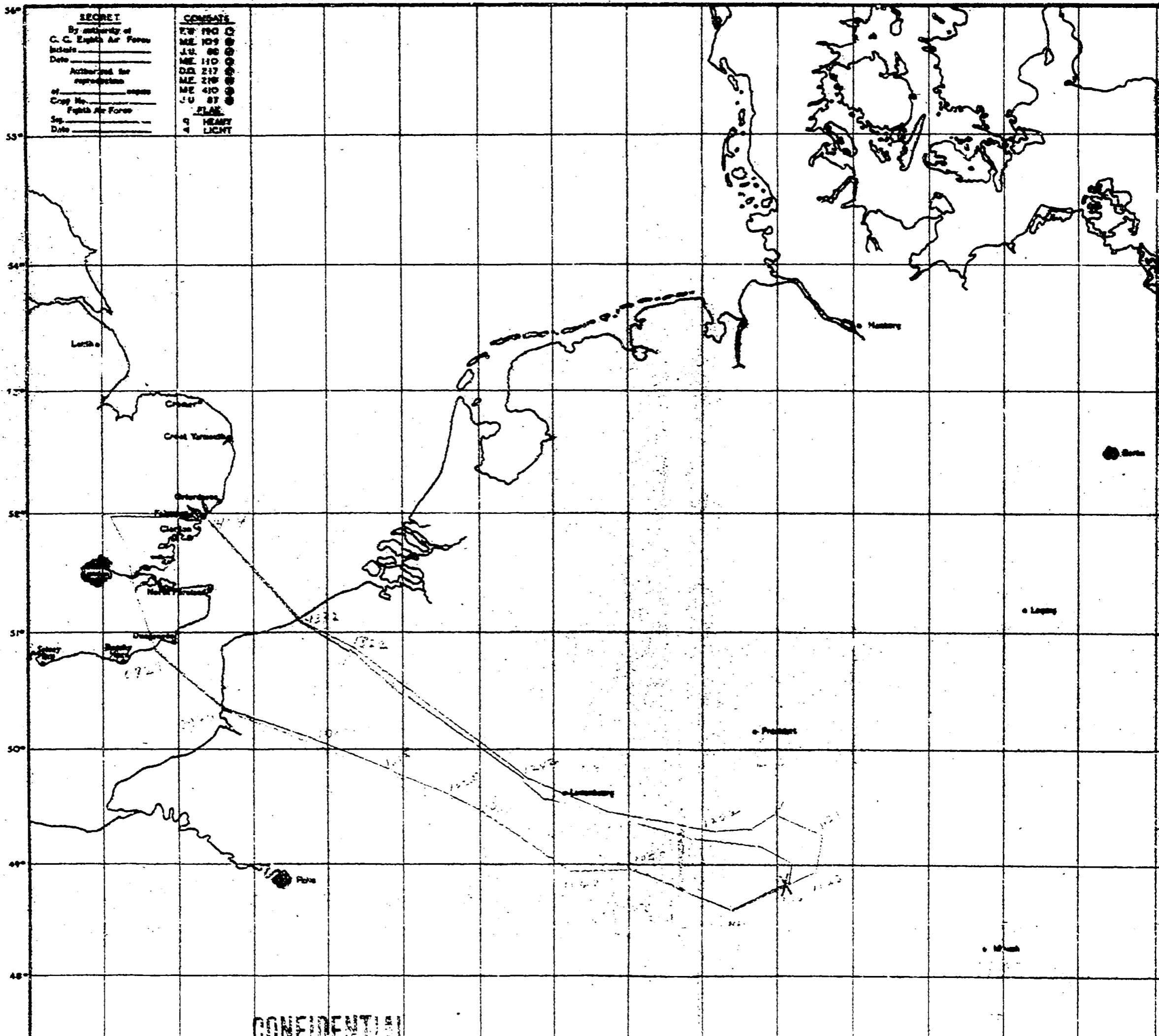
TARGETS:

PRIMARY STUTTGART, Germany

TRACK CHART

DATE 18 Sept 44

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TRACK CHART

DATE 10 Sept 44

INTENDED

ROUTE FOLLOWED BY

398 Bomb Grp (H)

ACTUAL

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