

MISSION 647 • 25 SEPTEMBER 1944 • KOBLENZ

S-2 Briefing Notes.

MISSION

647

DATE

25 Sep 1944

TARGET

Koblenz

DOCUMENT

2 pages • S-2

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT IS

S-2 was intelligence. Before engines, the briefing officer told the crews why this target, what the last resort was, how much flak to expect, and the code words for chaff, recall, and the IP.

These notes are that talk on paper: a few pages of facts, not the field order itself. They sit beside the maps and the route card. What the crews were told is not always what they flew.

Handwriting and short headings are normal. The same words often appear later on the telephone report and the group narrative, cleaned up.

HOW TO READ IT

- 01 This is the briefing, not the result.** Flak estimates here are what they expected, not what they got.
- 02 Code words live here.** Chaff, recall, and IP words are often written once on these notes.
- 03 Last resort.** If the primary went wrong, this sheet says whether they had another target.
- 04 Pair it with the field order.** The telex is the order; these notes are how S-2 explained it.

THIS REPORT

Requested by ground forces. Active in bringing reinforcements to the front. Second attack in four days. Still open despite earlier bombing.

Chaff word LAZYBONES. Visual IP Blue Bell, PFF IP Mouse Trap. S-2 said there was no last-resort target.

**Scan for the full mission record**

Crew loading lists, aircraft, losses and sources for Mission 647, at hardwickskies.com.

hardwickskies.com/mission/mission-647-1944-09-25

COMPILED IN REMEMBRANCE
NOT FOR COMMERCIAL USE

Primary: Railroad M/Y @ Koblenz. This target was requested by the ground forces to be attacked. This target plus the M/Y's the 1st & 3rd Div. are attacking are active in bringing up reinforcements to supply the enemy forces. The hun is making every effort to keep his main lines open, ^{despite previous bombing} still active. This is also the 2ndary & PFF target.
No last resort target.

Friendly forces:

1 BD Frankfort M/Y
Giessen ord. depot.
3 BD Ludwigshafen M/Y
Ludwigshafen Nitrogen & cyanamide Plant.

The total target area is 3200 x 1500 yds rect. Very compact. The yard has a throughput capacity of 2000 wagons in 24 hrs. This yard is at the intersection of the double track route between Luxembourg and the middle Rhine valley and the double track line which follows the W. bank of the Rhine from Mainz to Köln. Very heavy traffic.

The M/Y is 2 1/2 mi. NW of centre of Koblenz
centre of M/Y 2 mi. W of Rhine + 1/2 mi. N Mosel
2ndary (East of Mosel which forms a complete loop round the yard before joining Rhine at Deutsches Eck) - 1 mi. E of centre of target.
2 mi. S of target is 2nd M/Y 2ndary
3 mi. S " " open area Koblenz/Karlsruhe
3 1/2 mi. S " " is forested area

2ndary Target adjacent to densely built up area of Koblenz.

Flak: Target est. 30 RR guns. - 8 guns at IP
Scattered flak is likely anywhere behind
the enemy battle line. This extends 25
mi. on german side of the frontier.

Formations will probably be engaged
1 min. before bombs away & for 1 1/2 min. after.

e/a - many possible s/e e/a so be alert,
100 from Rhur - & pretty heavy concentration from
Frankfurt area

Chaf: Code word Lazy bones from IP minus 2 min for
15 min. Be certain Nav. tells you when code
word comes in. Normal rate of discharge
1 unit every 10 sec. Supposed to be dispersed
Effect on radar screen.

PW: Don't take off uniform and it is recommended
you carry a gun. Hide out - don't be in too big
a hurry. Try to get through to the third army.
If you don't think this possible head south.