

MISSION 647 • 25 SEPTEMBER 1944 • KOBLENZ

Strike Photo Report.

MISSION

647

DATE

25 Sep 1944

TARGET

Koblenz

DOCUMENT

1 pages • Photos

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT IS

Many bombers carried a camera that looked down through the bomb bay and fired as the bombs left. Photographic interpreters then wrote a short report: bursts on the marshalling yard, smoke, or “10/10 cloud, nil” — a full undercast, nothing seen.

Crews were honest, but they were also tired, frightened, and looking through flak. The camera did not care.

This sheet is how we know whether the bombs were seen to fall on the target, as opposed to believed to.

HOW TO READ IT

- 01 **Nil means nothing seen.** 10/10 cloud is unobserved, not a miss.
- 02 **Group count is on the sheet.** How many aircraft were plotted as bombing.
- 03 **Not the crew claim.** A Mickey operator’s guess lives on the interrogation, not here.
- 04 **One page is common.** A thin report still closes the question of coverage.

THIS REPORT

Nil coverage. 10/10 cloud. 35 A/C bombed Coblenz as a group using PFF.

Official result: Unobserved. The camera is independent of crew claims.

**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

DEFERRED CONFIDENTIAL
25 September 1944.

FROM: HARDWICK S D
TO : COMBOMDIV 2 ATT'N: PHOTO OFFICER.
TO : 20TH COMBAT WING ATT'N: A-2

PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS REPORT
93 BOMB GROUP
25 SEPT. 1944

- A. Coblenz
- B. Coblenz
- C. Nil
- D. Unknown
- E. Unknown
- F. 35
- G. 144 x 500 M17's & 256 x 500 GP's
- H. Nil
- I. 35 A/C bombed Coblenz as a Group using PFF methods of attack.

HENRY L. NEWBY,
Capt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

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