

MISSION 647 • 25 SEPTEMBER 1944 • KOBLENZ

Group Mission Narrative.

MISSION	DATE	TARGET	DOCUMENT
647	25 Sep 1944	Koblenz	2 pages • Group mission narrative

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT IS

A letter on 93rd Bomb Group letterhead, written by intelligence after the airplanes were down. How many took off, who led the formation, whether they bombed by eye or through cloud on radar (PFF), what they thought they hit, and whether any crew was missing.

There is often a telex of the same text, sent up the line the same afternoon. That copy is a signal, and lives with the other telexes. This is the signed letter that stayed in the group file.

If you want one page that says what the 93rd did on this date, start here.

HOW TO READ IT

- 01 **Start with the letterhead.** Group, date, and target sit at the top. The signer is usually the S-2 officer.
- 02 **Counts come first.** Aircraft airborne, attacking, aborting, and missing are the spine of the letter.
- 03 **Method is in the middle.** Visual or PFF, who led, and whether they hit the primary.
- 04 **Read it with the flash.** The telephone report was typed the same afternoon and may disagree by a ship or two.

THIS REPORT

The 93rd put up 35 aircraft; 35 attacked; 0 lost. Lead was 1st Lt. Joseph R. Mitchell in 42-95598 N (330th), with Capt. C. E. Biggers as formation commander. Deputy was 1st Lt. Leland C. Spencer in 075-L (409th flying a 330th ship as Dep Group).

Lead PFF equipment failed. Deputy took over at 11:52, about 15 miles from the target and about 8 minutes before bombs away. Mitchell then dropped on the deputy formation. Results unobserved.



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

file

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY THIRD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
AAF 104 APO 588

D/HJR/hdk

25 September 1944.

MISSION NARRATIVE - 25 SEPTEMBER 1944.

35 A/C were dispatched to attack the R.R. W/Y's at Coblenz, Germany. This group led by Lt. Mitchell with Capt. Biggers flying as formation commander flew high right on the 448th who were leading combat wing B. Solid cloud necessitated PFF bombing with unobserved results. Pictures show only cloud. 837X, Lt. Bigolin pilot, is missing. This A/C was last seen leaving the formation 35 minutes after bombs away apparently under control. The pilot said over VHF that he would land in Belgium. This group encountered no flak or enemy fighters.

Harry J. Russell Jr.
HARRY J. RUSSELL, JR., *A.I.C.H.*
Capt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

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Authority NND-745005

File

PRIORITY CONFIDENTIAL
25 September 1944

FROM: HARDWICK D S
TO : COMBOMDIV 2 ATT: A-2
TO : 20TH COMBAT WING A-2
TO : INFORMATION COPIES TO BUNGAY, SEETHING AND HALESWORTH S-2.

93 BG, MISSION NARRATIVE, COBLENZ, 25 SEPTEMBER 1944.

1. Not applicable.
2. 35 A/C bombed Coblenz-Mozel M/Y's on P.F.F. Results unobserved. Pictures show 10/10.
3. None.
4. None.
5. P.F.F. necessitated by 10/10 cloud.
6. Nil.
7. Deputy lead took over 8 minutes before bombs away and reports good run. Fighter support excellent. A/C 837X missing. Left formation at 1235 hrs. to make landing in Belgium. Apparently under control.

HARRY J. RUSSELL, JR.
Capt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

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