

MISSION 647 • 25 SEPTEMBER 1944 • KOBLENZ

2nd Bomb Division Tactical Report.

MISSION

647

DATE

25 Sep 1944

TARGET

Koblenz

DOCUMENT

4 pages • 2BD

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT IS

The 93rd did not fly alone. It belonged to the 20th Combat Wing, which belonged to the 2nd Bomb Division. After the day, Division headquarters produced a secret report covering all its groups.

The cover is the first page: classification stamp, field-order number, target, date, table of contents. Then comes the commanding general's narrative — enemy aircraft, losses, claims — and a bombing table.

This is how the Division told the story of the whole 2nd Bomb Division that day, with the 93rd as one column among several. Track charts filed with it are a different document.

HOW TO READ IT

- 01 Cover first.** Classification, FO number, and contents are page 1.
- 02 93rd is one row.** Do not copy Division dispatched or tonnage onto the group.
- 03 The bombing table is gold.** Heading, run length, autopilot, H2X vs visual are in that grid.
- 04 E/A is Division-wide.** Two Me-410s "in the area" is not the same as an attack on the 93rd.

THIS REPORT

2nd Bomb Division secret report for FO 468. The 93rd is one group in 20th Combat Wing B. Division bombing table for the 93rd: heading 348, TOT 11:59:30, 22500 ft, H2X, run 4.5 minutes.

Do not copy Division dispatched or tonnage onto the 93rd. Track charts that were filed with this report are a separate PDF.



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

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND745005

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

1196

TARGET

KOBLENZ M/Y

DATE

25 SEPTEMBER 1944

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SUMMARY OF MISSION

ROUTES

BOMBING

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS



S E C R E T

COPY NO. 2

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AAF 147 APO 558

: : : : : : : : : :
 : S E C R E T :
 : By Auth of: C. G. :
 : Hq 2d Bomb Division: :
 : Initials: :
 : Date: 19 Oct 44 :
 : : : : : : : : : :
 15 October 1944

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND745005

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, KOBLENZ, 25 September 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, APO 634.

SUMMARY OF MISSION1. Data

a. Date of Mission - 25 September 1944

b. Primary Target and Order of Battle -

Koblenz M/Y

2nd CDW (389th, 445th, 453rd DG)
 14th CDW (44th, 392nd, 491st BG)
 20th CDW (93rd, 446th, 448th, 489th BG)

c. Secondary Target

If PFF - Koblenz M/Y - All Units

d. Last Resort Target - Any military objective positively identified
as being in Germany and east of the Rhine River2. Narrative

a. Planning

(1) Eighth Air Force called for a force of thirty Squadrons to
attack Koblenz M/Y visually or by use of H2X equipment.

b. Execution

(1) Assemblies were normal and units departed coast in good order
and on time.

(2) The mission was flown generally as planned.

3. Bombing Tactics and Results

a. All units attacked their assigned target on H2X equipment.

b. Lead A/C in the 491st Group had a rack malfunction, dropping its
bombs three to four minutes before reaching target and the Group dropped on this
release.c. The lead A/C of the 448th Group could not bomb, being unable to
position release switch. The remainder of the Group dropped on the accidental
release of the deputy lead A/C approximately four minutes before the target.

d. Bombing results were not observed due to 10/10 cloud cover.

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.a. Meager to moderate very inaccurate gunfire was encountered at the
target. The attempted method of fire control could not be ascertained.b. Meager inaccurate gunfire was encountered on route in the vicinity
of Oberwesel.

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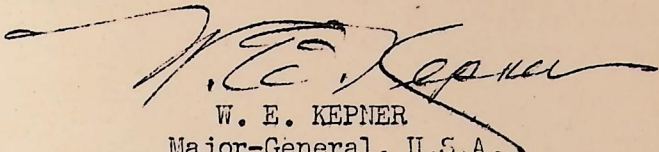
Tactical Report of Mission, 25 September 1944 (Continued)

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support

a. No enemy aircraft were encountered and fighter support was excellent.

6. Losses and Claims

a. There were no losses or claims.


W. E. KEPNER
Major-General, U.S.A.
Commanding

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S E C R E T

S E C R E T

TACTICAL REPORT OF BOMBING - MISSION 25 September 1944

GROUP	DIR. OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO-PILOT	FLEW MANUAL	RANGE & DEFLEC.		TOTAL BOMBS & TYPE	NO. A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON		
							RANGE	DEFLEC.			H2X OR GH	VIS.	
							KOBLENZ M/Y						
									H.E.				
									INCEND.				
389	42°	13 min.	21,500'	1148	X		1	1	183x500	20	H2X		
445	70°	16 min.	22,000'	1150	X		1	1	164x500	27	H2X		
445	40°	16 min.	22,500'	1149	X		-	-	100x500	10	389th Flares		
453	50°	10 min.	22,000'	1153	X		1	1	393x500	41	H2X		
491	42°	10 min.	22,000'	1153	X	Accidental Release			317x500	28	H2X		
44	70°	10 min.	21,300'	1156	X		1	1	315x500	29	H2X		
392	55°	4 min.	22,500'	1152	X		1	1	222x500	30	H2X		
489	66°	8 min.	22,000'	1153	X		1	1	280x500	25	H2X		
448	40°	4 min.	23,800'	1154		Accidental Release	5008N-0655E		12x500				
446	88°	--	22,100'	1148	X		1	1	385x500	34	H2X		
93	348°	4½ min.	22,500'	1159½	X		1	1	256x500	35	H2X		

1. The assigned primary and PFF secondary target for this mission was the M/Y at Koblenz, Germany.
2. Bombing was done in Group formation on H2X equipment through 10/10 cloud.
3. The 491st Group released 3 to 4 minutes before reaching the target due to a rack malfunction in the Lead A/C. The 448th Group released on the deputy lead shortly after the IP due to an electrical malfunction.
4. Results of bombing were unobserved due to 10/10 cloud.
5. H2X A/C and bombloads are included in Group totals with whom they were flying.
6. 20 leaflet bombs were dropped on the target.

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