

CONFIDENTIAL

Chart No. 1

306th Bomb Group (H)

THURLEIGH

Month of AUGUST, 1943

Prepared by Capt. Wiley W. Glass

DAY	EVENTS
July 31	Major John B. Wright, O-902737, transferred to Hq. 1st Bomb Wing per SO #204, Hq. 1EW.
August 9	Capt. Herbert J. Avise, O-900352, transferred to 8th Bomber Command, per SO #198, Hq. 8th BC.
12	Twenty A/C, led by Capt. Briscoe of the 369th Squadron, took off to bomb the synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen. Four aborted. Heavy, intense barrage of flak and about 150 E/A were encountered at the T.P. Because of an almost solid layer of clouds over the target the formation bombed the target of opportunity, Recklinghausen, with fair results. Lt. Cunningham, of the 367th failed to return. Our score for the day was 1-2-1.
14	Lt. Col. Henry W. Terry, O-375352, transferred to Hq. 41st Bomb Wing, per SO #218, Hq. 1EW.
15	Major Thurman Shuller, O-381101, transferred to Hq. 1st Bomb Wing, per SO #219, Hq. 1EW. Twenty A/C, led by Major Salada, took off to bomb the Aircraft Factory at Brussels. Heavy clouds and vapor trails prevented bombing the primary. Attack on the secondary, Flushing airrome, was made with poor results. No E/A and only meager flak were encountered. All of our A/C returned to base.
16	George L. Robinson, O-22362, promoted from Lt. Col. to Colonel. Le Bourget, Col. Robinson with 20 A/C from this Group, led the 102nd Combat Wing on this very successful mission. Storage hangars, machine and repair shops, administration buildings and barracks suffered heavy damage. Some persistent E/A attacks and rather inaccurate AA fire were encountered. Good P47 cover was provided in and out from target. All of our A/C returned to base. Our score for the day was 1-0-0.
17	<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> . This is a "maximum effort" raid the crews will long remember. More than six hours, four of them on oxygen; 500 miles into Germany, battered by fighters, coming in, scattering 20 at one time. 17 Forts were seen to go down by our Group alone, yet every one of our A/C returned to base. Major Raper led the Group with 30 of our A/C and bombing results were good, including heavy work on the ball-bearing plant. Our score for the day was 16-1-3.
18	Major Raper appointed Deputy Group Commander and Major Buskey appointed Commander of the 367th Squadron.
19	Twenty A/C took off, led by Capt. Witt, to bomb Brussels airport

Sheet No. 2 for 1st of 326th Bomb Group (M). TRIPLEX

Month of AUGUST, 1943. Prepared by Capt. Wiley W. Glass

DAY

EVENTS

(cont'd)

but because of 10/10 cloud a fair job was done on the secondary, Flushing airdrome. Very meager flak was encountered and because of excellent fighter support the skies were clear of enemy fighters.

24

Eighteen A/C, led by Major Riordan, took off to bomb Villacoublay, and had fairly good results. P47's gave excellent cover. A fire was very accurate, damaging 17 of our 18 A/C, all of which returned safely to base. Lt. Klette, of the 369th, made a spectacular and dramatic landing. Flak had knocked out two of his engines before the I.P. After limping home, one of the remaining two engines caught on fire over home base. Feathering the prop and going into a controlled dive, Klette managed to make an excellent "three-point" landing on one engine and one wheel, the flak having deflated the other tire. It was an exhibition of real skill and those on the ground who were "sweating" him in, drew a sigh of relief.

26

Rudolph Skalak, Jr., O-430902, promoted from 1st Lt. to Captain.

27

Eighteen A/C, led by Capt. Paris, took off to bomb Watten (spectacular hole in the ground). With good Spitfire cover no B/A were encountered, however, the Primary was well defended by accurate flak and all of our A/C received some battle damage. Due to the fact that bomb run was by Squadrons into the late afternoon sun, only fair results were obtained. Crews felt 15,000 feet was making it too easy for the A.A. gunners. All our A/C returned to base.

31

Of 18 A/C taking off to bomb Romilly airdrome, led by Lt. Reese, 3 aborted. Due to 9/10 cloud over the continent the Combat Wing Commander turned short of the Primary and made a bombing run over Glisy airdrome. With bomb bay doors open and target in the sights, none of the Group could drop bombs for fear of hitting another Group directly below. With morale at a low pitch, because of this "goose chase", all our A/C returned to base and reported excellent cover support by the P47's.

List of Awards, Decorations and Commendations attached:

Month of August, 1945. Prepared by Capt W. C. Van Niman

DAY	EVENTS
2	Major John B. Wright, Group S-2 released from Organization to 1st Bombardment Division as A-2.
6	Capt Fred C. Baldwin assigned to Intelligence Section. 1st Lt William H. Pool relieved from Organization.
7	Captain Walter H. Coons assigned to organization as Training Officer. Captain Hugh J. Toland awarded Distinguished Flying Cross.
9	Captain Hugh J. Toland appointed Group Bombardier. Captain John E. Dexter appointed Group Navigator. Captain Bairnsfather appointed Group S-2. Captain Baldwin appointed Assistant Group S-2.
12	Captain Sterling relieved from Organization.
14	Captain Herbert J. Avise relieved from organization.
16	Lt Colonel Terry and Major Shuller relieved from organization.
17	Captain John J. Manning assigned to organization as Group Flight Surgeon. Major William S. Raper awarded the Silver Star.
18	Major Raper appointed Group Air Executive Officer.
23	1st Lt Wendell L. Hull assigned to organization as Group Mess Officer.
30	Lt Colonel Robinson promoted to Colonel. 1st Lt Skalak promoted to Captain.