

SECRET

USIAF FORM 34A

SECRET A

TO : CG, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army (Attention: 26th SCU).
 CG, IX Tactical Air Command, APO 141, U S Army (Attention: Stat Contl Sec).
 CG, 303rd Fighter Wing, APO 141, U S Army (Attention: Stat Contl Officer).

FROM: Hq 373rd Fighter Group, APO 141, U S Army, 12 August 1944.

REF : Opref A No A12A: For 24 hour period ending sunset 12 August 1944.
 Mission No 158: (1st of 2 missions) Mission Symbol W51-4.

(TIGER - THUMPET: ORLEANS, SENS, PARIS)

A. - 0013 hours was the time of take off. Place of take off was Site A13. This group dive bombed targets in the Orleans, Sens, Paris Areas. Group of 3 squadrons: A410, 12 planes; B411, 11 planes; C412, 12 planes. 35 P-47 aircraft. "A" squadron provided top cover for the group, 15,000 feet. "B" squadron attacked as follows: 10 aircraft peeled off at 8,000 feet, 55 degree angle dive, releasing bombs at 3,000 feet. 12 bombs dropped on bridge 3 miles west of Montargis (X2045) - 4 near misses, 8 wide - roadway on island between two bridge spans damaged - building at south-east end of bridge destroyed by fire - 3 vehicles in area destroyed by strafing. 4 bombs on 25 plus vehicles on road from Lado to Montargis at (X15445) - also strafed - 12 trucks destroyed - 5 damaged. 4 bombs jettisoned in the sea due to release failure. Large number of vehicles headed west to east seen on the road from Bellegarde (X0545) to Montargis (X2045) and in fields and small roads in the area. Necessary to fly low to see them. Seen from 3,000 feet and lower at 1035 hours. "C" squadron attacked as follows: 8 aircraft dropped bombs on approximately 200 stationary freight and flat cars in marshalling yards at X2845 across the river from Montargis. 14 hits seen in area, 6 large fires seen among trains and one warehouse set afire. 20 cars destroyed, 10 damaged. 4 aircraft dropped 8 bombs on 40 stationary coal cars at X3242, 2 miles south-east of Montargis. 2 hits on rear of train and 4 in center, overturning 4 cars. 10 cars destroyed, 5 damaged, 1 warehouse left burning. 4 aircraft strafed 45 freight cars in marshalling yards at X2051, 5 miles north-west of Montargis, starting numerous small fires. 40 cars damaged. 1 flak tower strafed at X1455 northwest of Montargis. 8 aircraft strafed 3 mile long dispersed column of 40 trucks, staff cars, and civilian autos immediately after strafing by "A" squadron, leaving most of column in flames, 20 to 25 vehicles seen on fire, 30 vehicles destroyed, 10 damaged. On bombing runs, peel off made at 9,000 feet, angle of dive 75 degrees, release of bombs made at 3,000 feet. 300 plus box cars seen parked in marshalling yards and trucks north of Orleans, 1 and one-half miles. Position W676425, sheet W1/4 1:50,000 0208 4250. Observed from 12,000 feet at 1020 hours. Time over the target was from 1011 hours to 1125 hours. Flak encountered: light barrage inaccurate at X1455 north-west of Montargis from flak tower. Weather both enroute and over the target: hazy with no clouds. Visibility was 10 miles. T/O 1230 hours Site A13.

B. (I) - 35
 (II) - 32
 (III) (a) - NIL
 (b) - NIL
 (c) - 3 (2 bomb release mechanism, 1 external tanks)
 (d) - NIL
 (IV) - NIL
 (V) - NIL
 (VI) - NIL
 (VII) - NIL
 (VIII) - 34

(I) - 35 (150 gal US, belly, metal, American) Site A13.
 (II) - 4

(I) - 108:30
 (II) - NIL

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Bv NARA Date 9/11/05

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MAAF FORM 3/A

RSP : Oprop A No A12A: For 24 hour period ending sunset 12 August 1944.
Mission No 158: (1st of 2 missions) Mission Symbol W51-4.

- E. (I) - 59,500 x 50 Site A13.
(II) - 5,780
(III) - NIL
- F. (I) - 46 (500 lb. GP, inst fuse) Site A13.
(II) - 40
(III) - 6
(IV) - NIL
- G. - NIL
- H. - NIL

HENRY C. KING,
Captain, Air Corps,
Stat Control Officer.

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Authority NN 9745005

By NR NARA Date 9/11/05