

#211

By 150/116 NARA, Date 3/3/86

FRC

GP 18

Box 1545

379th BG

MISSION # 211

FIELD ORDER 506

MAGDEBURG

What I learned:

- 1) The Lost Angel did not have a crash landing @ base

SEP. 28, 1944

COMPLETED

By 1/54/44 NARA, Date 3/3/86MISSION # 211FRCGP 18Box 1545379th BG28 Sep 44
F.O. 506

MAGDEBURG

BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT
379TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO #557

28 September 1944.

Crew of Aircraft No. 43-97890 Missing in Action.

0-815242	Rutledge, Charles D.	1st Lt.	524th.	Magdeburg, Germany	1091
0-821315	Martin, Thomas N.	2nd Lt	"	"	1091
0-707099	Paine, Stanley NMI	2nd Lt	"	"	1034
0-765588	Anderson, David I., Jr.	2nd Lt	"	"	1035
34720175	Pierson, Ellis R.	T/Sgt	"	"	757
3555246	Poling, Doyle E.	T/Sgt	"	"	748
16102577	Rondou, Clifford J.	S/Sgt	"	"	612
12171422	Green, Arthur F.	S/Sgt	"	"	748
37503864	Brown, Kyle E.	S/Sgt	"	"	748

Crew Member of Aircraft No. 42-38183 Missing in Action.

36876798	Maniaci, Philip J.	S/Sgt	524th.	Magdeburg, Germany	611
----------	--------------------	-------	--------	--------------------	-----

Crew of Aircraft No. ~~44-6107~~ 44-6107 Missing in Action.

0-761844	Arnold, Dixon J.	2nd Lt	526th.	Magdeburg, Germany	1091
0-770724	Wokler, Lloyd J.	2nd Lt	"	"	1091
0-1100181	Knecht, Louis F.	2nd Lt	"	"	1034
0-773008	Thedinga, Howard F.	2nd Lt	"	"	1035
19100738	Callender, Robert D.	S/Sgt	"	"	757
14101209	Baucom, Cyrus H.	S/Sgt	"	"	748
16070426	Cberg, Frank C.	Sgt	"	"	611
37533149	Painter, Harold A.	Sgt	"	"	612
33438495	Johnson, Harry T.	Sgt	"	"	611

For the Group Commander:

VERNON H. HUNT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Assistant Adjutant.

By W.S.W./A.L.G. NARA, Date 3/3/86FRCGP 18Box 1545379th BGMISSION # 211F.O. 506
28 SEP 44
MAGDEBURGHEADQUARTERS
379TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAAF Station 117,
28 September 1944.

SUBJECT: S-2 Mission Teletype Report - B*Narrative.

TO : A-2 Duty Desk, 1st Bomb Division.

1. The 379th Bomb Group furnished 38 A/C including 3 spares for the 41st "A" Group and 6 A/C for the 3rd and 4th Flight in the 303rd High Squadron in the 41st "B" Group on the mission to attack Magdeburg. A/C #743 was abortive. A/C #143 in "A" GROUP bombed a target of opportunity at Snaatfeld. A/C #178 in "B" Group bombed a target of opportunity at Kemptert.

2. Due to cloud cover ranging from 7 to 9/10 the bombing was done by means of PFF equipment with visual identification checks. Photos show that our lead group bombing on PFF equipment hit approximately 6 miles NE of the target. Bomb fall unidentified.

Photos show our Low Group bombing on PFF equipment and using visual check points hit the target with good results.

Photos show our High Group which had a malfunction in the Pff equipment and bombing on the smoke bombs of the Lead Group hit about 1700 yards short of briefed target in lightly built-up area.

Our six A/C flying with the 303rd Group in the 41st "B" Group high squadron bombed on the Group leader's PFF equipment and photos show that bombs fell in the vicinity of airdrome immediately east of town.

3. The 41st "A" Group had no attacks directed against them by E/A but between the IP and target at about 1150 hours they saw a total of from 30 to 40 S/E fighters. These were grey colored Me-109's with black and white crosses on the wings; Black FW-190's with red markings on the wings; FW-190's with white cowlings and bellies. There was evidently an attempt to paint the fighters a greyish color to camouflage them in the clouds. A few Me-110's were seen and possibly a JU-88. We had attacks on the five planes remaining with the 303rd high squadron in the "B" Group and they claim one destroyed and one probable. There were about 10 attacks and these were quite determined from 450 to 500 yards. Most of the attacks were from 3 to 9 o'clock and the duration of the entire attack was from 8 to 10 minutes.

4. AA fire at Magdeburg was moderate, black and inaccurate. Some flak was encountered at the Rhine River on course and was meager and low. This was about 5015 - 0735 E.

5. Weather over the target ranged from 7 to 9/10 and required that bombing be done by means of PFF equipment although there was sufficient visibility to make considerable visual checks by our low squadron.

6. There was considerable barge traffic in the neighborhood of 5015 - 0735 E. It is believed that E/A were using 20 mm or heavier guns. A FW-190 was seen on a field at Giessen. About 20 long barges were seen on the Rhine at Koblenz. An airdrome was seen at 5030 - 0845 E with numerous buildings that had not been bombed.

7. Our A/C #890 was seen to be hit by direct burst of flak over Magdeburg and went down in flames. 7 chutes were seen from this A/C. The Tail Gunner of A/C #183 parachuted out of his plane at this point and may have believed that it was his own A/C on fire. A/C #183 got back to base without incident. Our A/C #107 flying with the 303rd High squadron was shot down by fighters in the target area and no report was obtained as to the number of chutes, if any. Fighter support was said to be good but seemed to be outnumbered between the IP and the target. About 4 B-17's were seen to go down in the target area presumably from fighter attacks.

JOHN J. O'CONNELL,
Capt., Air Corps,
Group S-2 Officer.