

HEADQUARTERS 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
Office of the Intelligence Officer
United States Forces

APO 634
26 November, 1943

SUBJECT: Intelligence Narrative

TO : Commanding Officer, 306th Bombardment Group (H)

1. Hot News

The 306th Group lost two ships. One (No. 832-J, pilot Hoey) left formation under control south of Oldenburg on way out. No chutes seen. Still under control when last seen.

One (No. 603-H, pilot Lt. Jeffries) at 53°00'N - 08°00'E at about 1200 hrs. dropped wheels and peeled off to left. No evidence of trouble but seemed to lack power at 29,000 ft.

Six other B-17s were observed in distress.

One started to abort at 1110 hrs. at 53°48'N - 07°35'E hopped by fighters. Dived into clouds.

One at 1140 at 53°35'N - 07°35'E seen in steep dive with one engine on fire. This A/C shot down an E/A on the way down. No chutes seen.

One at 1145 between I.P. and target, from Group behind, seen in slow spin and smoking. No chutes observed.

Two over the target at approximately 1152 seen hit by A.A. Gun Fire. Seven chutes out of one, but none out of the other.

One hit by A.A. Fire and almost immediately blew up. No chutes.

One at 1205 in a spin observed to hit the ground. One chute seen.

2. Narrative

20 A/C for 306th and 9 A/C for Composite Group took off at 0830 hrs. with 306th over Louth at 1004 and the Composite at 1005.

On first leg out from England, formation overshot turning point about 30 miles, then swung south crossing enemy coast at briefed point, then slightly west of course to I.P. at Detern, thence to target passing north of Zwischenahner Lake and Oldenburg. After target swung west while still north of rally point and got back on course south of Zwidlaarder Lake and remained on course back to Base.

One A/C No. 768, turned back at 1134 near Dornum due to failure of oxygen system. Jettisoned 8 x 500 and 20 x M47 in North Sea.

One A/C No. 221, bombed with 5 x 500 and 10 x M47, but brought back 3 x 500 and 10 x M47 due to rack malfunction.

3. Fighter Opposition

Both the 20 A/C of the 306th Group, flying high and 9 A/C of the 306th Group flying low in Composite Group in 40th Combat Wing were attacked sporadically by possibly 25 E/A, mostly ME 109s, between 1135 near the coast on the way in and 1217 near Emden. E/A included also FW 190s, JU 88s, ME 110s, and ME 210s and 2 orange and black Stukas. ME 109s had red band around fuselage, FW 190s yellow band and white wing-tips. Tactics included single nose and tail attacks, a few rockets and one cylindrical object dropped by an FW 190 in "skip bombing" technique. A report from a reliable crew stated that one ME 109 with rocket under one wing and wires swinging under both wings came head on through formation.

Defensives tactics against rockets of spread formation and weaving were successfully used.

4. Fighter Support

The P-47 escort met formation at coast at 1132 and hampered E/A attacks and eventually choked them off altogether at coast at 1217 on way out. Some P-38s were seen near target. We claim 1-0-2.

5. A.A. Gun Fire

A.A. Gun Fire at Emden, Oldenburg, Delmenhorst, Rustringen and Winschoten was meager and inaccurate.

At Bremen fire was intense but low, chiefly barrage, also tracking. White bursts breaking into lots of little stars were seen.

6. Bombing Results

Unknown due to 10/10ths overcast at target.

Composite dropped on PFF flares, while 306th Group did not see flares and dropped on PFF bombs.

No results observed by two A/C which dropped at Papenberg and Doerpen respectively.

7. Observations

Smoke screens observed starting up at Emden, Oldenburg, and Delmenhorst on way in. White A.A. Fire seen to burst like a lot of little stars.

Two flare chutes, one red and one green, seen at lower altitude at coast near Emden on way out.

For The COMMANDING OFFICER

JOHN A. BAIRNSFATHER,
Major, AC,
Group S-2.

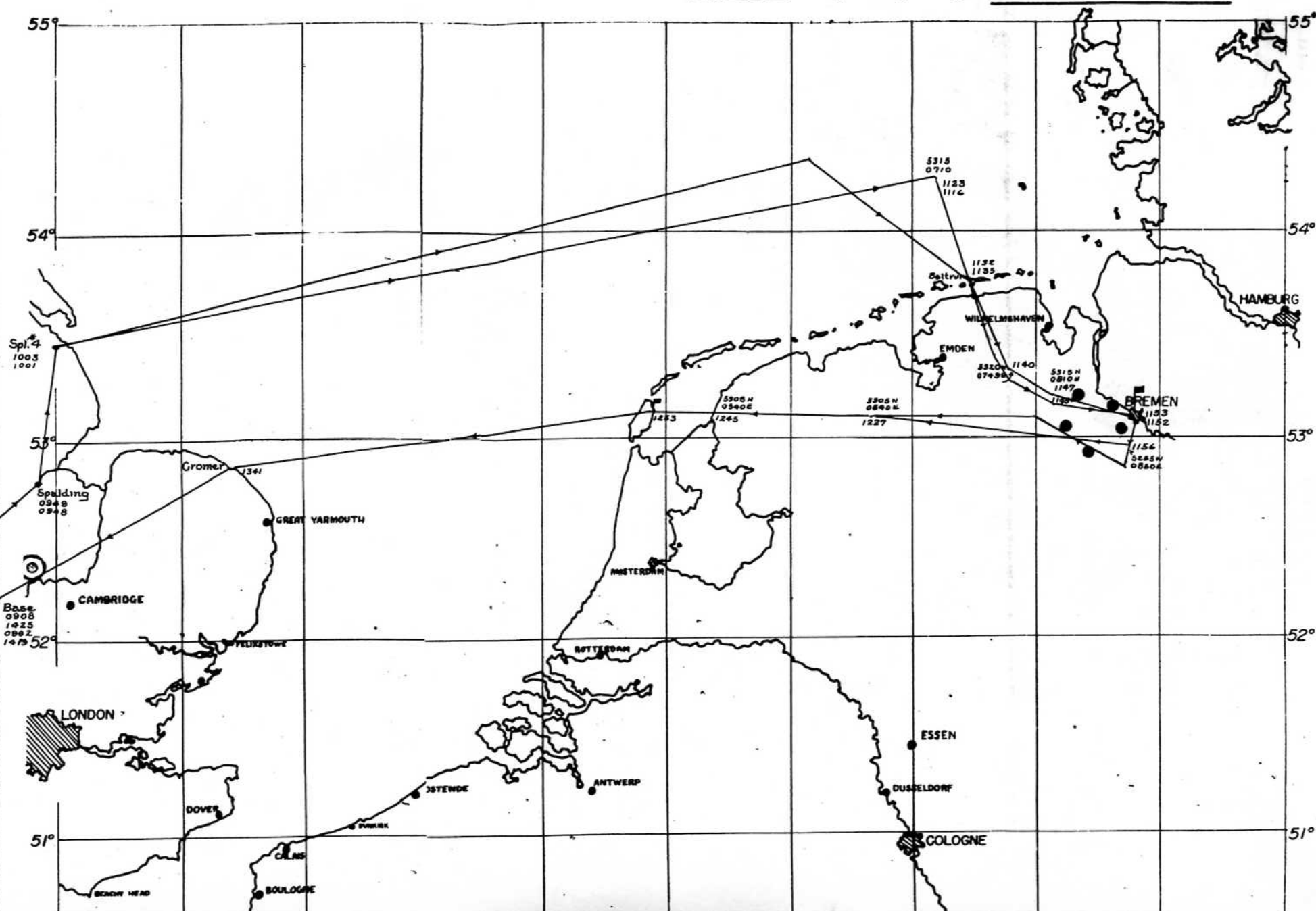
Date 26/11/43 I OK CHART
Plann

	Planned	Actual
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Route followed by

306th Bombardment Group (H)

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00	00	00
00	00	00



SQUADRON ~~367~~ 368 ~~369~~ 369 A/C Number 832 Letter J Date 26/11/43

20x M 47 A1 I.B.

Bomb Load 8x 500 H.E. In-land

Position in Formation

Time Took Off 0830 Hr Time Landed

1. HOT NEWS to be phoned in? Yes No
Details:

CREW: Give Rank and Initials

Friendly A/C in any kind of distress
(Give position, time, altitude, full details)

2nd LT. F.J. Moey Pilot

2nd LT. J.B. Harr Co-P

2nd LT: S.S. Silverman Nav.

2nd LT. J.E. Morrow Bomb.

Sgt. R.P. Randall Radio

Sgt. W.H. Sanford

Sgt. W.J. Tremper Ball T.

Sgt. G.K. Brennan R. Naist

S/Sgt. N.H. Brennan L. Waist

Sgt. W. A. Townsend Tail E.

2. TARGET ATTACKED:

Primary Time:

Alternate Height:

Last Resort Heading

(circle)

Duration Bomb Run:

3. Number of BOMBS dropped on target: Jettisoned: Returned: Abortive:

4. Observed RESULTS OF BOMBING: (For this plane or others.)

Own Bombs:

Other Bombings

5. Any Photographs taken: Yes? No?

Any Nickels: Yes No

Number boxes dropped

6. GROUND TARGETS ATTACKED BY GUNFIRE AND RESULTS: Number boxes returned

7. ROUTE: (If different than ordered). (If ABORTIVE give time, place, height of turn; reason for returning early; and disposition of bombs)

8. WEATHER: (If it affected mission)

9. FLAK: Encountered on way out, at target and on way home.

Time	Place	Height of A/C	Type (light, heavy), intense, moderate or slight.	Color of bursts	Location Bursts in re- lation to A/C	Accuracy
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