

455<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, Field Orders, FO#176, Oswiecim, Poland 12/26/44

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Authority ANN 745005

741ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, (H), A.F.  
455TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP, (H), A.F.  
APO 520 U.S. ARMY.

26 December 1944.  
(DATE)

L O A D I N G L I S T

AC NUMBER	DESTINATION	T/O
580		
PILOT	Surbeck ✓	TOP TUR GNR Pomales
CO-PILOT	Schlake ✓	WAIST RIGHT Michael
NAVIGATOR	McKniff ✓	WAIST LEFT English
BOMBARDIER	Head ✓	BALL TUR GNR Kirby
RADIO	Berndt	TAIL TUR GNR Summwalt
974		
PILOT	Painter ✓	TOP TUR GNR McBryde
CO-PILOT	Hammond ✓	WAIST RIGHT Wright
NAVIGATOR	Peters ✓	WAIST LEFT Confer
BOMBARDIER	Walsh, J.F. ✓	BALL TUR GNR Welfley
RADIO	Ossa	TAIL TUR GNR Hargardine
199		
PILOT	McGovern ✓	TOP TUR GNR Valko
CO-PILOT	Ecklund ✓	WAIST RIGHT Ashlock
NAVIGATOR	Vince ✓	WAIST LEFT O'Connell
BOMBARDIER	McGaharan ✓	BALL TUR GNR McAfee
RADIO	Higgins	TAIL TUR GNR Mills
088		
PILOT	Graf ✓	TOP TUR GNR Hammond
CO-PILOT	Fritzen ✓	WAIST RIGHT March
NAVIGATOR		WAIST LEFT Lyons
BOMBARDIER	Stewart ✓	BALL TUR GNR Zegeer
RADIO	Haas	TAIL TUR GNR Powell
419		
PILOT	Josey ✓	TOP TUR GNR Fisher
CO-PILOT	Deppe ✓	WAIST RIGHT Steslow
NAVIGATOR	Batchelder ✓	WAIST LEFT Skarzinski
BOMBARDIER	Kerr ✓	BALL TUR GNR Kiernan
RADIO	Mallory	TAIL TUR GNR Oakes
917		
PILOT	Brown ✓	TOP TUR GNR Dunham
CO-PILOT	Morgan ✓	WAIST RIGHT Dupree
NAVIGATOR	Oxler ✓	WAIST LEFT Krupski
BOMBARDIER	Pelosi ✓	BALL TUR GNR Maggio
RADIO	Woodward	TAIL TUR GNR Burkhart

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LOADING LIST

AC NUMBER 435 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	<b>Arendt</b> ✓	TOP TUR GNR	<b>Ponton</b>
CO-PILOT	<b>Soderstrom</b> ✓	WAIST RIGHT	<b>Dorn</b>
NAVIGATOR	<b>Park</b> ✓	WAIST LEFT	<b>Collins</b>
BOMBARDIER	<b>Birdsell</b> ✓	BALL TUR GNR	<b>Kochanek</b>
RADIO	<b>Crump</b>	TAIL TUR GNR	<b>Forgionne</b>

AC NUMBER 517 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	<b>Barnhill</b> ✓	TOP TUR GNR	<b>Deen</b>
CO-PILOT	<b>Hayslett</b> ✓	WAIST RIGHT	<b>Chambers</b>
NAVIGATOR	<b>Pepin</b> ✓	WAIST LEFT	<b>Dougherty</b>
BOMBARDIER	<b>Duncan</b> ✓	BALL TUR GNR	<b>Law</b>
RADIO	<b>Crawford</b>	TAIL TUR GNR	<b>Morello</b>

AC NUMBER 754 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	<b>Grosser</b> ✓	TOP TUR GNR	<b>Bundy</b>
CO-PILOT	<b>Douglas</b> ✓	WAIST RIGHT	<b>Clark</b>
NAVIGATOR	<b>Hassen</b> ✓	WAIST LEFT	<b>Cole</b>
BOMBARDIER	<b>Walsh</b> ✓	BALL TUR GNR	<b>Armstrong</b>
RADIO	<b>Baker</b>	TAIL TUR GNR	<b>Blackman</b>

AC NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT		TOP TUR GNR	
CO-PILOT		WAIST RIGHT	
NAVIGATOR		WAIST LEFT	
BOMBARDIER		BALL TUR GNR	
RADIO		TAIL TUR GNR	

AC NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT		TOP TUR GNR	
CO-PILOT		WAIST RIGHT	
NAVIGATOR		WAIST LEFT	
BOMBARDIER		BALL TUR GNR	
RADIO		TAIL TUR GNR	

AC NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT		TOP TUR GNR	
CO-PILOT		WAIST RIGHT	
NAVIGATOR		WAIST LEFT	
BOMBARDIER		BALL TUR GNR	
RADIO		TAIL TUR GNR	

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FORMATION DIAGRAM

DATE Dec 26, 44

1ST ATTACK UNIT

A BOX

Griffin	
75	033
Wrightson	Kelly
48   105	55   377
Clear	
40	371
Laur	Grooms
43   332	46   201
Adams	
59	<del>776</del>
	624

B BOX

Mertl	
78	889
Taylor	Cyr
69   583	76   331
Kahley	
71	232
JENSEN	DeSaussure
740   13	44   935
597	
Grosser	
22	754
	541

2ND ATTACK UNIT

C BOX

BETKE	
2	266
SCHWEIGER	GUNN
11   414	4   131
GAMMELL	
16	376
KENT	KIRKLAND
14   400	8   402
HERDMAN	
17	115

D BOX

Surbeck	
36	580
McGovern	Painter
31   199	26   974
Graf	
35	088
Brown	Josey
20   917	37   419
Arendt	
32	435

3RD ATTACK UNIT

Lead

DEADLY

Griffin	
Hogan	
B Eppensen	Kelly
N Kutz	Fotheringham
N Schaps	Conn
MN Basler	Klotz
	Kroeger
	Agathon

Sparez	
E BOX	
#1	
740	42
CRAWFORD	636
6   943	
#2	
Goss	
47	
<del>775</del>	
Barnhill	
33	
517	
7412	

21-790 spare R.F.

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740th

597

12/26/44

Lt Jensen ✓  
Lt Ennis ✓  
Lt Mondo ✓  
Lt Thibert ✓  
T/Sgt Edgar

T/Sgt Abbott  
S/Sgt Kurey  
S/Sgt Levison  
S/Sgt Blackdeer  
A/Sgt Cooper

740th

943

12/26/44

Lt Crawford ✓  
Lt Allen ✓  
Lt Ritkes ✓  
Lt Kleiber ✓  
T/Sgt Warner

T/Sgt Oltarzewski  
S/Sgt Belding  
S/Sgt Diles  
Sgt Young  
Sgt Porter

740

266

12/26/44

Lt Betke ✓  
Lt Ellis ✓  
Lt DeArment ✓  
Lt Jernazian ✓  
T/Sgt Wills

T/Sgt Bert  
S/Sgt Communiello  
Sgt Roscigno  
S/Sgt Fitchner  
Sgt Ciccone

740

402

12/26/44

XXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXX

Lt Kirkland ✓  
Lt Dagenkolb ✓  
Lt Drabik ✓ *Nav. Bomb.*  
Lt Miller ✓ *Nav. Nav.*  
T/Sgt Caulfield

T/Sgt Lucas  
Sgt Muehl  
Sgt Glidden  
Sgt Campbell  
Sgt Middlewarth

740

131

12/26/44

Lt Gunn ✓  
Lt Barton ✓  
Lt Fregoe ✓  
Lt Johnson ✓  
T/Sgt Belcher  
Lt D'Agostino

*mja*

T/Sgt Crowley  
S/Sgt Brown  
S/Sgt Boucher  
S/Sgt Cerbo  
S/Sgt Kelleher

740 MN

414

12/26/44

Lt Schweiger ✓  
Lt Wells ✓  
Lt Shoengold ✓  
Lt Meyers ✓  
T/Sgt Martin

T/Sgt Brown A.D.  
S/Sgt Carter  
S/Sgt Dix  
S/Sgt Lloyd  
Sgt Ridennoure

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740

376

12/26/44

- Lt Gammell ✓
- Lt Richardson ✓
- F/O Jenkins ✓
- Lt Imrizek ✓
- T/Sgt Roscigno

- S/Sgt Malimonte
- T/Sgt Stohlman
- Sgt Ringvelski
- Sgt Spencer
- S/Sgt Hulewicz

740

400

12 /26/44

- Lt Kent ✓
- Lt Harlow ✓
- Lt Messina ✓
- Lt Reynolds ✓
- S/Sgt Olvey

- T/Sgt Meunier
- Sgt Waugh
- Sgt Small
- Sgt Watson
- Sgt Quigley

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742ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
APO 520 U.S. ARMY

26 DECEMBER 1944

SUBJECT: CREWS COMPLETING MISSION ON 26 DEC 1944

TO : OPERATIONS OFFICER, 455TH BOMB GP (H)

SHIP 033

P MAJOR GRIFFIN ✓  
CP LT HOGAN ✓  
N LT KOTZ ✓  
B LT EPPERSON ✓  
DAVIES  
DELANEY  
FREEMAN  
MARSHALL  
HOSTETTER ✓  
LT SCHEPS ✓  
LT BASLER (PFF) ✓

SHIP 624

LT ADAMS ✓  
LT FAHEY ✓  
LT GOULD ✓  
LT HUGGINS ✓  
STEDMAN  
DI SABATINO  
BEERS  
CONTRATTO  
EGGERT  
PEARCE

SHIP 105

LT WRIGHTSON ✓  
LT EDELSTEIN ✓  
LT JENKINS ✓  
LT SIEGEL ✓  
CROSBY  
SCHIAVO  
NEELEY  
LARRICK  
CURIO  
KOSINSKI

SHIP 201

P LT GROOMS ✓  
CP LT OZENGAR ✓  
N LT KENNY ✓  
B LT MUISE ✓  
HAMMER  
ALFINO  
SINK  
SILES  
STINE  
WEST, M.  
WALLO (F)

SHIP 636

LT COMBS ✓  
LT BRYAN ✓  
LT MITTON ✓  
LT BOYLE ✓  
CIMICATA  
KERR  
JETER  
CUTRER  
CANNOY  
CRAIG

SHIP 935

LT DE SAUSSURE ✓  
LT NILES ✓  
LT HULL ✓  
LT REINHART ✓  
MITCHELL, D.  
BOSWELL  
BAJDA  
PAULEY-  
FOX  
KING

SHIP 337 *msa*

P CAPT KELLY ✓  
CP LT FOTHERINGHAM ✓  
N LT KLOTZ ✓  
B LT CONN ✓  
PHELAN  
KELLER, E.  
STURNIOLLO  
POR  
JABLONSKI  
MASON, R.

SHIP 371

LT CLEAR ✓  
LT MLCAK ✓  
LT KIEFFER ✓  
LT HEIGHTON ✓  
SHEFFIELD  
REINL  
HANDY  
FERGUSON  
MC DONALD  
MC CLAIN, G.

SHIP 332 *TR*

LT LAUR ✓  
LT HAGAN ✓  
LT GLASE ✓  
LT FILARSKY ✓  
FISHER, H.  
GERTIG  
GYSAN  
BROWN, J.  
SHEEHAN  
BRICKER

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

HENRY C. KELLY,  
CAPTAIN, AIR CORPS,  
OPERATIONS OFFICER.

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743RD BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H), AAF  
Office of the Operations Officer  
APO 520

26 December 1944.

COMBAT LOADING LIST

MISSIONS NO 171

PLANE NO. 389

P MERTL, W. LT. ✓  
CP BROWN, J. N. LT. ✓  
N PEDERSON, R. LT. ✓  
B CORBETT, M. C. LT. ✓  
E Massey, B. Sgt.  
R Vercellon, B. Sgt.  
AE Gill, J. Sgt.  
AR Gurdish, M. Sgt.  
AG Messenger, E. Sgt.  
AG Hafner, B. Sgt.  
N. SORENSON, C. LT. ✓

PLANE NO. 583

TAYLOR, C. P. LT. ✓  
FOSTER, K. S. LT. ✓  
SUMMERFIELD, W. LT. ✓  
BELTRAMI, A. P. LT. ✓  
Black, W. B. Sgt.  
Shaia, L. B. Sgt.  
Calwell, G. Sgt.  
Erickson, W. P. Sgt.  
Solek, J. A. Sgt.  
Beene, D. W. Sgt.  
HAIRSTON, R. LT. ✓

PLANE NO. 331

P CYR, G. W. LT. ✓  
CP HUGHES, J. F. LT. ✓  
N KERMES, R. J. LT. ✓  
B MOFFITT, R. P. LT. ✓  
E Ryan, E. F. Sgt.  
R Fedewa, J. A. Sgt.  
AE Carey, J. J. Sgt.  
AR D'Andria, E. F. Sgt.  
AG Harper, M. D. Sgt.  
AG Walsh, J. R. Sgt.  
N ROEHLER, C. W. LT. ✓  
S.J. BLOOM, B. Sgt.

232 KAHLEY E/R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS 455TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
APO 520 US Army

D-AC-1

26 December 1944.

SUPPLEMENT TO CONFIRMING MISSION REPORT NUMBER 171.

8. RESULTS: The lead boxes (A and B) made a PFF-Synchronous run on the target, and dropped by PFF. The lead bombardier states that his intervalometer was out, and that he salvaged his bombs, and that he should have hit over the target. Photos show his bombs short. The lead bombardier of "C" box states that he picked up the target as the PFF operator called off the 40 degree angle, and took over the bomb run at that point. The bombs of "C" and "D" boxes form an excellent pattern directly on the MPI.

6. c. Two aircraft are missing:

(1) A/C number 42-51131 was hit by flak and number three engine was feathered. Losing altitude, but still under control, several pieces of equipment were thrown from the bomber. Taking a heading of 60 degrees the aircraft was apparently headed for the Russian lines. Last seen at (4725N/1700E), at 1318 hours.

(2) A/C number 337 was last seen at Gyor, Hungary (4740N/1740E), at 1320 hours. One engine was feathered, and the aircraft appeared to be losing altitude. Was headed in the direction of the Russian lines.

EXPLANATORY NOTE: This Group was the first Group of the Wing to bomb, although it was scheduled as number two in the Wing. About halfway up to the target the lead Group appeared to be in difficulty. It was going slowly and was off course. The 455th Group lead called the 456th Group lead for 45 minutes and got no response. Finally the 456th deputy lead called and stated that he was off course, and that the Group leader had turned back. The course was leading to Wiener-Neustadt. The 455th Group leader then stated "OK follow me", and pulled into the lead.

ALVIN E. COONS,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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