

MISSION SUMMARY REPORT

22 MAY, 1944
FIELD ORDER #346
BOMBER ESCORT
TARGET - KIEL

- A. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON - COL. WILSON LEADING
- B. 15 UP 1101 - 13 DOWN 1520
- C. TWO (2)
- D. BOMBER ESCORT - FIELD ORDER 346
- E. THRU H. NIL

1. R/V 1229, 27,000 FEET. L/F IN 1238, 27,000 FEET, HUSUM. TARGET, 1252, 27,000 FEET. TWO B-17'S HIT BY FLAK OVER TARGET, SPUN, NO CHUTES SEEN. L/F OUT 1321 WITH FIRST BOX, RETURNED AND ESCORTED 2ND BOX OUT AT 1333, 24,000 FEET MELDORF. W/D 1404, 15,000 FEET.

P-38'S SEEN GOING IN AT L/F IN. P-47'S JUST BEFORE R/V. RED NOSED P-51'S SEEN HEADING NORTH JUST SOUTH OF KIEL. SMOKE GENERATORS AT KIEL JUST STARTING WHEN FIRST BOX OF BOMBERS ARRIVED.

50 PLUS ME 109'S AT 32,000 FEET QUEUED UP ON BOTH SIDES OF OUR FORMATION, BUT MADE NO HOSTILE MOVE. THEY SUDDENLY TURNED AND HEADED NORTHEAST. FLAK OVER KIEL HEAVY AND FAIR AS TO ACCURACY.

PILOTS MAKING THIS MISSION WERE:

COL. WILSON	MILES	LOW	HOWER
CRUICKSHANK	BYNUM	ROWLEY(E.R.)	CAVELL
SERROS	TAYLOR	FORD	SCRUTCHFIELD(E.R.)
HALLBERG	WATSON	ANDERSON	BOELE

SPARES:

LOEHNERT

MISSION SUMMARY REPORT 22 MAY 1944

- A. 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group, Lt. Col. Rau leading.
- B. 17 up at 1101. Down at 1530.
- C. One.
- D. Bomber Escort, Penetration, Target & Withdrawal support, Field Order No. 346.
- E. One
- F. One - Capt. E. Crashlanded in England.
- G. One - Capt. William K. Coon.
- H. 1-0-0 (Air-single-engine).
- I. R/V with 7 CWs B-17s 1st Div. vicinity 5425° - 0720 at 1231 at 26000 ft. LF in W of Bredstedt at 1246 at 26000 ft. Covered bombers from 1st box until last box from LF to tgt. LF out vicinity Busum 1340- 26000 ft. WD vicinity 5425-0720 1400 at 26000 ft. 7 long-nosed FW 190s attacked first element of red flight. These had long wings with round wing tips. This was just NW of Kiel and resulted in Capt. Coon's loss and Major Gustke's claim. Two Me-109s seen just NW of Neumunster being chased by 10 plus 5ls. 2 more 109s seen, 1 cartwheeling above clouds before Kiel and the other seen in vertical dive above clouds after Kiel. Both seemed to be out of control. Two B-17s seen to explode in vicinity of Great Wittensee-seemed to have been hit by flak. No chutes seen. One straggler B-17 of the 3rd Div. picked up near Hennstedt and escorted ~~up~~ to Meldorf where crew bailed out, nine chutes seen. Two straggler B-17s picked up at enemy coast and escorted to mid-channel, believed they returned to England allright. One of these had L in triangle, with one engine feathered. Other had K in triangle. Flak all along course over Germany with constant tracings over Flensburg and Kiel. A large number of warships seen off German coast. Approx. 12 boats seen Kiel bay, two believed to be merchant vessels, and one a large cruiser.
- J. One (1) FW-190 (long nose-longwing, round tips) destroyed by Major Gustke (air).

MISSION REPORT

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- A. 79th Fighter Squadron Major D. E. Anderson, leading
- B. 18 P-38s Up: 1105; Down: 1520
- C. 3 P-38s
- D. Ramrod - Bomber escort F. O. # 346
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. 0-0-0
- I. R/V, Over North Sea, 1228, 27,000
In, W. of Bredstedt, 1242, 27,000
Egt., 1242, 27,000
Out, N. of Busum, 1320, X 26,000
W/D, Over North Sea, 1355, 24,000

Friendly Fighters and Bombers: R/V with first two boxes of 1st Div. B-17s. 2 Bombers got direct hit from flak and exploded over Target. No chutes sighted. 3 of 4 straggling bombers seen. P-51s and P-38s sighted at R/V and in Target area and on way out.

E/A: Approximately 15 Me-109s sighted in Target area.

Flak: Accurate, heavy, intense flak in target area. Heavy, innaccurate, flak encountered on landfall out. Smoke screen just starting up at target.

Naval: A destroyer was sighted in Kiel Harbor. A large merchant vessel and 10 smaller ones sighted near Wangerooge Island.

R/T: Good

ORVILLE E. MINTON,
1st Lieut., A. C.,
Asst S-2.

TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 346

DATE 22 May 1944

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	20TH FIGHTER GROUP
b. Time of Landing	1530
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	1 NYR
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 1 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	R/V 1230, 7 CW's 1st Div. B-17's, 26,000 ft. North Sea. L/F 1240, W. Bredstadt, 27,000 ft. Target 1255, 27,000 ft. Out 1321, then 1333, Meldorf, 25,000 ft. W/D 1400, 40 miles out North Sea, 24,000 ft. Other groups all in position on time. 50 plus S/E E/A, mostly ME 109's, seen tagget area. 5th Box under attack.
f. Weather - Battle damage	

TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 346

DATE 22 May 1944

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
b. Time of Landing	1520
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	NIL
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 0 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	R/V 1229, 1st Div. B-17's, 27,000 ft, North Sea; good formation. L/F 1238, Husum, 27,000 ft. Target 1252, 27,000 ft. 1 B-17 see to go down, no chutes. 50 plus ME 109's at 37,000 ft. flew at side of group. From SW Munster flew NE. Out 1321, returned to escort 2nd Box out 1333, Meldorf, 24,000 ft. W/D 1404, North Sea, 15,000 ft. 4th Gp P-51's seen S. Kiel heading north. P-38's seen R/V.
f. Weather - Battle damage	

TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 346

DATE 22 May 1944

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	77TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
b. Time of Landing	1530
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	3 NYR - Lts. Gese, Chubin, Capt Coon.
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 1 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	R/V 1231, North Sea, 26,000 ft, 7 CW's 1st Div. B-17's; in W. Bredstadt, 1246, 26,000 ft. L/F out 1340, Melforf, 26,000 ft. W/D 1400 North Sea, 26,000 ft. 7 FW 190's with long, round-tipped wings seen NW Kiel.
f. Weather - Battle damage	

TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 346

DATE 22 May 1944

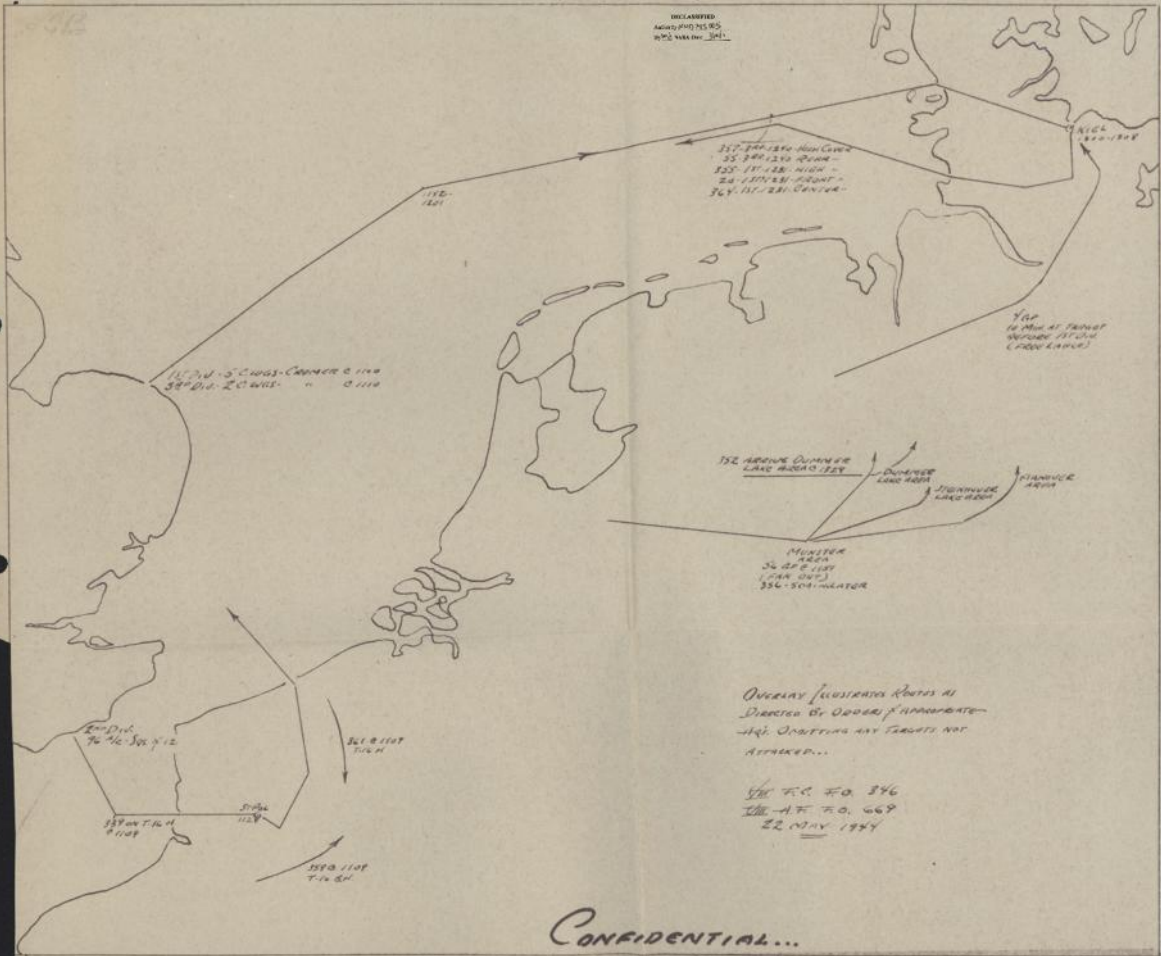
(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	79TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
b. Time of Landing	1520
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	NIL
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 0 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	R/V 1228, (3 min early), 27,000 ft. L/F in 1242, 27,000 ft. Target time 1255, 27,000 ft. Out 1320, 26,000 ft. W/D 1355, 24,000 ft. P-51's, P-38's seen. 2 Bombers seen hit by flak. 15 ME 109's seen around target, not near enough. Intense, light, accurate flak over target. Smoke screen started.
f. Weather - Battle damage	

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AUTHORITY: 25X
DATE: 03/09/2011

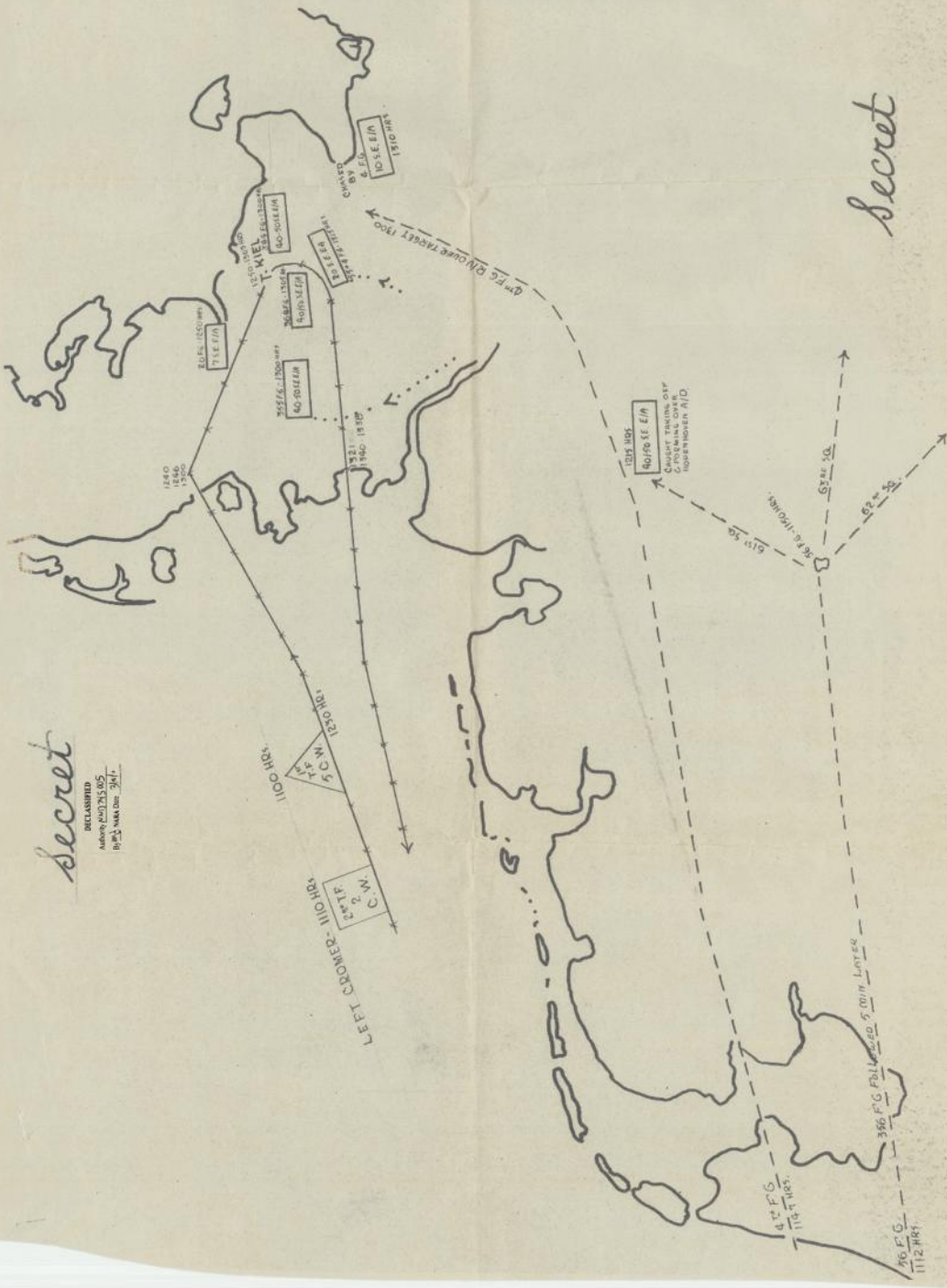


Overland Illustration Routes as Directed by Order of Commanders - HQ. Charting any Targets not Attached...

37th F.O. #0 376
35th A.F. #0. 669
22 MAY 1954

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Authority: (U) 75305
By: 391



Secret

ENEMY REACTION CHART HQ VIII FC A-2 SECTION OPERATION OF MAY 22, 1944 VIII F.C.F.O. 346

KEY

- UN- ESCORTED BOMBERS
- FIGHTER TRACK
- ENEMY TRACK
- APPROX. AREA & TIME OF COMBAT WITH FIGHTERS
- APPROX. AREA & TIME OF COMBAT WITH BOMBERS
- APPROX. AREA & TIME OF COMBAT WITH FIGHTERS & BOMBERS
- 1st BOMB DIV (Triangle)
- 2nd BOMB DIV (Circle)
- 3rd BOMB DIV (Square)

SECRET
AUTO: CG VIII FC
DATE - 25/5/44
SIGNED - 4442

PREPARED FROM INFORMATION
RECEIVED THRU MAY 24, 1944
ISSUED MAY 25, 1944.

RECEIVED
PROPERTY No. 25719
MAY 25 1944