

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

3 November, 1943
APO 634

SUBJECT: Intelligence Report.

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

1. Hot News

2 A/C of this Group collided on way out at 54°00'N - 05°10'E at 1218 hours. Only two parachutes seen by this Group, one of which appeared not to open.

2. Narrative

25 A/C of 306th took off at 0947 hours, joined by two PFF. Splasher #4 at 1115 hours. North of course on first leg to 54°00'N - 04°50'E, thence on briefed course to target and back out to 54°20'N - 05°00'E, thence south of course to 53°40'N - 03°55'E to Cramer.

3. Bombing Results

PFF ship performed exactly as briefed. Opened doors at I.P. Released parachute flares, then bombs. If location was exact bombing should be good, as all but one or two ships of 306th got bombs away on PFF. Unfortunately one Group behind, possibly 305th, dropped on these early bombs. Only real flak observed just as bombs were away, tending to show location near target area.

4. Abortions

None.

5. Encounters

After fighter escort left and apparently over the Islands on the way in, from 20 to 25 S/E and 3 T/E fighters broke through the overcast and started climbing toward the formation. Just as they were well formed the returning P-47s discovered and dove through them. They reformed and were climbing again when the P-38s arrived. The P-38s attacked at once and the E/A dispersed and were not seen again.

6. A.A. Gun Fire

Flak was meager and inaccurate. A few bursts over Islands on way in; 25 to 30 bursts in one compact cluster right after bombs away, very low and to right. Three or four bursts over Islands on way out, better for altitude but wide to right. German fire at unseen target through cloud cover a very poor effort.

7. Fighter Escort

Fighter escort was superb. P-47s arrived on time and swept ahead making tremendous con trails high and to right of formation. Crews enthusiastic about P-38s as escort. They stayed with formation close in and were not afraid to come right up to bombers, being positive crews could recognize them. E/A at hopeless disadvantage coming up through overcast with support having advantage of height. There were no attacks on this Group and we make no claims.

JOHN A. BAIRNSPATHER,
Major, AC,
Group 8-2.

UNCLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, 115005
By RLB/JHC
Date 1/8/91
NARA

EXECUTIVE C. 12356, Section 3.3, 742
JHC
Date 1/8/91
NARA

ARGET

Date 3/11

TRACK CHART

Planned
Actual

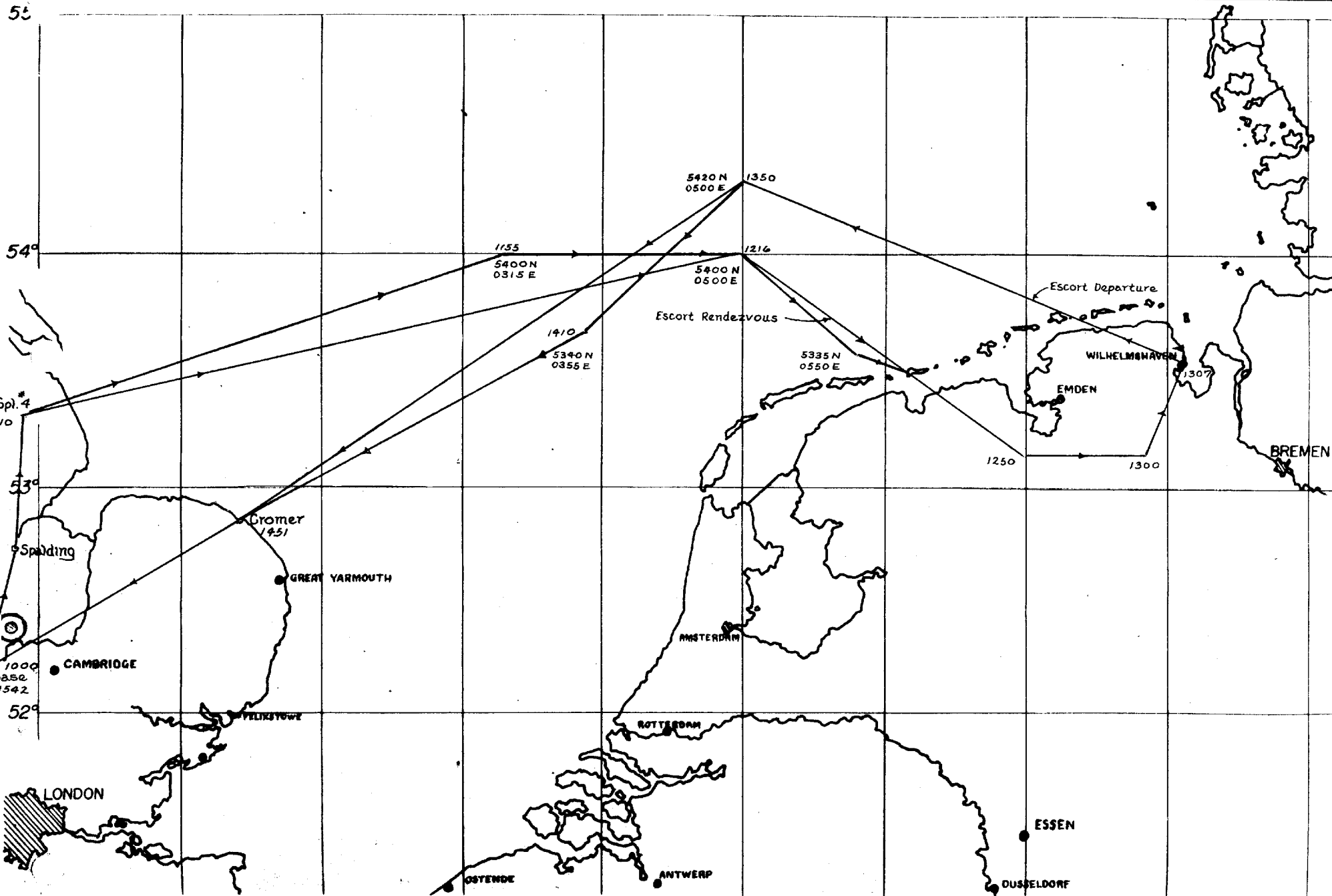
Route followed by

3 Bombardment G

Primary Wilhelmshaven
Secondary _____
Last Resort _____

43

" " "
" " "
" " "
" " "



TURNER - PATHFINDER

492

MUNGER
841-R

KACKSTETTER* - PATHFINDER
819

COOK*
832-J

JEFFRIES
812-Q*

WADLEY
533-M

GAY
145-G

BICKETT*
515-D

GARRETT
850-B

GORIS*
776-F

NALLY
451-N

McMAHON
724-Z

COMPOSITE

92

92

92

92

92

92

ONNEN*
363-G

ELLIOT
065-Z

KIRK
706-Q

TACKMER
767-Y

DAVIS
728-S

THOMAS
768-A

PORTER*
169-S

Noack
078-R

HILTON
007-F

SHARKEY
056-U

NEWSTREET
794-V

PETERSON*
143-F

KATZ*
586-A

COSPER
038-N

UPDYKE
221-G

92

92

92

* Indicates CAMERA in Plane

INTERROGATION FORM

SQUADRON ~~367~~ (363) ~~369~~ A/C Number 724 Letter Z Date 3/11/43
 14 x M47A1

Bomb Load 10 X 500 H.E. Incend.

Time Took Off 10:00 Time Landed 1549

Position in Formation

			X		
X		X	X		X
X	X		X		X
X		X	X		X
X	X		X		X
X				X	(X)
					X

Crew: Give Rank and Initials

1. HOT NEWS to be phoned in? Yes N
 Details:

*Collision about 1215
 (see other sheet)*

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

77

2nd. LT. J. McMAHON Pilot

1st. LT. S. MOWERS Co-P

2nd. LT. W. STILLWELL Nav.

S/SGT. N. BRENNAN Bomb.

T/SGT. J. TOBIN Radio

T/SGT. M. ENOS Top T.

S/SGT. P. LESTER Ball T.

S/SGT. P. MANTOR R. Waist

S/SGT. E. SCHMECKPEPPER L. Waist

S/SGT. L. BRANDON Tail G.

2. TARGET ATTACKED:

Primary Time: 1308

Alternate Height: 21500

Last Resort Heading 46330

(circle)

Duration Bomb Run:

3. Number of BOMBS dropped on target: all Settled: Returned: Abortive:

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

Own Bombs:

Not shared

Other Bombing:

5. Any Photographs taken: Yes? No?

Any Nickels: Yes No

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

Approximately

8. WEATHER: (If it affected mission) *10/10 over target*

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 relation to A/C	Accuracy
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Practically None - all low, inaccurate.

Crew observations about Flak: