

749th Squadron History
March 1944 - April 1945

749th Bombardment Squadron (H)
457th Bombardment Group (H)
AAF STATION 130

2 March 1944

Mission to Frankfurt, Germany. Group led by Major Hoffman, six other crews of this organization participated in the raid with no casualties to either crews or aircraft.

3 March 1944

Mission to Erkner, Germany; three crews from this organization participated in raid with no casualties.

4 March 1944

Mission to Erkner, Germany; six crews from this Squadron completed mission - no casualties to crews or aircraft.

6 March 1944

Mission to Erkner, Germany; lead ship of Group piloted by Lt. J. L. Smith, total of six crews of this Squadron taking part, no casualties.

7 March 1944

Capt. William F. Smith relieved from duty as Squadron Operations Officer and from assignment to Squadron and transferred to Group Headquarters and appointed Assistant Group Operations Officer.

8 March 1944

Mission to Erkner, Germany; seven crews from this Squadron completed mission, no casualties. Capt. Raymond A. Syptak assigned and appointed Squadron Operations Officer - vice Capt. Smith relieved.

9 March 1944

Mission to Berlin; Major Hoffman, Deputy Lead, Capt. Syptak pilot of Group Lead, no other crews from this Squadron on mission.

11 March 1944

Mission to Munster, Germany; six crews taking part, no casualties.

13 March 1944

No-Ball target to Northern France; Lead ship piloted by Lt. J. L. Smith. Six crews from this Squadron completed mission, no casualties. Lt. Lloyd T. Balenger assigned and appointed Squadron Bombardier vice Lt. Con F. Poyner, relieved.

749th Bombardment Squadron (H) (Continued)

16 March 1944

Bombed Lechfeld, Germany; six crews participated in raid. Lt. Lennartson flying ship No. 063 ditched in English Channel after being hit by enemy aircraft and flak - entire crew was rescued by the Air-Sea Rescue Service and taken to RAF Bases - returned to Base the following day. Co-Pilot Lt. Keesee suffered from shock and St. Blackwell, Tail Gunner, had minor injury from flak. Excellent landing on water by Lt. Lennartson kept the aircraft on water long enough for crews to get into the only life boat they had.

18 March 1944

Attacked Landsberg, Germany hitting a twin-engine operational A/C field; three crews from this Squadron dispatched but turned back at French Coast due to mechanical trouble. Lt. Norman A. Kriehn released from and assigned to Squadron and from duty as Squadron Navigator and transferred to Group Headquarters and appointed Group Navigator. Capt. Robert D. Newcomb assigned and appointed Squadron Navigator.

19 March 1944

Bombed Watten, No-Ball target in Northern France, seven crews from this Squadron completed mission. Heavy flak was encountered, but all crews and aircraft returned without casualties.

20 March 1944

Successfully bombed Frankfurt, Germany. Lead ship piloted by Lt. J. L. Smith, Deputy Lead by Capt. Raymond Syptak and Lt. Parks. Six crews of this organization participated in the raid with no casualties.

21 March 1944

Stand-Down

22 March 1944

Target Berlin, six crews from this Squadron completed mission. Reported explosions and large fires as they left the Nazi Capitol. No casualties.

23 March 1944

Lippstadt "Target for Today"; five crews completed mission. Lt. Birkman aborted due to engine trouble, no casualties.

24 March 1944

Five crews participated in raid on Schweinfurt, attacking four Ball Bearing Works. Results unknown, no casualties.

25 March 1944

Stand-Down

26 March 1944

749th Bombardment Squadron (H) (Continued)

29 March 1944

Six crews from this Squadron attacked Brunswick, Germany. Encountered heavy and accurate flak as well as enemy aircraft. Lt. Lennartson flying A/C No. 531 was hit in the target area by first flak, followed by E/A and when last seen was losing altitude and five (5) parachutes were seen opening from the plane. This crew consisted of the following personnel:

P	2nd Lt. Lewis Lennartson	0803233
CP	2nd Lt. Everett L. Keese, Jr.	0754352
N	2nd Lt. Manford Markowitz	0691778
B	2nd Lt. Augustine Fernandez	0681989
ET	S/Sgt. Thomas B. Haag	33238563
RW	S/Sgt. Clyde E. Garnhart	36704024
RR	S/Sgt. William T. Graham	32487977
LW	Pfc. Gilbert C. Goode	16013654
TG	S/Sgt. James E. Blackwell	14126330
BT	S/Sgt. Omer Fontaine	20133878

30 March 1944

Stand-Down

31 March 1944

Stand-Down

LOYD A. COX,
1st. Lt., Air Corps,
Sq. Historian.

- BOMB-749-H1
11 MAY 1944

JL

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

1ST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Bombardment Wing (H)

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

COVERING PERIOD 1 MAY TO 31 MAY, 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 1300.2

5025-61

~~SECRET~~
1 May 1944

Lt. Edward B. Deery having been transferred to the 749th Squadron, was appointed Squadron Historian - V.O.C.O.

On May Day our Squadron put up 7 ships. Lt. Colonel Wilson was Group Commander with Major Hozier as Group Deputy. Although the target was a No-Ball (Siracourt), the target attacked was the Roye/Amy A/D. This was due to 10/10 coverage over the Primary Target. Results of the bombing were classified as fair.

2 May 1944

Stand down

3 May 1944

Stand down

4 May 1944

May 4 saw the crews take off for another crack at Berlin. Four ships were placed in the formation from this Squadron with two flying spares. A target of opportunity, Bergen A/D, in Holland was attacked with fair results. The reason for not attacking the primary was a recall from Division. Lt. Byle, a Lead Box flying spare, filled in as #5 in the lead box for the 401st.

5 May 1944

Stand down

6 May 1944

Stand down

7 May 1944

Target, Berlin. Seven ships were airborne, Lt. Johnson flying Group Lead. Lt. Wetherald led the high box and Berlin was attacked by PFF technique as there was a 10/10 coverage over the target. Bombs were dropped on Wing Leader. There were two plans for the mission - Plan "A" being scrubbed.

8 May 1944

The 749th Squadron put 8 ships in the air for another raid on Berlin. These were flying spares and returned early. The 457th Group furnished the Lead Box and the lead and low squadrons of the high box. Coverage over Berlin was 10/10 so results were unobserved. PFF bombing.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

9 May 1944

For the raid on Luxembourg our Squadron placed 7 ships in the air. We flew low box with Lt. Flowers leading. Lt. Johnson flew Deputy lead with Major Hoffman our C.O. Bad luck today. Leader did not drop bombs and was preparing for another run on target when deputy lead and all others dropped on an apparent signal from the lead ship. Bombing results poor, and flak meagre and inaccurate.

10 May 1944

Mission to Oldenburg. Recalled due to weather.

11 May 1944

Five ships airborne and one ground spare for today. Target for today Luxembourg Marshalling Yards, with good results -- no flak, no fighters. Lt. Karr flew over Namur to see if there was flak as briefed -- "no flak", says the crew. Fighter support was excellent.

12 May 1944

Out for the Synthetic Oil Plant at Lutzkendorf. The 457th furnished the Lead and Low Boxes for the 94th CBW (Composite). The A/C was Lt. Col. Wilson. 9 ships were furnished by the 749th. What was the strange B-17 which joined our formation today? Looked phony to the crews. Rhine traffic observed to be extremely heavy today and flak was meagre but very accurate. Fighter support was excellent.

13 May 1944

Primary target today was Politz, but we bombed the Secondary - Stettin, PFF bombing. Our Squadron led the Low box with Lt. Johnson and Major Hoffman in the lead ship. Others in the box were, Lt. Lady, Lt. Mattatall, Lt. Wetherald, Lt. Cunefore and Lt. Byle. Results were good to fair. Lt. Wetherald was forced to turn back 50 miles from English Coast as #1 supercharger went out. Officers party at which 749th held its end up in a creditable manner.

14 May 1944

"Blarney Mission".

15 May 1944

Scrubbed

16 May 1944

Scrubbed

SECRET

SECRET

17 May 1944

Scrubbed

18 May 1944

Stand down

19 May 1944

Our Squadron had 9 crews today in the mission to Berlin. Three were flying spares of which 2 filled in - Cunefare and Byle. Karr had an abort. First Division sent 7 combat wings on the center of the original city of Berlin. Approximately 50 E/A fighters - Me 109's and FW 190's attacked our group. Anti-aircraft fire was moderate and not very close to our formation. Few rockets observed in the distance. Due to cloud cover no strikes are visible and accurate observation of bombing was impossible. Lt. William G. Patry did a fine job as Lead Bombardier of the High Box.

20 May 1944

Our Squadron led the Group today to Villacoublay. Major Hoffman flew with Lt. Johnson in the lead ship. There were three ships in the High Box, the other Lt. Lady and Lt. Stafford. Bombing results were good. Anti-aircraft fire moderate but accurate, fighter support excellent, no E/A opposition.

21 May 1944

Stand down

22 May 1944

Target, Kiel, Germany. We placed only 3 crews in the air today. Results were poor.

23 May 1944

The Group flew 2 boxes today and the 749th Squadron placed 7 crews in the air, flying in "A" and "B" Wing. The target for "A" Box was the M/Y at Blainville Sur l'Eau, and for "B" Box M/Y in the center of Town of Epinal. "A" Box dropped bombs thru a 10/10 cloud coverage and target and results unknown. "B" Box bombed Epinal visually with good results. No fighters, no flak, excellent fighter support.

24 May 1944

Our Squadron flew lead in the mission to Berlin. Lt. Col. Wilson was Air Commander flying with Lt. Selwyn. Others were Lt. Stafford, Lt. Dudek, Lt. Herbold, and Lt. Allen. Lt. Dudek returned at 1235 due to supercharger trouble. Sgt. Duvall on Lt. Allen's crew was injured by flak.

25 May 1944

On the mission to Metz our Squadron had 4 crews in lead box, the group putting up 2 boxes of 12. No enemy A/C were encountered by either box. Flak was meagre and accurate at Montdidier. Results were poor.

26 May 1944

Stand down

27 May 1944

Target - Railway Marshalling Yards at Ludwigshaven, Germany. Air Commander was Lt. Col. Luper. Lost 1 crew, MIA, circumstances unknown.

Lt. William E. Dee
Lt. Robert M. Cotterell
Lt. Lawrence Oberstein
Lt. Donald S. Jay
Sgt. William H. Jones, Jr.
S/Sgt. Orval C. Sterner
S/Sgt. George L. Hatcher
Sgt. Steve J. Sax
Sgt. Stephen L. Floyd
Sgt. Thomas L. Treadwell

Bombing results were fair, anti-aircraft fire moderate, and E/A fighter attacks intense. Eleven fighter claims.

28 May 1944

Mission was to Dessau - 6 crews, with Leipzig as the Secondary. One A/C bombed near the primary with unobserved results while 6 A/C bombed the secondary target. Intense enemy A/C opposition was encountered. Injuries were received throughout the group due to flak and enemy A/C.

29 May 1944

Target - Sorau, Germany. Three crews today, all flying spares, returned early. Results were good.

~~SECRET~~
30 May 1944

Target - Oschersleben. Our Squadron had 6 crews with Lt. Wetherald leading the low squadron. Lt. Burns, Navigator in Lt. Wetherald's crew completed his 25 missions today. Bombing results were poor.

31 May 1944

In the attack on Luxeuil, France today, our Squadron flew lead. Lt. Col. Wilson with Lt. Johnson, Major Beere with Lt. Gibbons, and Lt. Allen. It was a 12-ship box. Target was attacked with good results. No E/A were seen and no flak was seen at target.

~~SECRET~~

P-130MB-749-141
1 JUNE 1944

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
94th Combat Bomb Wing
45TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

PERIOD COVERING 1ST JUNE TO 30TH JUNE 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 520.9

SECRET

5262-65

749TH SQUADRON HISTORY

~~SECRET~~

1st Lt. Edward B. Deery

June 1, 1944

Scrubbed.

June 2, 1944

Mission to Hardelet. We put up six ships flying the high box. Results unobserved due to 10/10 cloud coverage — PFF bombing.

June 3, 1944

Mission to Boulogne. We put up 10 ships. PFF bombing. Unable to see target area until after bombs away. No flak. No fighters. No aircraft lost.

June 4, 1944

The target for today was Paris; a R/R choke point. We put up 11 ships. Bombing on the whole was excellent. Colonel Luper was Group Leader. No aircraft were lost and there was no flak or enemy fighters.

June 5, 1944

Standown.

June 6, 1944

"This was IT". Gun installations on the invasion coast. Maximum effort. Our squadron put up 10 ships. Bombing, due to 10/10 cloud coverage, PFF. Some flak was encountered at Caen but no E/A were seen. No ships were lost.

June 7, 1944

Mission today was to Falaise, France, aiming to destroy all highway junctions in the town. We put up 3 ships. No aircraft were lost. Bombing G.H. Results unobserved.

June 8, 1944

The target for today was the railway junctions in the southeastern part of Etampes, France. Our squadron put 12 ships in the air. Due to cloud coverage and the impossibility of finding a target of opportunity the ships returned without bombing. Light but accurate flak was encountered. No aircraft were lost.

June 9, 1944

Standown.

June 10, 1944

Target was Gacl A/F in France. Our squadron put up 3 ships and

~~SECRET~~

June 10, 1944 (Cont'd)

all returned safely. Bombed by G.H. technique but there was visual weather the last 6 minutes of bomb run and results were observed to be poor. Flak was moderate and E/A nil.

June 11, 1944

Mission to Bernay/St. Martin A/F. Little flak, no fighters, no losses. Weather 9/10 to 10/10. Our squadron flew low in high box.

June 12, 1944

Target was Vitry-en-Artois A/F and our squadron put up 10 ships. We flew lead and low squadrons in the lead box. No aircraft were lost. No enemy aircraft were seen. Flak was encountered and the group suffered battle damage to 15 ships. Cloud coverage made it impossible to observe results.

June 13, 1944

Mission scrubbed.

June 14, 1944

The targets for today were Le Bourget and Malun A/F's. Our squadron put up 15 ships. Lt. Malcolm Johnson and Lt. Colonel Cobb, flying the lead box in the 94th "E" Wing were lost to enemy aircraft attack. Major Theodore C. Hoffman led the high box of the 94th "E" Wing.

Lt. Roy Allen and his crew were also lost but the circumstances are unknown. This was a bad day for our entire group. Bombing results were obscured.

June 15, 1944

The target for today was the M/Y and storage sheds at Angouleme, France. Our squadron put up 7 ships. We flew lead and high in the High Box, there being three twelve ship boxes from our group. No aircraft were lost. Results were good.

June 16, 1944

Scrubbed.

June 17, 1944

Squadron order #12 appointed 1st Lt. William H. Dupont Squadron navigator vice 1st Lt. Donald E. Minton, M.I.A.

Target today was Monchy-Breton A/F. Our squadron put up 6 ships but two were forced to turn back. We flew high squadron in the lead box. Bombing results were poor. No aircraft were lost.

June 18, 1944

Standown.

June 18, 1944

6-18-44
6-19-44
The target for the first mission today was Hamburg oil refineries in the ~~central dock area~~ central dock area. Our squadron put up 9 ships. No aircraft were lost. Flak intense and inaccurate. No enemy fighters. Second mission was to Landes de Bussac. We put up 10 ships. No planes were lost. No fighter opposition. Bombing results excellent.

June 20, 1944

It was Hamburg again for the first mission today. Our squadron put up nine ships and lost none. Flak was intense and accurate over the target. Results were good.

Second mission of the day was to Watten. Our squadron put up three ships and flew lead in the low box. No ships were lost. Results poor.

June 21, 1944

Big "B" was the target. Our squadron put up 9 ships. Flak was moderate but accurate but no enemy aircraft were observed. None of our aircraft was lost.

June 22, 1944

The target for today was the M/Y at Rouen, France. Our squadron put up 5 ships and flew lead and low in the low box. No aircraft were lost and results were good.

June 23, 1944

The targets for today was St. Martain and Oisemont. Our squadron put up 6 ships and all returned safely. Weather was 10/10. Light and inaccurate flak was encountered.

June 24, 1944

This time it was a switching station at Holque in France. Our squadron put up 3 ships to go noballing. All returned safely. Results were good.

June 25, 1944

Target was Montbartier, a buried fuel dump. Our squadron put 9 ships in the air. Fighter escort was excellent; enemy aircraft nil; no flak; none of our ships was lost. Bombing results excellent.

June 26, 1944

Scrubbed.

June 27, 1944

Standown.

June 28, 1944

The target for today was an A/F at Bacon-Couvron. We put up 8 ships and flew low squadron in the lead box with 2 flying spares. Many ships landed away today.

June 29, 1944

Target was Leipzig, Germany. We put up 10 ships. None of our aircraft was lost. Things were not so good today in the way of results. However all of our ships returned safely.

June 30, 1944

Standown.

RECEIVED
22 JUN 1944

SQ-00MB-749- H1
1 JULY 1944

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

PERIOD COVERING 1ST JULY TO 31ST JULY 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

[REDACTED]

Compiled by: *Hugh M. Hamill*
HUGH M. HAMILL,
1st Lt., A.C.,
Squadron Historian.

[REDACTED]

5325-81

[REDACTED]

July 1, 1944

Stand Down.

July 2, 1944

Stand Down.

July 3, 1944

Stand Down.

July 4, 1944

The target for today was in the vicinity of Saumur, France, but it was not bombed due to complete undercast, most aircraft returning with their bombs. Our squadron put up five ships; all returned safely.

July 5, 1944

Stand Down.

July 6, 1944

There were two missions today, both against Noballs. The first, led by Lt. Col. Theodore G. Hoffman with Capt. Donald E. Ledy as Low Box Leader, was to Bertreville St. Omer, and the second was to Renescure. Our squadron put up ten ships for the first mission and three for the second. None was lost on either mission.

July 7, 1944

The aircraft engine factory at Leipzig was the target for today and the group put up two wings, the "B" wing being led by Capt. Raymond A. Syptak. Our squadron put up ten crews for this visual mission. All returned safely.

July 8, 1944

This was an unsuccessful mission against two noballs due to 10/10 cloud cover at the targets. Seven ships were put up by the squadron. Six of these were in "A" force which did not bomb. The other was in "B" force which attacked a target of opportunity, Poix airfield.

July 9, 1944

The group made another unsuccessful attempt against two noball targets today, but weather again hid the objectives and no target was bombed. The squadron sent up six crews.

July 10, 1944

Scrubbed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

July 11, 1944

This was a PFF mission to Munich. The group put up the lead and low boxes of the 94th "B" Wing, and Captain Donald E. Ledy led the low box. The squadron had eleven ships up. All returned safely.

July 12, 1944

The target was again Munich, PFF, and the group again put up the lead and low boxes of a wing, this time 94th "B". Captain Joseph F. Reilly led the low box, which did not bomb Munich due to inability to distinguish the smoke markers. The box bombed a target of opportunity believed to be Bentlingen. The squadron sent out eleven ships. The ship piloted by Lt. Edward Kozel was hit by flak on the bomb run to the primary and the prop blown off the number one engine. The aircraft dropped out of the formation. Subsequently the War Department reported the ship had landed in Switzerland. The other 749th crews returned to England safely.

July 13, 1944

The target was Munich, PFF, again. The squadron sent up only two ships. The mission was more or less uneventful except that the high box turned right, as briefed, after bombs away, while the lead and low boxes turned left. The 457th finally joined the 40th Wing and returned with it. No crews were lost.

July 14, 1944

Scrubbed.

July 15, 1944

Stand Down.

July 16, 1944

Once more Munich was the target, PFF being used. The group put up the lead and low boxes of the 94th "A" GBW, including eleven crews from our squadron. Weather was thick causing the Wing to climb to 27,000 feet and overshoot I.P., but the target was bombed and all ships returned safely.

July 17, 1944

Stand Down.

July 18, 1944

This mission was to the German experimental station at Peenemunde. The group put up high boxes in the 94th "C" and "D" Wings, our squadron furnishing eleven aircraft. The boxes made a visual run on the target, and all aircraft returned to England safely.

July 19, 1944

Today's target was the aircraft and air armament factory at Augsburg. The Group put up the 94th "B" CBW and Major Raymond A. Syptak led the high box, eleven crews from the squadron participating. Shortly before the I.P. the Wing was attacked by about 40 enemy aircraft and the deputy lead was hit, dropping out of the formation. The bomb run was made without incident by the lead and low boxes, but the bomb bay doors of the high box lead ship did not open and the box dropped prematurely on a mistaken signal. All of our squadron's crews returned safely.

July 20, 1944

The target was Leipzig and turned out to be PFF, although visual bombing appeared possible almost up to the last moment. The Group put up the lead and low boxes of the 94th "B" CBW. Lt. Col. Theodore C. Hoffman led the Wing. Our squadron supplied seven aircraft. No one was lost.

July 21, 1944

The Group put up the high boxes in the 94th "A" and "B" CBWs for today's mission, which was to Schweinfurt ball bearing factories. The "A" box leader had AFCE trouble and the deputy leader took over. Most of the ships in the box were wide of the target but did some damage. The "B" box leader was not able to synchronize on the primary target in time and most of its aircraft bombed Beerfelden, a target of opportunity. Our squadron put up seven crews and all returned safely.

July 22, 1944

Stand Down.

July 23, 1944

Stand Down.

July 24, 1944

This mission was in support of the ground forces in the St. Lo area of Normandy. The Group put up Lead, Low, and High boxes and part of a "High High" box to attack the enemy line abreast. There were difficulties of lining up and of picking out the MPIs, but all but the high box bombed. The low box was led by Major Raymond A. Syptak. Our squadron put up 12 crews. None are missing.

July 25, 1944

This mission was a similar one to yesterday's, being in support of our troops in the St. Lo area. Circumstances were more favorable and the mission better executed. We sent out 13 crews. None was lost.

July 26, 1944

Scrubbed.

July 27, 1944

Scrubbed.

July 28, 1944

This was a PFF mission, the target being a synthetic oil plant at Merseburg, Germany. Our group formed the 94th "A" CEW and our squadron put up ten ships. The mission was largely uneventful, bombing being through 10/10 undercast. All aircraft returned safely.

July 29, 1944

The target was the same as yesterday's, but this time a visual run was made and results believed good. We put up eleven ships. No one was lost.

July 30, 1944

Stand Down.

July 31, 1944

Munich was again the target. Bombing was by PFF although visual bombing appeared possible up to the last moment. The group furnished the 94th "C" CEW and the squadron put up 12 crews. No one was lost from our squadron, but the group lost one aircraft.

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SQ-BOMB-749-H1

1 Aug 44
6

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Wing

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 August 1944 to 31 August 1944

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██████████

Compiled by:

Larry D. McDonald

LARRY D. MC DONALD,

Capt., Air Corps,

Act. Sqdn Historian.

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIRECTIVE
SECRET

7292-12-I

[REDACTED]

1 August 1944

12 aircraft and 10 crews on mission to Chateaudun, France, All returned.

2 August 1944

No mission.

3 August 1944

9 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to Strasbourg, Germany. All returned.

4 August 1944

3 aircraft and 3 crews on mission to Anklam, Germany. All returned. Second mission on this date was to Fiefs and Coubron, France. All aircraft returned.

5 August 1944

7 aircraft and 7 crews on mission to Berlin, Germany. All returned.

6 August 1944

11 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to Berlin, Germany. All returned.

7 August 1944

11 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to Nanteuil (Bridge), France. All returned safely.

8 August 1944

No mission.

9 August 1944

6 aircraft and 7 crews took off on mission to Munich, Germany, but were recalled before reaching target. All returned safely.

10 August 1944

No mission.

11 August 1944

8 aircraft and 8 crews on mission to Brest, France. All returned.

[REDACTED]
12 August 1944

No mission.

13 August 1944

8 aircraft and 8 crews on mission to Brionne, France. All returned.

14 August 1944

10 aircraft and 10 crews on mission to Stuttgart, Germany. All returned.

15 August 1944

No mission.

16 August 1944

9 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to Leipzig, Germany, and all returned. One enlisted man wounded.

17 August 1944

No mission.

18 August 1944

9 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to Huy Bridge, France. All returned.

19 August 1944

No mission.

20 August 1944

No mission.

21 August 1944

No mission.

22 August 1944

No mission.

23 August 1944

No mission.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24 August 1944

8 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to Weimar, Germany, and all returned.

25 August 1944

8 aircraft and 9 crews on first mission of this date to Peenemunde, Germany. All returned safely. On the second mission our squadron put up 3 aircraft and 2 crews to Lense, France. All returned.

26 August 1944

No mission.

27 August 1944

9 aircraft and 10 crews on mission to Berlin, Germany. Mission was recalled and all returned safely.

28 August 1944

No mission.

29 August 1944

No mission.

30 August 1944

10 aircraft and 9 crews on mission to attack the shipyards at Kiel, Germany. All returned safely.

31 August 1944

No mission.

Comment: The 31st of August completes an entire month of operational missions with no crew losses.

CONFIDENTIAL
R.0052 HQ 000

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Wing

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

SECRET

Covering period 1 September to 30 September 1944

[REDACTED]

Compiled by: HUGH M. HANILL,
1st Lt., A.C.,
Squadron Historian.

DECLASSIFIED
RDP P... 200.9

[REDACTED]

5887-107

[REDACTED]

1 September 1944

On this date Major Wilbur D. Snow was Squadron Commander, having assumed command 25 August vice Lt. Col. Theodore C. Hoffman, who had returned to the United States. Today the squadron sent up ten crews for a mission but the group was recalled.

2 September 1944

No mission. Capt. Joseph T. Reilly was Squadron Operations Officer having been appointed 16 August vice Major Raymond A. Sytak.

3 September 1944

Ten crews from the squadron took part in a mission to Ludwighafen, Germany. All returned safely.

4 September 1944

No mission. Major Eugene A. Peresich was Assistant Squadron Operations Officer vice Capt. Reilly. 1st Lt. David B. Jones was Squadron Bombardier vice Capt. Lloyd T. Belanger.

5 September 1944

No mission.

6 September 1944

No mission.

7 September 1944

No mission.

8 September 1944

Nine crews from the squadron were sent on a mission to Ludwighafen, Germany. All returned. Capt. Reilly led the high box.

9 September 1944

The squadron put up ten crews for another mission to Ludwighafen, the third of the month, and again all returned safely. Major Snow led the high box.

10 September 1944

Ten crews took part in a mission to Gagganau. Major Peresich led the low box. Two A/C were hit by flak and crews landed in allied occupied territory. The crew of 1st Lt. Paul W. Gilbert bailed out and several members landed dangerously close to the front line. 1st Lt. Loren G. Hampton crash-landed his

plane near Joigny, France, after the waist gunner, Sgt. Michael Pipeock, and the tail gunner, Sgt. Glen E. Seeber, had bailed out in German-occupied France. All members of both crews subsequently returned to base except Sgts. Pipeock and Seeber, who are MIA. 2nd Lt. Robert E. Mattox, navigator on Lt. Hampton's crew, wounded in the leg, was hospitalized in Joigny and Paris before his return to base.

11 September 1944

No mission.

12 September 1944

Ten crews took part in a mission to Lautz, Germany. Capt. Reilly led the high box. One crew in an aircraft with engine trouble landed in occupied territory in France. Sgt. Earl A. Rinchart, top turret gunner on another crew, died of anoxia.

13 September 1944

Nine crews participated in a mission to Lutskendorf and Giessen. Major Paresich led the low box. All returned.

14 September 1944

No mission.

15 September 1944

No mission.

16 September 1944

No mission.

17 September 1944

Twelve crews took part in a tactical mission against an enemy concentration near Nijmegen, Holland. Three of the eight squadrons of 6 A/C each which attacked the target were led by 749th Officers, Capt. Reilly, Deal and Stafford. All 749th crews returned safely.

18 September 1944

No mission.

19 September 1944

Eight crews participated in a mission to Soest, Hamm and Bamerich, Germany. Capt. Reilly led the low box. All returned to England but most landed at other bases, due to weather.

20 September 1944

On this date 1st Lt. William L. Gibbons was appointed Squadron Operations Officer vice Captain Joseph F. Reilly. No mission.

21 September 1944

No mission.

22 September 1944

No mission.

23 September 1944

No mission.

24 September 1944

No mission.

25 September 1944

Nine crews participated in a mission to Frankfurt. All returned. Capt. Deal led the high box.

26 September 1944

The squadron sent out eight crews on a mission to Osnabruck. Capt. Deal led the low squadron. All but one crew returned to England. One landed in allied occupied territory. Capt. William H. Dupont, the Squadron Navigator, was killed in action, when the lead aircraft in which he was acting as lead navigator, was hit by flak at the Dutch coast. 2nd Lt. Elmer L. Harcin was wounded in the leg. 2nd Lt. Carl H. Gosch and crew are MIA, their aircraft also having been hit by flak at the Dutch coast. Besides Lt. Gosch, the crew included:

2nd Lt John P. Quillen	CP
2nd Lt Rupert L. Phipps	H-B
T/Sgt Alexander P. McDermott	Chin Turret
S/Sgt Wilber H. Parker	TF
S/Sgt Clement L. Kelsey	HO
S/Sgt Leo J. Charvack	BT
S/Sgt Thomas V. Angott	WG
S/Sgt Donald J. Reilly	TG

27 September 1944

Nine crews were sent up on a mission to Cologne, Germany. All returned. Capt. Deal led the low squadron.

28 September 1944

Ten crews took part in a mission to Magdeburg, Germany. 1st Lt. Wade E. Knudson led the high squadron. Nine crews returned safely. The crew of 2nd Lt. Keylon W. Clark was lost when their A/C was hit by flak on the bomb run. The other members of the crew:

2nd Lt	Robert N. Howland	CP
2nd Lt	Walter Sundling	N
2nd Lt	Robert P. Smith	B
Sgt	Albert Griffith	TT
Sgt	William C. Dethloff	RO
Sgt	David R. Dooley	BT
Sgt	Reed P. Simpson	WG
Sgt	Richard H. Anderson	TO

Astor was ill this day

29 September 1944

No mission.

30 September 1944

Nine crews took part in a mission to Munster. All returned.

Cleveland, Ohio, Ohio State U.

Pow. - Clark
Howland - KIA
Sundling
Smith

Deth
Griff POW
Dooley
and
art
Simp KIA.

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Wing
457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 October to 31 October 1944


DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5780.9
[REDACTED]

Compiled by:

HUGH M. HAMILL,
1st Lt., A. C.,
Sqn Historian.

5887-108

[REDACTED]


1 October 1944

No mission.

2 October 1944

Nine crews participated in a mission to Kassel, Germany. All returned. Two officers, 2nd Lt. Harold W. Patrick and 2nd Lt. Edward R. Sage, were wounded.

3 October 1944

No mission.

4 October 1944

Mission scrubbed.

5 October 1944

On this date 1st Lt. Frank H. Pearman was appointed Squadron Bombardier vice Capt. David B. Jones. Nine crews participated in a mission to Cologne, Germany. All returned.

6 October 1944

Eight crews took part in a mission to Stargard, Germany. All returned.

7 October 1944

Twelve crews were sent on a mission to Politz, Germany. All of these crews returned safely, but Capt. Loyd A. Cox, Squadron Intelligence Officer, flying as an observer with a crew of another squadron, was killed in action when hit by flak over the target. The aircraft in which he was riding subsequently landed in Sweden, where Capt. Cox was given a military funeral. 1st Lt. William J. Morrow was flying as D/R Navigator in the lead aircraft with Colonel Luper when it was lost to flak over the target. Lt. Morrow is missing in action.

8 October 1944

No mission.

9 October 1944

On this date 1st Lt. Roy I. Vaughn was appointed Squadron Navigator vice 1st Lt. Gabriel D. Ofeish.

10 October 1944

No mission.



[REDACTED]

11 October 1944

No mission.

12 October 1944

Mission scrubbed.

13 October 1944

Mission scrubbed.

14 October 1944

Nine crews took part in a mission to Cologne, Germany, and all returned safely.

15 October 1944

The squadron sent out ten crews on another mission to Cologne, Germany, all returned. S/Sgt. Linville Wills was wounded.

16 October 1944

No mission.

17 October 1944

Ten crews participated in another mission to Cologne, Germany. All returned.

18 October 1944

Mission scrubbed.

19 October 1944

The squadron put up ten crews for the mission to Mannheim, Germany, and all returned safely.

20 October 1944

No mission.

21 October 1944

No mission.

22 October 1944

Nine crews took part in today's mission to Hannover, Germany, all returned.

[REDACTED]

23 October 1944

No mission.

24 October 1944

Mission scrubbed.

25 October 1944

Nine crews participated in a mission to Hamburg, Germany. All returned safely.

26 October 1944

Nine crews were sent out on a mission to Bielefeld, Germany. All returned.

27 October 1944

Major Raymond A. Syptak today assumed command of the squadron. Mission scrubbed.

28 October 1944

The squadron put up nine crews for a mission to Munster, Germany, and all returned safely.

29 October 1944

No mission.

30 October 1944

Ten crews took part in another mission to Munster, Germany. All returned.

31 October 1944

No mission.

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[REDACTED]

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
94th Combat Wing
457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 November to 30 November 1944

[REDACTED]
DECLASSIFIED
BY [REDACTED]
ON [REDACTED]

Compiled by:
HUGH M. HAMILL,
1st Lt., A. C.,
Sqn Historian.

[REDACTED]

5882-109

[REDACTED]

1 November 1944

No mission.

2 November 1944

Nine crews participated in a mission to Merseburg, Germany. All returned.

3 November 1944

No mission.

4 November 1944

No mission.

5 November 1944

Eleven crews took part in a mission to Frankfurt, Germany. All returned safely.

6 November 1944

The squadron sent up 9 crews on a mission to Hamburg, Germany. All returned.

7 November 1944

No mission.

8 November 1944

Ten crews were put up on a mission to Merseburg, Germany, but the mission was recalled. The aircraft piloted by 1st Lt. Arnet L. Furr was lost as the result of a mid-air collision over the English Channel. The whole crew is missing in action. The members: Lt. Furr; 2nd Lt. Sterling H. Book, Jr., co-pilot; 2nd Lt. Joseph W. Andrews, Jr., Navigator; 2nd Lt. Leon M. Plagianos, Bombardier; T/Sgt. Donald D. Brunsvold, Top Turret Gunner; T/Sgt. Richard C. Weaver, Radio Operator; S/Sgt. Leroy E. Wetzel, Tail Gunner; S/Sgt. Warren M. Rankin, Ball Turret Gunner; S/Sgt. Glenn M. Wisdom, Waist Gunner.

9 November 1944

Ten crews participated in mission to Metz, Germany. All returned safely.

10 November 1944

No mission.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
11 November 1944

No mission.

12 November 1944

Mission scrubbed.

13 November 1944

No mission.

14 November 1944

Mission scrubbed.

15 November 1944

No mission.

16 November 1944

Nine crews took part in a mission to bomb gun emplacements and enemy troop concentrations near Eschweiler, Germany. All returned safely.

17 November 1944

No mission.

18 November 1944

No mission.

19 November 1944

No mission.

20 November 1944

No mission.

21 November 1944

Ten crews participated in another mission to Merseburg, Germany. All returned in safety.

[REDACTED]

22 November 1944

No mission.

23 November 1944

The squadron sent ten crews on a mission to Gelsenkirchen, Germany. All returned.

24 November 1944

No mission.

25 November 1944

Nine crews took part in a mission to Merseburg, Germany. All returned to base except the crew of 2nd Lt. Jack E. Wescott, whose aircraft left the formation after the target due to lack of oxygen and was hit by flak at 2000 feet over Dunkirk. The plane was crash-landed in a turnip field near Marck, France. No one was injured.

26 November 1944

Ten crews were sent on a mission to Misburg, Germany. All returned.

27 November 1944

Mission scrubbed.

28 November 1944

No mission.

29 November 1944

Thirteen crews participated in another mission to Misburg, Germany. All returned.

30 November 1944

The squadron put up ten crews for a mission to Bohlen, Germany. All returned safely.

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 December 1944 to 31 December 1944

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Compiled by: HUGH M. HAMILL,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

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7292-12-E

S E C R E T

1 December 1944

No mission.

2 December 1944

Major Leon (NMI) Stamm assumed command of the Squadron. No mission.

3 December 1944

Mission scrubbed.

4 December 1944

10 crews participated in a mission to Kassel, Germany. All returned.

5 December 1944

No mission.

6 December 1944

8 crews took part in a mission to Merseburg, Germany and all returned safely. Capt. Lady led the low squadron.

7 December 1944

Mission scrubbed.

8 December 1944

No mission.

9 December 1944

The Squadron put up 10 crews on a mission to Stuttgart, Germany. All returned safely.

10 December 1944

No mission.

11 December 1944

9 crews participated in a mission to Frankfurt, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the low squadron.

12 December 1944

10 crews participated in a raid over Merseburg, Germany. All returned safely. Major Stamm led the group.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

13 December 1944

1st Lt. William C. Watts was designated Squadron Navigator. No mission.

14 December 1944

No mission.

15 December 1944

The squadron sent out 10 crews on a mission to Kassel, Germany. All returned. Lt. Herbold led the high squadron.

16 December 1944

No mission.

17 December 1944

No mission.

18 December 1944

10 crews took part in a mission to Germany. The mission was recalled on account of weather. All crews returned safely.

19 December 1944

Only 4 crews participated in a mission to Gemund, Germany. The weather prevented them from joining other crews. All returned to England but landed at other bases.

20 December 1944

No mission.

21 December 1944

No mission.

22 December 1944

No mission.

23 December 1944

No mission. 2nd Lt. Clifford (NMI) Hendrickson, pilot, and the following six members of his crew were killed when the A/C in which they were flying from Port Reath toward their home base crashed. They had landed at Port Reath after the mission of 19 December: F/O Joseph L. Kilmer, Navigator; F/O David

S E C R E T

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E. Williams, Jr., Bombardier; Sgt. George H. Bruer, Top turret gunner; Sgt. Edmund T. Fitzgerald, Jr., Waist gunner; Sgt. George B. Hawley, Ball turret gunner; and Sgt. Robert H. Riedel, Radio operator. The co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Walter B. Graves was fatally injured, dying on 24 December. The only surviving member of the crew was the tail gunner, Sgt. Clifford A. Heinrich, who was seriously injured.

24 December 1944

12 crews participated in two efforts in bad weather against Koblenz and other targets. All returned. Capt. Knudson led the low squadron and Lt. Nowling the high squadron.

25 December 1944

No mission.

26 December 1944

No mission.

27 December 1944

9 crews took part in a mission to Gerolstein, Germany. All returned. Lt. Hedrick led the low squadron. 2nd Lt. Edwin C. Braun, tail gunner in the lead aircraft was wounded by flak in the foot.

28 December 1944

No mission.

29 December 1944

The squadron put up 10 crews on a mission to Bingen, Germany. Major Stann led the Group and Capt. Lady led the low squadron. All returned safely.

30 December 1944

Ten crews were sent out on a mission to Kaiserslautern. All returned to base except Lt. McCall who was forced by mechanical trouble to land on the continent; no one in his aircraft was injured.

31 December 1944

Ten crews participated in a mission to Krefeld-Jerdingen. All returned safely.

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 January 1945 to 31 January 1945

RESTRICTED
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DOD P. 520019

Compiled by: HUGH M. HAMILL,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

~~SECRET~~

7292-12-D

S E C R E T

1 January 1945

10 crews participated in mission to Kassel. All returned. Capt. Lady led the low squadron and Lt. Hedrick the high squadron.

2 January 1945

The squadron put up 10 crews on a mission to Mayen, Germany, and all returned.

3 January 1945

9 crews took part in a mission to Cologne, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the low squadron and Lt. Hedrick the high squadron.

4 January 1945

Stand down.

5 January 1945

Stand down.

6 January 1945

10 crews were sent up by the squadron on a mission to Kempenich, Germany, and all returned. Major Stann led the group.

7 January 1945

10 crews took part in a mission to Bitburg, Germany - all returned. Capt. Herbold led the low squadron.

8 January 1945

Stand down.

9 January 1945

Stand down.

10 January 1945

11 crews participated in a mission to Euskirchen, Germany. Lt. Hedrick led the high squadron. All crews returned safely except the crew of 2nd Lt. Frederick C. Gauss. Lt. Gauss was killed when he tried to parachute to safety from his burning plane south southwest of Louvain, Belgium. His chute apparently failed to open when he bailed out too close to the ground. The plane had caught fire for undetermined reasons enroute to the target. All other members of the crew parachuted safely and subsequently were returned to base uninjured.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

11 January 1945

Stand down.

12 January 1945

Stand down.

13 January 1945

The squadron sent out 10 crews on a mission to Maximiliansau, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the low squadron.

14 January 1945

4 crews took part in a mission to Cologne, Germany. All returned safely.

15 January 1945

Mission scrubbed.

16 January 1945

Mission scrubbed.

17 January 1945

8 crews participated in a mission to Paderborn, Germany - all returned.

18 January 1945

Mission scrubbed.

19 January 1945

Stand down.

20 January 1945

9 crews took part in a mission to Rheine, Germany. All returned. Lst Lt. Horace B. Whipple, bombardier, was wounded by flak.

21 January 1945

The squadron sent out 10 crews on a mission to Aschaffenburg, Germany. All returned. Capt. Knudson led the low squadron.

22 January 1945

7 crews participated in a mission to Sterkrade, Germany. All returned.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

23 January 1945

Stand down.

24 January 1945

Stand down.

25 January 1945

Stand down.

26 January 1945

Stand down.

27 January 1945

Mission scrubbed.

28 January 1945

10 crews took part in a mission to Cologne, Germany. Capt. Lady led the low squadron. All returned except the crew of 1st Lt. Wallace F. Boyes, Jr., pilot, whose aircraft was last seen leaving the formation a few minutes after bombs away with one engine feathered. Besides Lt. Boyes the crew included the following:

1st Lt. Elmer W. Felgenhauer, Co-Pilot
2nd Lt. Kenneth J. Furst, Navigator
2nd Lt. Merritt D. Turner, Bombardier
T/Sgt. Francis J. Horan, Top turret gunner
T/Sgt. Abraham Feldman, Radio operator
S/Sgt. Frank Trapani, Ball turret gunner
S/Sgt. Roy S. Duitman, Waist gunner
S/Sgt. Robert A. Dilley, Tail gunner

29 January 1945

9 crews were sent out on a mission to Siegen, Germany, and all returned safely. Major Stamm led the group.

30 January 1945

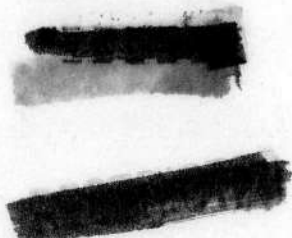
Stand down. 1st Lt. Marsh (NMI) Hovey was designated Squadron Navigator.

31 January 1945

Mission scrubbed.

S E C R E T

50-BOMB-749-H1
1 Feb. 45
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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 February 1945 to 28 February 1945

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

Compiled by: HUGH M. HAMILL,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian



7292-12-0

[REDACTED]

1 February 1945

The squadron put up ten crews on a mission to Ludwigshafen, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the low squadron.

2 February 1945

Mission scrubbed.

3 February 1945

Ten crews participated in a mission to Berlin, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the high squadron.

4 February 1945

Stand down.

5 February 1945

Mission scrubbed.

6 February 1945

Ten crews took part in a mission to Schmalkalden, Germany. All returned. Capt. Herbold led the high squadron.

7 February 1945

Stand down.

8 February 1945

Mission scrubbed.

9 February 1945

The squadron sent out ten crews on a mission to Lutzkendorf, Germany. All returned.

10 February 1945

Ten crews were put up by the squadron on a mission to Dulmen, Germany. All returned. Capt. Herbold led the high squadron.

11 February 1945

Stand down.

[REDACTED]

S E C R E T

12 February 1945

Stand down.

13 February 1945

Mission scrubbed.

14 February 1945

Ten crews took part in a mission to Dresden, Germany. All returned. Capt. Gibbons led the low squadron.

15 February 1945

Seven crews participated in a mission to Dresden, Germany. All returned.

16 February 1945

The squadron sent out 7 crews on a mission to Gelsenkirchen. All returned.

17 February 1945

Stand down.

18 February 1945

Mission scrubbed.

19 February 1945

Ten crews took part in a mission to Gelsenkirchen, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the high squadron and Capt. Hedrick the low squadron.

20 February 1945

The squadron put up ten crews on a mission to Nurnberg, Germany. All returned. Capt. Herbold led the low squadron.

21 February 1945

The squadron again put up ten crews on a mission to Nurnberg, Germany. All returned. Capt. Lady led the low squadron.

22 February 1945

Ten crews participated in a mission to Salzwedel, Germany. All returned. Major Stam led the Group, and Capt. Knudson led the low squadron.

S E C R E T

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23 February 1945

Ten crews took part in a mission to Bamberg, Germany. All returned. Capt. Hedrick led the low squadron.

24 February 1945

Nine crews took part in a mission to Hamburg, Germany. All returned.

25 February 1945

The squadron put up eleven crews in a mission to Munich, Germany. All returned. Capt. Gibbons led the low squadron and Capt. Herbold led the high squadron.

26 February 1945

The squadron sent out ten crews on a mission to Berlin, Germany. All returned.

27 February 1945

Ten crews participated in a mission to Leipzig, Germany. All returned. Capt. Knudson led the low squadron.

28 February 1945

Eight crews took part in a mission to Soest, Germany. All returned. Capt. Gibbons, leading the low squadron, was rescued from the English Channel off North Foreland by Air/Sea Rescue after the aircraft in which he was flying caught fire and plunged into the water forcing the crew to bail out. Capt. gibbons was the only member from the 749th Squadron.

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 March 1945 to 31 March 1945

Compiled by: CHARLES S. PELLINGER,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200

7292-12-13

[REDACTED]

Lt. Charles S. Pellingier has replaced Lt. Hugh M. Hamill as Squadron Historical Officer VOCO. Lt. Pellingier joined the squadron as Assistant Intelligence Officer as his principal duty.

Officers and enlisted men have been transferred in and out of the unit leaving the assigned and attached strength at 116 officers and 452 enlisted men - a loss of three from each group as compared with last month.

The unit staff officers for the month are as follows:

Commanding Officer	Major Leon Stann
Executive Officer.....	Major John B. Roberts
S-1	Capt. LeRoy R. Barber
S-2	Capt. Larry D. McDonald
S-3	Capt. William L. Gibbons
S-4	1st Lt. Charles R. Love
Sqdn Navigator	Capt. Marsh Hovey
Sqdn Bombardier	1st Lt. Clinton E. Wells
Armament Officer	Capt. Saul Tobias
Engineering Officer	Capt. Guy C. Sturdevant
Ordnance Officer	1st Lt. Leigh Stanton
Communications Officer	1st Lt. George F. Tighe

Both officers and enlisted men also received their share of glory with promotions - 10 officers and 50 enlisted men receiving boosts in rank and grade.

This month saw plenty of flying activity with the return of good spring weather. It is possibly the greatest month of aerial activity for this squadron since the start of World War II; rail, industrial and oil targets were hit - vital to Hitler's sagging Festung Europa.

Twenty-three days out of the month saw this squadron in the air with an average of approximately nine A/C and crews up in the "blue" on the designated flying days over targets on the continent. On three days - 2nd, 3rd and 5th - Chemnitz was the assigned target which was bombed with obliterating results as was the raid of 7th on the Soest Marshalling Yards, repair shops and locomotive depot. Also included on the list was the devastating raid on the submarine pens at Swinemunde of the 12th. The Allies hoped on this raid to knock out the Nazi U-boat building activities there which will, in all probability, be their last bid to win the war in hopes of crippling our vital merchant marine - so precious in getting supplies and reinforcements to our fighting men on the European fronts. The raid, according to photo intelligence reports, was highly successful.

The capital city of Berlin received its share of the weight of our bombs, as it has in the months gone by, on the 18th and 28th of the month.
(1) Morning Report, 22 March 1945.

[REDACTED]

Of the 16 A/C and crews which participated, one A/C with its occupants failed to return on the 18th - the plane piloted by Craig P. Greason, 1st Lt., O-825340. The entire crew (1) along with Lt. Greason were missing in action for several days, but only a few days ago the unit received the good news that they were safe - joyous news to the families of the men who had been notified by the War Department.

The squadron mourns the loss of F/O Kenneth R. Wall, T-132528, who was reported killed in action as a result of enemy flak on the Osnabruck raid of the 21 March (2).

Other important strategic targets were Recklinghausen, which was bombed on successive days - 23rd and 24th, Bremen, Kassel, and Fulda. The latter raid on the marshalling yards there, PRU reports on this target show sidings disrupted along with the passenger station, repair shops, and boiler house.

The S-3, operations section of the unit, had a banner month with an average of 15 planes operational per day, while losing only one A/C during the month to enemy action, and another being transferred out of the squadron. However, to take their place one new A/C was received and will be included in the squadron's daily status report. A great deal of credit should go to Capt. Guy C. Sturdevant for his efficient engineering section for maintaining such a large number of A/C during a busy month of activity.

The squadron area has taken on a tone of color with the men grabbing brushes, and lending their artistic talents to livening the fronts of their Nissen Huts. A walk through the area would convince one that the squadron under the able leadership of Major Leon Stamm, had received a "shot in the arm" with men out paving the walks and landscaping the grounds with flowers - a barometer which should read - and does - that the morale has reached a new high.

Major Stamm received notification that he had been awarded the Silver Star for "brilliant leadership and quick actions at a time of extreme emergency can be attributed the success of the operations and a safe return of A/C and crew" on a mission over Germany. (3) All the squadron is mighty proud of their "C.O."

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Ralph L. Gray, 2nd Lt. O-833910 | (2) Morning Report 21 March 1945. |
| Rudolph (NMI) Haumann, 2nd Lt. O-2660279 | |
| William R. Wagner, T/Sgt. 16169775 | |
| Thomas E. Madigan, S/Sgt. 12206898 | |
| Blair (NMI) Arsenault, Jr., S/Sgt. 31262754 | |
| Ralph S. Ingraham, S/Sgt. 31150089 | |
| Garland J. Frost, S/Sgt. 37724876 | |
| Kenneth L. Haseltine, S/Sgt. 31351753 | |

- (3) Authority G.O. #34, Hq. 8AF dated 5 March 1945.

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SQ-BOMB-749 H
1 Apr. 45
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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

749TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945

Compiled by: CHARLES S. PELLINGER,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Sqdn Historian.

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9292-12-A

S E C R E T

The "Fighting 749th" continues to be one of the most active squadrons of the Group exemplified by its accomplishments during the month.

Officers and enlisted men have been transferred in and out of unit leaving the assigned and attached strength at 121 officers and 443 enlisted men - a gain of 5 officers and a loss of 9 enlisted men as compared with last month.

On the 13th of the month the C.O., Major Stann received the news that he had received his temporary appointment to Lt. Colonel (1), and of course he was pleased as was the entire squadron for both enlisted men and officers alike are very fond of the "Old Man."

The staff officers of the squadron remained the same with the exception of the appointment of 1st Lt. Dale E. Baldwin as Squadron Bombardier to replace Capt. Clinton E. Wells. Incidentally Capt. Wells is a brand-spanking new Captain too (2), receiving his captaincy during the month. "Congrats" to Capt. Wells! We're sure that Lt. Baldwin will handle his job with the same finesse and spirit as did his predecessor.

Other officers and enlisted men also were promoted - 16 officers and 34 enlisted men receiving boosts in rank and grade, in addition to the two previously mentioned.

With continuing good weather carried over from last month, the squadron was busy carrying its loads over both Germany and occupied France, hitting both airfields and transportation centers so necessary to Germany's war machine which was sagging with the weight of allied bombs.

Fourteen days out of the month saw the units' aircraft in the air with approximately 8 aircraft and crews on the designated days. On the 14th and 15th, Groups of the 1st Division, in cooperation with a drive by the French Army to eliminate a German pocket of resistance, struck at enemy gun emplacements at Royan, France, near the mouth of Gironde River, 60 miles north of Bordeaux. The 749th was no exception on these days and with a total of 18 A/C and crews up for the two days, attacked this target which marked the first time the squadron or the 1st Division had attacked objectives in France since 9 November 1944, when the tactical targets in the Metz Area were pounded prior to the new offensive put on by General Patton's 3rd Army.

With clear weather in our favor, the squadron had 16 aircraft and crews out on the 8th and 20th April when the targets of Halberstadt and Seddin, transportation centers, were bombed with considerable damage to repair shops

- (1) Authority Par 11, SO 89, Hq. 8AF, dated 30 March 1945.
- (2) Authority Par 7, SO 100, Hq. 8AF, dated 10 April 1945.

S E C R E T

SECRET

and rolling stock at both cities being scored.

Jet airfields in the Berlin area were pounded on the 9th of the month, which inflicted severe damage to the field and made the runways at Furstentfeldbruck totally unserviceable.

On the 10 April the squadron with 9 A/C and crews up, attacked Oranienburg with its large ordnance depot. This mission provoked strong jet-fighter opposition from the nearby fields in the area. Aircraft #44-8368 with Capt. Melvin M. Fox, pilot of the plane, and his crew are M.I.A., possibly as a result of "jets" which were attacking that day singly and in pairs approaching from 6 o'clock. Four officers and 3 enlisted men of the crew failed to return - all popular members of our "combat crew family." Their loss is mourned by the entire squadron.

The Operations' Section had another "bang up" month with a total of 126 planes over Hitler's Europe. The Engineering Section, under the capable direction of Capt. Sturdevant, had its usual share of troubles but managed to come out about even for the month with one A/C salvaged and another coming in to take its place.

The Flying Fortress "Pistol Packing Mama" Rene III, (A/C #42-38113), will fly no more for it met a noble death when it crashed on a recent mission to Hopsten, Germany. This aircraft was the one thousandth B-17 produced at the Boeing Plant at Long Beach, California, and presented to Lt. Col. James R. Luper, pilot and former commanding officer of this Group. Rene III began her tour of active combat duty in the European Theatre of Operations and was one of the ships in the Group formation on the 1st mission of the Group and her first mission.

On her active tour of duty, Rene III flew 63 missions and during this time had three crash landings, and suffered minor or major damage on thirteen different occasions. On its last mission to Hopsten, Germany, Lt. Greason and his crew had bailed out when the valiant ship pummeling to the ground exploded as it crashed into a factory building in the town - a glorious ending to a "valiant warrior" in this fight for a democratic way of life.

Officers and enlisted men alike received their share of awards and decorations for their flying prowess with one officer, Lt. Bernard (NMI) Liss receiving the Purple Heart, having been wounded in a flight over Lohne, Germany last month. A grand and staggering total of 239 OLC and 31 Air Medals were given out to men of this "Fighting Aggregation." Col. Stann can well be proud of his fine teams.

Men of the 749th can wear their insignia now with pride and confidence for its approval has been received from Washington (1). Squadron achievements

(1) Attached see Photostatic Copy of Letter dated 9 April 1945 from Hqs. AAF, Washington, D.C. and Insignia.

SECRET

SECRET



HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

AAF 721 (749th Bomb. Sqn.) 9 April 1945.

ATTENTION: Aircraft marking for the 749th Bombardment Squadron (H).
TO: Commanding Officer, 457th Bombardment Group (H), A.F.C. 557,
c/o Postmaster, New York City.

SUBJECT: Aircraft marking for the 749th Bombardment Squadron (H).
By authority delegated to the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, by AG Letter 400.161 (12-7-42) OB-S-A, dated 19 December 1942, the following insignia for the marking of aircraft of the 749th Bombardment Squadron (H), Army Air Forces, is approved:

AIRCRAFT MARKING:
On a light blue disc, border grayed medium blue, a red devil standing, airplane, proper, wearing a black cape lined on under side with light yellow green, holding a large aerial bomb with black nose, and yellow tail section, under the left arm, and hurling a like bomb toward base, with the right arm, as per record drawing.

HISTORY:
The 749th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, was organized as the 749th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), which was constituted and authorized to be activated on 1 July 1943 per AG 322 (2-18-43) OB-1-1-PPG-M, dated 19 May 1943; activated at the Army Air Base, Gettysburg Field, Washington, on 1 July 1943; reorganized as the 749th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on 27 September 1944, in accordance with T/O 1-117, dated 21 July 1944.

The 749th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, has no other history, and its battle honors have not been determined.

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:
Robert G. Jones
ROBERT G. JONES,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Chief, Personnel Services Division,
Office, Asst. Chief of Air Staff,

SECRET

S E C R E T

have been many, testified in part to a series of letters and pictures which are attached and self-explanatory, and as one officer put it, "The finest Squadron in the Most Outstanding Group of the greatest Air Force" about sums up how we all feel about our squadron (2).

(2) See attached Exhibit "A" and "B" of pictures of Squadron Area.

S E C R E T