

*SECRET*U.S.A.A.F.  
FORM 34AOPREP A

TO : CG, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army (Attention: 26th SCW).  
 CG, XIX Tactical Air Command, APO 141, U S Army (Attention: Stat Contl Sec).  
 CG, 303rd Fighter Wing, APO 141, U S Army (Attention: Stat Contl Officer).

FROM: Hq 373rd Fighter Group, APO 141, U S Army, 19 July 1944.

REF : Oprep A No Y19A: For 24 hour period ending sunset 19 July 1944.  
 Mission No 111: (1st of 2 missions) IX Fltr Gmd Operations Order No 458.

(TIGER - TRUMPET - CHARTRES, FOUNTAINBLAU,  
 ORLEANS, CHATEAUDUN, CHARTRES AREA)

- A. \* T/U 1345 Woodchurch. Group of 3 squadrons: A410, 12 planes; B411, 10 planes; C412, 12 planes. 34 P-47's. This group dive bombed targets in the Chartres, Fountainblau, Orleans, Chateaudun, Chartres Area. "B" squadron provided top cover for the group. L/T in was made at 1437 hours at St Valery at 12-14,000 feet. L/T out was made at 1604 hours at St Valery at 12-16,000 feet. Time over target was from 1503 to 1540 hours. Bombs dropped on rolling stock and tracks with the peel off being made at 12-13,000 feet and the bombs being dropped from 300 to 3,000 feet at a 50 to 60 degree angle dive. 24 bombs dropped on tracks and about 200 mixed cars most of which were goods cars in trains with no engine between Cercottes (W-6449) and Artenay (W-6459) north of Orleans. Claim 30-40 cars destroyed; about 20 damaged; about 10 probably destroyed. Tracks cut in many places. One a/c strafed flak tower at Cercottes and silenced same. 8 aircraft bombed 200 oil, flat, and box cars on northern outskirts of Etamps (X-010920). 14 hits on tracks and cars observed. 25 to 30 cars claimed damaged. 5 fires observed. 8 aircraft strafed same train damaging 2 locomotives, elevator, warehouse on side of tracks and oil cars. 2 aircraft strafed string of 30 cars at Petay (W510560). Claim 5 damaged. 3 aircraft jettisoned bombs at W620680, and strafed and destroyed plane which made forced landing. Flak encountered: meagre light inaccurate from Cercottes flak tower. Weather: over target 8-10/10, base 2-5,000 feet, top 7-10,000 feet, haze, visibility 6 miles. Enroute 10/10, base 1,000 feet, top 7-8,000 feet, haze, visibility 6-8 miles. T/D 1746 Woodchurch.
- B. (I) - 34  
 (II) - 34  
 (III) - NIL  
 (IV) - NIL  
 (V) - 1 (Strafed and destroyed, in flames, by this group after forced landing)  
 (VI) - NIL  
 (VII) - NIL  
 (VIII) - 34
- C. (I) - 16 (108 gal US, belly, metal, British) Woodchurch.  
 - 10 (108 gal US, belly, plastic, British) Woodchurch.  
 - 8 (150 gal US, belly, metal, American) Woodchurch.  
 (II) - 8 (108 gal US, belly, metal, British)  
 - 10 (108 gal US, belly, plastic, British)
- D. (I) - 101.00  
 (II) - NIL
- E. (I) - 57,800 x 50 Woodchurch.  
 (II) - 9,800 x 50  
 (III) - 1,700 x 50
- F. (I) - 48 (500 lb. GP, 8-10 sec. delay fuse) Woodchurch.  
 (II) - 40  
 (III) - 6 (Bomb release mechanism)  
 (IV) - 2
- G. - 1st Lt. I. G. Hunsberger, 412th Fighter Squadron made forced landing.  
 H. - NIL

HENRY C. KIRK,  
 Captain, Air Corps,  
 Stat Control Officer.

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Authority *110745005*By *JR* NARA Date *9/11/03*