

# 398th Bombardier's Narratives

26 August 1944

Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery  
Gelsenkirchen, Germany  
Secondary: Deelan, Holland

## Lead Group 1st "A" CBW [600th]

HEADQUARTERS  
398TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF  
Office of the Group Bombardier  
APO 557

26 August 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Mission 26 August, 1944, Lead Group

TO: Commanding Officer, 398th Bombardment Group (H), AAF, APO 557,  
Station 131.

1. Target - Synthetic Oil Plant, Gelsenkirchen, Germany, the primary target was not bombed as briefed. Secondary target Deslen, Holland was bombed instead. Length of bomb run was 3 minutes on a magnetic heading of 297 degrees; IAS 150 mph; indicated altitude of 29,000 ft; bombs dropped on Group Leader at 1240.
2. Main Bombfall: 12 A/C in the 398th Lead Group dropped 72 x 500 lb M64 RDX bombs. Three of the A/C jettisoned 20 x 500 lb M64 RDX bombs. One (1) of the A/C returned 4 x 500 lb M64 RDX bombs. Fuse settings: 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail.
3. Allen, B.O., 1st Lt., was the lead bombardier for the Lead Group. No fighters were encountered over either target. Flak over primary target was intense and low. Primary target was not identified because of haze so secondary target was bombed on C-1 pilot which operated correctly. Turn at IP was moderate.

# 398th Bombardier's Narratives

26 August 1944

Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery

Gelsenkirchen, Germany

Secondary: Deelan, Holland

## Lead Group 1st "A" CBW [600th]

### TABULAR SUMMARY

	A/C on Target	Bombing	Number of Bombs
Main Bombfall	10	10	72 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Other Attacks	0	0	0
Total on Target	10	10	72 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Bombs Returned			4 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Others Expended	Jettisoned		20 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Total (Loaded on A/C at T.O.)			96 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail

Carl J. Strickrott,  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Group Bombardier

## **398th Bombardier's Narratives**

**26 August 1944**

**Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery  
Gelsenkirchen, Germany  
Secondary: Deelan, Holland**

### **High Group 1st "A" CBW [601st]**

HEADQUARTERS  
398TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF  
Office of the Group Bombardier  
APO 557

26 August 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Mission 26 August, 1944, High Group

TO: Commanding Officer, 398th Bombardment Group (H), AAF, APO 557,  
Station 131.

1. Target - Synthetic Oil Plant, Gelsenkirchen, Germany the primary target was not bombed as briefed. No target was bombed by this group. Magnetic heading of 340 degrees; IAS 150 mph; indicated altitude of 29,500 ft.

2. Main Bombfall: 8 A/C in the 398th High Group jettisoned 38 x 500 lb M64 RDX bombs and 10 x 500 lb M64 GP bombs. 7 A/C in the 398th High Group returned 48 x 500 lb M64 RDX bombs and 8 x 500 lb M64 GP bombs. Fuse settings: 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail.

3. Velez, L.B., 1st Lt., was the lead bombardier for the High Group. The primary target was not identified due to heavy haze, so a bomb run using C-1 pilot, which operated correctly, was made on the secondary target. At the point of release, counter dial on the [intervalometer] went to zero which was followed by salvo but the bomb did not release. Bombs were returned to base. No fighters over either target were encountered. At the primary target the turn at the IP was erratic. Flak was intense and low.

# 398th Bombardier's Narratives

26 August 1944

Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery

Gelsenkirchen, Germany

Secondary: Deelan, Holland

## High Group 1st "A" CBW [601st]

### TABULAR SUMMARY

	A/C on Target	Bombing	Number of Bombs
Main Bombfall	0	0	0
Other Attacks	0	0	0
Total on Target	0	0	0
Bombs Returned			48 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail 8 x 500 lb M64 GP 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Others Expended	Jettisoned		38 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/10 tail 10 x 500 lb M64 GP 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Total (Loaded on A/C at T.O.)			86 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail 18 x 500 lb M64 GP 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail

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Group Bombardier

## **398th Bombardier's Narratives**

**26 August 1944**

**Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery  
Gelsenkirchen, Germany  
Secondary: Deelan, Holland**

### **Low Group 1st "A" CBW [603rd]**

HEADQUARTERS  
398TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF  
Office of the Group Bombardier  
APO 557

26 August 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Low Group

TO: Commanding Officer, 398th Bombardment Group (H), AAF, APO 557,  
Station 131.

1. Target - Synthetic Oil Plant at Gelsenkirchen, Germany the primary target was bombed as briefed. Length of bomb run was 8 minutes on a magnetic heading of 226 degrees; IAS was 150 mph; indicated altitude 28,500 ft; bombs dropped on Group Leader at 1232.

2. Main Bombfall: 12 A/C in the 398th Low Group dropped 96 x 500 lb M64 RDX bombs. One (1) of the A/C [Jordan] bombed a target of opportunity, coordinates are 52 degrees 39'N 08 degrees 00' E due to two (2) engines being out. Fuse settings: 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail.

3. Moskowitz, S.R., 1st Lt., was the lead bombardier for the Low Group. Briefed target was not identified due to heavy haze. The pilot ordered that the bombs be dropped on a city west of assigned AP. C-1 pilot was used on the run and operated correctly. No fighters were encountered. Flak was intense and low. Turn at IP was erratic.

# 398th Bombardier's Narratives

26 August 1944

Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery

Gelsenkirchen, Germany

Secondary: Deelan, Holland

## Low Group 1st "A" CBW [603rd]

### TABULAR SUMMARY

	A/C on Target	Bombing	Number of Bombs
Main Bombfall	11	11	88 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Other Attacks	1	1	8 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Total on Target			96 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail
Bombs Returned			0
Others Expended			0
Total (Loaded on A/C at T.O.)			96 x 500 lb M64 RDX 1/10 nose, 1/40 tail

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