

398th Bombardment Group Formation Chart

Mission 120: 12 December 1944 - Target Attacked: Merseburg, Germany Over Target

Lead Squadron "A" Group 1st CBW	HUNTER 600	12 December 1944
Squadron Leader	McLaughlin 8483-T PFF	
	Grinter 2536-C	Markley Mann 8373-K PFF
Johnson, J.L. 8853-L		Cummings 7249-P
Lipnick 2507-F	Hicks 8805-Z	Riley 2487-B
Monitor (*)		Sponholtz 8564-X
	Tolochko 6157-W	Monitor (*) C Monitor
	Runnion 2418-M	Johnson, T 2592-G

Low Squadron "A" Group 1st CBW	SCOTT 603	
Squadron Leader	Brandstatter 8697-M	
	Pinner 8669-G	Spangler 8086-C
		Smith 8895-V
	Hunt 8620-F	Steele 7982-K
		Tarr 8631-T
	Powell 8864-F	Stravinski 6573-N
		Thomas 7977-R

High Squadron "A" Group 1st CBW	STALLCUP 601	
Squadron Leader	Hosman 8044-X PFF	
	Delancey 8708-T	Brown 7889-B
		Cucco 8730-R
Zinter 7203-Z	Sitler 2596-N	Landrum 7190-L
		Watkins 7338-C
	Blackwell 8627-Z	
	Morrison 8661-P	Magness 7509-J

Times	Lead	High	Lead	Low	File 484d Roll # 2 PDF 1730-1736
Stations	0700	0710	0710	0710	
Take Off	0800	0810	0815	0820	Prepared by: Tom Brantley Dec 2008

600 * unreadable
 603 Returned early 8794-J Spitzer and 2469-Q Stockman; 7150-K Aniello failed to take off
 601 8620-F Hunt replaced Stockman and A/C 8121-Q Palant target of opportunity.

See Composite Screening Force on Next Page

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Composite Screening Force		ROONEY 602		12 December 1944	
After assembly and Over Target		Leukhardt 8398-Q PFF			
		Zimmerman 7810-S	Van Opdorp Shappell 7754-M PFF (*)		
91st					
91st	91st			Doerr 8274-B	
		91st	91st	Comstock 8652-V C Mon 67th Ftr	Shaffer 8811-R B Mon

Times
Stations 0655
Take Off 0755

(*) Loan 91st BG 401 Sqdn

All A/C will carry Chaff except (2) PFF 1739

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Composite Screening Force:

This group was led by Rooney – Leukhardt. It was a composite of 398th and 91st BG aircraft and men.

Chaff an artificial cloud consisting of a large metallic strips of foil dropped into the air for reflecting radar waves as for confusing an enemy's radar detection,

Note take-off of the Screening Formation was 0755. Last take off of 398th attacking formation 0820.

Chaff (or Screening) Formation was to arrive over target area and drop prior to arrival of attack group. The chaff formation was not part of the 1st Bombardment Wing formation and returned to base after dropping chaff. Reports of the mission stated that screening was a success.