

JULY 20, 1944

6-100048

No. 27 WIERZIG 24,000'

NOT VERY EAGER TO GO
ON THIS MISSION TODAY. START-
ED AS AIRBORNE SPARE SO
DIDN'T THINK WE WOULD.

THREE ABORTIONS FIXED
THAT. FILLED IN 2ND ELEMENT
LEAD IN HIGH SQUADRON.

HAD A LOT OF TROUBLE ON
THE CLIMB IN, DUE TO POOR
SQUADRON LEAD & LOW AIRSPEED
(135-140). HIGH SQUADRON
LEADED & ABORTED ABOUT ONE
HOUR FROM TARGET DUE TO
RUNAWAY TURBO. WE MOVED
FORWARD & TOOK OVER SQUAD-
RON LEAD. ENEMY FIGHTERS
IN VICINITY, SO HELD GOOD
FORMATION. EVERYTHING O.K.

TILL THE BOMB RUN. GROUP
LEAD, MAJOR NEWMAN & PETERS,
HIT BY ALMOST DIRECT BURST
OF FLAK, KNOCKING OUT #2
ENGINE. BOMBED MANUAL ON
3 ENGINES. VERY BAD HAZE
& SHARP TURN TO LEFT OFF
TARGET MADE REST OF BOYS
THINK LEAD SHIP GOING
DOWN. GROUP SPLIT UP LEAV-
ING ONLY SIX SHIPS (3 LEAD
& 3 HIGH SQUAD.) AFTER BOMBS
AWAY. WE FILLED IN 2ND
ELEMENT IN LEAD SQUADRON.
GROUP REFORMED 1 1/2 HRS LATER
WORRIED ABOUT FIGHTERS,
BUT HAD GOOD ESCORT.

PICKED UP OUR FIRST FLAK
DAMAGE SINCE STARTING

WITH NEW CREW. FLAK VERY
HEAVY & ACCURATE. LOST ONE
CREW. THINK THEY GOT OUT
OF SHIP O.K. CONTINUOUSLY IN
FLAK FOR ABOUT 15 MINUTES.

FELT THAT I DID GOOD
JOB AS SQUADRON LEAD.

ROUGH MISSION & ALL
TIRED ON RETURN. ONE SHIP
CRACKED UP ON LANDING
TIME, 7:45 HRS.

A/B SPARE!