

For those of you who are following Steve Dixon's 3rd *Target For Tonight!* Campaign game... The date for this mission is the night of 8/9 June 1944 and No. 104 Squadron is heading for Cambrai, France. Here is "R for Roger's" mission AAR. Hope you enjoy!

No. 104 Squadron (KX) Bomber Command - "R for Roger"

8/9 June '44

Mission 13/ TGT - Cambrai France, Zone 5. (Rail)

Formation - Last 1/3.

Moon Phase: Full Moon

Crew:

Name	Rank	Position
Malcolm Fraser	Warrant Officer	Flight Engineer (Wnd)
Gerry Hansen (Lt Wnd-rec) - 1 Fw-190A5)	Flight SGT	Bomb Aimer (MB - Well Done Mission #2)
Jacob Morton	Sergeant	Rear Gunner (1-Ju88c6, 2- ME-110 G4, 1- Do-217N2, 1-Me-110 F4, 1-Ju-88C6)
Alfie "Binky" Williams	Pilot Officer	Navigator
Theodore "Teddy" Fernsby	Flying Officer	Pilot
Jeremiah "Jerry" MacKenzie	Sergeant	Mid-Upper Gunner (2-Ju88c6, 2-Do-217, 1- Fw-190A5, 1-Me-110F-4, 1-Ju-88G7, 1-Ju-88G7)
Oscar Addington	Flight SGT	Wireless Operator/Gunner (2nd Wnd) (Do- 217J1)
Sidney Cartwright	Warrant Officer	Senior Erk

"The Mission to Cambrai..."

Mission Synopsis:

The weather over France and the channel was beginning to clear. The American Army Air Force and the RAF were bombing communications and transportation lines around the clock to isolate the Allied beachheads and stop German reinforcements from reaching Normandy.

The Group's target for tonight was the rail lines at Cambrai, France. No. 104 Squadron was flying in the last 1/3 of the bomber stream. Teddy Fernsby, R for Roger's pilot decided to go to low level on the deck flying after crossing the English Coast at Aldeburgh... There was 50% cloud cover over the channel and the moon was full, Most of the Bomber Stream was flying in the high altitude level heading for Cambrai. Teddy was hoping the Jerries would be too busy with other high flying bombers to come down to on the deck level to chase them... Teddy was right, there was no NF contacts crossing the Channel.

R for Roger crossed the French Coast at barely 200 feet above the wave tops north of Dunkirk. Teddy could see rusting wrecked hulls sunk during the evacuation of Dunkirk atill visible in the surf at the coast line as they flew over head. Roger received some sporadic AA gunfire as the large Lancaster Bomber flashed over the villages at just above roof top level and headed inland at high speed... No damage was taken...

The sky ahead was clear. Teddy could see a glow in the sky on the horizon as bombers unloaded their bombs on Cambrai... Streams of tracers arced upward into the night trying to fend them off... A Searchlight beam found a bomber... several more beams quickly locked on and then streams of tracers converged on the hapless bomber... Suddenly the night sky over the target lit up bright as day as the bombs on board that bomber blew up! Teddy shook his head and said a small prayer for the crew... Roger and its crew flew on, getting ever closer...

Then it was their turn... Teddy pulled the Big Lancaster up to bombing altitude at the orders of the Master Bomber. Jerry AA guns fired upon them and the searchlights tried to lock on to as they raced toward the railyards... Shrapnel rattled thru "R for Roger's" skin and the shock waves from the exploding AA shells bounced them around the sky...

F/SGT Hansen the bomb aimer took over flying "Roger" as they set up to drop... Roger jumped upward several hundred feet as the heavy bomb load dropped away... AA fire continued to harry them as Teddy put the nose down, turned and dived for the coast... They were lucky ... no night fighters pursued them as they raced for the coast and went "Feet Wet"...

Roger's bombs were ON TARGET and strike photos gave them credit for 40% on target. There were no crew casualties and no night fighters claimed as shot down. AA Damage to Roger was minor. Roger returned for a safe landing. Senior Erk WO Cartwright advised "Roger" will be ready for the next mission.

"R for Roger" will be ready for the next mission.
40% of the bombs dropped were On Target.
No Casualties
No Night Fighters Claimed

Photos:
"R for Roger"
The "Cambrai" Mission Map