

AAR Target For Tonight
STEVEN K. DIXON'S ONLINE CAMPAIGN

After Action Report – A-Able
103 Squadron, 15 Group
Halifax

Campaign 3, Mission 11

3/4 JUN 1944

St Medard de Jalles, France, Marshaling Yards

On/Off Target: On Target / 50 %

Crew

Pilot, F/Lt Rudyard Bishop
Navigator, P/O Caley Sadler
Bomb Aimer, P/O Gilroy Hardman
Flight Engineer, W/O Edmund Frost
Wireless/Gunner, Sgt Landon Shepherd
Mid-Upper Gunner, Sgt James Rayden
Tail Gunner, Cpl Phillip Adley

Damage to Aircraft

Damage	Qty	Pts	Total
Tail Ammo Racks	1	1	1
Port Dinghy	1	10	10
Superficial	8	1	8
LW	3	2	6
KIA	1	10	10
Bombs	1	1	1
R/C	1	1	1
Port Dinghy	1	1	1
DR Compass	1	10	10

Peckham Points: 48 Points, ready next mission

Claims

Tail Me-110 G-4

Wounded Crew

Pilot, F/Lt Rudyard Bishop – LW, RTD 11 JUN 1944
Tail, Cpl Phillip Adley – LW, RTD 18 JUN 1944
Flt Engineer, W/O Edmund Frost – KIA

Replacement Crew

Pilot, F/O Ezra Hill

Flight Engineer, Sgt Thane Mather
Tail Gunner, Sgt Erling Rai

AAR

Zone 1 – Clean takeoff, no issues

Zone 2 – Monica chirped briefly. Do-217 J-1 in vicinity, did not spot A-Able.

Zones 3 through 6 – Quiet

Zone 7 – AAA activity was light, scoring no hits on A-Able.

Monica quiet, as a Ju-88 G-7 missed A-Able in the darkness

Zone 8 – No enemy activity

Zone 9 – AAA activity was light, scoring no hits on A-Able.

Me-110 G-4 made a surprise Schrage-Musik attack, damaging the part dinghy. Pilot F/Lt Bishop began evasive action. On its second attack, the Messerschmidt was spotted and fired upon by tail gunner Sgt Adley. Defensive fire knocked out the enemy's starboard engine, forcing the enemy aircraft to break off its attack.

Monica briefly noted a possible contact. A Ju-88 C-6 was in the vicinity of the bomber but did not spot the Halifax.

Zone 10 – AAA activity was light, scoring no hits on A-Able.

An He-219 A-0 missed spotting A-Able.

Zone 11 – AAA activity was light, scoring no hits on A-Able.

An He-219 A-0, possibly the same as the last Zone, made an attacking pass from 6 o'clock low, missing the bomber. Pilot Bishop began evasive action. The Heinkel did not return.

A Do-217 N-2 made a Schrage-Musik attack against A-Able, but missed, and also did not make a re-appearance.

Target area was completely obscured. Despite the hindrance, Bomb Aimer P/O Hardman was able to drop 50% of our delivery on target.

No enemy activity as A-Able made the egress from the target.

Zones 10 and 9 – No enemy activity

Zone 8 – An He-219 A-0 made a Schrage-Musik attack, causing minor damage. Pilot Bishop began evasive action. The Heinkel made a second Schrage attack, this time more effective. No damage was

sustained by the Halifax, but three crew members were injured, including the death of Flight Engineer Frost. The Heinkel did not reappear.

An Me-110 G-4 was spotted making an approach from 3 o'clock level. Mid Upper Gunner Sgt Rayden missed his target, as did the Messerschmidt. Pilot Bishop resumed evasive action. The 110 made another attack, this time from 6 o'clock low. Tail Gunner Adley, in excruciating pain from just losing a toe in the previous attack, struck the attacker's starboard engine. The engine exploded, igniting the wing, with the flames spreading to the enemy's cockpit. The plane began its death dive, with parachutes being observed. Cpl Adley would get receive full credit for the kill.

Zone 7 – For the first time AAA would find and strike A-Able. The Halifax received two minor hits, causing no notable damage to the bomber.

Zone 6 - #1 Engine started to leak oil. The leak was slow, but steady.

AAA found A-Able again but missed this time around.

Zone 5 – No enemy activity. Engine oil leak continues.

Zone 4 - #1 Engine oil leak stopped. Oil loss was not severe enough to affect engine performance.

A Dornier 217 N-2 was spotted making a head on attack from 12 o'clock high. Pilot Bishop Sgt Landon, firing the nose guns missed the attacker. Sgt Rayden, in the Mid-Upper turret, hit the Dornier's starboard engine. As the enemy passed oil was seen streaming behind the aircraft. The Dornier missed.

The enemy fighter made a second attack, this time unseen, from 6 o'clock level. Its attack knocked out the DR Compass, and wounded tail gunner Cpl Adley, his second wound this patrol. The Dornier did not reappear.

Zone 3 – No enemy activity

Zone 2 – Monica woke up twice, but no enemy was spotted by the crew. An Me-110 G-4 and a Ju-88 G-7 each missed spotting the bomber.

Zone 1 – Pilot Bishop brought the Halifax bomber in for a safe landing. The dead and wounded crew were whisked away by ambulance. W/O Frost's body will be returned home for burial services. F/Lt Bishop is expected to be return to full flight duty in a week. Cpl Adley is expected to return to duty in two weeks.