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MISSION # 149

BERLIN

9 MARCH 1944

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

To: COMBOMDIV ONE AND COMBOMWING FORTY: ATTN: A-2

FROM: COMBOMGR 92

NARRATIVE REPORT:

1. A/C 42-37735 dropped 50 bundles of USG 29 leaflets over the industrial center of Berlin at 1356 hours at 24,000 feet.

2. No strike photos are available for this mission. Crews report bombing S.O.R. on PFF technique thru a solid 10/10th undercast. The secondary target was attacked. No results of bombing were visible.

3. Crews reported seeing no enemy aircraft whatsoever. One crew claims seeing 4 JU-88's over Holland and 3 ME-109's at the I.P. which were in the distance and made no attempt to attack. No further details were reported.

4. At Alkmaar, Meppel, and Diepholz meager inaccurate black continuously pointed gunfire was encountered. From the direction of Hannover a moderate black barrage was observed far to the right. In the target area meager black inaccurate bursts were observed approximately one minute before bombs away. These bursts were behind but at the same altitude of formation. Immediately after bombs away an intense wall of black gunfire appeared at least 1000 yards behind formation. Above the black bursts appeared white bursts. The meager gunfire encountered prior to bombing was continuously pointed. The intense gunfire after bombs away was barrage. North of Brandenburg meager to moderate black inaccurate continuously pointed gunfire was encountered. From Hannover a black barrage was observed far to the left. At Vechta meager black inaccurate gunfire was encountered. This gunfire was continuously pointed.

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5. 10/10th cloud conditions rising to 6,000 feet covered the primary target forcing the secondary target to be attacked. The same cloud conditions were found over the secondary target and bombing was accomplished on special equipment aircraft technique. Visibility above the clouds was unlimited. This condition existed on the route in and out as well

6. None.

7. The 92nd Bomb Group flying lead of the 40th CBW attacked their secondary target using RFF technique. Two of our A/C which turned back over enemy territory for mechanical reasons salvoed their bombs on targets of opportunity. Two other of our A/C which are missing were seen to jettison their bombs before target. Friendly fighter support was very good resulting in no encounters with E/A. One of our A/C crashed and exploded 2 miles from base immediately after take off.

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