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2 MARCH 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

TO: COMBOMDIV ONE 40th COMBATWING: ATTENTION: A-2.

FROM: COMBOMGR 92

NARRATIVE REPORT.

1. FIFTY BUNDLES OF THE U.S.G. 28 LEAFLETS WERE DROPPED OVER FRANKFURT AT 1208 HOURS BY A/C #42-31564. OBSERVING CREWS REPORTED THE NICKELS AS WELL SCATTERED.

2. BOMBING WAS ACCOMPLISHED S.O.P. BY USE OF PFF TECHNIQUE. STRIKE PHOTOS REVEAL A SOLID 10/10THS UNDERCAST CONDITION. HEAVY BLACK AND GREY SMOKE WAS REPORTED BILLOWING THROUGH THE UNDERCAST. THE UNDERCAST WAS REPORTED RISING TO 15,000 FEET. THE OBSERVATION WAS MADE APPROXIMATELY 10 MILES FROM THE TARGET.

3. ENEMY AIR ~~EFFEC~~ OPPOSITION DIRECTED AT THIS GROUP WAS NIL, NO DIRECT ATTACKS REPORTED AND NO CLAIMS MADE. ENEMY A/C WERE SEEN IN SMALL NUMBERS EITHER ATTACKING OTHER FORMATIONS OR FLYING AT A SAFE DISTANCE. AT 1138 HOURS THE FIRST E/A, ME-109'S, WERE SEEN AT 4954N, 0508E. A FORMATION OF 16 ME-109'S, FLYING IN A FORMATION RESEMBLING THAT OF OUR P-51'S, WERE SEEN AT A DISTANCE OF 3 MILES AND HIGH ABOVE. WHEN IN THE SUN THIS GROUP OF E/A PEELED OFF AND DOVE THROUGH A FORMATION OF B-17'S TO THE REAR. THE E/A CAME ONE AFTER THE OTHER FIRING 20 MM SHELLS. ONLY THE ONE PASS WAS MADE AND NO APPARENT SUCCESS WAS ACHIEVED. ONLY TWO TWIN ENGINE FIGHTERS WERE SEEN WHICH WERE THOUGHT TO BE ME-210'S. MOST OF THE FIGHTERS WERE TOO DISTANT TO DISTINGUISH THE TYPE OR MARKINGS. THERE SEEMED TO BE NO DEFINITE PATTERN OF ATTACK AS SOME ATTACKED LEVEL IN PAIRS FROM 3 TO 6 O'CLOCK WHILE OTHERS ATTACKED INDIVIDUALLY HEAD ON AND HIGH AT 1 TO 2 O'CLOCK AND ALSO AT 6 O'CLOCK. THESE ATTACKS STARTED JUST BEFORE THE I.P. AND CONTINUED UNTIL JUST AFTER THE TARGET. THE ENEMY A/C DISAPPEARED WHEN OUR FIGHTER ESCORT MOVED IN CLOSE. NO DIRECT ATTACKS WERE MADE ON THIS GROUP.

4. AT AULT MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK AND WHITE BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED. CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WAS USED. AT ABBEVILLE BLACK, BROWN, GRAY, AND WHITE BURSTS WERE OBSERVED. THIS GUNFIRE WAS MEAGER TO MODERATE AND WAS NOT BEING FIRED AT THIS FORMATION. FROM THE DIRECTION OF KOBLENZ BLACK BURSTS WERE OBSERVED. NORTH OF WIESBADEN MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE AGAIN WAS USED. AT FRANKFURT MODERATE BLACK AND WHITE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THE MAJORITY OF THESE BURSTS WERE LOW AND TO THE RIGHT AND SOME CREWS REPORTED OBSERVING BURSTS AT THE CLOUD LEVEL. THE REMAINDER OF THE BURSTS WERE INACCURATE. BOTH BARRAGE AND CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WERE EMPLOYED. AT FRIEDBERG MEAGER BLACK INACCURATE BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED. AT THIS POSITION THE TYPE OF FIRE

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CONTROL USED IS UNKNOWN. FROM THE DIRECTION OF KOLN A BARRAGE WAS OBSERVED FAR TO THE STARBOARD. SOUTH OF LIEGE MEAGER BLACK INACCURATE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THIS GUNFIRE WAS CONTINUOUSLY POINTED. AT THIS POSITION 2 RED BURSTS WERE OBSERVED. MEAGER CONTINUOUSLY POINTED INACCURATE BLACK BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED AT LOUVAIN. JUST NORTH OF BRUSSELS MEAGER TO MODERATE BLACK VERY ACCURATE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THIS GUNFIRE WAS CONTINUOUSLY POINTED. AT WALCHEREN ISLAND MEAGER BLACK INACCURATE GUNFIRE OF AN UNDETERMINED TYPE OF FIRE CONTROL WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. CLOUD CONDITIONS OF FROM 5/10 TO 10/10TH WAS ENCOUNTERED ON ROUTE TO AND FROM THE TARGET. OVER THE TARGET AREA 10/10TH CLOUDS PREVAILED WHICH NECESSITATED BOMBING ON PFF TECHNIQUE. VISIBILITY ABOVE CLOUDS WAS GOOD.

6. A LARGE CONCENTRATION OF BIG TRUCKS WAS SEEN ON BRUSSELS A/D. NO A/C WERE SEEN ON THE DROME, HOWEVER.

A LARGE TUNNEL UNDER CONSTRUCTION WAS SEEN AT 5026N - 0725E. THIS TUNNEL IS CONNECTED WITH A LARGE DAM ON RHINE RIVER.

THREE SUBS WERE SEEN IN SLIPS AT ANTWERP.

FOUR LARGE BOATS WERE OBSERVED ANCHORED IN ANTWERP HARBOR. IN ADDITION, THREE SIMILAR BOATS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT SAME PLACE WERE REPORTED.

7. THE 92ND GROUP FLYING AS LOW GROUP IN THE 40TH "A" CBW AND AS LEAD AND LOW SQUADRONS IN THE COMPOSITE GROUP OF THE 40TH "A" CBW BOMBED THEIR SECONDARY TARGET USING PFF TECHNIQUE. THE FRIENDLY FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS EXCELLENT RESULTING IN NO E/A BEING ENCOUNTERED AND ONLY A VERY FEW SEEN IN DISTANCE. A B-17 WAS SEEN TO EXPLODE AT 20,000 FEET JUST BEFORE TARGET AT POSITION 5210 - 0730E AT 1155 HOURS. ANOTHER B-17 WAS SEEN TO EXPLODE AT 22,000 FEET OVER 5018 - 0826E AT 1205 HOURS. ANOTHER B-17 WAS SEEN HIT BY FLAK AND EXPLODE AT 1434 HOURS NEAR BRUSSELS. THIS WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN A/C 960 FROM THIS GROUP. ANOTHER B-17 WAS SEEN TO EXPLODE AT 10,000 FEET ABOUT 8 MILE SW OF ANTWERP AT 1443 HOURS. IT APPEARED AS THOUGH THIS A/C MAY HAVE BEEN UNOCCUPIED AND FLYING ON AUTOMATIC PILOT. TWO OF OUR A/C XXXXXXX ARE MISSING.

ROBERT E. TAUSCHER,
Captain, AC,
S-2 Officer.

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STATISTICAL REPORT

a. Statistical:- The information contained in this section will be telephoned to Division Headquarters, A-2 Duty Officer, within five and one half (5½) hours after the airplanes have landed. It will be submitted, for each primary target, in the following form:

(1) Designation of Group 92nd.
(2) Total number of airplanes airborne per Group, including spares. 34.
(3) Total number of airplanes dispatched per Group 30.
(4) Total number of airplanes attacking per Group. 30 (if targets other than the primary are attacked, this information will be given on each. The secondary was attacked on special equipment aircraft.

(5) Number of airplanes dispatched which failed to attack per Group.
  (a) Due to mechanical failure. 0.
  (b) Due to weather. 0.
  (c) Due to enemy action (lost before target reached, etc.) 0
  (d) other 0
(6) Number of airplanes lost.
  (a) To anti-aircraft fire 1
  (b) To enemy fighters 0.
  (c) To anti-aircraft fire & enemy fighters 0.
  (d) To accident 0.
  (e) By reasons unknown 1.
(7) Time of attack 1208.
(8) Altitudes of attack 24,000 and 25,500.
(9) Bombs on each target.
  (a) Number 204 504.
  (b) Size 500 100.
  (c) Type G.P.'s M-47-A-1
(10) Personnel casualties.
  (a) Number killed 0.
  (b) Number wounded 0.
  (c) Number missing 20. (If any personnel are known to have been rescued from the water, the number will be stated here. If rescues are made subsequent to the time the report is rendered, the information will be forwarded by teletype as soon as possible).
(11) Airplanes suffering battle damage. (This is to be an estimate only. Detailed report covered under Group Statistics).
  (a) Minor (Category "A" and "AC". 10.
  (b) Major (Category "B"). 1.
  (c) Salvage (Category "E". 0.
(12) Preliminary claims.
  Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0.
(13) Leaflets Dropped: 50 Bundles U.S.G.-28

Phoned by: Lt. James Moriarity Time 1900 Date 2 March 1944

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