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CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

TO: COMBOMDIV ONE AND FORTIETY COMBAT WING: ATTN: A-2.

FROM: COMBOMGR 92

NARRATIVE REPORT: SECRET.

1. A/C 42-30644 V CARRIED 50 BUNDLES USG 19 TURNED BACK DUE TO MECHANICAL FAILURE ELEVEN MILES FROM FRENCH COAST AT 1015 HOURS. LEAFLETS WERE BROUGH BACK.

2. MISSION ABANDONED AND NO BOMBS WERE DROPPED.

3. E/A WERE SEEN ALONG OUR ROUTE AS FOLLOWS: 2 FW 190'S AT 1045 HOURS ABOVE OUR FORMATION WHICH ATTACKED A FORMATION ON OUR LEFT. ONE ME 109 BELOW OUR FORMATION OBSERVED TO BE UNDER ATTACK BY A P47. TWO TWIN ENGINE A/C WERE SIGHTED HIGH ABOVE OUR FORMATION AT OUR POINT OF TURNBACK. THREE ME 109'S WERE SIGHTED AT 1300 HOURS TO 1305 HOURS AT 4900N - 0110E. TWO ME 109'S WERE SIGHTED AT 1330 AT THE FRENCH COAST. IN ALL CASES THE E/A WERE TOO FAR DISTANT TO OBSERVE COLOR OR MARKINGS. NO ATTACKS WERE MADE AGAINST OUR FORMATION.

4. AT ST. AUBIN, 4947 - 0111E, NEUFCHATEL, ROY A/D, SUIPPES, CREPY - EN - VAL, AND ROUEN MEAGER, INACCURATE, BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED GUNFIRE. AT CHALONS SUR MARNE ONE OF OUR A/C, WHICH WAS FLYING WITH ANOTHER GROUP, ENCOUNTERED VERY ACCURATE MEAGER BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED GUNFIRE.

5. THE GROUP ASSEMBLY WAS FORCED UP TO APPROXIMATELY 17,000 FEET DUE TO WARM FRONT CLOUDS AT 11,000 FEET, THE BRIEFED ASSEMBLY ALTITUDE. THIS CONDITION SLOWED THE GROUP ASSEMBLY CONSIDERABLY AND CAUSED SOME CONFUSION. THE WEATHER ENROUTE IN TO THE TARGET WAS AS BRIEFED UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 0400 E. AT THIS POINT HEAVY, PERSISTENT CONTRAILS, ANVIL CIRRUS CLOUDS RISING ABOVE FLIGHT LEVEL, AND VISIBILITY OF UNDER 1,000 YARDS CAUSED THIS C.B.W. TO ABANDON THE MISSION. OVER ENGLAND ON RETURN 10/10 CLOUDS WITH BASES DOWN TO 3,000 FEET DID NOT MATERIALLY EFFECT LANDING.

6. 5 A/C WERE SEEN ON AN A/D AT ROYE, FRANCE. ONE LARGE BOAT WAS OBSERVED TRAVELING UPSTREAM AT MOUTH OF RIVER SEINE AT ABOUT 1310 - 1315 HOURS.

7. THE 92ND FLYING AS LOW GROUP OF THE 40TH CBW DID NOT ATTACK THEIR PRIMARY TARGET BECAUSE MISSION WAS ABANDONED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER. WARM FRONT CLOUDS AT GROUP ASSEMBLY ALTITUDE CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DELAY AND CONFUSION WHICH IN TURN CAUSED THE WING ASSEMBLY TO BE SPREAD OUT AND RESULTED IN TWO OF OUR A/C TACKING ON TO OTHER GROUPS. AT APPROXIMATELY 0500 E THIS CBW ENCOUNTERED HEAVY PERSISTENT CONTRAILS AND ANVIL CIRRUS CLOUDS RISING ABOVE FLIGHT LEVEL. AFTER CHANGING COURSE TO SOUTH EAST THEN EAST IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO CIRCUMNAVIGATE THE BAD CLOUD CONDITIONS, THE CBW COMMANDER DECIDED TO ABANDON THE MISSION. NONE OF OUR A/C MISSING.

ROBERT E. TAUSCHER,
Captain, Air Corps,

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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:

SECRET.

(1) Designation of Group 92nd.
(2) Total number of airplanes airborne per Group, including spares. 21.
(3) Total number of airplanes dispatched per Group 20.
(4) Total number of airplanes attacking per Group. 0 (if targets other than the primary are attacked, this information will be given on each. ___
Combat Wing Leader abandoned mission

(5) Number of airplanes dispatched which failed to attack per Group.
(a) Due to mechanical failure. 1.
(b) Due to weather. 19.
(c) Due to enemy action (lost before target reached, etc.) 0
(d) other 0
(6) Number of airplanes lost.
(a) To anti-aircraft fire 0
(b) To enemy fighters 0.
(c) To anti-aircraft fire & enemy fighters 0.
(d) To accident 0.
(e) By reasons unknown 0.
(7) Time of attack 0.
(8) Altitudes of attack 0.
(9) Bombs on each target.
(a) Number 0.
(b) Size 0.
(c) Type 0.
(10) Personnel casualties.
(a) Number killed 0.
(b) Number wounded 0.
(c) Number missing 0. (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". 0.
(b) Major (Category "B"). 0.
(c) Salvage (Category "E". 0.
(12) Preliminary claims.
Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0.
(13) Leaflets Dropped: None brought back.

Phoned by: Capt. Burnham Time 1645 Date 20 March 1944

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