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HEADQUARTERS
NINETY-SECOND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
Office of the Communications Officer (J-E-2)

APO 557
22 March 1944

SUBJECT: Operational Communications on 22 March 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd Bombardment Group (H) AAF, APO 557.

1. Number 2 buncher was reliable above fifty miles. The number 17 buncher was strong 35 miles from buncher site; this was the maximum distance at which it was attempted to use it.

2. Splashers 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 16 were used. 5, 6 and 7 were used for fixes. They were all generally strong.

3. Five (5) A/C obtained seven (7) QDMs from base.

4. Eight (8) A/C used GEE. The farthest fix was obtained by 325E. The coordinates of this fix were 54° 17' N, 05° 11' E.

5. VHF was extensively used to coordinate the formation, and to contact American fighters.

6. There were no reported violations of radio discipline.

7. The Bomber-Strike message at 1320 hours, the fighter-rendezvous message and three control point messages were sent by the PFF lead A/C. They were receipted for promptly by Division. General reception was good.

For the Communications Officer.

Leslie G. Gerdts
LESLIE G. GERDTS
Captain AC,
Communications Officer.

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22 MARCH 1944

CONFIDENTIAL * PRIORITY

TO: COMBOMDIV ONE AND FORTIETH COMBAT WING: ATTN: A-2

FROM: COMBOMGR 92

NARRATIVE REPORT:

1. A/C #42-30644 DROPPED 40 BUNDLES OF USG 31 OVER BERLIN AT 1310½ HOURS AT 24,000 FEET ON A HEADING OF 223 DEG. MAG.

2. DUE TO 8-9/10 CLOUD COVER PREVAILING OVER THE ENTIRE TARGET AREA OF BERLIN, BOMBING WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THAT CITY BY S.O.P. PFF TECHNIQUE. THE RESULT OF BOMBING WERE MAINLY UNOBSERVED. CREWS CLAIM TO HAVE OBSERVED OUR BOMBS TO STRIKE IN A BUILT UP AREA ½-1 MILE S.W. OF THE TIERGARTEN, THRU A CLOUD BREAK. ONE CREW REPORTS HEAVY SMOKE AND FIRES STARTED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE RIVER RUNNING THROUGH BERLIN NEAR THE CENTER OF THE TOWN. THESE OBSERVATIONS WERE MOMENTARY THROUGH A SMALL BREAK IN THE CLOUDS. STRIKE PHOTOS NOW AVAILABLE SHOW NOTHING BUT CLOUDS.

3. ENEMY OPPISITION AS CONCERNS THIS GROUP WAS NIL ALTHOUGH ONE CREW REPORTS SEEING 4 ME 109's IN POSITION 5430 - 0800E AT 1104 HOURS. THESE FOUR E/A WERE OBSERVED FOR ABOUT 5 MINUTES BUT DID NOT COME CLOSE ENOUGH TO FORMATION TO DISTINGUISH COLOR MARKINGS. NO ATTACKS WERE SEEN. THIS GROUP MAKES NO CLAIMS.

4. AT BAD OLDOSLOE MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED. AT ZEHDENICK MEAGER TO MODERATE INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. INTENSE INACCURATE BLACK AND WHITE BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED AT BERLIN. A FEW BURSTS WERE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THIS FORMATION, BUT, IN THE MAIN THE GUNFIRE WAS INACCURATE. SINCE BURSTS WERE SEEN TO RISE IN CLUSTERS IT IS PROBABLE THAT A PREDICTED CONCENTRATION WAS USED. AT STEINHORST MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. AT NIENBURG, DUMMER LAKE, QUAKENBRUCK, AND AKERSLOOT MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. AT QUAKENBRUCK ONE DARK BURST WAS OBSERVED.

5. 9/10TH CLOUD CONDITION RISING TO 14,000 FEET MADE VISUAL BOMBING OF THE PRIMARY TARGET IMPOSSIBLE. THE SECONDARY TARGET WAS ATTACKED OVER THE ABOVE DESCRIBED CLOUD CONDITION. VISIBILITY OVER TARGET ABOVE CLOUD WAS GOOD, WEATHER DID NOT OTHERWISE EFFECT THE MISSION.

6. (1) SMALL BOATS WERE OBSERVED IN ZUIDER ZEE.

(2) LARGE TANKER WAS OBSERVED HEADING EAST IN ZUIDER ZEE.

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(3) 15 BARGES WERE SEEN ALONG ENEMY COAST AT EGMOND.

(4) ONE LARGE BOAT WAS OBSERVED IN DOCK AT AMSTERDAM.

7. THE 92ND FLYING LEAD GROUP OF THE 40TH "B" COMPOSITE CBW AND ALSO LEAD AND LOW SQUADRONS OF THE COMPOSITE LOW GROUP BOMBED THEIR SECONDARY TARGET USING PFF TECHNIQUE. FRIENDLY FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS GOOD RESULTING IN NO E/A ENCOUNTERED. DEPUTY PFF A/C 523 OF OUR LEAD GROUP WAS SEEN TO DROP OUT OF FORMATION WITH TWO ENGINES OUT AT 1411 HOURS IN THE VICINITY OF DUMMER LAKE. THIS A/C WAS LAST SEEN UNDER CONTROL BUT LOSING ALTITUDE FROM 12,000 FEET AND SURROUNDED BY FOUR P-51'S. NONE OF OUR A/C ARE MISSING.

ROBERT E. TAUSCHER,
Captain, A.C.,
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. 32 & 2 PFF.
(3) Total number of airplanes dispatched per Group 31.
(4) Total number of airplanes attacking per Group. 31 (if targets other than the primary are attacked, this information will be given on each. Attacked secondary target on PFF
(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 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 1307½ 1308.
(8) Altitudes of attack 25000 23400.
(9) Bombs on each target.
  (a) Number 298.
  (b) Size 500.
  (c) Type G.P.
(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". 11.
  (b) Major (Category "B"). 0.
  (c) Salvage (Category "E". 0.
(12) Preliminary claims.
  Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0.
(13) Leaflets Dropped: 40 bundles of U.S.G. 31 over target.

Phoned by: R.E.T. Time 1815 Date 23 March 1944

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