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3 March 1944

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

TO: COMBOMDIV ONE 40TH COMBATWIG: ATTENTION: A-2.

FROM: COMBOMGR 92

NARRATIVE REPORT.

1. A/C 42-31250 RETURNED WITH 50 BUNDLES U.S. G.28 LEAFLETS HAVING RETURNED EARLY FROM 5347N-0325E AT 1005 HOURS DUE TO A LEAK IN THE OXYGEN SYSTEM.

2. NO TARGET WAS ATTACKED.

3. ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION TODAY WAS VIRTUALLY NIL ALTHOUGH FIVE (5) S/E E/A WERE SEEN IN THE VICINITY OF THE FRISIAN ISLANDS. E/A WERE NOT DEFINITELY IDENTIFIED BUT WERE BELIEVED TO BE ME 109'S. ONE CREW REPORTS THAT (4) S/E E/A FOLLOWED THEIR A/C FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES BUT MADE NO ATTEMPT TO ATTACK.

4. FROM SUDER OG ISLAND THIS FORMATION OBSERVED BLACK, BROWN, AND WHITE BURSTS. AT GARDING AND HADEMARSCHEN MEAGER INACCURATE CONTINUOUSLY POINTED BLACK GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. AT MELDORF AND ITZEKOE MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK AND WHITE BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED. THIS GUNFIRE WAS CONTINOUSLY POINTED. AT SCHARHORN ISLAND MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED . AT HELIGOLAND, CUXHAVEN AND MARNE MODERATE INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED.

5. 10/10TH TOWERING CUMULUS CLOUD TOPPED WITH A DENSE CIRRUS STRATUM RISING TO 28,000 FEET AND HIGHER ALONG THE ROUTE WAS ENCOUNTERED ON THIS MISSION. THIS FORCED THE FORMATION PROGRESSIVELY HIGHER. VISIBILITY WAS FURTHER RETARDED BY THICK PERSISTING CON TRAILS. TEMPERATUR AS LOW AS - 54° WAS REPORTED.

6. FOUR LARGE CARGO BOATS WERE OBSERVED AT 5405-0830E AT 1124. HOURS. THESE BOATS WERE NOT IN MOTION WHEN OBSERVED.

AN A/D WAS OBSERVED ON AN ISLAND AT 5410-0814E. NO ACTIVITY REPORTED.

7. THE 92ND GROUP FLYING LEAD AND LOW GROUPS OF THE COMPOSITE CBW DID NOT REACH THEIR TARGET. THIS GROUP TURNED BACK ON A RECIPROCAL COURSE 20 MILES NORTH OF HAMBURG. AFTER LEAD PFF A/C HAD ABORTED AND THEY COULD NOT GET ABOVE 10/10TH CLOUD, EVEN AFTER CLIMBING TO 28,000 FT. SIX OF OUR A/C JETTISIONED THEIR BOMBS OVER ENEMY TERRITORY AFTER POINT OF TURNBACK. FRIENDLY FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS GOOD, APPEARING AT ENEMY COAST AND CONTINUING TO POINT OF TURNBACK. TWO B-17'S AND POSSIBLY THREE WERE SEEN TO COLLIDE ON COLLISION COURSE AND EXPLODE AT POINT OF TURNBACK AT 27,000 FEET AT 1110 HOURS. FOUR MORE B-17'S FROM TWO DIFFERENT GROUPS FLYING COLLISION COURSE WERE SEEN TO COLLIDE AND EXPLODE

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AT 5400-0900E AT 25,000 FEET AT 1126 HOURS. AT LEAST TWO OF THESE A/C WERE FROM GROUP WITH LETTER U IN (△) TRIANGLE. ONE OF OUR A/C IS MISSING FOR REASONS UNKNOWN.

ROBERT E. TAUSCHER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Group 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. 31 & 1 PFF.
(3) Total number of airplanes dispatched per Group 16 Lead Gp. 8 Low Gp.
(4) Total number of airplanes attacking per Group. None (if targets other than the primary are attacked, this information will be given on each. 6 A/C dropped bombs over enemy territory thru 10/10th cloud. 2 of the 6 gave a D.R. position as St. Michaelisdonn Germany
(5) Number of airplanes dispatched which failed to attack per Group.
  (a) Due to mechanical failure. 0.
  (b) Due to weather. Lead Gp. 16 - Low Gp. 8.
  (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 One.
(7) Time of attack None.
(8) Altitudes of attack None.
(9) Bombs on each target.
  (a) Number None.
  (b) Size None.
  (c) Type None.
(10) Personnel casualties.
  (a) Number killed None.
  (b) Number wounded None.
  (c) Number missing 10. (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". Lead 1.
  (b) Major (Category "B"). None.
  (c) Salvage (Category "E". None.
(12) Preliminary claims.
  Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0.
(13) Leaflets Dropped: None

Phoned by: R.E.T. Time 1700 Date 3 March 1944