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6 MARCH 1944

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

TO: COMBOMDIV ONE,
COMBAT WING FORTY

ATIN: A-2 SECTION.

1. 50 BUNDLES OF USG # 28 LEAFLETS WERE DROPPED BY THIS GROUP AT 1320 HOURS OVER THE SECONDARY TARGET. THE CREWS REPORTED A GOOD SCATTERING.

2. STRIKE PHOTOS OF THE LEAD GROUP OF THE 40TH A COMBAT WING DISCLOSED PIN POINT the center of the concentration of bomb bursts 118029/DTMG 25/2 BERLIN ~~XXXXXX~~ NORTHEAST. ANOTHER FILM STRIP OF THE LOW SQUADRONS, COMPOSITE GROUP FLYING LOW IN THE 40TH A COMBAT WING, DISCLOSED G.P. BOMB BURSTS OF ANOTHER GROUP. THE CENTER OF THE CONCENTRATION OF BOMB BURSTS STRUCK PIN POINT 053093 C.I.U. MOSAIC NO. 1207A, BERLIN KOPENICK.

3. ABOUT 75-100 E/A WERE SEEN, MOSTLY SINGLE ENGINE TYPES. THEY WERE FIRST SEEN AT 1239 IN THE VICINITY OF GARDELEGEN AND WERE LAST SEEN IN THE VICINITY OF THE ZUIDER ZEE ON THE ROUTE BACK TO ENGLAND. IN GENERAL VERY FEW ATTACKS ARE RECORDED AND IN MOST CASES E/A WERE DESCRIBED AS MERELY STOOGING AROUND. ATTACKS WERE INFREQUENT BUT WERE PRESSED HOME WITH FEROCITY WHEN THEY DID OCCUR. MOST ATTACKS WERE FROM ELEVEN TO ONE OCLOCK HIGH AND USUALLY IN ELEMENTS OF TWO PLANES. SUN ATTACKS WERE ALSO REPORTED. ATTACKS WERE DELIVERED WITH THE WHOLE FORMATION AT A TARGET ENELY FIGHTERS ARE REPORTED FLYING THROUGH ENTIRE COMBAT WINGS. OUR PILOTS REPORT THAT CANNON FIRE WAS USED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY VERY LITTLE MG AND NO ROCKET FIRING BEING REPORTED. CLAIMS ARE THREE DESTROYED, ONE PROBABLY DESTROYED, AND ONE DAMAGED.

4. AT EGMUND MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THESE BURSTS WERE CONTINUOUSLY POINTED. AT LINGEN, FURSTENAU, DIEPHOLZ AND NIENBURG MEAGER TO MODERATE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THESE BURSTS WERE BLACK ACCURATE AND CONTINOUSLY POINTED. AT LINGEN WHITE BURSTS WERE OBSERVED HIGH ABOVE FORMATION. AT BOTH BURG AND BELZIG MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK BURSTS WERE ENCOUNTERED. CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WAS AGAIN THE TYPE OF FIRE CONTROL USED. IN THE TARGET ARE INTENSE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED FOR A PERIOD OF BETWEEN 10 AND 15 MINUTES. AT THIS POSITION BLACK GENERALLY INACCURATE BURSTS WERE MET. BOTH CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE AND BARRAGE TYPE OF FIRE CONTROL WERE USED. ON WAY OUT BLACK VERY ACCURATE MODERATE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED IN THE VICINITY OF GRANSEE AND VECHTA. CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WAS USED IN BOTH INSTANCES AT ALKMAAR AND EGMUND MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

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5. APPROXIMATELY 4-5/10 CLOUD UP TO 5,000 FEET WITH LARGE BREAKS EXISTED OVER THE TARGET. 6/10 CLOUD WITH FEWER BREAKS AND RISING OCCASIONALLY TO 10-12,000 FEET WAS EXPERIENCED ALONG THE ROUTE TO AND FROM THE TARGET. DUE TO CLOUD COVERAGE OVER THE PRIMARY, THE SECONDARY TARGET WAS BOMBED ON PFF TECHNIQUE. ACTUALLY BREAKS IN THE CLOUDS ALLOWED POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF THE SECONDARY TARGET.

6. (1). SMOKESCREEN WAS OBSERVED AT 5235N-1010E AT 1226 HOURS. (2) SOKESCREEN WAS OBSERVED AT BRAUNSCHWEIG. (BRUNSWICK). (3) A LARGE WHITE STRIP SEVERAL TIMES WIDER AND LONGER THAN A LANDING STRIP WAS OBSERVED IN THE CENTER OF SOME WOODS EAST OF GANDELEGEN (5228-1135E). (4) A SMOKE SCREEN WAS OBSERVED AT 52 28-1050E ALONG A RIVER BUT NO TOWN WAS SEEN. (5) THREE CARGO BOATS WERE OBSERVED MOVING EAST IN ZUIDER ZEE AT 1459 HOURS. (6) A SMOKE SCREEN WAS OBSERVED OVER SUPER HIGHWAY 50 MILES WEST OF BERLIN.

7. A/C OF THE 93RD BOMB GROUP FLEW AS LEAD GROUP AND LEAD AND LOW SQDNS OF THE 40TH A COMBAT WING FORMATION. THIS FORMATION BOMBED THE SECONDARY TARGET ON THE BOMBS OF LEADING PFF A/C. FRIENDLY FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS VERY MUCH AS BRIEFED. THERE WERE NUMEROUS P-51 A/C IN THE TARGET AREA AND A FEW P-38'S. P-47 SUPPORT WITH SOME P-51 SUPPORT WAS CONSTANT IN AND OUT FROM THE TARGET, TO THE ENEMY COAST. NUMEROUS ENE DOG FIGHTS WERE REPORTED PARTICULARLY IN THE VICINITY OF THE TARGET. FOUR OF OUR A/C ARE MISSING FROM THIS MISSION. WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE A/C 527 K OF THIS GROUP WAS REPORTED HIT BY FLAK IN THE VICINITY OF 5305N-1300E AT ABOUT 1333 HOURS AND TO EXPLODE AND DISINTEGRATE INTO SMALL PIECES. NO CHUTES WERE REPORTED. WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE ANOTHER B-17 FROM THE 40TH "A" CBW BUT NOT OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED, WAS LAST SEEN AT ABOUT 1148 HOURS IN THE DUMMER LAKE AREA WITH TWO ENGINES SMOKING, TRYING TO CRASH LAND. THE A/C WAS SEEN TO BURST IN FLAMES ON THE GROUND WHEN IT STRUCK. NO CHUTES WERE REPORTED. AT 5238N-0830E AT 1430 HOURS, A B-17 ALSO CLAIMED TO BE A/C 527 K OF THIS GROUP, BUT WHICH CAN ONLY BE DEFINITELY IDENTIFIED AS A B-17 FROM THIS GROUP, WAS OBSERVED TO RECEIVE A DIRECT HIT OR VERY NEAR MISS FROM FLAK AND EXPLODE. THE A/C broke IN TWO AND GENERALLY DISINTEGRATED, THE NOSE AND TAIL SECTIONS FALLING AS RATHER LARGE PIECES. NO CHUTES WERE OBSERVED. WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE ANOTHER B-17 OF THIS GROUP WAS REPORTED AT 1443 HOURS 5 MILES NORTH OF LINGEN TO BE LAST SEEN IN A CONTROLLED DESCENT HEADING 285 DEGREES MAG AND DOWN TO CLOUD COVER AT 15,500 FEET WITH ALL ENGINES TURNING OVER BUT WITH ONE SMOKING.

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AT 1445 HOURS WHEN THIS A/C WAS ~~XXXXX~~ ALMOST LOST TO VIEW, ONE CREW REPORTED A FLAK BURST CAUSED THE TAIL SECTION TO BE BLOWN OFF. FIVE FREE CHUTES WERE OBSERVED AND ONE OPEN CHUTE WAS SEEN TO STREAM FROM THE BALL TURRET AND APPEAR SNAGGED.

ROBERT E. TAUSCHER,
Captain, Air Corps,
S-2 Officer

CONBOMGR 92

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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 plus 1 PFF
(3) Total number of airplanes dispatched per Group 28 plus 1.
(4) Total number of airplanes attacking per Group. 24 plus 1 (if targets other than the primary are attacked, this information will be given on each. ___
Attack Secondary on PFF

(5) Number of airplanes dispatched which failed to attack per Group.
(a) Due to mechanical failure. 1.
(b) Due to weather. ___.
(c) Due to enemy action (lost before target reached, etc.) ___
1 lost before target
(d) other 2 flak and bombs jettisoned.

(6) Number of airplanes lost.
(a) To anti-aircraft fire 2
(b) To enemy fighters 1.
(c) To anti-aircraft fire & enemy fighters ___.
(d) To accident ___.
(e) By reasons unknown 1.

(7) Time of attack 1321½.
(8) Altitudes of attack 21,000.
(9) Bombs on each target.
(a) Number 230.
(b) Size 500.
(c) Type G.P. M-64.

(10) Personnel casualties.
(a) Number killed 0.
(b) Number wounded 2.
(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". 19.
(b) Major (Category "B"). 0.
(c) Salvage (Category "E". 0.

(12) Preliminary claims.
Destroyed 3 Probably Destroyed 1 Damaged 1.

(13) Leaflets Dropped: 50 bundles USG #28 dropped on target.

Phoned by: A.E.Tauscher Time 1910 Date 6 March 1944

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