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CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY SECRET 9 MARCH 1944

TO: COMBOM DIV ONE, ATT: A-2.
COMBAT WING 40, ATT: A-2.

NARRATIVE

1. A/C 42-37735 DROPPED 50 BUNDLES OF U.S.G. 29 LEAFLETS OVER THE INDUSTRIAL CENTER OF BERLIN AT 1356 HOURS AT 24,800 FEET.

2. NO STRIKE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIS MISSION. CREWS REPORT BOMBING S.O.P. ON PFF TECHNIQUE THRU A SOLID 10/10 TH CLOUD UNDERCAST. THE SECONDARY TARGET WAS ATTACKED. NO RESULTS OF BOMBING WERE VISIBLE.

3. CREWS REPORTED SEEING NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT WHATSOEVER. ONE CREW CLAIMS SEEING 4 JU-88's OVER HOLLAND AND 3 ME-109's AT THE I.P. WHICH WERE IN THE DISTANCE AND MADE NO ATTEMPT TO ATTACK. NO FURTHER DETAILS WERE REPORTED.

4. AT ALKMAAR, MEPPEL, AND DIEPHOLZ MEAGER INACCURATE BLACK CONTINUOUSLY POINTED GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. FROM THE DIRECTION OF HANNOVER A MODERATE BLACK BARRAGE WAS OBSERVED FAR TO THE RIGHT. IN THE TARGET AREA MEAGER BLACK INACURATE BURSTS WERE OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY ONE MINUTE BEFORE BOMBS AWAY. THESE BURSTS WERE BEHIND BUT AT THE SAME ALTITUDE OF FORMATION. IMMEDIATELY AFTER BOMBS AWAY AN INTENSE WALL OF BLACK GUNFIRE APPEARED AT LEAST 1000 YARDS BEHIND FORMATION. ABOVE THE BLACK BURSTS APPEARED WHITE BURSTS. THE MEAGER GUNFIRE ENCOUNTERED PRIOR TO BOMBING WAS CONTINUOUSLY POINTED. THE INTENSE GUNFIRE AFTER BOMBS AWAY WAS BARRAGE. NORTH OF BRANDENBURG MEAGER TO MODERATE BLACK INACCURATE CONTINUOUSLY POINTED GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. FROM HANNOVER A BLACK BARRAGE WAS OBSERVED FAR TO THE LEFT. AT VECHTA MEAGER BLACK INACCURATE GUNFIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THIS GUNFIRE WAS CONTINUOUSLY POINTED.

5. 10/10TH CLOUD CONDITIONS RISING TO 6,000 FEET COVERED THE PRIMARY TARGET FORCING THE SECONDARY TARGET TO BE ATTACKED. THE SAME CLOUD CONDITIONS WERE FOUND OVER THE SECONDARY AND BOMBING WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AIRCRAFT TECHNIQUE. VISIBILITY ABOVE CLOUD WAS UNLIMITED. THIS CONDITION EXISTED ON THE ROUTE IN AND OUT AS WELL.

6. NONE.

7. THE 92ND GROUP FLYING LEAD OF THE 40TH COMBAT WING ATTACKED THEIR SECONDARY TARGET USING PFF TECHNIQUE. TWO OF OUR A/C WHICH TURNED BACK OVER ENEMY TERRITORY FOR MECHANICAL REASONS SALVOED THEIR BOMBS ON TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY. TWO OTHER OF OUR A/C WHICH ARE MISSING WERE SEEN TO JETTISON THEIR BOMBS BEFORE TARGET. FRIENDLY FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS VERY GOOD RESULTING IN NO ENCOUNTERS WITH E/A. ONE OF OUR A/C CRASHED AND EXPLODED 2 MILES FROM BASE IMMEDIATELY AFTER TAKE OFF.

ROBERT E. TAUSCHER,
Captain, Air Corps,
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. 26 & 1 PFF.
(3) Total number of airplanes dispatched per Group 21.
(4) Total number of airplanes attacking per Group. 15 (if targets other than the primary are attacked, this information will be given on each. ___
Secondary - 4 A/C attacked targets of opportunity.

(5) Number of airplanes dispatched which failed to attack per Group.
(a) Due to mechanical failure. 2.
(b) Due to weather. 0.
(c) Due to enemy action (lost before target reached, etc.) 2
Jettisoned over Germany
(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 1 Crashed on T.O.
(e) By reasons unknown 2.
(7) Time of attack 1355½.
(8) Altitudes of attack 24,600.
(9) Bombs on each target.
(a) Number 140 40.)
(b) Size 500 500.) on opport. target 1 leaflets
(c) Type Gp. & Gp.)
(10) Personnel casualties.
(a) Number killed 10.
(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". 0.
(b) Major (Category "B"). 0.
(c) Salvage (Category "E". 0.
(12) Preliminary claims.
Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0.
(13) Leaflets Dropped: 50 Bundles U. S. Gp - 29

Phoned by: J. Moriarty Time 1830 Date 9 - 3 - 44

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