

S E C R E T
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Secret by
Authority
G030LBOMGR
9 Nov. 1943

HEADQUARTERS 301ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF
Office of the Intelligence Officer
NASAF APO 520

NARRATIVE MISSION REPORT

Covering:

MISSION OF 8 NOVEMBER 1943

TURIN BALL BEARING FCTY.

1. 27 B-17's of the 32nd, 352nd, 353rd and 419th Sqdns. of the 301st Bomb Group took off at 0914 A to bomb TURIN BALL BEARING FCTY., ITALY. 4 a/c returned early, 2 due to oxygen failure, 1 due to turret failure and 1 due to mechanical difficulties. 23 a/c were over the target at 1422 A and dropped 276 x 500 lb. GP. bombs with .1 nose and .025 tail fusing at a heading of 225 deg. and from a mean altitude of 22,500 ft. 48 x 500 lb. GP's were returned to base. None of our personnel were injured and no a/c received damage. 22 a/c had returned to base by 1300 A, 9 Nov. 1943, and 1 a/c remained at Decimomannu A/D, Sardinia pending favorable weather. 26 sorties were involved in this mission.
2. Complete destruction of the target is claimed by all crews. Photo interpretation revealed very heavy destruction within the target area. 1 Sqdn. which was forced off of bomb run scored a heavy concentration of bomb hits on the Fiat motor works.
3. No flak was encountered.
4. No e/a were encountered.
5. 5 of our a/c attempted photos and usual report will follow.
6. The weather was 2 to 9/10ths enroute and CAVU with slight haze at the target.
7. OBSERVATIONS: 12 multi-engine a/c observed at Villanova/Albenga A/D. 3 medium M/V's surrounded by submarine net in harbor at Imperia. A Spitfire pilot who landed at Decimomannu A/D reported to our crews that one B-17 had cracked up at Ajaccio A/D. On the way back from the target while over the Italian coast many of our crews report hearing the following: "Mayday, Mayday, 1,2" and then it faded out.
8. GROUP FORMATION LEADER: Major STEPHEN HENRY makes no comment.

EDMUND T. BRIGHAM,
Major, Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.



George M. Sander
GEORGE M. SANDER,
Capt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intel. Officer.

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