

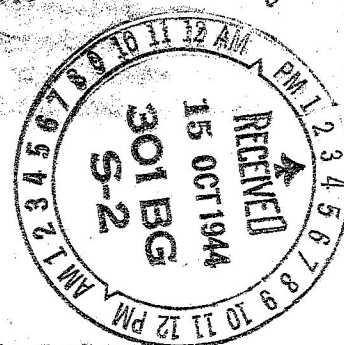
DECLASSIFIED
 Authority **745005**
 By **CKC** NARA Date **7/23/12**

B- 5th Wing (US),
 Section (F.I. Unit),
 14 Oct. 1944. *pyr*

FINAL STRIKE ASSESSMENT REPORT

orig. JFM

GROUPS: 483rd, 97th, 301st, 97th Bomb Groups (B)
 TARGET: North Synthetic Oil Refinery; Electrochem, Germany
 OPERATION: 14 Oct. 1944 at 1152 to 1214 Hours
STRIKE ASSESSMENT:



483rd B.G.

1. Heavy concentration of bombs covered the westerly half of Plant from the S to N edges. Area covered extends W from a S-S line just E of the Briquetting Plant and the Main Compressor House.
2. Direct hits scored on Hydrogenation Stalls, and Workshops just to E; on Storage Tanks just to E of Workshops; on Injector/Circulator House; on the CO Washing Plant; and on Storage Tanks just SE of Injector House. Several explosions followed by fires occurred in this area.
3. Probable direct hits on O/E and O/A Units under construction, and the Transformer and Switching Station, all about 1,200 feet E of the Hydrogenation Stalls.
4. Possible hits on the Main Compressor House and the Water Gas Plant under construction.
5. Direct hits and near misses on many other unidentified installations in westerly half of Plant with probable severe damage.
6. Direct hits on the double track Gleis to Rather RR along S side of Plant severing it.
7. Hits on spur tracks throughout the westerly half of Plant.

97th B.G.

1. Bombs started approximately at the Briquetting Plant and carried N across the width of the Refinery.
2. Smoke prevents accurate estimate of damage, but direct hits with severe damage believed scored on: the Water Gas Plant under construction; the Main Compressor House; the CO and CO₂ Washing Plants; and the Conversion Unit under construction.
3. Possible hits on the Hydrogenation Stalls and other installations just to the N of them.
4. Scattered hits on spur tracks at S-Central edge of Plant with damage to tracks, rolling stock and stacked stores.

301st B.G.

1. Only bombs visible hit in S-Central section of Plant, just to E of the H₂S Removal Plant.
2. Probable direct hits on H₂S Removal Plant and the adjacent Compressor House.
3. Smoke prevents accurate assessment but it is estimated that majority of bombs hit in the central section of Refinery and towards the N side with further damage to vital installations.

97th B.G.

1. Majority of bombs visible hit in the S-Central section of the Plant. Smoke and heavy photos prevent detailed assessment of damage.