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HEADQUARTERS
450TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
APO-520 US ARMY

S-2 NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION DATE: March 13, 1945

MISSION NBR. 238

TARGET: Regensburg, Germany - Main Marshalling Yard

I. CHRONOLOGY

Twenty-eight aircraft took off at 0900-0914 hours to bomb Regensburg Main Marshalling Yard, in Germany. Twenty-seven aircraft dropped 51.5 tons of 500 lb G.P. bombs on the primary target at 1327-1329 hours from 24,000 - 26,000'. One aircraft jettisoned 2 tons of bombs at (48.20N-13.10E), after these bombs failed to release over the target. Twenty-eight aircraft returned to base at 1650 hours. None lost. None missing. None at friendly fields.

II. ROUTE AND ASSAULT

The route was flown as briefed. The bombing method was PFF by four squadrons, of 7 aircraft each, in trail. 30 P-51 aircraft rendezvous as escort at 1250 hours, (47.20N-12.48E), and withdrew at 1415 hours, (46.50N-14.30E), at 23,000'. The target was overcast by .6 to .9 cloud coverage with tops at 12,000'.

III. RESULTS

Cloud cover prevented visual observations or photo coverage. Radar operators report a good run and several crew members observed target check points as the rally was being made. These observations indicate good results. A black smoke column was observed, penetrating through the clouds at 12,000', as the target was approached.

IV. ENEMY RESISTANCE

- A. Fighters: None
- B. Flak: None

V. OBSERVATIONS

At 1420 hours, Lavamund (46.38N-14.58E) from 15,000', possible jet job taking off; let two dense, black vapor trails.

At 1515 hours, at (44.07N-15.37E) from 15,000': Silver B-24 in a field; appeared intact.

At 1325 hours, Regensburg (target) at 23,800': Silver balls in groups of 3-4 at same altitude; balls about one foot in diameter; seemed to affect radar devices about 2 minutes after passing.

At 1225 hours, Bohinjski (46.16N-13.56E) from 21,800', about 40 large crates observed along rail track. Same crates observed in several M/Y's in same area.

VI. CONCLUSION

- A. Losses: None
- B. Damage: None
- C. Casualties: None
- D. Victories: None

E. Radar Observations and Report: All PFF operators report good runs. Saw confirming check points on rally. Lead aircraft reported heavy interference on 50 mile range.