

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

S-2 NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION DATE: April 26, 1945

MISSION NBR. 274

TARGET: Casarsa, Italy - Ammunition Stores Dump (45.58N-12.49E).

I. CHRONOLOGY

Thirty-two B-24 type aircraft took off at 0800-0828 hours to bomb the Casarsa Ammunition Stores Dump, in Italy. One aircraft returned early with an engine out. Twenty-eight aircraft returned 68.0 tons of 500 lb RDX bombs to base, after finding target weather which prevented visual bombing. Four aircraft jettisoned 9.0 tons of bombs in the Adriatic; these aircraft each had one engine inoperative, one aircraft being an early return. Thirty-one aircraft returned to base at 1404 hours. None lost. None missing. None at friendly fields.

II. ROUTE AND ASSAULT

Rendezvous was made as planned. The route was flown as briefed to the I.P., Vitteria Veneto (45.58N-12.18E). From that point a course was taken west of the target and the brief course followed to base. At the I.P. the weather aircraft had advised the Group leader that alternate targets were also cloud covered. 10-15 P-51 aircraft made rendezvous at 1112 hours, (44.50N-11.09E), 23,000', and withdrew at 1210 hours, (44.46N-13.23E), 21,000'. Weather at the target was 10/10 alto cumulus at 15,000', visibility unlimited. Route weather was CAVU to Rimini; at that point about 7/10 alto stratus was present with tops at 15,000'. This cloud cover built up gradually to 10/10 in target area. Visibility was unlimited.

III. RESULTS

No targets bombed

IV. ENEMY RESISTANCE

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

V. OBSERVATIONS

None

VI. CONCLUSION

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