

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

S-2 NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION DATE: November 11, 1944

MISSION NBR. 172

TARGET: Ora, Italy - Railroad Bridge

I. CHRONOLOGY

Forty-one B-24 type aircraft took off from base at 0602-0636 hours to bomb the railroad bridge at Ora, Italy. One aircraft was an early return caused by landing gear failing to retract. Aircraft were loaded with 120.5 tons of 1000 lb G.P. bombs, instantaneous fusing. The early return aircraft jettisoned 3 tons in Bay of Taranto, and one other aircraft due to loss of hydraulic fluid and questionable braking power, jettisoned 3 tons. Thirty-nine aircraft returned 114.5 tons to base. Forty aircraft landed at base at 1028 hours. None lost. None missing. None at friendly fields.

II. ROUTE AND ASSAULT

Route was flown as briefed to 42.40N-16.10E where due to weather the formation circled to attempt climbing over a swelling cumulus and cumulus-nimbus cloud bank with tops at 25,000 feet. Could not penetrate or climb over the weather and returned to base.

III. RESULTS

None. Mission returned early due to bad weather.

IV. ENEMY RESISTANCE

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

V. OBSERVATIONS

None

VI. CASUALTIES

None

VII. FLIGHT LEADERS:

<u>PILOT</u>	<u>BOMBARDIER</u>	<u>NAVIGATOR</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>BOMBARDIER</u>	<u>NAVIGATOR</u>
Stevens	Myers	Schatzman	Hobert	Butner	Fanshell
Venclik	Kemp	Cole			