

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

S-2 NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION DATE: December 8, 1944

MISSION NBR. 190

TARGET: Vienna, Austria - Moosbierbaum Oil Refinery

I. CHRONOLOGY

Three B-24 type aircraft took off at 0145-0150 hours to bomb individually the Moosbierbaum Oil Refinery by PFF method. None returned early. Weather developed into CAVU in Southern Austria and the target was observed to be clear. Two aircraft dropped four tons of 500 lb G.P. bombs on Klagenfurt at 0449 and 0518 hours using PFF and Dead Reckoning method respectively from 21,200 and 24,200 feet. One aircraft dropped two tons of 500 lb G.P. bombs on Graz at 0538 hours by PFF method, from 21,700 feet. None jettisoned. None lost. None at friendly fields. Three returned individually to home base at 0725, 0800 and 0845 hours.

II. ROUTE AND ASSAULT

Three aircraft took off between 0145-0150 hours and proceeded on course to San Vito at optional altitudes. One aircraft (055) experienced icing conditions which froze Pitot tubes resulting in malfunction of air speed indicator and proceeded to Susak (E. of Fiume) from which a dog leg was flown to the left for a PFF attack on Klagenfurt on an axis of 206 degrees from 21,200 feet during a nine minute run. This aircraft returned to base by a reciprocal course. One aircraft (578) proceeded on the briefed course to a point 40 miles beyond Villach and finding CAVU weather in Southern Austria set a course for Klagenfurt which they bombed on Dead Reckoning on an axis of 186 degrees, from 24,200 feet thence to base. Aircraft 583 flew the briefed course to the Initial Point (Wieselburg) where the target area was observed to be CAVU, thence to Graz where bombs were dropped by PFF method on an axis of 190 degrees from 21,700 feet. Thence to base. Weather enroute was 5/10-6/10 scattered cumulus in two decks at 5000 and 12,000 feet.

III RESULTS

Unobserved

IV. ENEMY RESISTANCE

A. Fighters: At 0420 hours at Grez area while at 20,000 feet, one unidentified enemy aircraft was reported by VHF by an aircraft in the formation. At approximately 0520 hours aircraft (578) received a VHF report of two unidentified fighters in the Klagenfurt area.

B. Flak: At Steyr area, aircraft 583 experienced slight, inaccurate, heavy, flak in white flashes. At Breck, intense, inaccurate, heavy was encountered and at Grez, intense, accurate, heavy, all white bursts. Over Klagenfurt intense, accurate, heavy, encountered by aircraft 578. None of our aircraft were holed or damaged.

V. OBSERVATIONS

None

VI. CONCLUSION

Losses: None Damage: None Casualties: None Victories: None