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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
12 May 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-539B

File
K

A. MISSION : 307-539B.
DATE : 12 May 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Two of four scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target. Two bombed the secondary target.

B. TARGETS : Primary: Shipping.
Secondary: Samarinda Shipyards, Samarinda, Borneo, NEI.

C. ATTACK TIME : Primary: 1050/I to 1053/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 14,900 feet true altitude.
Secondary: 1301/I and 1307/I.
10,000 feet and 8,450 feet true altitude.

D. RESULTS : Primary: The bombing is rated UNSATISFACTORY.
No bombs fell within 1,000 feet of a TB in Makassar Harbor. The ship was located about 3,000 feet north of the new R/P base. The bombs of one aircraft fell about 1,500 feet east. The bombs on another aircraft fell several thousand feet east of the target, on land. There were no results other than bomb bursts. *K*
Secondary: The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
An estimated 90% of the bombs fell within 1,000 feet of the target, although only two bombs fell within the target itself and 9 bombs fell in the water to the northwest. Other bombs not in the target were short in a clearing about 2,000 feet southeast. There were no results other than bomb bursts.

ENEMY LOSSES : Nil.
FRIENDLY LOSSES : The #2 engine of A/C #627 was hit by AA fire. The engine continued to function.

E. INTERCEPTION : Two aircraft, identified by two crews as float biplanes and by another crew as an Oscar and a Rufe, were seen over Makassar Town at 1015/I. They were seen to climb from 2,000 feet to 15,000 feet and stayed with the formation until about 1050/I.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Both aircraft made one pass coming in from 3 o'clock level to within 500 yards and broke away. No gun fire was seen. Our aircraft fired a few bursts but no results were seen.

G. AA FIRE : Moderate, medium and accurate AA fire was received from Mosarao (00°35'S - 117°20'E). The #2 engine of A/C #627 was hit.

H. PHOTOS : 1. A/C #627 took 20 photos. 2 were taken at Makassar at 1050/I from 14,900 feet. 8 were taken of Balikpapan Harbor at 1255/I from

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-5195, 12 May 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (B)

8,500 feet. 10 were taken of Samarinda at 1327/I from 8,450 feet.
2. A/C #843 took 16 photos. Two were taken of Makassar at 1010/I from 14,000 feet. 4 were taken of Makassar at 1050/I from 14,000 feet. 4 were taken of (00°33'S - 117°13'E) at 1300/I from 9,500 feet. 6 were taken of Samarinda at 1304/I from 9,500 feet.
3. A/C #854 took 14 photos. 8 were taken of Makassar at 1050/I from 14,900 feet. 6 were taken over Balikpapan at 1350/I from 3,000 feet.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION

: Individual aircraft to the AP where elements were formed and flew to Pare Pare to Makassar where one bomb run was made. The planes then flew toward Lacet Strait but at about (05°25'S - 118°00'E) two aircraft decided to go directly to the secondary because of gas shortage and returned direct to base. Two aircraft continued on search to Lacet Island to Apar Bay where one aircraft started back to base. One aircraft went on to Balikpapan Harbor and returned to base.

SIGHTINGS

: 1. One Fox Tare was anchored at the first jetty on the right in Balikpapan Harbor. What appeared to be a gun boat was anchored at the second jetty. A column of black smoke was also seen at the river mouth northwest of Cape Penadjan. This occurred at 1320/I from 3,000 feet.

G. WEATHER

: Base to Makassar: .4 to .7 cumulus tops 6,000 feet, towering to 10,000 feet. .3 to .10 altostratus 12,000 feet. .2 to .4 cirrus at 20,000 feet.
Makassar to Balikpapan: .7 to .8 cumulus tops 6,000 feet. Rain squalls.
Samarinda: .4 cumulus tops 6,000 feet.
To Base: .3 to .6 cumulus tops 5,000 feet.

H. REMARKS

: 1. Only one run was made over the TB. Two planes had released on the first run and it was not judged wise for the two remaining planes with bombs to make a run alone since there were interceptors in the air. Furthermore, it was not deemed a good idea for four planes, two loaded with bombs, to make the run and risk them to AA fire.
2. The bombardier on A/C #843 had the gyro tumble on the run and after recaging it had too little time to properly kill rate. He salvoed when the intervalometer clicked off but too late to hit the target.
3. A/C's #627 and 843 went direct to the secondary target from Makassar Town as there was not sufficient fuel to complete the full search.
4. A/C #627 made two runs over the secondary target. Only two bombs went away on the first run. Two bombs went away in train on the second run and the last bombs were toggled.
5. A/C #700 broke off its search at Apar Bay as it was low on fuel. It returned direct to base.

C O N F I D E N T I A L


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NAFIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307- 39E, 12 May 1948, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (M)

6. The search began at 0800/I and ended at 1400/I.
7. Propaganda leaflets were dropped over Samarinda at 10,000 feet.
8. No fighter cover was scheduled.

L. BOMBS DROPPED : 9x250# GP bombs, .1 nose .01 tail fused, and 6x500# GP bombs, 4-5 second delay fused, were dropped over the primary target.
9x250# GP bombs, .1 nose .01 tail fused, and 6x500# GP bombs, 4-5 second delay fused, were dropped over the secondary target.
18x250# GP bombs .1 nose .01 tail.
12x500# GP bombs 4-5 second delay.

AMMUNITION : 100 rounds expended in combat and test firing.


DONALD C. EDSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APD # 719
12 May 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-539

LOADING LIST

AP. 1854

Capt. Stevens
Lt. Vincent
Lt. Margosian
Lt. Otterman
T/Sgt. Jones, R.H.
S/Sgt. Maas
Cpl. Kushmarick
S/Sgt. Hill
S/Sgt. Vercio
Sgt. Smith, C.F.

AP. 1700

Lt. Traendly
Lt. Fortunato
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Cpl. Dugan
Cpl. Bankus
Cpl. Batten
Cpl. McNamara
Cpl. Daly
Cpl. Zimmerman
Cpl. Upperman

AP. 1827

Lt. Dole
F/O Hoff
F/O Kerstetter
F/O Birdwell
T/Sgt. Oswald
S/Sgt. More
T/Sgt. Pole
S/Sgt. McCormick
S/Sgt. Talley
S/Sgt. Greenstein

AP. 1843

Lt. Daly
Lt. McCabe
Lt. Lyle
Lt. DeFrancesca
S/Sgt. Abbate
S/Sgt. Crump
S/Sgt. Gerber
S/Sgt. Hockins
S/Sgt. Kime
S/Sgt. Johnson
S/Sgt. Herdan

-O-I-P-I-D-E-T-I-A-L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Bv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719,
18 May 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT MISSION # 307-545A

A. MISSION : 307-545A.
DATE : 18 May 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target together with elements of the 371st and 424th Bombardment Squadrons (Bv).

B. TARGET : Hill 105, Map Reference: Tarakan Island South, 4253 (A).

C. ATTACK TIME : 1240/1 to 1245/1.
AND ALTITUDE : 5,347 feet to 5,673 feet true.

D. RESULTS : The bombing is rated EXCELLENT. Approximately 80% of the bombs fell in the target area, the greatest concentration of which were inside. Those bombs not in the target were just outside to the southwest. There were no results other than bomb bursts.

ENEMY LOSSES : Undetermined.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C #527 took 7 photos of the target at 1241/1 from 5,400 feet.
A/C #354 took 5 photos of the target at 1244/1 from 5,450 feet.
A/C #341 took 3 photos of the target at 1245/1 from 5,347 feet.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : The planes flew individually from base to the AP (03°30'N-117°45'E) Boenjoe Island. At this point the group formed into squadrons in trail and flew to the TP (03°14'N-117°42'E) to the target. The route back was direct to base.

SIGHTINGS : Nil.

J. WEATHER : Base to Target: .4 to .8 cumulus tops 2,500 feet with buildings to 12,000 feet. .9 altostratus at 12,000 feet.
At Target: .2 cumulus tops 3,000 feet.
Target to Base: .5 to .8 cumulus tops 3,000 feet. .3 altostratus at 12,000 feet.

-O-I-P-I-D-E-T-I-A-L

1805

U-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

1372ND BOMBARDMENT Sq. ADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719,
18 May 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-543

LOADING LIST

AP. 621 A-1

Lt. Blackman
Lt. Hasselback
E/O. Surtard
E/O. Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Fulmer
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel
S/Sgt. Perisic
S/Sgt. Marchelle
Lt. Gill

AP. 627 A-2

Lt. Boyd
Lt. Neelman
Lt. Dresser
E/O. Overose
T/Sgt. Smith, I.K.
S/Sgt. Cornelius
T/Sgt. Ewing
S/Sgt. Blotzer
S/Sgt. Bright
S/Sgt. Boone

AP. 843 A-3

Lt. Drager
Capt. Brown (Sqn Com)
Lt. Scull
Lt. Werned
Cpl. Marshall
Cpl. Cobb
Cpl. Myssé
Cpl. Turner
Cpl. Huey
Cpl. Lacerte
Capt. Taylor (Sqn Com)

AP. 854 B-1

Lt. Lewis
Lt. Rodenburg
Lt. Zimmerman
Lt. Buckalew
T/Sgt. Sealon
S/Sgt. Throop
T/Sgt. Larson
S/Sgt. Paulin
S/Sgt. Dellosso
S/Sgt. Smith
Cpl. Worley

AP. 176 B-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson
Cpl. Evans
Cpl. Crawford
Cpl. Vinje
Cpl. Keesee
Cpl. Shehane
Cpl. Barrios
Sgt. Donhue

AP. 941 B-3

Lt. Treadly
E/O. Eckstein
Lt. Fahlen
Lt. Tischer
Cpl. Degan
Cpl. Banks
Cpl. Matte
Cpl. McManara
Cpl. Daly
Cpl. Zimmerman
Cpl. Uppegran

U-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

18076

HEADQUARTERS 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO # 719

WDH/gm

23 May 1945.

STANDARD MISSION REPORT

A. MISSION : 307 - 549 - A.
DATE : 22 May 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Eighteen Liberators scheduled: 6 from the 372nd Squadron
6 from the 370th Squadron
6 from the 424th Squadron
Fourteen A/C bombed the primary 3 A/C bombed an alternate pri
mary and 1 A/C bombed the last resort.

B. TARGETS : Primary : Enemy positions (Map ref: 43680U, Tarakan Island
South Special) Tarakan Borneo NEI.
Alternate : Djoeata Village (Map ref: 3678J, 3678N and 3778A,
Tarakan Island, North Special) Tarakan, Borneo, NEI.
Last Resort: Personnel Area Sidate A/D, NE Celebes, NEI.

C. TIME AND ALTI- : Primary : 1108-1146/I from 800 to 7650' true.
TUDE OF ATTACK : Alternate : 1230/I from 7000 to 7790' true.
Last Resort: 0845/I from 3100' true.

D. RESULTS : Primary : The bombing is rated EXCELLENT according to the
ground control, "Bonding", a very high percentage of the bombs
fell within the target area. One explosion was observed in
the target. The target was marked by mortar smoke and the bomb
formed a good pattern around it.
Alternate : The bombing is rated EXCELLENT. The pattern was
to the northwest of the road and walked from the SW to the NE.
One building destroyed and at least one other damaged.
Last Resort: The bombing is rated EXCELLENT. The single string
of bombs walked from the northeast corner south through the
target area. Four fires were started in the area with black
smoke rising to 400' and one building received a direct hit
by a napalm bomb which set it on fire.

Enemy Losses : 2 buildings destroyed.
1 building damaged.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS: Nil.

G. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

H. PHOTOGRAPHS : 9 A/C took photographs.
Tarakan Defense Position.
Bomb Patterns:
1 pattern of several strings is visible oriented slightly west
of north and practically covering the target area. The exact
percentage of bombs in the target can not be determined due to
the indefinite target boundaries.
2 other patterns are composed of several strings of bombs, with
an approximate orientation of northwest-southeast.
The patterns started about central target area and continued
somewhat long of the target.

Bomb Damage: The amount of damage cannot be determined due to
the trees and the bomb smoke. However, all strings were in the
vicinity of the smoke shells used to mark the target areas,
1 2/3 miles ENE of the east end of the airfield.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- H. PHOTOGRAPHS (Con't) : Djocata Town:
Bomb Pattern:
1 pattern is visible extending about west-east just north of the town, about 700' in length.
Bomb Damage:
1 building destroyed.
1 building damaged.

Bomb smoke prevents a complete damage assessment.
- I. ROUTE : The planes flew individually to the AP (03°05'N - 117°42'E) where the group formed. They then flew to the TP (02°58'N - 117°46'E) to the IP (03°13'N - 117°40'E) to the target. They returned direct to base (see Remarks).
- OBSERVATIONS : Nil.
- J. WEATHER : Base to target: .3 to .5 cumulus, tops 6000'. .6 alto-stratus base 10,000'.
At all targets: .6 cumulus, tops 6500'.
Target to base: .2 to .4 cumulus, tops 5000'. .7 alto-stratus base 11,000'.
- K. REMARKS : 1) No escort was scheduled.
2) Bombing was done at the direction of ground control "Bond."
3) The 370th Squadron was first over the primary followed by the 424th and finally by the "A" element of the 372nd Squadron.
4) The "B" element of the 372nd did not drop on the primary target. When the first run was made, the element was off too far to the left. Clouds covered the area on the second run. Bombs could not be dropped on the third run because P-38's were under our planes. The infantry then went in and ground control directed this element to another target, which was Djocata.
5) A/C #395 (372nd) flew from the target to Zamboanga because it was unable to transfer fuel. It returned to base later in the evening.
6) A/C #550 (424th) bombed the last resort target when it lost its #4 engine at 0705/L.
7) "T" shaped white panel markers were observed at the primary target.
- L. BOMB LOAD : 330 x 100# Napalm bombs were dropped over the primary.
27 x 500# GP bombs were dropped over the primary.
27 x 500# GP bombs were dropped over the alternate.
30 x 100# Napalm bombs were dropped over the last resort.

All bombs were fuzeed instantaneously and the GPs carried .01 tail fuzes.

Ammunition was expended in test firing only.

William B. Holmes
WILLIAM B. HOLMES,

1st Lt. Air Corps,

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719
22 May 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-549A

LOADING LIST

AP. 627 A -1

Lt. Blackman
Major Scarr
Capt. Austin
Lt. Hale
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Fulmer
T/Sgt. Shaw
Capt. Saunders
S/Sgt. Perisic
St. McGaughy

AP. 854 A-1

Lt. Rathjen
Lt. Wood
Lt. Metzger
Lt. Dove
T/Sgt. Meinertzhagen
S/Sgt. Clark W.A.
T/Sgt. Inman
S/Sgt. Watman
S/Sgt. Kulina
S/Sgt. Wadsworth
Cpl. Worley

AP. 700 A-3

Lt. Hall
F/O Broderick
Lt. Fitzgerald
Lt. Livesay
Sgt. Wilkinson
Cpl. Stuver
Sgt. Sinder
Cpl. Kuzniak
Cpl. Tiliack
S/Sgt. Schaefer

AP. 325 B-1

Lt. Lewis
Lt. Rodenburg
Lt. Zimmerman
Lt. Buckalew
T/Sgt. Nealon
S/Sgt. Throop
T/Sgt. Larson
S/Sgt. Paulin
S/Sgt. Dellosso
S/Sgt. Smith, J.W.

AP. 621 B-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson
Cpl. Evans
Pvt. Crawford
Cpl. Vinje
Cpl. Keeseo
Cpl. Shehane
Cpl. Larios

AP. 535 B-3

Lt. Traendly
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Cpl. Dugan
Cpl. Bankus
Cpl. Batten
Cpl. McNamara
Cpl. Daly
Cpl. Zimmerman
Sgt. Mayes

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
27 May 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT ON MISSION # 307-554

- A. MISSION : 307-554.
DATE : 27 May 1945.
AIRCRAFT : 372nd Bombardment Squadron (Hv). Five of six scheduled B-24's bombed the primary target. One B-24 bombed the secondary. (See Remarks).
- B. TARGETS : Primary -- Defense Position, Tarakan, Borneo, 4170T, Tarakan Island North Special Map was bombed by five planes.
Secondary -- Warehouse Area, Tawao A/D, Borneo, was bombed by one plane.
- C. ATTACK TIME : Primary -- 0958/I to 1015/I
AND ALTITUDE : 5,450 to 5,500 feet true altitude.
Secondary -- 1124/I from 5,750 feet true altitude.
- D. RESULTS : Primary -- The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
The ground observer, "Bonding," reported that all bombs fell in the assigned target. Due to the lack of orientation features, visual observation could not determine the exact target limitations but the bombs were seen to fall in a concentrated pattern on or close to the smoke marker. One string, on the south side of the pattern, struck a little to the east of the remaining bombs. Two explosions occurred in the target area, both with large flashes of flame, and one was followed by a fire with black smoke rising to 300 feet.
Secondary -- The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
100% of the bombs of one plane fell in the assigned target. The bombs started near the west end of the target and trained to the east, parallel to the road in the center of the target and about 200 feet to the south. No results other than bomb bursts were observed.
- FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil.
ENEMY LOSSES : None observed.
- E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.
- F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.
- G. AA FIRE : Nil.
- H. PHOTOS : A/C #693 took 4 photos of the primary target at 0958/I from 5,600'.
A/C #627 took 6 photos of the primary target at 1013/I from 5,500'.
A/C #854 took 6 photos of the primary target at 1015/I from 5,490'.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-554, 27 May 1946, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv)

- I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : By individual planes from base around the northern tip of Halmahera to Pekin Island (02°55'N - 117°41'E) where the squadron assembled and the Group formed into squadrons in trail and proceeded to the target. One plane which did not bomb the primary continued on to the secondary, solo, and returned direct to base.
- SIGHTINGS : 1. At 0814/I from 7,000 feet A/C #725, Lt. Rathjen pilot, sighted a small yellow dot, which may have been a life raft, at 02°55'N - 119°40'E. There was no sea marker and no activity visible. The plane was on the way to the target and could not investigate further.
- J. WEATHER : Base to target: .3 cumulus base 2,000 and tops 4,000 feet. .1 to .4 altostratus based at 14,000 feet.
Primary target: .7 to .9 cumulus based at 2,500 feet tops 8,000'.
Secondary target: .5 cumulus tops 4,000 feet.
Target to Base: .7 to .9 cumulus and towering cumulus tops 6,000'.
- K. REMARKS : 1. The target was bombed by elements in trail; this squadron was second to bomb.
2. The primary target was changed from Hill 102 (4469W, Tarakan Island South Special Map) to a defense position at 4170T, Tarakan Island North Special Map shortly before takeoff and the change was confirmed by "Bonding" at the time of attack.
3. The squadron made one dry run over the target for orientation purposes. The "A" element bombed on the second run, but the "B" element was prevented from bombing by cloud cover and bombed on a third run.
4. "Bonding" changed the direction of attack from north to east due to a shift in the position of ground troops. The target was marked by smoke shells fired by the ground forces, but no course markers were observed.
5. A/C #821, Lt. Key pilot, was unable to bomb with the rest of the "B" element because the bombardier's select bar would not go into position. This plane started a solo run on the target but "Bonding" turned them off to the secondary due to the amount of cloud cover then over the target. They bombed the secondary solo.
6. No fighter cover was scheduled for this mission.
- L. BOMBS DROPPED : 30 x 1,000# GP bombs with instantaneous nose and .01 second delay tail fuses were dropped on the primary.
6 x 1,000# GP bombs with instantaneous nose and non-delay tail fuses were dropped on the secondary.
- AMMUNITION : Ammunition was expended for test firing only.

Wilfred V. Gill
WILFRED V. GILL
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
27 May 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-554

LOADING LIST

AP. 2432 A-1

Lt. Apple
Lt. Blackman
F/O Burtard
F/O Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Fulmer
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Huffman
S/Sgt. Perisic
Lt. Miller

AP. 9725 A-2

Lt. Rathjen
F/O Broderick
F/O Marra
Lt. Dove
T/Sgt. Meinertzhagen
S/Sgt. Clark, W.A.
T/Sgt. Isman
S/Sgt. Webman
S/Sgt. Kulina
S/Sgt. Wadsworth

AP. 1693 A-3

Lt. Hall
Lt. Wood
Lt. Fitzgerald
Lt. Livesay
Sgt. Wilkinson
Cpl. Stuver
Sgt. Sinder
Cpl. Kuzniak
Cpl. Tillack
S/Sgt. Schaeffer
S/Sgt. Keahey

AP. 1627 B-1

Lt. Boyd
Lt. Hasselbach
F/O Dresser
F/O Overose
T/Sgt. Smith, L.K.
S/Sgt. Cornelius, P.L.
T/Sgt. Ewing
S/Sgt. Blotzer
S/Sgt. Bright
S/Sgt. Boone

AP. 1854 B-2

Lt. Traenkle
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Cpl. Dugan
S/Sgt. Ward
Cpl. Batten
Cpl. Daly, J.
Cpl. McNamara
Cpl. Zimmerman, W.D.
Cpl. Nazarek

AP. 1621 B-3

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Cpl. Urenovitch
Cpl. DeJohn
Cpl. Kuntz
S/Sgt. Birkel
Cpl. Spitz
Cpl. Ciszek

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719,
2 June 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-560B

A. MISSION : 307-560B.
DATE : 2 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target together with elements of the 371st and 424th Bombardment Squadrons (Hv).

B. TARGET : Tarakan (Map Ref: 4270 0 Tarakan Island North Special).

C. ATTACK TIME : 1030/I to 1031/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 5,500 feet to 5,550 feet true.

D. RESULTS : The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
An estimated 85% of the bombs fell in the target area. Although Ground Control, "Bonding" stated that all the bombs were in the target, it is believed that 3 were over 1,000 feet long and 2 were just short of the target. There were no results other than bomb bursts.

ENEMY LOSSES : Undetermined.

FRIENDLY : Nil.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C #363 took 5 photos of the target from 5,540 feet at 1030/I.
A/C #442 took 5 photos of the target from 5,500 feet at 1031/I.
A/C #693 took 13 photos of the target from 5,520 feet at 1031/I.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : The planes flew individually from base around the northern tip of Halmahera to the AP which was over Tarakan Island. They then formed into squadrons-in-trail formation, dropped the bombs and returned direct to base.

SIGHTINGS : Nil.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission 307-530B, 2 June 1945., 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv).

J. WEATHER : Base to Target: .3 to .6 cumulus tops 8,000 feet. .7 strato-cumulus at 10,000 feet.
Target: .3 to .4 cumulus tops 4,000 feet.
Target to Base: .6 cumulus tops 9,000 to 10,000 feet. .4 strato-cumulus at 12,000 feet.

K. REMARKS : 1. "o fighter cover was scheduled.
2. This squadron bombed 3rd as briefed.
3. Ground Control directed the bombing by smoke signals.

L. BOMB DROPPED : 33 x 1000# GP bombs, instantaneous nose, non-delay tail fused were dropped over the primary target.

AMMUNITION : Expended in test firing only.

Donald C. Edson
DONALD C. EDSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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0526

14

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719,
2 June 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-560B

LOADING LIST

AP. 395 A-1

Capt. Fisher
Lt. Goodwin
Lt. Springer
Lt. Yelland
T/Sgt. Walker
S/Sgt. Ward
T/Sgt. Sheldon, E.H.
S/Sgt. Sloan
S/Sgt. Goff
T/Sgt. Pressey

AP. 725 A-2

Lt. Rathjen
Lt. Wood
Lt. Metager
Lt. Dove
T/Sgt. Meinertzhagen
S/Sgt. Clark, W.A.
T/Sgt. Inman
S/Sgt. Watman
S/Sgt. Kulina
S/Sgt. Wadsworth
Lt. Harbst

AP. 365 A-3

Lt. Hasselbach
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson, I.C.
Sgt. Evans
Pvt. Crawford
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Keesee
Sgt. Shehane
Sgt. Larics
Cpl. Keahey

AP. 695 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Barned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buysse
Sgt. Turner
Sgt. Huey
S Sgt. Lacerte
S/Sgt. Stanhope

AP. 442 B-2

Lt. Prescott
Lt. Boeglin
F/O. Hunter
Lt. Stegman
Cpl. Wells
Cpl. Wade
Cpl. Mankowski
Cpl. Maneke
S/Sgt. Marchelle
Cpl. Hickey
Cpl. Baczynski

AP. 654 B-3

Lt. Traendly
F/O. Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Bankus
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Daly
Sgt. McAmara
Sgt. Zimmerman

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

0527

15

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719,
5 June 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-563B

A. MISSION : 307-563B.
DATE : 5 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : 4 of 5 scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target. 1 A/C
bombed the last resort target. (See Remarks)

B. TARGETS : Primary: Native Village, Labuan Island, bombed by 4 A/C.
Secondary: Muara Island Personnel Area, not bombed.
Tertiary: Jesselton Supply and Bivauac area, not bombed.
Last Resort: Sidate Personnel Area, NE Celebes, bombed by
1 A/C.

C. ATTACK TIME : Primary: 1221/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 6,000 feet to 6,300 feet true.
Last Resort: 0836/I.
6,000 feet true.

D. RESULTS : Primary: The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
All of the bombs fell within 1,000 feet of the target, although
an estimated 50% of them fell within the limits of the target
itself. The pattern covered about three-fourths of the north-
eastern one-half of the target, with several bombs falling
short and others falling wide to the northeast. Two buildings
were destroyed by burning and four others were left smoking.
Last Resort: The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
Four of the five bombs fell in the target and one was long,
being just outside to the north. One bomb in the target did
not explode. One long barracks building was destroyed by
burning, and possibly two small buildings.

ENEMY LOSSES : 3 buildings destroyed.
6 probably destroyed.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C #363 took 15 photos of the primary target at 1221/I from
6,000 feet.
A/C # 395 took 15 photos of the primary target at 1221/I from
6,300 feet.
A/C #338 took 4 photos of the last resort target at 0836/I from
6,000 feet.

1500/6

0381

16

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission 307-563B, 5 June 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv).

- I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : The planes flew from base to the AP (05°33'N-115°36'E) forming into squadron formation enroute. They then flew to TP (05°05'N-115°33'E) to IP (05°11'N-115°19'E) to the target. The return to base was direct.
- SIGHTINGS : 1. The eastern one-half of Sidate R/W appears to be serviceable again.
2. Three possibly serviceable T/E A/C were seen in the dispersal area south of the center of the R/W at Sidate. They appeared to be painted gray.
- J. WEATHER : Base to Target: .6 to 10/10 cumulus tops 8,000 feet with buildups to 15,000 feet. 10/10 stratus at 16,000 feet.
Last Resort Target: . cumulus tops 3,000 feet.
Primary Target: No low clouds.
Target to Base: .4 to .6 cumulus tops 4,000 feet, with buildups to 15,000 feet.
- K. REMARKS : 1. No fighter cover was scheduled.
2. Propaganda leaflets were dropped over the primary target.
3. A/C #838 bombed the last resort target because the #2 engine developed a bad gas leak and it became apparent that a flight to any of the other targets could not be made.
4. A/C #693 jettisoned one bomb safe in the water west of the Sangihe Islands because the bomb began to leak.
- L. BOMBS DROPPED : 12 x 55 gal. Napalm bombs were dropped over the primary target.
1 x 55 gal. Napalm bomb was dropped safe in the water.
5 x 55 gal. Napalm bombs were dropped over the last resort target.
24 x 55 gal. Napalm bombs instantaneously fused.
1 x 55 gal. Napalm bomb safe.
- AMMUNITION : Expended in test firing only.

DONALD C. EDSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. # 719,
5 June 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-5633

LOADING LIST

AP. 693 A-1

Lt. Blackman
Lt. Hasselbach
E/C. Burtard
F/O. Guido
T/Sgt. Hubner
S/Sgt. Fulmer
T/Sgt. Shew
S/Sgt. Hinkel
S/Sgt. Perisic
S/Sgt. Thiele
Sgt. Adams

AP. 395 A-2

Lt. Dole
F/O. Hoff
F/O. Kerstetter
F/O. Birdwell
T/Sgt. Oswald
S/Sgt. More
T/Sgt. Pole
S/Sgt. Mc Cornick
S/Sgt. Talley
S/Sgt. Greenstein
Sgt. Gandy
Lt. Edson

AP. 843 A-3

Lt. Traendly
F/O. Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Bankus
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Daly
Sgt. Mc Namara
Sgt. Zimmerman
Sgt. Donahue

AP. 363 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Harned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buysse
Sgt. Turner
Sgt. Huey
Sgt. Lacerte

AP. 838 B-2

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O. Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Cpl. Urenovitch
Cpl. De John
Cpl. Kuntz
S/Sgt. Birkel
Cpl. Spitz
Cpl. Ciszek
Cpl. Hilliard

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

0383

C O N F I D E N T I A L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
8 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-566

A. MISSION : 307-566.
DATE : 8 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target together with elements of the 37th, 371st and 424th Bombardment Squadrons, (Hv).

B. TARGET : Heavy Gun Positions, Balikpapan, Borneo.

C. ATTACK TIME : 1312/I to 1314/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 15,500 feet to 15,800 feet true.

D. RESULTS : The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
An estimated 80% of the bombs fell within 1000 feet of the target area, although an estimated 10% of them fell in the target itself. Those that were in the target fell inside the northeast boundary. Those that were outside were long, short and wide. One string which was short began about 250 feet north of the coast road and trained across a gun position almost into the target, destroying one building by burning. Three trains of bombs fell about 500 feet east of the target boundary, training across a gun position and the corner of a group of barracks type buildings and going on about 700 feet beyond. A sixth string fell about 700 feet north of the center of the target.

ENEMY LOSSES : One building destroyed.
Two buildings damaged.
One gun position knocked out.
One gun position damaged.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : Two aircraft holed.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Intense, heavy and accurate AA was received over the primary target. The firing began as the planes crossed the IP and continued until shortly after bombs away. The greatest concentration was of a barrage type and occurred on the right of the formation. There were also many bursts underneath and to the left of the formation. White, purple, green and yellow bursts were seen and were evidently used as altitude markers. The bursts were stepped up as the planes proceeded on the bomb run, beginning low and increasing until they were above the formation. Two aircraft were holed. (See Remarks)
One crew stated that there were four gun positions flashing, two

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-566 8 June 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv)

- : guns in each position, in the target area. Others stated that there were two gun positions of two guns each flashing about 250 feet south of the southeast corner of the target. Also several flashes occurred between the target boundary and the barracks area.

H. PHOTOS

- : A/C #363 took 11 photos of the target from 15,500 feet at 1314/I.
- : A/C #432 took 12 photos of the target from 15,690 feet at 1312/I.
- : A/C #838 took 12 photos of the target from 15,700 feet at 1314/I.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION

- : The planes flew around the northern tip of Halmahera to (00°00' - 124°00'E) to Cape Karang (00°38'S - 119°45'E) to Cape Mandoe (00°45'S - 116°25'E) forming into squadrons enroute to the AP (Cape Mandoe). From there they flew to the IP (01°19'S - 116°46'E) to the target on a heading of 26°. The return to base was direct.

SIGHTINGS

- : Nil.

J. WEATHER

- : Base to target: .2 to .8 cumulus tops 5000 feet to 8000 feet.
- : .3 to .6 altostratus base 10,000 feet to 12,000 feet. Visibility 5 to 30 miles.
- : At target: .3 to .4 cumulus tops 6,000 feet. .4 altostratus at 14,000 feet.
- : Target to Base: .4 to .6 cumulus tops 6,000 feet. .6 to .7 altostratus tops 12,000 feet. .3 to .4 cirrus at 20,000 feet.

K. REMARKS

- : 1. No fighter cover was scheduled.
- : 2. A/C #725 flew over the target in A-1 position because A/C #395 which was scheduled to lead had a malfunction in its C.I.
- : 3. A/C #432 was holed in the right wing behind the #3 engine.
- : 4. A/C #725 was holed in the #1 engine, underneath. The vacuum pump was knocked out.
- : 5. Propaganda leaflets were dropped.
- : 6. A/C #838 threw out its ammunition because it was unable to transfer the gasoline from the wing tanks.
- : 7. A/C #395 intentionally sighted on the gun position south of the target in an effort to knock out the guns, which is believed to have been accomplished.
- : 8. The lead bombardier sighted on the gun positions east of the target in an effort to knock them out.

L. BOMBS DROPPED

- : 133 x 260# fragmentation bombs, instantaneously fused were dropped over the primary target.

AMMUNITION

- : One aircraft jettisoned its ammunition because of an aircraft malfunction. Others expended it in test firing only.

Donald C. Edson
DONALD C. EDSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

572ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO # 719
8 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-566

LOADING LIST

AP. 2395 A-1

Lt. Blackman
F/O Broderick
F/O Burtard
F/O Guido
S/Sgt. Fulmer
S/Sgt. C. F. Smith
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel
S/Sgt. Perisic
Lt. Miller

AP. 9725 A-2

Lt. Dole
F/O Hoff
F/O Kerstetter
F/O Birdwell
T/Sgt. Oswald
S/Sgt. More
S/Sgt. Pole
S/Sgt. McCormick
S/Sgt. Talley
S/Sgt. Greenstein
F/O Marra

AP. 2432 A-3

Lt. Hasselbach
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson, I.C.
Sgt. Evans
Sgt. Crawford
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Keesee
Sgt. Shehane
Sgt. Larios
S/Sgt. Stanhope

AP. 2363 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Earned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buysse
Sgt. Turner
Sgt. Huey
Sgt. Lacerte

AP. 1838 B-2

Lt. Fraenly
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Banks
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Daly
Sgt. McNamara
Sgt. Zimmerman, W.D.
Cpl. Worley

AP. 1133 B-3

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Cpl. Urenovitch
Cpl. DeJohn
Cpl. Kuntz
S/Sgt. Birkel
Cpl. Spitz
Cpl. Ciszek

C O N F I D E N T I A L

572ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO # 719
11 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-569

A. MISSION : 307-569.
DATE : 11 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target together with elements of the 370th, 371st and 424th Bombardment Squadrons (Hv).

B. TARGET : Tarakan Island (Map Ref: Tarakan Island South 4368 E and J).

C. ATTACK TIME : 0956/I - 0958/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 6,130 feet to 6,200 feet true.

D. RESULTS : The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
An estimated 95% of the bombs completely covered the hill feature, causing an ammunition dump explosion. There is a possibility that one or two bombs fell short, training into the target and one or two fell long, training out of the target. Ground Control, "Bonding" stated that all of the bombs were in the target and that the enemy's defenses had been severed. It also confirmed the ammunition dump explosion.

ENEMY LOSSES : One ammunition dump destroyed.
FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil. (K)

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C #719 took 12 photos of the target at 0958/I from 6,130 feet.
A/C #843 took 4 photos of the target at 0958/I from 6,175 feet.
A/C #854 took 11 photos of the target at 0957/I.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : The planes flew individually around the northern tip of Halmahera to the AP which was 10 miles west of Tarakan to the target on a heading of approximately 10°. The return to the base was direct.

SIGHTINGS : Nil.

J. WEATHER : Base to target: .4 to .5 cumulus tops 4,000 feet. .9 altostratus 10,000 feet to 12,000 feet.
At Target: .3 cumulus at 2,000 feet.
Target to base: .5 to .7 cumulus tops 3,500 feet to 8,000 feet.
.5 to .9 altostratus from 10,000 feet to 12,000 feet.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-869, 11 June 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqn (Hv)

K. REMARKS : 1. No fighter cover was scheduled.
2. This squadron bombed at the direction of Ground Control, "Bonding," which pointed out the target by means of smoke bombs.
3. The AP was changed from Pekin Island to 10 miles west of Tarakan because of weather.
4. This squadron led the formation over the target.
5. It was necessary to wait 25 minutes before dropping bombs because the 5th Group was bombing.

L. BOMBS DROPPED : 36 x 1000# GP bombs, instantaneously fused, were dropped over the primary target.

AMMUNITION : Expended in test firing only.

Donald C. Edson
DONALD C. EDSON, *WJ*
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO # 719
11 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-569

LOADING LIST

AP. 1627 A-1

Col. Rees
Lt. Blackman
F/O Burtard
Lt. Otterman
T/Sgt. Willard
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel
S/Sgt. Perisic
Maj. Derham (Aust)

AP. 2363 A-2

Lt. Dole
F/O Hoff
F/O Kerstetter
F/O Birdwell
T/Sgt. Oswald
T/Sgt. Pole
S/Sgt. Greenstein
S/Sgt. Talley

AP. 1854 A-3

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson
Sgt. Evans
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Shehane
Sgt. Larios
Cpl. Nazaruk

AP. 719 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Harned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Buysse
Sgt. Huey
Sgt. Lacerte
Cpl. Cromley
(15th Weather Sq)

AP. 1843 B-2

Lt. Traendly
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. McNamara
Sgt. Zimmerman
Cpl. Bennett

AP. 1133 B-3

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Cpl. Urenovitch
Cpl. Kuntz
S/Sgt. Birkel
Cpl. Ciszek

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
18 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-576

- A. MISSION : 307-576.
DATE : 18 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the primary target together with elements of the 370th, 371st and 424th Bombardment Squadrons (Hv).
- B. TARGET : Balikpapan (Map Ref: Mosatic - O2A #3BE).
- C. ATTACK TIME : 1039/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 11,950 feet to 13,030 feet true.
- D. RESULTS : The bombing cannot be rated because cloud cover prevented observation.
ENEMY LOSSES : Undetermined.
FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil.
- E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.
- F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.
- G. AA FIRE : Nil.
- H. PHOTOS : A/C #363 took 11 photos of the target at 1039/I from 11,985 feet.
A/C #693 took 7 photos of the target at 1039/I from 11,950 feet and 2 photos of Langoan A/D at 1341/I from 10,000 feet.
A/C #838 took 5 photos of the target at 1039/I from 12,200 feet.
- I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : The planes flew individually around the northern tip of Halmahera to TP (124°00'E - 00°00') to Cape Karang where the squadron assembled and flew to TP (01°50'S - 116°55'E) to TP (01°30'S - 116°27'E) to TP (01°21'S - 116°39'E) to TP (01°24'S - 116°46'E) to the target, making a dry run. Because the target was cloud covered they flew toward Seppingan which was also weathered in. They returned to the primary target and bombed on a heading of approximately 320°. The return to base was direct.
- SIGHTINGS : 1. Black smoke was seen to be rising from the tank area NW of the target at the time of the bomb run.
2. One TE black aircraft, possibly Betty, was seen to be heading W from Seppingan R/W. It appeared to have just taken off as it was very close to the ground. This was seen at 1020/I from 12,000 feet.
3. One TE silver colored bomber was seen W of the N end of Langoan R/W. It was near the road running through the line of trees

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-576, 18 June 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv)

nearest the R/W and was seen through binoculars at 1341/I
from 10,000 feet.

J. WEATHER : Base to Target: .5 to .7 cumulus tops 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet.
.4 to .6 altostratus tops 8,000 feet to 14,000 feet.
At Target: .6 cumulus tops 9,000 feet.
Target to Base: .6 cumulus tops 6,000 feet to 8,000 feet. .3
to .5 altostratus 11,000 feet to 15,000 feet. .3 cirrus at
18,000 feet.

K. REMARKS : 1. No fighters were scheduled.
2. Window was dropped.
3. A cloud directly over the target prevented observation of the
bombs, although the bombs were dropped as near as possible to
the assigned target.

L. BOMBS DROPPED : 110 x 250# GP bombs, .1 nose .025 tail fused, were dropped over
the primary target.

AMMUNITION : Expended in test firing only.

Donald C. Edson
DONALD C. EDSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
18 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-576

LOADING LIST

AP. 643 A-1

Lt. Blackman
Lt. Hasselbach
F/O Burtard
F/O Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Perisic
S/Sgt. Hinkel
Lt. J-C Wandel, J.P.

AP. 725 A-2

Lt. Dole
F/O Hoff
F/O Kerstetter
F/O Birdwell
T/Sgt. Oswald
S/Sgt. Pole
S/Sgt. Tailey
S/Sgt. Greenstein
F/O Marra

AP. 693 A-3

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson
Sgt. Evans
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Larios
Sgt. Shehane
Cpl. Gandy

AP. 363 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Harned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Buysse
Sgt. Huey
Sgt. Lacerte

AP. 838 B-2

Lt. Traenkle
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahler
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Zimmerman
Sgt. McHara
S/Sgt. Stanhope

AP. 133 B-3

Lt. Britt
F/O Gardner
F/O D'Amico
Lt. Wilson
Cpl. Beer
Cpl. Grab
Cpl. Mensley
Cpl. White, F.S.
Lt. Nestman, J.A.

CONFIDENTIAL

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
21 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-579

A. MISSION : 307-579.
DATE : 21 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : 372nd Bombardment Squadron (HV). Five scheduled Liberators with elements of the 370th, 371st, and 424th Bombardment Squadrons (HV).

B. TARGETS : Primary- Anti-aircraft Gun Position, Target # 150 Mosaic 02A, Balikpapan, Borneo, was not bombed. (See Remarks).
Alternate Primary- Anti-aircraft Gun Position, Target # 73 CIU POTARG B-26, Balikpapan, Borneo, was bombed by five planes.

C. ATTACK TIME AND ALTITUDE : 1009/I - 1010/I.
: 11,400 to 12,000 feet true altitude.

D. RESULTS : This bombing cannot be rated because the bomb bursts were almost completely obscured by low cumulus and heavy black smoke from oil fires in the vicinity. One crew saw the bombs start bursting just east of the Edeleanu Refinery but the clouds prevented further observation. No results other than bomb bursts were observed.

ENEMY LOSSES : None observed.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C # 700 took 5 photos of the target at 1012/I from 11,360 feet.
A/C # 733 took 6 photos of the target at 1009/I from 11,410 feet. and 4 photos of Langoan A/I, Celebes, at 1328/I from 9,000 feet.
A/C # 693 took 8 photos of the target at 1010/I from 11,600 feet.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L

PASIG: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-878, 21 June 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Ev)

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : by individual planes from base around the northern tip of
Balabara to TP (00°00' - 124°00'E) to Cape Karang (00°38'S -
119°43'E) where the squadrons assembled and proceeded in trail
to TP (01°35'S - 119°47'E) to the vicinity of the target where
they circled while getting bombing instructions from the con-
troller, "Maggie", then made their run on the target. Return
route was direct to Cape Karang and back to base.

OBSERVATIONS : Nil.

J. WEATHER : Base to target: .8 cumulus tops 7,000 feet and .3 altostratus
based at 14,000 feet.
Target: .8 cumulus tops 3,000 feet and .4 altostratus based at
18,000 feet. Heavy oil smoke over target area.
Target to base: .3 cumulus tops to 7,000 feet and .4 altostratus
based at 12,000 feet.

K. REMARKS : 1. Scheduled #4 squadron in squadrons- in- trail formation;
bombed as an individual squadron.
2. Controller "Maggie" canceled the scheduled primary target
and furnished 3 alternate primary targets, all of which were
anti-aircraft gun positions. This squadron bombed the
second alternate, target #73 CIU FOTARE B-28.
3. A/C # 180, Lt. Shiely pilot, spare from the 424th
Bombardment Squadron (Ev), bombed as B-2 in our squadron
formation.
4. Window was dropped on the bomb run.
5. Psychological warfare leaflets were dropped over the
Balikpapan Area.
6. No fighter cover was scheduled.

L. BOMBS DROPPED : 30 x 250# GP bombs with Instantaneous fusing were dropped on
the alternate primary target.

AMMUNITION : Ammunition was expended for test firing only.

W. H. G. J. G.
WILFRED V. GILL,
1st Lt. Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hr)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APD # 719
21 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-579

LOADING LIST

AP. 9725 A-1

Lt. Dole
F/O Hoff
F/O Kerstetter
F/O Guido
T/Sgt. Oswald
S/Sgt. More
T/Sgt. Pole
S/Sgt. McCormick
S/Sgt. Talley
S/Sgt. Greenstein
Cpl. Von Bose

AP. 1700 A-2

Lt. Traendly
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Bankus
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Daly, J.
Sgt. McNamara
Sgt. Zimmerman
Sgt. Upperman

AP. 9733 A-3

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson
Sgt. Evans
Sgt. Crawford
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Keesee
Sgt. Shehane
Sgt. Larios
Sgt. Worley

AP. 1833 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Harned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buysse
Sgt. Turner
Sgt. Huey
Sgt. Lacerte

AP. 1838 B-3

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Sgt. Urenovitch
Sgt. DeJohn
Sgt. Kuntz
Sgt. Spitz
Sgt. Birkel
Sgt. Ciszek

0885

C O N F I D E N T I A L

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 719
24 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-532

A. MISSION : 307-532.
DATE : 24 June 1945.
AIRCRAFT : 372nd Bombardment Squadron (Hv). Six of six scheduled Liberators
bombed the primary target together with elements of the 370th,
371st and 424th Bombardment Squadrons (Hv).

B. TARGET : Beach Defenses (Target # B, Mosaic 02A), Balikpapan, Borneo.

C. ATTACK TIME : 1301/1 to 1310/1.
AND ALTITUDE : 5,350 to 5,800 feet true altitude.

D. RESULTS : This bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
75% of our depth charges fell in the assigned target and covered
about 30% of the target area. Two individual explosions similar
to those of the depth charges but possibly underwater mines were
noted just outside of the depth charge pattern, but within the
target area. The beach obstacles were clearly visible and were
covered by the depth charge bursts. One load of depth charges
hung up and fell in the water several thousand feet west of the
target. A single depth charge wobbled and fell on the scoring
a direct hit on a large building just south of the main road
intersection in target # B and starting a small fire.

ENEMY LOSSES : One building destroyed.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : None.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C #627 took 12 photos of the target at 1301/1 from 5,700 feet.
A/C #621 took 6 photos of the target at 1301/1 from 5,580 feet.
A/C #941 took 5 photos of the target at 1302/1 from 5,350 feet.
No photos were taken of the bombing by A/C #563 which made an
individual run and was without a camera.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-582, 24 June 1946, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv)

- I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : From base by individual planes around the northern tip of Halmahera to (00°00'S-122°00'E) to Cape Sejar (00°42'S-117°37'E) where the squadrons assembled and the Group proceeded in trail to the IP (01°15'S-116°07'E) and to the target. Return route was direct to Cape Karang and thence direct to base.
- OBSERVATIONS : 1. At 1510/I from 7,500 feet two possible Sugar Dogs were seen anchored in a large harbor on the southern shore of Taltakoh Island (00°25'S-122°04'E).
2. At 1630/I from 8,000 feet A/C #843 from this squadron which ditched off Cape Flecko on 22 June was seen by A/C #700, Lt. Blackman pilot, to be still on the reef. 100 yards inshore from the head of the bay west of Cape Flecko a parachute was seen in the trees. This chute is probably one used by one of the crewmembers who has been rescued, since he reported that he landed in that area and could not get his chute down from the trees. However, one-quarter mile inland from the chute, one crewmember of A/C #700 saw a light shining from the hill which stayed on for a minute then blinked off and on again. Two columns of smoke were seen rising from the hill north of the light. Two members of the crew of A/C #843 are still missing.
- J. WEATHER : Base to target: .3 cumulus and stratocumulus tops 7,000 feet and .6 to 10/10 altostratus based at 13,000 feet. A front running north and south was encountered over the Topian Islands. Target: Open. .4 cumulus tops 5,000 feet in the area. 10/10 altostratus based at 13,000 feet. Target to base: Same as route out.
- K. REMARKS : 1. This squadron was #1 over the target in a squadrons-in-trail formation.
2. The lead plane preceded the Group to the target, reconnoitered the area, then returned to the rendezvous and led the Group onto the target. The squadron bombed 1,500 feet below briefed altitude on instructions from the leader who felt it was safe to go in at the lower altitude.
3. A/C #563, Colonel Ross pilot, made a second run solo because its depth charges had failed to release on the formation run.
4. No fighter cover was scheduled for this mission.
- L. BOMBS DROPPED : 69 x 325# depth charges with instantaneous fuses were dropped on the primary target.
- AMMUNITION : Ammunition was expended for test firing only.

Unifert Gies
ALFRED V. GIES,
1st/Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APC # 718
24 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-592

LOADING LIST

AP. 2368 A-1

Lt. Booker
Col. Rees
Lt. Margosian
Lt. Otterman
T/Sgt. Jones, R.J.
S/Sgt. Maas
Sgt. Bushmarick
S/Sgt. Hill

AP. 1427 A-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Johnson, I.
T/Sgt. Evans
S/Sgt. Crawford
S/Sgt. Vinje
S/Sgt. Reese

AP. 1700 A-3

Lt. Blackman
Lt. Hasselbach
F/O Burtard
F/O Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. McCormick
S/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Winkel
Cpl. Hasek

AP. 1621 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Harrod
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buyse
Sgt. Turner

AP. 1668 B-2

Lt. Trendly
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Weiden
Lt. Tischer
Sgt. Dagan
Sgt. Banks
Sgt. Eatten
Sgt. Daly

AP. 0941 B-3

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Sgt. Hrenovitch
Sgt. DeJohn
Sgt. Kuntz
Sgt. Spitz
Sgt. Upperman

CONFIDENTIAL

372nd BOMBARDMENT SQDN. (Hv)

OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
27 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-585B

A. MISSION : 307-585B
DATE : 27 June 1945
AIRCRAFT : Six of Six scheduled Liberators bombed the Primary Target with Elements of the 370th, 371st and 424th Bomb. Sqdns. (Hv).

B. TARGET : Klandasan beach defenses, Balikpapan, Borneo.

C. ATTACK TIME : 0820/I - 0821/I.
AND ALTITUDE : 3,100' to 3,650' True.

D. RESULTS : This bombing rated excellent. 65% of the bombs fell in the assigned target and saturated the area between the shore road and the beach. No results other than bomb bursts were observed.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil
ENEMY LOSSES : None observed

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil

G. A/A FIRE : Slight, medium inaccurate A/A fire was received from 4 - 5 guns, which were seen firing from the hills 2,500' from the target.

H. PHOTOS : 3 A/C took photos over target.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : From base by individual planes around Northern tip of Halmahera to T/P (00°00' - 124°00'E) to Cape Bajor (00° 42'S - 117°37'E) to the Balikpapan area. The Formation circled the area 4 times because of weather and other planes that were attacking, then made its bomb run. Return route was direct to Cape Karang, then along the South shore of the Celebes searching for downed airmen, then direct to base.

OBSERVATIONS : None

J. WEATHER : Base to Target - .2 to .5 Cumulus tops 4,000' and .4 to 10/10 Alto Stratus based at 16,000'
Target - .4 to .5 Cumulus tops 4,000'-6,000'. Rain in the general target area, with 10/10 Alto Stratus based at 11,000'.

Target to Base - .4 to .6 Cumulus tops 6,000' and 10/10 Alto Stratus based at 11,000'. Thick Cumulus and rain were encountered over Makassar Straits and a heavy line East of Cape Karang, another line East of Togian Islands.

K. REMARKS

- : 1. This Squadron was assigned in #2 Position, but was first to bomb its assigned target. 4 circles were made in the Balikpapan area because of weather and the fact that B-25's were bombing and strafing in the vicinity of our target. The bomb run was finally made at 3,500' because of the low clouds.
- 2. Clearance to bomb was secured from the Controller "Magpie" and following the bombing, "Magpie" reported that the 371st and this Squadron had done a "Swell Job."
- 3. All planes searched the South coast of the North area of the Celebes on their way home, looking for missing members of Lt. Sorem's crew, but with negative results.
- 4. No fighter cover scheduled.

L. BOMBS DROPPED

- : 174 X 260 Frag Bombs with instantaneous fusing were dropped on the Primary Target.

AMMO

- : Expended for test firing only.

Wilfred V. Gill
1st Lt. Air Corps
Asst. Intell. Officer

372nd BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
27 June 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT MISSION

LOADING LIST

AP - 1627 - A-1

Lt. MacDonald
Lt. Blackman
F/O Burtard
F/O Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Murphy
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel

AP 2432 - A-2

Lt. Fortunato
F/O Hoff
Lt. Newell
Lt. Yelland
T/Sgt. Meinertzhagen
S/Sgt. Clark
T/Sgt. Sheldon
S/Sgt. Sloan

AP - 843 - A-3

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Glugover
Sgt. Evans
Sgt. Crawford
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Keesee
Sgt. Wazaruk

AP - 1693 - B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Scull
Lt. Harned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buysee
Sgt. Turner

AP - 1838 - B-2

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Sgt. Urenovitch
Sgt. DeJohn
Sgt. Kuntz
Sgt. Spitz
Sgt. Hilliard

AP - 0941 - B-3

Lt. Traendly
F/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Bankus
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Daly

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372nd BOMBARDMENT SQDN. (Hv)

OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
1 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-588

A. MISSION : 307-588
DATE : 1 July 1945
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the Primary target.
B. TARGET : A/A Positions and Ammo Dump Balikpapan, Borneo.
C. ATTACK TIME : 1350/I to 1425/I
ALTITUDE : 7700' to 7800' True
D. RESULTS : This bombing is rated unsatisfactory due to a misorientation on the assigned target. All bombs fell approximately 2100 feet northwest of the target. The Bombardiers oriented on a prominent East-West Road, which was incorrect.
ENEMY LOSSES : Not determined
FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil
E. INTERCEPTION : Nil
F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil
G. A/A FIRE : Nil
H. PHOTOS : Three A/C took photos
I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : By individual planes around northern tip of Halmaheras to T/P to I/P to target. Bombing by individual planes. Planes orbited target area for one and three-quarters of an hour waiting for the target to be assigned by "Magpie" Ground Controller.
SIGHTINGS : At 1400/I from 7000' an unidentified silver aircraft was seen landing at Sepinggan A/D.
J. WEATHER : (Unable to read microfilm)
K. REMARKS : (" " " ")
L. BOMBS DROPPED : 54 X 500# G.P. bombs fused instantaneously nose and non-delay tail, were dropped on the Primary target.
AMMO : For test firing only.

Wilfred V. Gill
1st Lt. Air Corps
Asst. Intell. Officer

372nd BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
1 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-588

LOADING LIST

AP-1700 - A-1

Lt. Blackman
Maj. Wilcox
F/O. Burtard
F/O. Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Fulmer
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel
Capt. Thorston

AP-2432 - A-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Glugover
Sgt. Evans
Sgt. Crawford
Sgt. Vinje
Sgt. Keesee
Capt. Holmes

AP-1621 - A-3

Lt. Kay
Lt. Conklin
F/O. Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
Sgt. Urenovitch
S/Sgt. Birkel
Sgt. Kuntz
Sgt. Mozek
S/Sgt. STanhope

AP-2363 - B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Springer
Lt. Harned
Sgt. Marshall
Sgt. Cobb
Sgt. Buysee
Sgt. Turner
Capt. Miller

AP-1627 - B-2

Lt. Traendly
Lt. Eckstein
Lt. Irving
Lt. Fischer
Sgt. Dugan
Sgt. Mankus
Sgt. Batten
Sgt. MacNamara
Cpl. Candy

AP-1838 - B-3

Lt. Goodwin
Lt. Strain
Lt. Campbell
Lt. Johnson
S/Sgt. Cooper
S/Sgt. Hubner
S/Sgt. Bock
S/Sgt. Morgan
Lt. Eckley

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. #719
4 July 1945

NARATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION NO. 307-591A

A. MISSION	: 307-591A
DATE	: 4 July 1945
AIRCRAFT	: Five of six scheduled Liberators bombed their primary target. One plane turned back (see Remarks). Photo reconnaissance was carried out by one plane.
B. TARGET	: Defense positions along the ridge located in the northeast corner of grid square #4963 and extending into grid square #4964 (map reference 66/XXII-D). No exact limits were given.
C. ATTACK TIME AND ALTITUDE	: 4135/I : 6250 to 6300 feet true.
D. RESULTS	: The bombing cannot be rated as there was no specific target area set us. However, the bombs were described as "right in there" by "Trespire" the ground controller. The bombs fell in a good tight pattern from a point west of the corner of grid square #4963 and extended to the northeast into grid square #4964. The parallel roads and dead end were well covered. The buildings in the area took direct hits. No other results were observed.
ENEMY LOSSES	: Two buildings destroyed.
FRIENDLY LOSSES	: None.
E. INTERCEPTION	: Nil.
F. COMBAT TACTICS	: Nil.
G. AA FIRE	: Nil.
H. PHOTOS	: A/C #395 took 10 photos of primary at 1435/I from 6300 feet. : A/C #838 took 8 photos of primary at 1435/I from 6300 feet. : A/C #854 took 65 reconnaissance photos of road to Samarinda from the road junction east of Sandanari(?) to Loadjanan on the Mahakam River 1450/I to 1515/I from 6000 feet.
I. ROUTE AND FORMATION	: The planes flew individually from base to Cape Bajer (00°48'S-117°37'E) where the squadron formed. They then flew to point "C" where they orbited until "Trespire" assigned them a target. Only dry run was made to orient on the target and

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. #719

4 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION NO. 307-591A

LOADING LIST

AP. #700 A-1

Lt. Blackman
Lt. Hasselbach
F/O Burtard
F/O Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Perisic
S/Sgt. Shaw
Sgt. Anderson

AP. #627 A-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jansen
Lt. Glugover
S/Sgt. Evans
S/Sgt. Crawford
S/Sgt. Vinje
S/Sgt. Keesee
Cpl. Baczyaski (sp)

AP. #854 A-3

Lt. Key
Lt. Conklin
F/O Humphrey
Lt. Dixon
S/Sgt. Urenovitch
S/Sgt. DeJohn
S/Sgt. Kuntz
S/Sgt. Spitz
W/O Pinaro

AP. #395 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentine
Lt. Metzger
Lt. Harned
S/Sgt. Marshall
S/Sgt. Huey
S/Sgt. Buysse
S/Sgt. Lacerte

AP. #838 B-2

Lt. Traendly
F/O Eeckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
S/Sgt. Dugan
S/Sgt. Daly
S/Sgt. Batten
S/Sgt. Zimmerman
S/Sgt. Upperman

AP. #941 B-3

Lt. Goodwin
Lt. Strain
Lt. Wagner, W. G.
Lt. Johnson, I. C.
S/Sgt. Hubner
S/Sgt. Cooper
S/Sgt. Bock
S/Sgt. Boudeault
Sgt. Bennett

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372nd BOMBARDMENT SQDN. (Hv)

OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
7 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-594A

A. MISSION : 307-594A
DATE : 7 July 1945
AIRCRAFT : Five of six scheduled Liberators bombed their Primary target with Elements of the 370th, 371st and 424th Squadrons. One plane turned back.

B. TARGET : Defense positions, Balikpapan, Borneo

C. ATTACK TIME : 0859/I to 0900/I
ALTITUDE : 6200' to 6400' True

D. RESULTS : Bombing is rated excellent. Smoke markers were first dropped on a high point in the southwest corner of 6065-H and then two markers were placed to the southeast, bracketing the original markers. The bombs fell in an exceptionally tight pattern between these markers.

ENEMY LOSSES : Undetermined
FRIENDLY LOSSES : None

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil

G. A/A FIRE : Slight, medium, inaccurate fire was received on bomb run and during the break away. Much of the fire was trailing and to the right, but some tracers did pass right through the formation.

H. PHOTOS : Two A/C took photos on bomb run.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : Planes flew individually to Cape Bajor (00°42'S - 117°37'E), where the Squadron formed. They then went to orbit point "C". After "Waxey", the Ground Controller, assigned the target, they made an orientation run before the bomb run. Return to base was direct.

J. WEATHER : Base to Target - .4 to .5 Cumulus, tops at 5000' to 6000'.
Target - .6 Cumulus, tops 5000'. Target open.
Target to Base - Same as route out.

K. REMARKS : 1. This Squadron bombed its target individually.
2. No escort was scheduled.

3. A/C #941 jettisoned its bombs about three minutes after takeoff. The #3 Super charger was torching during takeoff, and even though the power was reduced, it continued. Due to a gas leak in the bomb bay, it was deemed best to get rid of the bombs. A 90° turn was made to the south and the co-pilot dropped the bombs from the emergency release on the flight deck.

L. BOMBS DROPPED : 75 X 250 G.P. fused instantaneously nose and .025 tail were dropped over the target.

AMMO : 10,000 rounds were expended in test and practice.

William B. Holmes
Captain Air Corps
Intelligence Officer

372nd BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
7 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-594A

LOADING LIST

AP-700 - A-1

Lt. Blackman
Lt. Wood
Lt. Margosian
F/O. Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. More
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel
Capt. Miller

AP-432 - A-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Heritage
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Glugover
S/Sgt. Evans
S/Sgt. Shehane
S/Sgt. Lorios
Cpl. Gustalder

AP-627 - A-3

Lt. Hasselbach
Lt. Boeglin
F/O. Hunter
Lt. Stegman
S/Sgt. Fulmer
S/Sgt. Marchelle
T/Sgt. Trivelpiece
Sgt. Hilliard

AP-395 - B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
F/O. Burtard
Lt. Harned
S/Sgt. Marshall
S/Sgt. Cobb
S/Sgt. Buysee
S/Sgt. Turner

AP-838 - B-2

Lt. Goodwin
Lt. Strain
Lt. Wagner
Lt. Johnson
S/Sgt. Hubner
S/Sgt. Cooper
S/Sgt. Bock
S/Sgt. Boudreault

AP-941 - B-3

Lt. Traendly
F/O. Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
S/Sgt. Dugan
S/Sgt. Bankus
S/Sgt. Batten
S/Sgt. McNamara
S/Sgt. Morley

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372nd BOMBARDMENT SQDN. (Hv)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
14 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-599

A. MISSION : #307-599
DATE : 14 July 1945
AIRCRAFT : Six of six scheduled Liberators bombed the Primary Target, with Elements of the 370th, 371st and 424th Bomb. Sqdns. (Hv).
B. TARGET : Limboeng R/W #2, Southwest Celebes.
C. ATTACK TIME : 1204/I to 1206/I
ALTITUDE : 8700' to 8870' True
D. RESULTS : Bombing is rated excellent. An estimated 50% of the bombs fell within a 1000' of the target. There were no results other than bomb bursts.
ENEMY LOSSES : Undetermined
FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil
E. INTERCEPTION : Nil
F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil
G. A/A FIRE : Nil
H. PHOTOS : Three A/C took photos over the target.
I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : Squadron was formed over the base and flew around the northern tip of the Halmaheras to A/P (05°50'S - 120°10'E), where Squadron-in-Trail was formed. Squadrons flew to T/P (05°12'S - 120°00'E) to I/P (05°14'S - 119°36'E) to the target on a heading of 233°. Route back was direct.
SIGHTINGS : One possible F/D was seen to be anchored about 100 yards off shore near Bothain (05°33'E - 119°25'S) at 1215/I from 9000'.
J. WEATHER : Base to Target - .3 to .5 scattered Cumulus, tops 4500'.
At Target - .2 Cumulus, tops 3000'.
Target to Base - .5 to .6 Cumulus.
K. REMARKS : No fighter cover was scheduled.
L. BOMBS DROPPED : 36 X 1000# SAP Bombs, fused instantaneously, were dropped on Primary.
AMMO : Test Fire only.

Donald C. Edson
1st Lt. AirCorps
Asst. Intell. Officer

372nd BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (Hv)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

APO #719
14 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION #307-599

LOADING LIST

AP-874 - A-1

Capt. MacDonald
Lt. Prescott
Capt Austin
F/O. Guido
T/Sgt. Willard
S/Sgt. Fulmer
T/Sgt. Shaw
S/Sgt. Hinkel
S/Sgt. Perisic
S/Sgt. Anderson

AP-627 - A-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Turner
Lt. Jensen
Lt. Glugover
S/Sgt. Evans
S/Sgt. Crawford
S/Sgt. Vinje
S/Sgt. Keesee
S/Sgt. Shehane
S/Sgt. Larios
Cpl. VanBose

AP-364 - A-3

Lt. Stevie
Lt. Jonas
Lt. Rousek
Lt. Knorardy
T/Sgt. Abbate
Sgt. Sievers
S/Sgt. Gautier
Sgt. McConnery
Sgt. Rutledge
Sgt. Petersen
Sgt. Masaruk

AP-363 - B-2

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Bertin
Lt. Harned
S/Sgt. Marshall
S/Sgt. Cobb
S/Sgt. Buysee
S/Sgt. Turner
S/Sgt. Huey
S/Sgt. Lacerte

AP-395 - B-2

Lt. Huber
Lt. Kridler
Lt. Sims
Lt. Detar
Sgt. Rogers
Sgt. Hogan
Sgt. Groepel
Sgt. Schletfeldt
Sgt. Hull
Sgt. Mathews

AP-838 - B-3

Lt. Traendly
F/O. Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
S/Sgt. Dugan
S/Sgt. Bankus
S/Sgt. Batten
S/Sgt. Daly
S/Sgt. McNamara
S/Sgt. Zimmerman

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APG # 719
24 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-607

A. MISSION : 307-607.
DATE : 24 July 1945.
AIRCRAFT : Seven Liberators scheduled with planes of the 424th Squadron. Five aircraft bombed the primary, two bombed the last resort target.

B. TARGET : Primary -- Fighter Strip at Celin A/D, Borneo.
Last Resort -- Sidate R/W, Northeast Celebes.

C. ATTACK TIME AND ALTITUDE : Primary -- 1658/I to 1751/I.
8,275 feet to 8,375 feet true.
Last Resort -- 1851/I to 1920/I.
8,300 feet to 8,400 feet true.

D. RESULTS : Primary -- The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
The entire length of the assigned target was well covered and rendered the runway unserviceable. An estimated 60% of the bombs fell on the strip itself and all others were in close proximity to it. No results other than bomb bursts were seen.
Last Resort -- The bombing is rated EXCELLENT.
One string of bombs walked from the west end of the runway east to the taxiway intersection. Another 6 bombs fell midway between the west end and that same point. The remaining 3 bombs fell south of the west end of the strip. This places 85% of the bombs on the runway and rendered it unserviceable. No results other than bomb bursts were observed.

ENEMY LOSSES : Undetermined.

FRIENDLY LOSSES : Nil.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Nil.

H. PHOTOS : A/C #621 -- 7 photos of target at 1658/I.
A/C #395 -- 10 photos of target at 1717/I.
6 photos of target at 1730/I.
A/C #693 -- 8 photos of target at 1751/I.

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BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-607, 24 July 1945, 372nd Bomb Sqdn (Hv)

I. ROUTE AND
FORMATION

- : The planes flew individually around the north tip of Halmahera Island and then to 00°00'N - 124°00'E to Cape Harang to Cape Selatan to IP (03°35'S - 114°43'E). Weather interfered with the bombing runs as briefed so 4 aircraft used a reciprocal heading. One plane made 4 passes before it was able to drop its bombs on the briefed heading. Return to base was a reciprocal of the route out.

SIGHTINGS

- : 1. At 1705/I from 8,000 feet what appeared to be a new runway was seen east of Palihai (03°45'S - 114°46'E). There were some new buildings in the area and freshly turned dirt was in evidence.

J. WEATHER

- : Base to Target: .2 to .3 cumulus based at 4,000 feet and .3 alto-stratus at 12,000 feet which diminished to zero at Cape Harang.
- Target (Primary): .5 to .6 cumulus at 5,000 feet and a heavy haze layer mixed among them.
- Target (Last Resort): .3 cumulus at 5,000 feet.
- Target to Base: Substantially the same as the route out.

K. REMARKS

- : 1. Cloud conditions in the target area seriously hampered the bombing.
- 2. Unsuccessful efforts were made to contact Juke Box #61 from 1800/I to 1830/I.
- 3. No escort was scheduled.
- 4. A/C #627 just after takeoff found it had an improperly safetied fuel tank cap. Upon reporting this to the tower they ordered the spare aircraft to take off. This plane #627 then proceeded to the last resort target to bomb.
- 5. A/C #749, the spare, was unable to raise its landing gear for over an hour after takeoff. This used so much fuel that it was necessary to proceed to the last resort target.

L. BOMBS DROPPED

- : 45x500# GP bombs were dropped over the primary.
- 18x500# GP bombs were dropped over the last resort.
- All bombs were fuzed .1 nose and .01 tail.

AMMUNITION

- : None expended.

William P. Rolles

WILLIAM P. ROLLES,
Capt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HV)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APD # 719
24 July 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-607

LOADING LIST

AP. 432 A-1

Capt. Stephens
Lt. Sweeney
Lt. Campbell
Lt. Walker
Sgt. Kulawick
Sgt. Salyer
Sgt. Ewral
Sgt. Miller

AP. 874 A-2

Lt. Teichman
Lt. McGinnis
Lt. Newell
Lt. Williams
T/Sgt. Klitch
S/Sgt. Belt
T/Sgt. Mack
S/Sgt. DeLucas
Capt. Holmes

AP. 693 A-3

Lt. Stevie
Lt. Jones, W.Y.
Lt. Rousch
Lt. Konrardy
T/Sgt. Wilkinson
S/Sgt. Sievers
S/Sgt. Gauthier
Sgt. McConamy
S/Sgt. Nazarek

AP. 395 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Margosian
Lt. Harrod
S/Sgt. Marshall
S/Sgt. Huey
S/Sgt. Buysse
S/Sgt. Lecerte

AP. 621 B-2

Lt. Brandly
P/O Eckstein
Lt. Wahlen
Lt. Taucher
S/Sgt. Dugan
S/Sgt. Banks
S/Sgt. Batten
Sgt. Griffin
Sgt. Kelly

AP. 627 B-3

Lt. Britt
P/O Gardner
P/O D'Amico
Lt. Wilson
Sgt. Beer
Sgt. Graves
Sgt. Grab
Sgt. Lupton

AP. 749 (Spare)

Lt. Goodwin
Lt. Boeglin
P/O Hunter
Lt. Stegman
S/Sgt. More
S/Sgt. Wade
S/Sgt. Gerber
S/Sgt. Hickey

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JCS/jfn

2 August 1945.

STANDARD MISSION REPORTS

A. MISSION NO. : 307 - 615 C.
DATE : 1 August 1945.
PLANES : 14 aircraft, 7 each from the 372nd and 424th Squadrons. - All aircraft dropped on primary targets.

B. TARGET : Two barracks and personnel areas at south end of Makassar Town, Celebes, hit by 12 A/C.
AA positions at Makassar Town hit by 2 A/C.

C. TIME AND ALTITUDE: 1128 - 1135/1 from 13,250 to 15,700 feet true.
END OF ATTACK

D. RESULTS : On W. barracks area: EXCELLENT.
All bombs landed within 1000 ft. of the assigned target with the pattern starting at the water's edge due West of the target and walking NE through the northwestern corner of the target. Three small fires were started.

On E. barracks area: UNSATISFACTORY.
Approximately 15% of the bombs dropped landed within 1000 feet of the target with the general pattern running NE-SW about 1500 feet East of the target. No results were observed other than bomb smoke.

On AA positions: EXCELLENT.
50% of the bombs dropped fell through the assigned target completely blunting the guns and according to one observer, effectively muzzling the fire from those guns.

Three A/C let down along the South coast of the Celebes and at 05032'S - 120°15'E strafed and probably sank a two masted schooner.

schooner.
Attack was delivered at 1210/I from 100 feet.

Enemy Losses: One two-masted schooner probably sunk.
Friendly Losses: One B-24 ditched, causes unknown.

8. EMPLOYMENT OPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FILE : Heavy, slight to moderate and inaccurate from positions at
Makassar Town.

11. PHOTOGRAPHS : Were taken over the target, preliminary interpretation of which reveals:
MAKASSAR TOWN.

Bomb Patterns:

mb Patterns:
1 frag pattern 1750' x 300' oriented SW-NE is visible along the shore and W of the 424th target. 95% of the pattern is within 1000' of the assigned target and approx. 3% of pattern in the NW corner of the target area.

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- 1 frag pattern 4500' x 450' oriented SE-NW is visible 1800' E of the 372nd target, with approx 5% of pattern within 1000' of the assigned target.
- 1 phosphorus pattern covered the three gun heavy AA position. 4 single bursts are visible 5% of target.

Bomb Damage:
None visible.

I. ROUTE

: By individual A/C forming en route to A.P. of 05°37'S - 120°27'E to T.P. of 05°25'S - 119°25'E to I.P. of 05°10'S - 119°22'E to target which was bombed in elements of three. One element let down over the southern Celebes, the rest of the A/C proceeded direct to base with the exception of A/C #749 (See Remarks)

OBSERVATIONS

: The following observations were made:
1. 30 warehouses were reported at 05°30'S-119°50'E by one A/C.
2. Numerous two-masted schooners and luggers at Molaka Harbor (04°10'S - 121°40'E) and off Pongalan (04°15'S - 121°35'E) at 1110/I from 9,000 feet.
3. Two power boats docked at Cape Baja (03°15'S - 122°35'E) at about 1108/I from 8500 feet.

J. WEATHER

: Base to target: .3 to .5 cumulus bases at 6500 feet.
Over target: .1 cumulus based at 5,000 feet.
Return route: Weather unchanged.

K. REMARKS

: A/C #377 feathered #2 engine due to loss in oil pressure before reaching the target. This A/C continued with the formation and bombed the primary.

A/C #316 salvaged 16 bombs safe in the Gulf of Bone when unable to release them over the target due to bomb bay doors jamming.

A/C #749, pilot Lt. Traendly, was last heard from as reporting his position 60 miles South of Sidate and that the crew was bailing out. A supplementary report will be written when more information becomes available. His bombs are included in this report.

A/C #621 and A/C #363 returned to base safely on 3 engines due to mechanical reasons.

No fighter cover was scheduled.

L. BOMBS DROPPED

: Over Barracks: 286 x 260' frag bombs
jettisoned: 16 x 260' " "
Over AA positions: 30 x 100' W.P. bombs.
Total carried: 302 x 260' frag bombs
30 x 100' W. P. bombs

8000 rounds of caliber .50 ammunition was expended in strafing

Joseph C. Standart
JOSEPH C. STANDART,
Major, Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer

DISTRIBUTION: Same as 307-615A.

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372ND TOMBARDMENT BATTALION (I.V.)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A.P.O. 719

1 August 1945

NARRATIVE ORAL REPORT OF MISSION 367-6150

LOADING LIST

AP. 638 A-1

Capt. MacDonald
Lt. Prescott
Capt. Austin
Lt. Ottoriano
T/Sgt. Wilkinson
S/Sgt. Murphy
T/Sgt. Gerber
Sgt. Johnson, J.D.
Sgt. Anderson, C.E.
Capt. Miller

AP. 621 A-2

Lt. Harrison
Lt. Ross
Lt. Wenzel
Lt. Glasgow
T/Sgt. Evans
S/Sgt. Crawford, W.A.
T/Sgt. Vinje
S/Sgt. Reese
S/Sgt. Sheehan
S/Sgt. Garies

AP. 749 A-3

Lt. Traendly
P/O Wickstein
Lt. Kahler
Lt. Taucher
S/Sgt. Dugan
S/Sgt. Banks
S/Sgt. Batten
S/Sgt. Daly
S/Sgt. McManara
S/Sgt. Zimmerman
S/Sgt. Stanhope

AP. 363 B-1

Lt. Drager
Lt. Valentino
Lt. Bergosian
Lt. Harrod
T/Sgt. Marshall
S/Sgt. Cobb, J.R.
T/Sgt. Ryese
S/Sgt. Turner
S/Sgt. Huey
S/Sgt. Licarte

AP. 153 B-2

Lt. Heritage
Lt. Dicht
Lt. Wagner, W.A.
Lt. Cobble
Sgt. Ashley
Cpl. Lukowski
Cpl. Champney
Cpl. Ellerman
Cpl. Keenan
Cpl. Pierce
S/Sgt. Deparman

AP. 374 B-3

Lt. Tompkins
P/O McManough
Lt. Adsit
Lt. Stanley
Sgt. Henry
Cpl. Crickel
Sgt. Pettis
Cpl. Long
Cpl. Thomas
Sgt. Harvey

AP. 700 C-1

Lt. Britt
P/O Gardner
P/O D'Amico
Lt. Wilson, H.B.
Sgt. Beer
Sgt. Graves
Sgt. Grab
Sgt. Lupton
Sgt. Mansley
Sgt. White

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

424TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF

A.F.O. # 719
2 August 1945

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307 - 615-C

A. MISSION NUMBER : 307 - 615-C; 1 August 1945: 424th Bombardment Squadron (H): Seven (7) B-24's scheduled, with seven (7) planes of 372nd Bomb Squadron (H).

B. TARGET : 1. Primary, MAKASSAR PERSONNEL AREA by six (6) B-24 aircraft.
2. MAKASSAR Heavy Gun Position by one (1) B-24 aircraft.

C. TIME & ALTITUDE OF ATTACK : 1. 1128/I-1135/I from 13,200 feet to 13,600 feet true altitude.
2. 1129/I from 15,700 feet true altitude.

D. RESULTS : 1. Excellent with 50% of bombs in target area or within 1000 feet. Rest of bombs were to the west of the target. Three (3) to five (5) fires were started in the target area with black smoke.
2. All bombs short to the south of gun position.
Enemy losses: Undetermined.
Own Damage : Nil.

E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.

F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.

G. AA FIRE : Moderate, heavy, inaccurate AA from known position.

H. PHOTOGRAPHS : A/C # 383 took six (6) photos of target.
A/C # 377 took five (5) photos of target.
A/C # 334 took thirteen (13) photos of target.
A/C # 372 took eight (8) photos of target.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION : Base to tip of MAINANERAS to Rendezvous (08°37'S-120°27'E) to TP (05°25'S-119°25'E) to IP (05°10'S-119°22'E). Formation, elements of three, javelin down were formed on course.

1555/2

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OBSERVATIONS

- : Numerous two-masted schooners and luggers observed KOLAKA HARBOR (04°10'S-121°40'E) and off POMELIA (04°15'S-121°35'E) at 1225/1 from 13,000 feet.

Two power boats docked at CAPE BAGA (03°15'S-122°35'E) at 1255/1 from 13,000 feet.

Two grass strips about 3000 feet in length south and east of MAKASSAR TOWN at 1130/1 from 13,500 feet.

J. WEATHER

- : Enroute: .5-.5 cumulus 6500 foot base.

Target: .5 cumulus 7000 foot base.

Enroute: .5-.5 cumulus with bases from 5000 feet (to base) to 7000 feet.

K. REMARKS

- : A/C # 377 feathered # 2 engine when oil pressure was lost before target and bombed and returned to base on three engines.

A/C # 316 salvaged 18 bombs in Gulf of Bone because left bomb bay doors jammed and would not open over target.

L. BOMB LOAD

- : 1. 133 x 260# frags, fused instantaneous nose and .1 tail, in target area.
18 x 260# frags, fused instantaneous nose and .1 tail, salvaged safe in water in Gulf of Bone.
- 2. 15 x 100# white phosphorous bombs in target area.

James E. Logan

JAMES E. LOGAN
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer

424TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF

A.P.C. # 719
1 August 1945

LOADING LIST FOR MISSION # 307 - 315-B

<u>A/C # 464</u>	<u>A/C # 113</u>	<u>A/C # 333</u>
Capt. McGrath	Lt. Dukes	Lt. Needham
Lt. Mihalka	Lt. Sunderman	Lt. Tryce
Lt. Reintz	Lt. Laflay	Lt. Love
Lt. McCabe	Lt. Wong	Lt. Shilling
Sgt. Jones	Sgt. Clave	Sgt. Ellis
Sgt. Vaher	Sgt. Hale	Sgt. Kertasha
Sgt. Earl	Sgt. Budd	Sgt. Deaford
Sgt. Helms	Sgt. Coke	Sgt. Davis
Sgt. Remington	Sgt. Allen	Sgt. Fellman
Sgt. Dehart	Sgt. Smith, FW	Sgt. Market
Sgt. Bohen	Cpl. Smith, FE	Sgt. Fairchild

<u>A/C # 377</u>	<u>A/C # 334</u>	<u>A/C # 316</u>
Lt. Ansley	Lt. Decho	Lt. Weisleder
Lt. Johnson	Lt. Colby	Lt. Batalaris
Lt. Stebbins	Lt. Winick	Lt. Gaul
Lt. Lakamp	Lt. Keeshan	Lt. Cotten
Sgt. Cheychois	Sgt. Austin, D	Sgt. Wilkens
Sgt. Watson	Sgt. Wilcott	Sgt. Kyle
Sgt. Caparow	Sgt. Ayers	Sgt. Randall
Sgt. Bernard	Sgt. Cozine	Sgt. Pierson
Sgt. Browne	Sgt. Anderson	Sgt. Galarco
Sgt. Barceaux	Sgt. Olsen	Sgt. Munigan
Sgt. Fascia	Sgt. Walters	Cpl. Kobeson

A/C # 372

Lt. Duncan
Lt. Jernigan
Lt. Pope
Lt. Curry
Sgt. Collins
Sgt. Kershner
Sgt. Creamer
Sgt. Crock
Sgt. Riswick
Sgt. McElroy

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HEADQUARTERS 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HV) WBD/fcp
APO #719

7 August 1945

ANNEX TO STANDARD MISSION REPORT #307-615C.

A. MISSION : Annex to 307-615C.
DATE : 1 August 1945.

B. TARGET : Barracks and Personnel Area at South end of Makassar Town,
Celebes Island.

C. THROUGH J : Nil Change from basic Mission Report 307-615C.

K. REMARKS : Seven crewmen of the ditched B-24 mentioned in the basic
report have been returned to base, and interrogation reveals
the following:

The crew of A/C #743, bailed out at 0°10'S - 124°30'E at approximately 1600/I, 1 August 1945. This plane had followed two other planes away from the target to look for suitable shipping for strafing. The weather was bad and during a strafing attack, this plane became separated from the others, so the pilot decided to return direct to base. After climbing to 9000 feet altitude, and at 1555/I, #3 engine cut out and the fuel pressure dropped to zero; when put on cross feed, however, the engine came back in. Knowing that the engineer had transferred all fuel from wing-tip tanks, and after making sure that no gasoline was left in the bomb bay tank, the pilot instructed the crew to prepare for abandoning the plane, and the navigator to send their position to base. At this time, he was in radio contact with a 424th Squadron plane, to whom he gave his position as 80 miles South of Sidato (other crews reported the figure as 60 miles).

At 1600/I, #3 engine went out again, and then #4 and #2 engines went out. The bail out bell was rung and the crew started to jump. The bombardier and navigator went through the nose wheel door; the nose gunner, martin gunner, co-pilot, radio operator, engineer and pilot went out the front of the bomb bay; the asst-engineer and cameraman went out the rear of the bomb bay and the tail gunner went out the camera hatch. Just before leaving the plane the co-pilot put the IFF on emergency position and the pilot set up the C-1. Although the crew only had 5 minutes to prepare themselves they left the plane well equipped. The plane had dropped from 9,000 feet to 8,500 feet when #3 engine went out, and everyone was out and had his chute open at 4,500 feet. The pilot had three panels rip out of his parachute and while he descended much too fast he was not injured in landing, but it did cause him to lose his life raft. The eight men that were rescued hit the water within 400 yards of each other. Daly, Bankus and Eckstein got together in about 15 minutes and Zimmerman reached them 15 minutes later. They sighted Traendly and Stannope 200 yards or so away and started toward them. It was almost dark when they got to them. At this juncture a cry for help was heard off to one side and Daly left the group and guided by the shouting located Bankus who had lost his raft and had only his mae west to support him. He was exhausted and by his own admission owes his life to S/Sgt. Daly. It was completely dark when they rejoined the others. During the night they spent a good bit of the time in the water as the rafts could not be made to hold them all securely. They had food and water but sensibly refrained from consuming it. Meanwhile, Lt. Taucher had been

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having quite an experience on his own. He never sighted any of the others after landing in the water so prepared to make himself as comfortable as possible as it grew dark. He had dozed off, and about midnight something clawed against his raft and overturned it. Taucher immediately thought of sharks and got out a knife in case of another attack, but none came. His supposition was later proved correct, as teeth marks were visible in the rubber where a hole 12" in diameter had been bitten out. He spent the rest of the night and most of the next day trying to repair his raft and when the "Cat" picked him up at about 1600/12 August 1945 he was completely exhausted. His raft had sunk a few minutes beforehand and only one half of his mae west would keep inflated. The "Cat" next picked up the other 7 men and returned them all to base.

Of the eleven men aboard A/C #749, the following men have been rescued and returned to base, uninjured:

Lt. Traendly, pilot.
F/O Eckstein, co-pilot.
Lt. Taucher, bombardier.
S/Sgt. Dugan, engineer.
S/Sgt. Daly, tail gunner.
S/Sgt. Bankus, asst. engineer.
S/Sgt. Zimmerman, nose gunner.
S/Sgt. Stanhope, cameraman.

The following three men have not been rescued and are still missing:

Lt. Wahlen, navigator
S/Sgt. Batten, radio operator.
S/Sgt. McNamara, machine gunner.

Worth B. Durham
WORTH B. DURHAM
Capt., Air Corps,
Asst Intelligence Officer

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