

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

APC # 719,
11 August 1945.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307 - 625

- A. MISSION NUMBER : 307 - 625/ 11 August 1945/ 424th Bombardment Squadron (Hv). Seven (7) scheduled Liberators bombed the Primary target, in # 4 position of a Group Box formation, along with elements of the 370th, 371st, and 372nd Bombardment Squadrons (Hv).
- B. TARGET : Primary - Personnel and Supply area, LAHA A/D, AMBONIA.
- C. ATTACK TIME AND ALTITUDE : 1026/I to 1029/I from 17,500 feet to 18,350 feet, true altitude.
- D. RESULTS : This mission cannot be rated, because of the type of bombs used and their slow rate of descent. No bomb impacts were observed, however two (2) small fires with black smoke were seen to start in the south half of the target.
- Enemy Loss or Damage: Unknown.
- Friendly Loss or Damage: One (1) Liberator holed by flak with only minor damage resulting.
- E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.
- F. COMBAT TACTICS : Nil.
- G. A/A FIRE : Heavy, Slight and Inaccurate flak was encountered on the bomb run. Approximately ten (10) bursts were seen in and around the formation. At first the bursts were 200 feet to 500 feet low and later it came up to the formation level. Only one (1) plane was holed.
- H. PHOTOGRAPHS : A/C # 385 - 6 photos - Primary - 1027/I - 17,500 feet, true.
- A/C # 372 - 7 photos - Primary - 1027/I - 18,350 feet, true.
- A/C # 316 - 5 photos - Primary - 1026/I - 18,150 feet, true.

I. ROUTE AND FORMATION

: The Group Box was formed over base and flown to (01° 30' N - 129° 00' E) to TORALAI ISLAND (01° 38' S - 128° 20' E) to IP (03° 57' S - 127° 49' E) to IP (03° 48' S - 128° 05' E) to target. A left withdrawal was made and a loose Group Box formation was flown back to base along a reciprocal of route out.

OBSERVATIONS

: 1. Lt. Payton, in A/C # 383, sighted 20 to 25 barges lined up in a double row about 200 yds. off shore near a small island at (01° 40' S - 128° 20' E) from 10,000 feet at 0855/I. About ten (10) barges were seen on the opposite side of the same island. No activity was seen in the area.

2. Lt. Payton, in A/C # 383, sighted one (1) large vessel with centered superstructure, believed to be in the Fox Tare class, headed South at (00° 40' N - 128° 40' E). This observation was made at 1205/I from 6,500 feet.

3. Five or six planes were seen on the ground around LAHA A/D. This observation was made from 17,500 feet, and the type and condition of the planes could not be determined.

J. WEATHER

: Base to Target - .5 cumulus, tops 3,000 feet, with .3 cirrus, base 20,000 feet.
Target - .5 cumulus, tops 3,000 feet, with .5 Alto-Stratus, base 15,000 feet.
Return to Base - The weather was essentially the same as route out.

K. REMARKS

: 1. No fighter cover was scheduled for this mission.

2. Lt. Silver, in A/C # 428, was flying the spare plane and bombed the target in B-3 position with the 371st Bombardment Squadron (Hv).

3. Propaganda Leaflets were dropped over the Primary Target.

4. Lt. Gibbens, in A/C # 934, received fourteen (14) holes in his plane on the bomb run. Some of the holes were caused by banding from bomb clusters falling from the plane

I. REMARKS CONT'D

1. ahead of him, as a piece of banding was found stuck in the leading edge of the right wing upon landing. However it is believed that a part of the holes were caused by one (1) burst of flak close off the right wing.

L. BOMB LOAD

1. 6 x 9 x 500 # AN - M13 Napalm clusters, fused 3 - 5 second delay.
1 x 6 x 500 # AN - M13 Napalm clusters, fused 3 - 5 second delay.

Ammunition was expended in test firing only.

Lonnie B. Moore
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1st Lt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

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LOADING LIST FOR MISSION # 307 - 625: 11 August 1945

A/C # 448

Capt. Mikes
Lt. Hammons
Capt. Peckinpaugh
Capt. Walker
Sgt Austin
Sgt Lindgren
Sgt Keppy
Sgt Powers
Sgt Johnson
Sgt Lassiter
Lt. Smith (307th BG)

A/C # 113

Lt. Stokes
Lt. Griffin, J.R.
Lt. Folawn
Lt. Walker, J.C.
Sgt Bolbol
Sgt Gentile
Sgt Kane
Sgt Wolf
Sgt Browne
Sgt Richardson

A/C # 372

Lt. Lanzer
Lt. Yeager
Lt. Wickham
Lt. Thomas
Sgt Siljeo
Sgt Martin
Sgt Dinardo
Sgt Bookser
Sgt Grassi
Sgt Burke

A/C # 316

Lt. McMullen
Lt. Utley
Lt. Prinos
Lt. Lyons
Sgt Norman
Sgt Means
Sgt Franczyk
Sgt Halagan
Sgt Swol
Sgt Wietcha
Sgt Walters

A/C # 383

Lt. Fayton
Lt. Hartman
Lt. Rose
Lt. Goodwin
Sgt Chessor
Sgt Day
Sgt Dean
Sgt Gock
Sgt Haddon
Sgt Cotton

A/C # 934

Lt. Gibbens
Lt. Scaliaci
Lt. Dugas
Lt. Beshore
Sgt Miller
Sgt Pritt
Sgt Bertran
Sgt Cavanaugh
Sgt Fry
Sgt Sollman

A/C # 428

Lt. Silver
Lt. Schulz
Lt. McDonald
Lt. St. John
Sgt Kelsey
Sgt Grove
Sgt Copelan
Sgt Brostoff
Sgt Gladdin
Sgt Cinley