

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

HEADQUARTERS
464th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520 U S Army

MCK/FWE/fh

319.1

10 October 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative Mission Report

TO : Commanding General, 55th Bombardment Wing (H)
APO 520, U S Army

1. On 10 October 1944, twenty eight (28) scheduled B-24 a/c and three (3) spare B-24 a/c took off at 0800A hours to bomb the primary target named in Operations Order No 206 dated 10 October 1944.

The thirty one (31) a/c formed into two (2) attack units, the first attack unit being led by Major William G. Moore Jr., Commanding Officer of the 777th Bombardment Squadron (H), and the second by 1st Lt Charles H. Foote, Flight Leader of the 779th Bombardment Squadron (H):

2. Group form up, two Group rendezvous and Wing rendezvous were made as briefed without incident.

3. There were no early returns. The three (3) spare a/c continued on to the target with the formation.

4. Thirty one (31) a/c were over the target at 1132A hours, but due to a solid overcast of stratocumulus with tops at 10,000 feet it was impossible to see the target, and all bombs were returned to the Base.

One half ($\frac{1}{2}$) ton of bombs was jettisoned at (45°58'N-12°39'E) when the Navigator acting as Bombardier pushed the select position too hard and two (2) bombs dropped out.

Recapitulation of Bombs

Returned to Base	77 tons
Jettisoned	$\frac{1}{2}$ ton
Total	<u>77$\frac{1}{2}$ tons</u>

5. The Group leader used the C-1 automatic pilot, but the leader of the second attack unit did not use the automatic pilot as it did not function properly.

6. There was no flak encountered at the target. Flak was observed at Pola, Trieste and Treviso enroute.

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Ltr Narrative Mission Report, contd

7. Rendezvous was made with 15/25 P-38 a/c at 1124A hours at (45°50'N-12°50'E), and were last observed at 1205A hours at (44°30'N-13°50'E).— Escort was too far away to identify by markings.

8. At Base on takeoff weather was 4/10 altostratus at 13,000 feet and 2/10 cumulus at 7,000 feet. Over Spur 3/10 altostratus at 9-11,000 feet and 2/10 cirrus at 20,000 feet continuing to 40 miles south of Venice, then 8/10 to 10/10 stratocumulus, tops 10,000 feet.

At target, stratocumulus overcast, tops 10,000 feet, visibility twenty (20) miles. Frontal clouds to north and west of target.

On return route conditions were the same.

At the base on landing 3/10 altostratus and 2/10 cumulus. Visibility twenty (20) miles on entire route.

9. One (1) a/c attempted photographs. Due to complete overcast, and no bombs being dropped, no strike photographs were obtained.

10. Thirty one (31) a/c landed at this base between 1340 and 1420A hours.

11. The route was flown as briefed. Track chart showing route flown is inclosed.

For the Commanding Officer:

FRANCIS F. ELDER
Major, AC
Intelligence Officer

1 Inclosure:
Inclosure 1 - Track Chart