

INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K.1776

Photographs taken by 540 Squadron on 10 Oct. 1943.

Mean time of photography: 1337 hrs.

^{N/954}
SORTIE: ~~1/10,000 (F.L.36")~~

SCALE: 1/10,000 (F.L.36")

LOCALITY: MARIENBURG AIRCRAFT ASSEMBLY PLANT AND AIRFIELD.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT.

COVER AND QUALITY

The aircraft assembly plant is covered on prints of excellent quality. (Scale 1/10,000).

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW.

These photographs were taken after the attack by aircraft of U.S. Bomber Command on 9 October 1943 with fighter escort. Immediate Interpretation Report No.K.1776 was issued on 12 Oct.43. No previous detailed report has been issued.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

As previously stated in Immediate Interpretation Report No.K.1776 the damage to this plant is very severe, almost every building being seriously affected.

Item numbers refer to annotations on print No.3050(N/954) Neg.No. 30676, distributed with this report.

1. Airfield adjoining factory: 9 craters.
2. 8 craters.
3. Probable stores dump: 3 small buildings demolished and stores damaged by direct hits.
4. Flight hangar (335' x 160'): completely gutted, damaged a/c seen in building.
5. Probable small stores building: gutted.
6. Ex G.A.F. hangar (150' x 80'): probably damaged by near misses, and small adjoining building demolished.
7. Unidentified building (190' x 45'): demolished.
8. Small unidentified building: damaged by a near miss.
9. Unidentified building (225' x 70'): severely damaged by a direct hit. Hole in roof with area of 1000 sq.yds.
10. Ex-G.A.F. Hangar (290' x 145'): completely gutted and partly demolished by direct hit. Three damaged a/c are seen in the building.
11. Ex G.A.F. Hangar (225' x 125'): at least 3/4 demolished by direct hits.
12. Three a/c shelters: damaged and at least 2 a/c damaged or wrecked.
13. Two small buildings: almost destroyed, and 2 medium buildings with roof damage from near misses.
14. An unidentified building (250' x 50'): gutted.
15. An unidentified building (250' x 50'): gutted.
16. A store with unloading bay and ramp (325' x 70'): almost destroyed by direct hits and fire.
17. A small building and one a/c: damaged by 4 near misses.
18. Boiler house (190' x 95'): half destroyed by direct hits.
19. Assembly shop (320' x 190'): entirely gutted.
20. Assembly shop (320' x 190'): entirely gutted.
21. Direct hit on...

SECRET

Page 2.

25. 5 medium and small buildings: two severely damaged by direct hits.
26. Unidentified building (80' x 40'): direct hit on one corner.
27. Two hits on road adjoining the plant.
28. Three huts of hutted camp: apparent blast damage from several near misses.
29. Blast wall adjacent to the hutted camp: direct hit.
30. Two huts of hutted camp: damaged by near misses.
31. Three small buildings and stores: severely damaged by several direct hits.
32. Gun testing range and nearby a/c shelters: probably damaged by near misses.
33. Three a/c shelters: damaged by near misses.

PRINT DISTRIBUTED 3050 (N/954) Neg. No. 30676.MAP USED Target illustration.SECRETR.A.F. STATION, MEDMENHAMK/FW/B.DISTRIBUTION NO. 24.

A.I. 2(a)	1
E:	148
I:	33
	<u>182</u> copies.

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER

APO 634
9 October 1943.

SUBJECT: S-3 Narrative Report on Operational Mission 9 October 1943.

TO : Commanding Officer, Ninety Fifth Bombardment Group (H), APO 634.

1. The 95th Bombardment Group (H) was alerted at 1445 8 October 1943 for an operational mission with a bomb loading of 38 M47-A1 Incendiaries. Field Order number 76 was received at 1720.

2. Twenty-three (23) aircraft took off on schedule and left this base at 0745 to form the low squadron of the 13th Combat Wing formation. Three (3) of our aircraft formed the second element of the low squadron of the 100th Bombardment Group (H). There were no abortions from either Group.

3. The control time was set at Buncher #8. The briefed course was followed in, but on the return the Group was about ten miles north of the briefed course and passed over Fano Is, Denmark. There was a meagre to moderate fire of heavy guns on the Northern tip of the Island. It was fairly accurate at 11,000 feet, however we suffered only minor damage to three of our aircraft. There were very few fighters encountered. The target was successfully bombed.

4. Two aircraft failed to return to this base, one, 42-30288, crash landed at Rackheath, England and the other, 42-30377, was shot down by an enemy fighter at 54°57'N-06°39'E.

JOHN R. MILLER,
Capt., Air Corps,
Asst. Ops. Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO 634

9 October 1943

SUBJECT: S-2 Report.

TO : Commanding Officer, Ninety Fifth Bombardment Group (H),
APO 634.

1. Twenty three (23) A/C, all of which bombed the target, took off beginning at 0745 to attack the enemy A/C assembly plant at Marienburg in East Prussia. Twenty (20) A/C of this Group formed the low group of the 13th Combat Wing which formed the lead wing of the 2nd Air Task Force. Three (3) A/C of this Group flew as an element of the 100th Bomb Group.
2. All our A/C returned to base at 1758 except #377 (Eherts) which was shot down on the return trip just off the Danish coast, and #288 (Casper) who made a forced landing at Rockheath.
3. Fighter opposition was mediocre with greatest opposition coming from T/E aircraft which remained beyond range of our guns and fired, statedly, 37 MM, guns - one of which is believed to have hit #2 engine of A/C #377.
4. Flak, as briefed, was nil at target, mediocre at coastal crossings.
5. Bombing was from 11,000 feet at 1301 hours on a heading of 56° magnetic. Our Group carried incendiaries and reported excellent results from H.E. bombs of lead Group.

FLORENCE J. DONOHUE,
Major, Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE 9-10-43

TIME TAKE-OFF

MARIENBURG

024

EMERTS
0377

LINDLEY
0235

WEHRMAN
3317

KRINGS
0233

BARRACLOUGH
3273
5986

CASPER
0288

STORIE
0609

SNOW
0181

ROTSCHEID
0182

CORRIER
3497

BROMAN
0272

TUCKER
7756

FRANCIS
7734

Low - 240 Ft

WITT
5936

SMITH
0353

OWEN
943
0322

MERTEN
0236

CARSON
6098

BUCKLEY
0273

KERR
3529

NONE OVER TARGET

100TH GA

NONE

0

A.T.F.

D.W.

100TH
13000'

95TH
11000'

YUENGER
3400

FISCHER
5918

NONE

0

HEADQUARTERS
VIII BOMBER COMMAND
APO 674

Bomber Command Narrative of Operations
113th Operation - 9 October, 1943.

- Mission No. 1 - Anklam.
- Mission No. 2 - Marienburg.
- Mission No. 3 - Danzig - Gdynia.
- Mission No. 4 - Gdynia.
- Mission No. 5 - Gdynia.

Five Air Task Forces of Fortresses and Liberators made the deepest penetration into Germany since the beginning of operations by VIII Bomber Command to successfully attack important naval and industrial targets in eastern Germany. Bombing results were excellent. The Air Task Force which attacked Anklam had particularly strong e/a opposition, while the other three air task forces had only moderate fighter opposition. Excellent withdrawal support was provided by VIII Fighter Command P-47s. USAAF B-26s carried out a diversionary attack on the Woensdrecht Airfield. 28 heavy bombers failed to return and claims against e/a are 122-29-61.

Unit	Number of A/C					Claims	Personnel Casualties		
	(Dispatched)	(Attacked)	(Failed)	(Lost)	(To Bomb+)		(Killed)	(Wounded)	(Missing)
MISSION NO. 1									
<u>ANKLAM</u>									
			A.	B.					
303	20	18	2	0	1	2-2-6	0	0	10
379	20	20	0	0	2	9-2-4	0	10	20
384	21	19	1	1	2	9-1-2	0	0	20
351	21	20	0	1	5	26-2-18	0	5	51
91	17	13	4	0	5	6-5-7	0	4	50
381	16	16	0	0	3	13-7-10	0	6	34
	<u>115</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>65-19-47</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>185</u>

3RD BOMB DIV.
MISSION NO. 2
MARIENBURG

385	22	21	0	1	1	2-0-0	0	2	11
94	18	18	0	0	0	0-1-0	0	0	0
390	21	21	0	0	0	2-1-0	0	0	0
100	16	13	3	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
95	23	23	0	0	1	5-0-0	0	1	10
	<u>100</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9-2-0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>21</u>

2ND BOMB DIV.
MISSION NO. 3
DANZIG - GDYNIA

93	17	13	3	1	2	0-0-0	0	1	21
389	12	10	2	0	0	2-0-0	0	0	0
44 x	8	8	0	0	0	3-3-0	0	0	0
392 x	14	10	4	0	0	2-0-4	0	0	0
	<u>51</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7-3-4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>21</u>

x Attacked Gdynia.

Unit	Number of A/C					Claims	Personnel		
	(Dispatched)	Attacked	Failed		Lost		(Killed)	Wounded	Missing
			To Bomb+						
			A.	B.					
<u>3RD BOMB DIV.</u>									
<u>MISSION NO. 4</u>									
<u>GDYNIA</u>									
96	28	28	0	0	2	13-3-4	0	4	20
388	<u>24</u>	<u>23</u>	0	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>17-1-2</u>	0	<u>2</u>	<u>20</u>
	52	51	0	1	4	30-4-6	0	6	40
<u>1ST BOMB DIV.</u>									
<u>MISSION NO. 5</u>									
<u>GDYNIA</u>									
305	18	17	1	0	0	2-0-0	0	0	0
92	21	21	0	0	1	7-0-0	0	0	10
306	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-1-4</u>	0	0	<u>10</u>
	60	58	2	0	2	11-1-4	0	0	20
TOTALS	378	352	21	5	28	122-29-61	0	35	287

+ Failed to Bomb - A - Mechanical and Equipment Failures.
 B - Other than Mechanical and Equipment Failures (includes weather, enemy action, recall, etc.)

MISSION NO. 1 - ANKLAM

The 1st Bombardment Division dispatched 115 B-17s of which 106 attacked the target of Anklam with excellent results. Withdrawal support was furnished by VIII Fighter Command P-47s. The formations had particularly strong enemy air opposition and lost 18 B-17s. Claims are 65-19-47.

BOMBING RESULTS: 106 B-17s dropped 318 x 1000 ^{G.P} fused 1/10 sec. nose and 1/100 sec. tail, and 530 x 100 I.B. at 1142 - 1146 hours from 12,200 - 14,500 feet on the Arado Plant at Anklam. This plant produces the major airframe components for FW-190s finally assembled at Tutow. Concentrations of high explosives and incendiary bursts blanketed the entire factory and surrounding area. Every major unit of the plant sustained damage and photographic reconnaissance two and one-half hours after the attack showed two large fires were still burning. Hits were scored on railway lines, as well as the east part of the town of Anklam.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: 9 a/c failed to bomb - 7 because of mechanical and equipment failures, 1 was unable to overtake the group and 1 was lost before target.

ENCOUNTERS: Fighter opposition was very strong and the formations encountered from 70 - 300 e/a which were FW-190s, Me-109s, Me-110s, Me-210s, DO-217s, JU-87s, JU-88s, FW-189s and He-111s. The attacks were vigorously pressed from 300 - 400 yards and delivered from all clock positions. They began at 1030 hours just inside the Danish coast and continued until 1327 hours. Another group of e/a intercepted the formation at 1345 hours and attacked until 1405 hours. Air-to-air bombing, as well as the use of rocket guns, was reported by the crews. Some twin-engine fighters stayed out at the side and fired what appeared to be 37 mm. cannons. Many e/a also stayed out of range and fired rocket guns before

pressing in to make conventional attacks. Some of the a/c appear equipped to reload the guns from within the plane, as some crews as nine bursts in a row coming from one plane. One pilot saw an Me-210 fire what looked like a "pile of clay pigeons" which were tapered and followed by a tail of smoke. Another Me-210 was seen to fire two guns which resulted in eight bursts in clusters of four each. Another report stated that a JU-88 was seen which had three rocket guns under each wing. E/A attacks were aggressive and determined.

CASUALTIES: Personnel - 1 crew member seriously wounded, 24 were slightly wounded and 185 are missing.

Equipment - 18 B-17s were lost - 13 to e/a and 5 by reasons unknown.

Estimated Battle Damage - 47 category "A" and 1 category "E".

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: Meagre and inaccurate AA fire was encountered on the way in to the target. At Anklam the flak was meagre but very accurate as to deflection and altitude. Moderate to intense gunfire was encountered on the route back.

ROUTE: Cromer to 55°24'N - 08°50'E, to 55°20'N - 10°22'E, to 54°40'N - 12°00'E, to 54°35'N - 13°15'E (I.P.), to target to 54°15'N - 12°13'E, to 54°41'N - 10°00'E to 54°38'N - 08°20'E, to 53°52'N - 05°21'E to bases.

MISSION NO. 2 - MARIENBURG

The 3rd Bombardment Division dispatched an Air Task Force of 100 B-17s, of which 96 bombed the FW-190 plant at Marienburg. This plant was completely destroyed from an operational point of view. The bombers had e/a opposition which was generally weak. Fighter withdrawal support was furnished by VIII Fighter Command P-47s. 2 B-17s were lost and claims are 9-2-0.

BOMBING RESULTS: 96 B-17s dropped 598 x 500 G.P. fused 1/10 sec. nose and 1/100 sec. tail, and 1368 x 100 I.B. at 1253 - 1302 hours from 11,000 - 13,500 feet with most successful results on the FW-190 plant at Marienburg. The plant was practically wiped out - another Regensburg. Hits were scored on all the major units of the plant, except one assembly shop at the northern end. The entire target area was a mass of smoke and flame. When reconnaissance photography was attempted three hours after the attack the fires were still so intense that photography was not possible. Besides damage caused to the buildings and facilities it was estimated 15 e/a were destroyed on the ground.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: 4 a/c failed to bomb - 3 because of mechanical and equipment failures and 1 was lost before reaching the target.

ENCOUNTERS: Enemy fighter opposition was generally weak over the entire route. The first e/a, which were a few Me-109s, FW-190s and JU-88s, were met over Denmark on the way into the target. None of these pressed their attacks home, but remained a considerable distance from the formation. The most persistent attacks were encountered on the way back and started over Denmark at Esbjaerg at 1530 hours and continued until the formation was well out over the North Sea. From 30 to 40 e/a, mostly Me-110s, Me-109s, Me-210s, FW-190s and JU-88s participated. 37 mm. cannons, as well as rockets were reported to be used. One B-17 was observed to be hit by a rocket from an Me-110.

CASUALTIES: Personnel - 3 crew members were slightly wounded and
Equipment - 2 B-17s were lost - 1 to e/a and 1 by r
Estimated Battle Damage - 20 category "A" and 1 category "AC".

By AG NARA Date 2-18-09

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: Meagre and accurate heavy gunfire of the continuously pointed type was encountered at Esbjaerg and Nordby. Accurate AA fire which was out of range was observed at Elbing, Gdynia and Danzig.

ROUTE: Bases to Cromer to 55°38'N - 08°07'E, to Vejle to 55°43'N - 10°20'E, to 55°10'N - 12°07'E, to 54°38'N - 17°00'E, to I. P. to target to 54°49'N - 17°54'E, to 55°08'N - 12°07'E, to 55°20'N - 09°53'E, to 55°25'N - 08°38'E, to 55°24'N - 08°27'E, to 54°44'N - 06°03'E, to Bases.

OBSERVATIONS: The smoke screens at both Danzig and Gdynia were very effective. An airfield was seen two miles south of Danzig. It was a large grass field and buildings were under construction. Another airfield was observed to be under construction at Puck. Just south of Stuttof in east Prussia the crews observed eight large rectangular shaped red-topped fortifications or buildings arranged in two rows of four each. Several large gas storage tanks were seen alongside very active marshalling yards at Esbjaerg, Denmark.

MISSION NO. 3 - DANZIG - GDYNIA

The 2nd Bombardment Division dispatched 51 B-24s, of which 23 bombed Danzig and 18 attacked Gdynia. Bombing results at both Danzig and Gdynia were good. The B-24s had only moderate e/a opposition. Two failed to return and claims are 7-3-4.

BOMBING RESULTS: The 23 B-24s dropped 201 x 500 G.P. fused 1/10 sec. nose and 1/40 sec. tail at 1305 hours from 21,000 - 22,500 feet on Danzig. A direct hit was made on an oil storage tank, and others were made on buildings and stores of the Baltisch-Amerikanische Oil Co. Numerous hits were made on railroad facilities, warehouses in the harbor area, a direct hit on a large building of a chemical works, damage to a large gas holder and hits in a barracks area.

18 B-24s dropped 144 x 500 G.P. on Gdynia which was bombed as a secondary target. Results are given under Missions 4 and 5.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: 10 B-24s failed to bomb - 9 because of mechanical and equipment failures, and 1 a/c was lost before reaching the target.

ENCOUNTERS: The formation experienced half-hearted attacks on the way in from the Danish Coast to the East Coast of the Island of Sjaelland. On the way out, from 20 to 25 e/a in the same area continued attacks for 15 to 20 minutes over the Danish Coast. E/A were 7 - 8 JU-88s, 7 - 8 FW-190s, and the balance divided evenly between Me-109s, Me-110s and Me-210s. Attacks were made from the rear - 5 - 7 o'clock out of the sun. Tactics were mainly to sit out and fire from extreme range using heavy caliber cannon-fire with time fuse. Rocket firing and air-to-air bombing were employed by 3 Me-110s flying 500 feet above the formation.

CASUALTIES: Personnel - 1 crew member was slightly wounded and 21 are missing.
Equipment - 2 B-24s are lost - 1 to flak and 1 by reasons unknown.
Estimated Battle Damage - 16 category "A" and 2 category "AC".

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: AA fire was slight and inaccurate while crossing the Danish Coast on way to the target. It was slight and accurate at and seemed to be of the predictor controlled type. Inaccurate AA fire was observed near Honne, Verde, Esbjaerg, Stolpmunde, Ronne, and from flak ships at Ronne, Kalundborg, Danzig, and at 55°13'N - 13°20'E.

ROUTE: Bases to 53°27'N - 02°48'E, to 55°52'N - 08°10'E, to 55°50'N - 10°00'E, to 55°25'N - 12°00'E, to 54°58'N - 14°50'E, to Lauenberg to targets to 55°36'N - 18°48'E, to 55°25'N - 12°00'E, to 55°50'N - 10°00'E, to bases.

OBSERVATIONS: A new airfield was observed northwest of Gdynia. Smoke screen at Danzig was seen to originate from pots on floats and ships anchored off shore. One crew reported that bursts of smoke was fired into the air from the ground and the smoke appeared to form and spread in the wind. Two radio towers about 250 feet high were seen at 55°30'N - 11°05'E.

MISSION NO. 4 - GDYNIA
MISSION NO. 5 - GDYNIA

The 1st and 3rd Bomb Divisions dispatched one air task force each to attack naval, industrial and port facilities at Gdynia. The target was attacked by 109 Fortresses of these two air task forces as well as 18 Liberators of the 2nd Bomb Division which bombed Gdynia as a secondary target. The bombing results were very good. The enemy air opposition was moderate and 6 B-17s failed to return. Claims are 41-5-10.

BOMBING RESULTS: 109 B-17s and 18 B-24s dropped 544 x 1000 G.P. fused 1/10 sec. nose and 1/40 sec. tail, and 144 x 500 G.P. fused 1/10 sec. nose and 1/40 sec. tail, at 1304 - 1324 hours from 21,000 - 24,000 feet. Bombing results were very good. A large concentration fell in the entrance harbor with direct hits on the trans-Atlantic liner Stuttgart. A second concentration extended across the eastern basin with hits on a large amount of shipping with possible damage to the old battleship Schlesien, and the 27,000 ton liner, Cap Arcona. About three hours after the attack, photo reconnaissance photos were taken but it was impossible to assess damage in the inner harbor because of the smoke from the burning liner Stuttgart and a naval auxiliary in a floating dock. The reconnaissance photos do show extensive damage to harbor facilities, railroad tracks and the city of Gdynia.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: 3 a/c failed to bomb - 2 because of mechanical and equipment failures and 1 which was lost before reaching the target.

ENCOUNTERS: Mission No. 4 - No e/a were encountered enroute to the target, but about 15 FW-190s and 20 Me-109s, some Me-110s, Me-210s and JU-88s were met on the return route. Combats started about 1400 hours and continued for approximately one hour and forty-five minutes. Aggressive attacks were made from 1-2 o'clock high; tail attacks were made from 4-7 o'clock, but they were not particularly aggressive. The twin-engine a/c were reported as staying out of range and firing rocket projectiles. There was a report of an aerial bomb which exploded 100 feet in front of the formation and caused no damage, although considerable concussion was felt.

Mission No. 5 - The e/a encountered varied in number from 1 to 20 and were mostly Me-110s, Me-210s and JU-88s, although 1 or 2 Me-109s and FW-190s were met. Attacks were not pressed home. E/A were first sighted 1115 hours

near Nymindega and were sighted intermittently until 1526 hours. By 14 NARA Date 2-18-09

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: Mission No. 4 - Accurate gunfire of the continuously pointed type was encountered at Nymindega at 12,000 feet. Intense AA fire was observed in the target area but it was inaccurate. Inaccurate, meager AA fire was seen at Esbjaerg, Holunbert and Stolpmunde.

Mission No. 5 - The formations encountered only meager AA fire on the route into Gdynia. At the target meager inaccurate light AA fire was encountered.

CASUALTIES: Persomnel - 3 crew members were seriously wounded, 6 slightly wounded and 60 are missing.

Equipment - 6 B-17s were lost - 1 to flak and 5 to e/a.

Estimated Battle Damage - 33 category "A", 2 category "AC" and 3 category "E".

ROUTE: Mission No. 4 - Bases to English Coast to 53°24'N - 02°20'E, to 53°48'N - 03°12'E, to 54°16'N - 04°13'E, to 54°40'N - 05°17'E, to 54°40'N - 05°54'E, to 55°23'N - 07°05'E, to Coast, to 55°50'N - 10°00'E, to 55°45'N - 10°36'E, to 55°25'N - 12°00'E, to I. P. to target (Gdynia) to 54°58'N - 15°15'E, to 55°20'N - 12°06'E, to 55°16'N - 08°33'E, to 54°45'N - 07°05'E, to 54°32'N - 05°28'E, to 54°07'N - 04°33'E, to 53°42'N - 03°27'E, to bases.

Mission No. 5 - Bases to English Coast to 52°55'N - 01°20'E, to 55°50'N - 08°10'E, to 55°18'N - 12°26'E, to 55°20'N - 13°10'E, to 55°10'N - 13°50'E, to 54°45'N - 14°55'E, to 54°52'N - 15°20'E, to 54°35'N - 16°45'E, to 54°20'N - 18°32'E, to 54°45'N - 19°00'E (I.P.) to target to 54°49'N - 17°52'E, to 54°56'N - 15°14'E, to 54°07'N - 12°11'E, to 55°27'N - 08°37'E, to 54°31'N - 05°28'E, to 52°48'N - 01°35'E, to bases.

OBSERVATIONS: Smoke screens in the target areas were very effective. There was also a dummy smoke screen south of Gdynia. Danzig was seen to be well screened by smoke.

FIGHTER SUPPORT

153 P-47s of three Groups of VIII Fighter Command provided withdrawal support. The P-47s first carried out sweeps in the Leeuwarden area and two groups contacted the bombers and escorted them back to the English Coast. The fighters met no e/a and losses were nil.

WEATHER

ANKLAH - 0 to 1/10 cumulus cloud. No medium or high cloud. Visibility was 8 to 10 miles.

MARIENBURG - 2/10 to 3/10 cumulus cloud, tops 5,000 feet, and 4/10 to 5/10 cirrus above 18,000 feet. Target was clear of clouds and visibility was 15 miles.

DANZIG - 0 to 2/10 low cloud but generally 3/10 to 5/10 cumulus in tops 4,000 feet. Nil medium cloud and traces of cirrus at 22,000 feet. to 4/10 cirrus at 30,000 feet. Visibility reduced by haze and smokescreen to 2 to 4 miles and target was indistinct. By AG NARA Date 2-18-09

GDYNIA - Nil low clouds, 1/10 to 3/10 altostratus and altocumulus at 16,000 - 18,000 feet and 2/10 to 4/10 cirrus at 23,000 feet. Visibility of 6 to 8 miles. Smokescreen in operation.