

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

10 APRIL 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 9 APRIL 44. (TUTOW A/F)

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS ESTIMATED AT FIFTY (50) ME 109'S AND TWENTY (20) FW 190'S, AND A FEW TWIN ENGINE AIRCRAFT. ATTACKS WERE PRESSED HOME VIGOROUSLY WHILE FRIENDLY FIGHTER COVER WAS LACKING DURING THE FLIGHT FROM THE DANISH COAST TO THE I.P. ONCE OUR FIGHTER ESCORT WAS PICKED UP AGAIN, ONLY ISOLATED ATTACKS WERE MADE.

2. THE FIRST ATTACKS BEGAN OVER KIEL BAY AT 1110 HOURS, WHEN ABOUT TWENTY (20) FW 190'S AND TEN (10) ME 109'S SWARMED IN. THE ATTACKS PERSISTED FOR ABOUT EIGHTEEN MINUTES. MOST ATTACKS WERE FROM 11 OR 12 O'CLOCK FROM ABOVE OR LEVEL. SOME CREWS REPORTED THAT FW'S FIRED ROCKETS FROM 1000 YARDS RANGE, ATTACKING LOW AT 12 O'CLOCK.

3. ANOTHER ASSAULT WAS ENCOUNTERED AT 1140 HOURS JUST NORTH OF SASNITZ WHEN TWENTY-FIVE (25) ME 109'S CAME IN FROM 12 O'CLOCK OUT OF THE SUN. THEY CAME DOWN THROUGH THE FORMATION.

4. CLAIMS ARE 4-1-2.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

5. FLAK WAS GENERALLY MEAGER AND INACCURATE ALONG THE ROUTE AND MODERATE BUT INACCURATE IN THE TARGET AREA.

OBSERVATIONS

6. SMOKE SCREENS WERE NOTED AT KIEL WHERE THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SHIPPING ACTIVITY, PROTECTED BY A BALLOON BARRAGE.

CHARLES M. DERRY,
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