

OPREP A

U.S.A.F. FORM 34A.

To: HQ Ninth Air Force (Att: 26th SCU).

From: HQ 354th Fighter Group.

22 APR 1944

Ref: SECRET

Open A No. 14 for 24 hours ending sunset 15 April 1944.

Mission No. 55 Fighter Sweep over Northern Germany.

A. T/U 1133 T/D 1702. B/Swp took off at 0827 on Flt Order No. 151 and was recalled after reaching a point 20 miles from the English coast. Group again took off at 1133 per telephone order from King and made L/F Sof Den Helder and proceeded to N end of T/G area (Pug) after which one orbit was made and a sweep to the Southwest was made. The weather conditions over T/G area was overcast from 9/10 to 10/10 fog and haze extending to deck making effective strafing impossible. Due to these conditions the group became separated and the majority of them came home on deck. Lt Elrod 353 got N as far as Oldenburg and blew up a locomotive there. Conditions at home base caused 34 planes to come down at other fields. Weather over channel 6/10 broken cumulus ranging from 300 to 6,000 ft with haze layers between clouds levels. Over continent it became 9/10 to 10/10 cumulus with haze and fog from deck to about 23,000 ft.

- B.1. 51 P51Bs.
- 2. 49 P51Bs.
- 3. (a) Nil.
- (b) Nil.
- (c) Twp (1 - Propeller; 1 - Engine).
- (d) Nil.
- 4. 1 One N.Y.R.
- 5. Nil.
- 6. Nil.
- 7. Nil.
- 8. 50.

SECRET

1502

- C.1. 102 75 gal wing tanks (American).
- 2. 100 75 gal wing tanks (American).

BX  
 15 APR 1944  
 44-3541-54-0708 (F1)  
 15 APR - 1140  
 SEPT. 11 1944

7394-9R  
 22 APR 1944

- E.1. 295  
~~249~~ hours.  
2. Nil.
- F.1. 64,260 x 50.  
2. 692 x 50.  
3. 1,260 x 50.
- F. Nil.
- G. <sup>3</sup> One pilot MIA (Lt Leach 353). Lt Kegelein 353  
Lt. Phillips 355
- H.1. In Air - Nil.  
2. On ground - Nil.  
3. Other Claims  
(a) One locomotive at Glensburg - Lt Elrod 353.

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