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HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATRE OF OPERATIONS  
UNITED STATES ARMY

COMMUNIQUE 131

It is announced by the Air Ministry (A.M. 11988) and Headquarters, European Theatre of Operations, United States Army, that Eighth A.A.F. heavy bombers attacked industrial targets at GELSENKIRCHEN and the railway yards at MUNSTER yesterday (Friday).

Flying Fortresses and Liberators in as large a force as the record-breaking number which attacked Wilhelmshaven in daylight Wednesday were escorted by Thunderbolts (P.47s) and Lightnings (P.38s) throughout the operation.

Thirty-eight enemy fighters were destroyed, twenty by the bombers and eighteen by the fighters.

Marauders, Mitchells and Typhoon bombers attacked military targets in Northern France. Many squadrons of fighters covered the attacks and made diversionary sweeps.

Mustangs, on offensive patrols during the day, attacked locomotives and other targets in Northern France and Belgium.

From these operations ten heavy bombers, two medium bombers, and five fighters are missing.

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