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HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

COMMUNIQUE 194

From Headquarters, United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe:

Divisions of heavy bombers in great strength, escorted by very large formations of fighters, attacked factories, airfields, and other military installations in the Metropolitan district of Berlin today with good results. Bombs were seen to fall on assigned targets, but some were dropped through overcast.

Resistance from enemy fighters was encountered throughout the trip, but our fighter escort engaged them with great success, destroying 83 for the loss of 11.

The B 17 Flying Fortresses and B 24 Liberators of the 8th Air Force also destroyed a large number of enemy aircraft but the total is impossible to ascertain at present. One division alone destroyed at least 40.

The escort and support consisted of hundreds of P 51 Mustangs, P 38 Lightnings, and P 47 Thunderbolts of the 8th Air Force and from the Allied Expeditionary Air Force including R.A.F. Mustangs and 9th Air Force Thunderbolts and Mustangs.

From these extensive operations, 68 bombers did not return.

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