

C O N F I D E N T I A L

the one-man life raft.

Right and Left Gunners were in their gun positions in the CFC compartment their legs braced, but their heads merely bent forward.

Navigator, Bombardier, CFC Gunner, Flight Engineer Observer, Radar Operator were in the aft unpressurized section, three making a row against the bulkhead with their legs braced and the bodies padded by parachutes, the other two in a second layer, partially reclining on the bodies of those of the first row.

Tail gunner stood in the unpressurized section, braced against the upper rear turret.

In ditching none seemed to suffer from the shock of impact which they described as "very strong". The pilot and copilot were jerked forward but were not badly shaken, and they were able to escape through their open windows. The radio operator was swept from his position by a combination of lateral motion of the ship and the water sweeping in from the engineers escape hatch, but was uninjured; he attempted escape through the pilot's window, but because he still had his parachute on (it was used as padding during the ditching) he was unable to do so, and finally left through the engineer's escape hatch. The engineer attempted to release the life rafts by means of an extension run to his control panel from the normal internal releases, but was unable to do so; he left through his escape hatch. The two gunners remaining in the CFC compartment felt considerable jerk on their heads from the impact, and the ring sight tore loose and hit them. The right gunner stood before the third shock and was thrown by it, injuring his knee. He attempted to leave through the radar compartment but first fell through the floor, further cutting and scratching himself; he started to return to the CFC compartment but noticed a torn place in the side of the radar compartment, and swam out through that. The left gunner followed him. All crew members in the aft section were swept out by the water.

The nose of the aircraft broke in and the forward compartment was flooded.

No equipment was observed to be broken loose on impact except the ring sight mentioned above and an emergency kit in the unpressurized section which hit the CFC gunner.

It was the belief of the crew members that positions aft the four gun turret in the forward cabin and in the tail gunner's compartment would have trapped anyone ditching there.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

C O N F I D E N T I A L

In the water difficulty was experienced by four crew members in inflating their Mae Wests. Subsequent examination showed it to be caused by the CO<sub>2</sub> release not puncturing the cylinder, in spite of the fact that the top was screwed down tight. A crew member took out his one-man life raft, but, because of improper instruction received when the raft was issued, had great difficulty in inflating it. The two life rafts in the fuselage were released from the outside and were satisfactory. Complete life-raft kits were carried by the rafts. The crew also picked up the Gibson Girl radio and one of the two emergency kits carried by the aircraft.

Eight men boarded the two life rafts almost immediately and search was started for the other four. Fortunately the currents carried them around and around the floating plane, and within two hours all men were picked up. They suggested that it would be an excellent idea to have a flashlight attached to the Mae West so that people lost at night could be spotted. The floating light of the raft enabled the navigator to find the raft.

The two rafts were tied together, at first with five feet of line between them, but that proved to be too jerky, so the line was extended to ten feet. An emergency kit was rigged as a sea anchor. They attempted to paddle, but found that they could make scant headway against the swells and wind. The violent motion of the raft soon made all so sick that they were incapacitated and even unable to get the Very pistol to function when they sighted an air craft.

During the night they sighted but one aircraft; they were unable to signal to it. The night was spent under the tarps, and all were cold and sick. The next morning at 0600 (local time) they sighted another aircraft, but it was too high to signal with the signal mirror, and the morning was too bright to use signal flares. They attempted to use the Gibson Girl radio, but they were unable to get the kite into the air inspite of the approximate 10 mph. breeze, and two hydrogen generators did not suffice to fill a balloon because of leakage from the generators as the raft was thrown by the swells. About 0730 a B-25 spotted the still floating fuselage, circled low, saw the life rafts, buzzed them, and flew away. Some time later a PBV and then a Coronado came and circled them until the destroyer came to pick them up. During the day the crew was still nauseated and were very hot from the sun. They were unable to rig a satisfactory sunshade.

None of the crew suffered injury; some, however, were cut and bruised.

DEC 21 1944  
Copies furnished

43 (MTR)

max

C O N F I D E N T I A L

-4-

1293

HEADQUARTERS  
TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
ADJUTANT GENERAL

DEC 21 1944



DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

NOTE NR 18

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MSG NR FN-24-28 240718Z SECRET

FROM HANSELL TO ARNOLD INFO HARMON

SUBJECT SAN ANTONIO ONE

WE HAVE REPORT TAXXXX REPORT THAT ONE B-29 HAS DITCHED OFF  
JAPANESE MAINLAND. AIRCRAFT MAY BE ONE REPORTED AS LOST DU XXXXX LOST  
DUE TO ENEMY ACTION IN OUR FN24-18. CTG 17.7 HAS BEEN ADVISED AND IN  
TURN HAS TRANSMITTED MESSAGE TO SUB ON STATION FOR RESCUE.

TOD 0720Z VB

UNQUOTE

END

TOD:-240834Z RH

SECRET  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 NOV 24 08 53

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05



NOTE NR 23

RELAY FROM SAIPAN

QUOTE

TELECON MSG NO FN24-44 241013Z SECRET

FRO M HANSELL TO ARNOLD INFO HARMON

SUBJ SAN ANTONIO ONE

REFERENEXXXX REFERENCE OUR FN24-30. REVISE PARAGR PH 5 TO

INDICATE TBAL OF 13 AIRCRAFT ABORTED.

TOD 241018Z PB ROGER P

HOW

UNQUOTE

END

TOD 241341Z LC

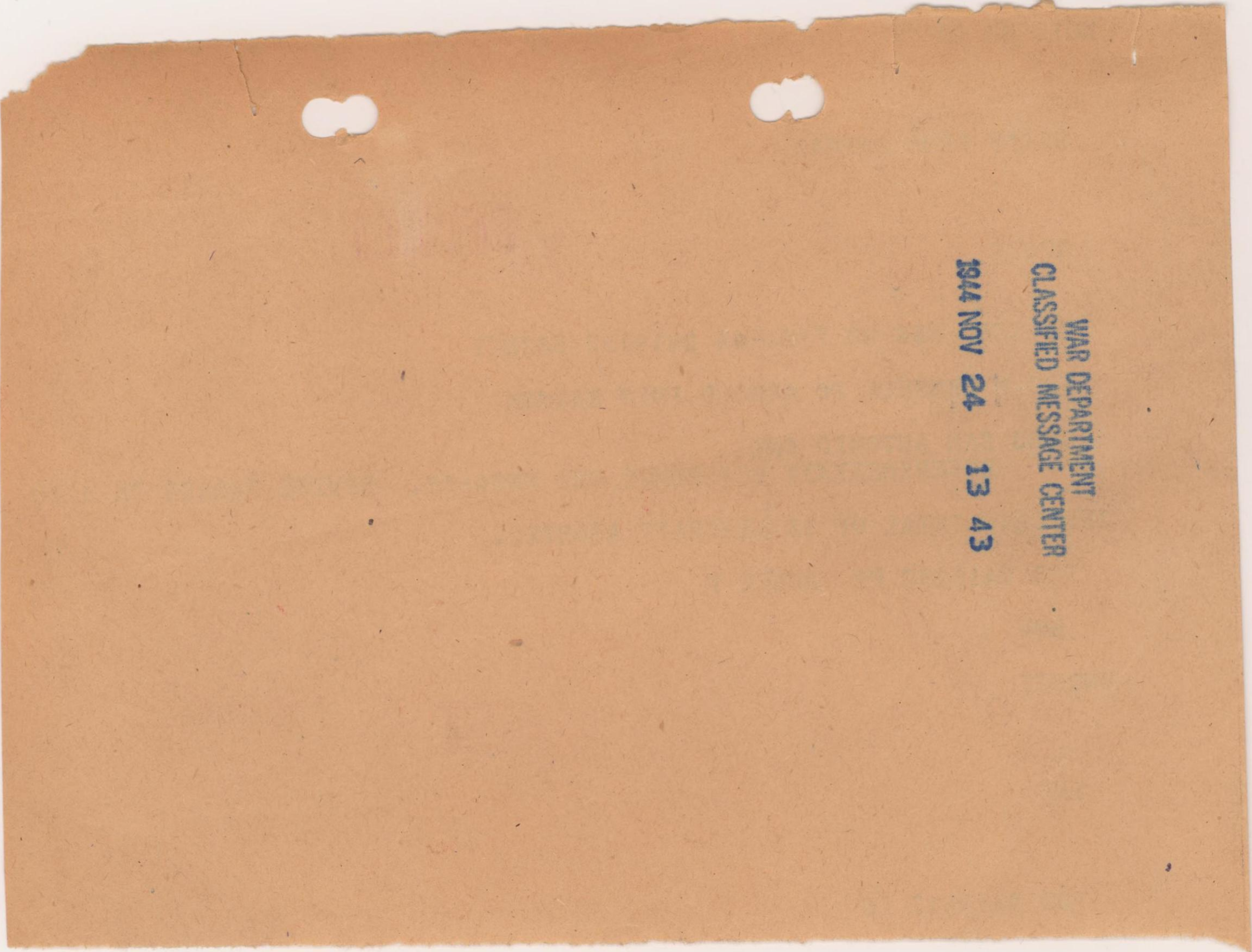
SECRET

SECRET

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05



WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER  
1944 NOV 24 13 43



~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

*Mission 4  
ATBC*

COMGEN BOMCOM 21 FROM COMGEN 20

SUBJECT: COMMUNIQUE

FOLLOWING FOR AUTOMATIC RELEASE AT 1505 HRS EWT RPT E W T

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

COMJUNIQUE NUMBER 24

DECLASSIFIED

Authority E.O. 10501

By AB NARA, Date 8/7/91

A LARGE TASK FORCE OF B-29 AIRCRAFT TODAY ATTACKED STRATEGIC INDUSTRIAL TARGETS IN THE CITY OF TOKYO.

THIS MISSION AGAINST RPT AGAINST THE JAPANESE CAPITAL WAS MOUNTED FROM BASES ON SAIPAN, IN THE MARIZNA RPT MARIANA ISLANDS, BY A LARGE NEW TASK FORCE DESIGNATED AS THE TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND, UNDER COMMAND OF BRIG. GEN. HEYWOOD S. HANSELL, JR.

SUBSTANTIAL BOMB TONNAGES WERE DROPPED UPON THE MUSASHINA AIRPLANE PLANT LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION OF THE CITY, AND ON ONXRPT OTHER SECRPT SELECTED TARGETS IN THE INDUSTRIAL ARE. RPT AREA. MUSASHINO I S RPT IS OPERATED BY THE NAKAJIMA COMPANY WHICH, WITH MITSUBISHI., IS A PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER OF JAPANESE MILITARY AIRCRAFT.

TODAY'S MISSION WAS LED BY BRIG. GEN. EMMET O'DONNELL, JR. THE FIRST GROUP OVER THE TARGET ACCOMPLISHED VISUAL BOMBING, AND OBSERVED THAT ITS BOMBS FELL WITHIN THE TARGET AREA, CAUSING AN EXPLOSION AND FIRES. THE SECOND GROUP REPORTED EQUALLY GOOD OBSERVED BOMBING WHICH ALSO RESULTED FIRES IN THE TARGET. LATER ELEMENTS ALSO REPORT GOOD RESULTS.

THE FIRST RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWED FIRES STILL BURNING IN CENTRAL TOKYO AFTER THE ATTACK, AND SMOE RPT SMOKE RISING TO GREAT HEIGHTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL AREAS THAT WERE BOMBED.

ALL BUT TWO OF THE PARTICIPATING AIRCRAFT HAVE NOW RETURNED. ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS MODERATE. EARLY REOXXRPT REPORTS INDICATE THAT FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS SLIGHT.

---END---

~~RESTRICTED~~

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05



SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER  
1944 NOV 24 19 04

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

*Restricted*  
Comgen Bomcom 21 from Comgen 20

*Subject: Communique,*

*Following for automatic release at 1505 HRS EWT*

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

COMMUNIQUE NUMBER 24

*Nov 21, 1944*  
*Mission 7*  
*VAILBC*

A large task force of B-29 aircraft today attacked strategic industrial targets in the city of Tokyo.

This mission against the Japanese capital was mounted from bases on Saipan, in the Mariana Islands, by a large new task force designated as the Twenty-First Bomber Command, under command of Brig. Gen. Heywood S. Hansell, Jr.

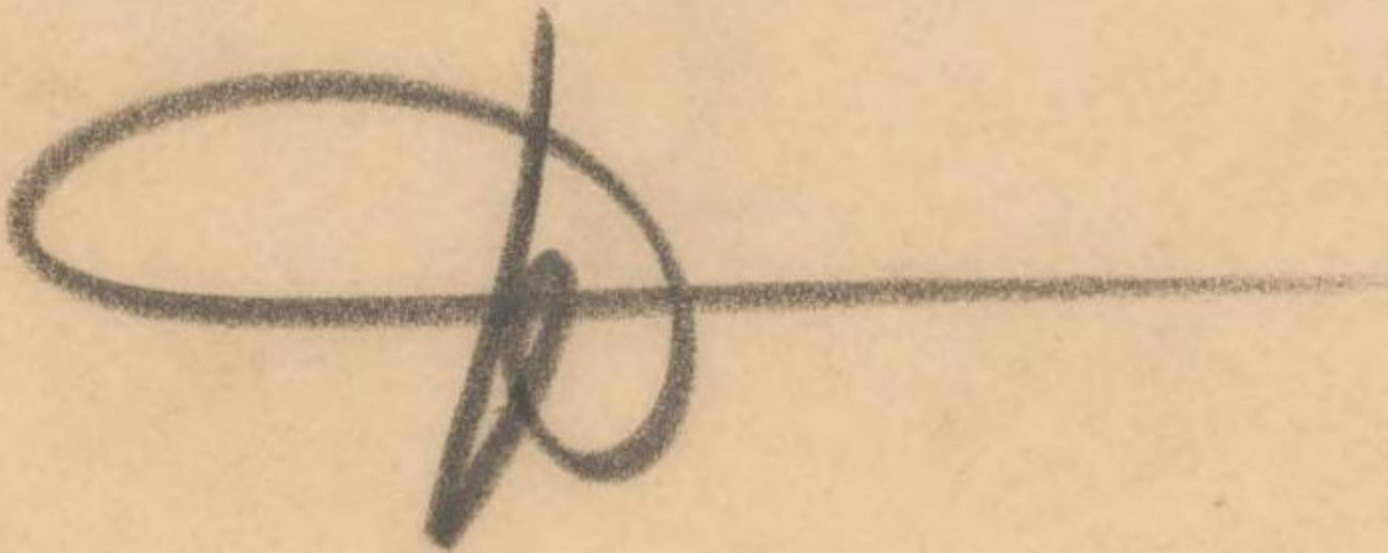
Substantial bomb tonnages were dropped upon the Musashina airplane plant located in the northwest section of the city, and on other selected targets in the industrial area. Musashino is operated by the Nakajima Company which, with Mitsubishi, is a principal supplier of Japanese military aircraft.

Today's mission was led by Brig. Gen. Emmet O'Donnell, Jr. The first group over the target accomplished visual bombing, and observed that its bombs fell within the target area, causing an explosion and fires. The second group reported equally good observed bombing which also resulted in fires in the target. <sup>Later elements also</sup> report good results.

The first reconnaissance photographs showed fires still burning in central Tokyo after the attack, and smoke rising to great heights in the industrial areas that were bombed.

v All but two of the participating aircraft have now returned. Anti-aircraft fire was moderate. Early reports indicate that fighter opposition was slight.

END



DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

TELECON CONFERENCE

26 Jul 1944

*hm*

WASHINGTON PARTIES

KHARAGPUR / HONOLULU PARTIES

LT. COL. H. H. HEWITT

COL. HERMAN

COL. ANKENBRANDT

*Do not write up*

TELECON MESSAGE NO. 26-2 RESTRICTED

**RESTRICTED**

SUBJECT: TOKYO COMMUNIQUE

TO: COMGENBOMCOM 20 FROM COMAF 20

*Mission? XX+Be*

REF YD 4217 25 NOV THE FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE RELEASED ON TOKYO

ATTACK:

COMMUNIQUE NUMBER 24

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**RESTRICTED**

END

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

6.0.  
(section)

25 Nov 1944  
(date)

MEMORANDUM TO: The Adjutant General, Twentieth Air Force.  
SUBJECT : Transmittal of TELECON message.

It is requested that the following TELECON message be transmitted. This message pertains to the business of the Twentieth Air Force and its transmission by normal means of communication is impracticable.

Col. G. E. Coombs  
(originator) Name and Rank

TELECON MESSAGE NO 267.

TOP SECRET   
SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL   
RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: TOKYO COMMUNIQUE

TO: COMGENBOMCOM 20 FROM COMAF 20

*Ref YD 4-17 25 Nov the following communique released on Tokyo attack:*

COMMUNIQUE NUMBER 24

A large task force of B-29 aircraft today attacked strategic industrial targets in the city of Tokyo.

This mission against the Japanese capital was mounted from bases on Saipan, in the Mariana Islands, by a large new task force designated as the Twenty-First Bomber Command, under command of Brig. Gen. Heywood S. Hansell, Jr.

Substantial bomb tonnages were dropped upon the Musashina airplane plant located in the northwest section of the city, and on other selected targets in the industrial area. Musashino is operated by the Nakajima Company which, with Mitsubishi, is a principal supplier of Japanese military aircraft.

ORIGINATOR: Today's mission was led by Brig. Gen. Emmet O'Donnell, Jr. The first group over the target accomplished visual bombing, and observed that its bombs fell within the target area, causing an explosion and fires. The second group reported equally good observed bombing which also resulted in fires in the target. ~~Later elements also~~ report good results.

The first reconnaissance photographs showed fires still burning in central Tokyo after the attack, and smoke rising to great heights in the industrial areas that were bombed.

v All but two of the participating aircraft have now returned. Anti-aircraft fire was moderate. Early reports indicate that fighter opposition was slight.

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

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SECRET  RESTRICTED

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v All but two of the participating aircraft have now returned. Anti-aircraft fire was moderate. Early reports indicate that fighter opposition was slight.

END

*Sev 207*

24 Nov. 1944

Mission?  
III BC

Sent

PRESS FLASH

A sizeable task force of B-29 aircraft of the Twentieth Air Force today attacked industrial targets in Tokyo. General H. H. Arnold, in his capacity as Commanding General of the Twentieth Air Force, announced at the War Department. The mission was a daylight operation by the newly-established XXI Bomber Command, under command of Brig. General H. S. Hansell, Jr., from bases on Saipan. A communique covering this operation will be issued when further details are available.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

---PRESS FLASH---

A SIZEABLE TASK FORCE OF B-29 AIRCRAFT OF THE TWENTIETH AIR FORCE TODAY ATTACKED INDUSTRIAL RPT INDUSTRIAL TARGETS IN TOKYO, GENERAL H. H. AROLD RPT ARNOLD, IN HIS CAPACITY AS COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE TWENTIETH AIR FORCE, ANNOUNCED AT THE XXRPT AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT. THE MISSION WAS A DAYLIGHT OPERATION BY THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED XXI BOMBER COMMAND, ( UNDER COMMAND OF BRIG. GENERAL H. S. HANSELL, JR., FROM BASES ON AXXRPT SAIPAN. A COMMUNIQUE COVERING THIS OPERATIO RPT OPERATION WILL BE ISSUED WHEN FURTHER DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE.

PLS ACK FOR PRESS FLASH

SECRET

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05





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II/ee/6819

COPY NO. 3

<input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

**SECRET**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SECRET
By Authority of Commanding General Twentieth Air Force

DATE 24 Jan 45 INITIALS *[Signature]*

DATE 24 January 1945

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND GUAM

WASHINGTON PARTIES	TERMINAL PARTIES
Lt. Col. Hewitt	Colonel Ankenbrandt

TELECON MESSAGE NO. FN-24-40	SUBJECT ENEMY BALLOONS
------------------------------	------------------------

*mission 7  
Enemy Int. XII BC*

(From: COMGENBOMCOM 21 To: DEPCOMAF 20 POA for COMAF 20)

In reply your telecon message G-12-4 the following information gained in reply to our query to 73rd Wing:

Para 1-Red possible meteorological large balloon reported by one crew Memphis #1. Balloon came up above aircraft, had no tail, turned and went down and seen at landfall

Para 2-Over southern end of Saipan on 5 January 3 balloons seen drifting east to west. Seen at 1005, elongated, silver color, two to 3 feet long

Para 1 - White streamer estimated 25 feet long reported by crew on Fruitcake #1 attached to either balloon which was egg shaped and brown color or kite. Observing aircraft at same altitude 2600 feet, no estimate of size possible.

Red balloon resembling meteorological balloon reported by crew San Antonio #1 flying at 2800 feet, not believed balloon used to improve firing. While in area of balloon no increase in intensity or accuracy of fire. Probably not released from projectile but from ground. Several balloons observed by crew Enkindle #1 35 deg 30' N 139 deg 15' E and after bombs away 1 observed over water 20 minutes later by aircraft at 3100 feet. Balloons at altitude of 2500 feet and appeared to be white in color. Because of large size doubtful if balloons were meteorological. On a mission against Yawata photographs of this type balloon were taken by a B-29 on a photo mission, then consideration given to fact they might be new type anti-aircraft weapon equipped with cable to foul propellers, wings or control surfaces, or explosive element which would detonate on contact or both. Radar jamming devices might possibly be supported by them. 497 group crew reported on same mission a 10-balloon barrage, captive, round and gray, not sausage shaped, could make no estimate of altitude but balloons close to water relative to 30,000 foot altitude of plane. Located west coast of Bay southwest of Tokyo half way from Tokyo to point.

Crew on Enkindle #2 observed at 30000 feet 2 large balls of red fire seemingly attached by cable or possibly rope. Floated down together evenly, at first appeared to be 2 aircraft afire. Observation made halfway down bomb run to right of observing aircraft.

Silver ball 25 to 35 feet in diameter at 36000 feet observed by crew on Hesi-

DISTRIBUTION →	ACTION	-1- <b>SECRET ACTION COPY</b>
	INFORMATION	

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5-33, AF (REV 14 OCT 44)

DECLASSIFIED

Authority *UND760063*

By *PT* NARA Date *8/26/05*

II/v1/6819

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COPY NO. 3

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**  
 By Authority of Commanding General  
 Twentieth Air Force

DATE: 24 Jan 45  
 INITIALS:   
 DATE: 24 January 1945

**EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE  
 BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND GUAM**

WASHINGTON PARTIES	GUAM	TERMINAL PARTIES
Lt. Col. Hewitt		Col. Ankenbrandt

TELECON MESSAGE NO. FN-24-40	SUBJECT Enemy Balloons (Cont.)
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tation 2. Observed by aircraft at 31,000 altitude soon after bombs away at 8 to 10 miles right of aircraft on direct course between Hamamatsu and Nagoya.

Streamer on Fruitcake 1 seen ten miles to right at 190507Z, immediately after turn from bomb run on primary target. Radio operator siad no particular interference at time. Course 160 degrees true.

**SECRET**

DISTRIBUTION	ACTION	DC/S Opr (2 cys)
	INFORMATION	c/s ; A-2

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5-33, AF (REV 14 OCT 44)

FROM DEPCOMAF 20 TO COMAF 20

FOLLOWING TELECON IS CLASSIFIED TO YOU

QUOTE

TELECON MSG NO FN-24-45 240333Z (SECRET)

FROM HANSELL TO ARNOLD INFO HARMON

SUBJ SAN ANTONIO ONE

REFERENCE OUR FN-24-18. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS

SUBMITTED CONCERNING LOSS OF B-29 TO ENEMY ACTION. APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES AFTER BOMBS AWAY THE SECOND SQUADRON OF LEAD COMBAT GROUP (497TH GROUP) WAS ENGAGED BY APPROXIMATELY 40 FIGHTERS. ONE TONY PRESSED IN FROM 5 O'CLOCK AND ATTACKED NUMBER SIX AIRCRAFT AT CLOSE RANGE. TAIL GUNNER BELIEVED KILLED ON THIS ATTACK SINCE HE CEASED FIRING. TONY HELD HIS POSITION JUST OFF TAIL OF NUMBER SIX AIRCRAFT AT FIVE O'CLOCK. IN THIS SPOT TONY RECEIVED POINT BLANK FIRE FROM UPPER REAR TURRET OF NUMBER SIX ALSO CROSS FIRE FROM OTHER B-29'S OF FORMATION. PARTS OF TONY WERE SEEN TO BREAK OFF UNDER HEAVY FIRE. THE PILOT THEN APPARENTLY TURNED AND FLEW DIRECTLY INTO TAIL OF NUMBER SIX DESTROYING RIGHT HAND HORIZONTAL STABILIZER AND ELEVATOR. NUMBER SIX WENT DOWN OUT OF CONTROL CRASHING IN SEA ABOUT TWENTY MILES OFF COAST. BELIEVED NO ONE ESCAPED. SQUADRON COMMANDER OBSERVED ENTIRE INCIDENT AND FEELS IT WAS SUICIDE ATTACK.

SQUADRON COMMANDER STATES FURTHER THAT HIS SQUADRON WAS UNDER CONTINUOUS FIGHTER ATTACK FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR. THREE SEPARATE GROUPS OF FIGHTERS ENGAGED HIS SQUADRON IN SUCCESSIVE ATTACKS ALONG WITHDRAWAL ROUTE. HE REPORTS THEIR PILOTS NOT SKILLED AND ATTACKS NOT ORGANIZED. PERFORMANCE OF THEIR FIGHTERS BETTER THAN EXPECTED. MORE DETAILS WILL FOLLOW WHEN INTERROGATION COMPLETED.

UNQUOTE

--END--

TOD:-250339Z RH

SECRET

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Strike Reporting	Tele	17-H	17 Nov	HA
Photo Recon	Tele	FN 24-46	24 Nov	HA
Photo Recon	Tele	FN 24-9	24 Nov	HA
Prel Damage Assess	Tele	26-G	26 Nov	HA
Photo for San Antonio #1	Tele	FN 09-20	9 Dec	HA
Spot Damage Assess Rpt. #4	Report			HA
Economic Dmg Assess Rpt. #2	R & R		26 Dec	HA
Bomb Damage Photos	Telecon	26-B	26 Nov	ER
Preliminary Mission Report	Telecon	FN 27-22	27 Nov	ER
Preliminary Mission Report	Extract Telecon	26-K	27 Nov	ER

DMGE. ASSES.  
PHOTO STRIKE  
& P.R.

S E C R E T

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HEADQUARTERS, TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D.D.

SECRET

By authority of  
C.G. Twentieth Air Force

27 Nov 1944  
(Date)

SS  
(Initials)

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN  
WASHINGTON AND HONOLULU

Washington Parties

Lt. Col. Hewitt

TELECON MESSAGE NO. 26-K

*Mission 7*  
*XXI BC*  
*Photo*

HONOLULU Parties

Col. Ankenbrandt

Subject: Preliminary Mission Report, Mission Number 20-P, 24 November 1944

(From DepComAF 20 To ComAF 20)

The following Telecon herewith passed to you: Telecon Message No. FN26.32 261453Z (Secret) from Hansell BomCom 21 to Arnold info Harmon, info CTF 94, info CTF 95, info Com 3rd Fleet.

One F-13A A/C of 3rd Photo Recon Sqdn participating. Target Photo Recon of San Antonio No. 1 Mission. Take off 252105Z. Landed 261037Z. Result estimated as fair to poor due to top blister blowing off entering target area. Cameras, however, were running thru target run. Altitude over target area 35,000 feet indicated. Weather clear in and out with haze and clouds estimated at 6/10 over target area. Did not encounter tropical storm. One E/A, thought to be a Tojo, made pass from 12 O'clock head on apparently intent upon ramming but a collision avoided by quick pullup of our aircraft. Four others below and to the rear were unable to close and seemed to be larger than Tojo and painted black. Another aircraft, different from the rest, trailed our aircraft for about 5 miles out of Range and 500 Feet above and was able to keep pace. Fear gunner insisted E/A resembled C-47 (not P-47) single engine and quite large. Speed over target 239 Mph indicated. Observed a number of new installations being erected around Muriyama Reservoir, and large airfield on NII Island.

Distribution:

Action: DC/S Opr (2 copies)

Information: A-2 (10 Copies); A-3 OC&R (5 copies); STAT COM (2 copies)

S E C R E T

DECLASSIFIED

Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

TELECON MSG 27-T (SECRET) 271723Z

YAF  
R-8

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

SECRET

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO FN27-22 271247Z (SECRET)

FROM HANSELL BOMCO

FRO

FROM HANSELL BOMCOM TWO ONE TO ARNOLD INFO HARMON,

INFO CTF 94

INQO CZF 95

INFO COM 3RD FLEET

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY MISSION REPORT, MLSBION NUMBER 20 - A - P,

I 27 NOVEMBER 1944.

ONE AIRCRAFT OF 3RD PHOOXXX PHOTO RECON SQDN PARTICIPATING. TAKE OFF  
262005Z LACDED 270824Z. TARGET RCM AND PHOTO RECON OF SAN ANTONIO NO.

2. RESULTS VERY POOR AS LOST NO. 2 ENGINE AND HAVING TROUBLE WITH NO. 3  
FIFTY MILES FROM IP. VISSE

SECRET

D IP BUT DROPPED ROPE. DID NOT GET TO  
TARGET AREA. NO ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION ENCOUNTERED. NO FLAK ENCOUNTERED. NO  
CASUALTIES. WEATHER OBSERVATIONS INDICATED SOLID UNDERCAST IN  
TARGET AREA WITH ROUTE IN GOOD TO 200 MILES OFF SHORE OF JAPAN AND ROUTE  
OUT UNDERCAST AT 8500 FT. TEMPERATURE PLUS 17 DEGREES CENTIGRADE AT  
8500 FT AND MINUS 24 DEGREES AT 30,000 FT. B-29 AIRCRAFT  
OBSERVED AT 270730Z HEZXXXXX HEADED NORTH COORDINATES 18 DEGREES NORTH  
ONE FORTY THREE DEGREES THIRTY MINUTES EAST AT VERY LOW ALTITUDE  
REPORTING AIRCRAFT AT 8500 FT. OBSERVED FOUR TRANSPORTS ESTIMATED  
10,000 TONS EACH ENTERING TOKYO HARBOR

..END..

TOD 271309Z VB K

UNQUOTE

TOD 271729Z WNM

SECRET

Mission 7  
XXI BC  
Photo

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 NOV 27 17 29

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

TELECON CONFERENCE

Nov. 26 1944

WASHINGTON PARTIES

~~KHARACTER~~ / HONOLULU PARTIES

LT. COL. H. H. HEWITT

COL. ~~SHERMAN~~ COL. ANKENBRANDT

TELETYPE CONFERENCE

STATION YAF

11260300Z

PRESENT HERE:-

COL SHERMAN

SIGNAL CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY

Mission 7  
XXI BC  
Photos

TELECON MESSAGE NO. 26-B  
FROM DEPCOMAF 20 TO COMGENAF 20  
FOLLOWING TELECON IS PASSED TO YOU

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO FN-25-16 252133Z (TOP SECRET)

FROM HARMON FOR HANSELL TO ARNOLD

SUBJECT: BOMB DAMAGE PHOTOS

MH ONE HF-13 TOOK OFF AT 252105Z TO OBTAIN PHOTOS OF BOMB DAMAGE OF  
CMN AND OF TOKYO AREA. 1 WEATHER FORECAST NOT FAVORABLE FOR PHOTO DUE  
TO UNDERCAST

UNQUOTE

~~---END---~~

TOD: 260250Z WAH

TOP SECRET  
TOP SECRET  
SIGNAL CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY

NOTE: CORRECTION ASKED-HERB'S ANSWER

WHEN MSG CAME IN FROM GUAM THEY WERE ALL GARBLED AND WE  
DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THAT 1 RPT 1 WAS SUPPOSE TO BE IN THERE OR NOT

ORIGINATOR OF MESSAGE

Do not write up!

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION

INFORMATION

C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S Adm	A-1	A-2	A-3	Tng	A-3	OC&R	A-4	A-5	Plans
A G	Surg	Air Insp	PRO	COMM	OP	ANAL	STAT	CON			
C/S	DG/S OP	DC/S Adm	A-1	A-2	A-3	Tng	A-3	OC&R	A-4	A-5	Plans
A G	Surg	Air Insp	PRO	COMM	OP	ANAL	STAT	CON			

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05



*San Antonio 1 - Mission*  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES

SECRET

By Authority  
The Commanding General  
Army Air Forces

TALLY NO.	
FILE NO.	

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SECRET

*26 Dec*  
Date *AJC*  
Initials

SUBJECT: Economic Damage Assessment Report No. 2 - Nakajima Aircraft Engine Co. (Preliminary)

TO: Twentieth Air Force (Att: Col. J. T. Posey)

DATE 26 December 1944

FROM: Joint Target Group, Economic, Industrial & Military Section

COMMENT No. 1  
AJC:dl 4510  
AFIJT

1. Attached is a Preliminary Economic Damage Assessment of the attacks on the Nakajima Aircraft Engine Company, Musashino-Tama Plant, Target 90.17-357, of 24 November and 3 December 1944.

1 Incl.  
Pre. Dam. Ass.  
Nakajima Plant

*A. J. Carey*  
A. J. CAREY  
Lt. Colonel, A.C.  
Chief, E.I.M. Section

*XXIBC*

*Col Cowles:*  
*Am having these filed in*  
*Mission folders*  
*JTC*

*B*

SECRET

SECRET

PRELIMINARY

ECONOMIC DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT NO. 2

Attacks on Nakajima Aircraft Engine Co.,

Musashino-Tama Plant, TARGET 90.17-357

SECRET	
By Authority of The Commanding General Army Air Forces	
26 Nov 44	J.C.D.
Date	Initials

24 Nov and 3 Dec 1944

1. The basis of this report is a preliminary damage assessment report prepared by the photo interpretation section of 3rd Photo Reconnaissance Squadron, and a reconnaissance photograph on which results of two attacks (24 Nov 44 and 3 Dec 44) have been plotted. Since no photographs showing damage are available only tentative conclusions can be reached.

2. Thirteen hits resulting from the attack of 24 Nov and six hits from the attack of 3 Dec have been plotted. Assembly buildings in both the Tama and Musashino sections of the plant were damaged by the 24 Nov attack, but had been repaired by 3 Dec. Eight or nine scattered bomb hits were received in the machining sections from both attacks. These hits undoubtedly destroyed some material being processed and caused some disruption in production flow, but damage is not considered sufficiently severe or concentrated to affect production rates materially.

3. The engine test beds in the Tama section of the plant were badly damaged on 24 Nov and had not been repaired on 3 Dec. A few completed engines were almost certainly destroyed, and the testing equipment for about half of the 25 test beds in this block were probably damaged. This damage could upset the routine in the plant but improvisation of testing facilities and increased use of undamaged test beds is likely to prevent loss of production.

4. A probable foundry serving both the Tama and Musashino sections of the plant has been hit. Since damage is confined to a rather small section of the building, it is not likely to be out of operation, and even if the facilities should be closed down for a short time production at the nearby Tanashi Plant of Nakajima (TARGET 90.17-539) could be used to carry the needs of this plant.

5. Due to the fact that hits were widely scattered and that the machining sections of the plant were the least seriously damaged, it is believed that immediate production loss is small and can be made up rather quickly - almost certainly within a month.

SECRET

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

~~SECRET~~  
CONFIDENTIAL

SPOT DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT NO. 4

NAKAJIMA AIRCRAFT, OGIKUBO PLANT

(Target 90.17-356)

PARTICULARS  
OF ATTACK

This plant was bombed as a secondary target on the strikes of 24 November and/or 3 December 1944.

PREVIOUS  
REPORTS

None.

PHYSICAL  
DAMAGE

These attacks caused 49,000 sq ft of structural damage, 9 percent of the total plant area, and about 16,000 sq ft of superficial damage, about 3 percent of the total. Damage was probably largely from fire.

All the structural damage was to either three storage buildings or to three small peripheral buildings whose function has yet not been determined. The superficial damage was concentrated on the electrical shop. No main production shops were hit.

PROBABLE  
FUNCTION  
OF PLANT

This plant supplies parts to the main Nakajima Engine Works (TARGET 90.17-357).

ECONOMIC  
ASSESSMENT

It seems highly unlikely that loss of either raw materials or finished stores of components will have serious effect on the production of aero-engines at the Musashino-Tama plant. Finished products are rarely stored in great number at the plant where they are fabricated, and at the most this loss would amount to a few days output. The loss of raw stocks could be easily absorbed once production is resumed (within a few days following the attacks) because of the depth at which they lie in the production cycle.

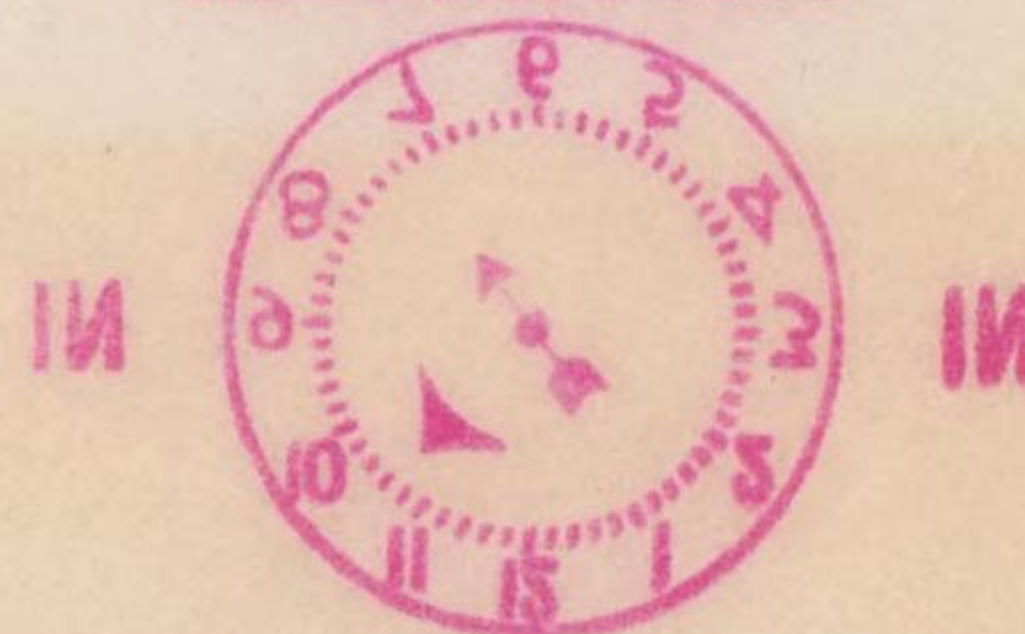
Superficial damage to the electrical shop could also be repaired quickly and any slight output loss made up before reduced output is necessitated at the main engine plant.

FUTURE  
TARGET  
VALUE

As no measurable loss in engine production resulted from this attack, this plant retains the slight target value it has always had.

3144

ADJUTANT GENERAL  
TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS



11 2 12

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~~SECRET~~

11 Jan 45

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By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

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SECRET

SPOT DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT NO. 4

NAKATIMA AIRCRAFT, OOKUBO PLANT

(Target 90.17-325)

This plant was bombed as a secondary target on the strikes of 21 November and/or 2 December 1944.

PARTICULARS  
OF ATTACK

None.

REVENUE  
REPORTS

These attacks caused 12,000 sq ft of structural damage, 9 percent of the total plant area, and about 10,000 sq ft of superficial damage, about 3 percent of the total. Damage was probably largely from fire.

PHYSICAL  
DAMAGE

All the structural damage was to either three storage buildings or to three small peripheral buildings whose location has yet not been determined. The superficial damage was concentrated on the electrical shop. No main production shops were hit.

REPAIRS  
NECESSARY  
OR PLANT  
FUNCTION

This plant supplies parts to the main Nakatima Engine Works (Target 90.17-327).

ECONOMIC  
ASSESSMENT

It seems highly unlikely that loss of either raw materials or finished stores of components will have serious effect on the production of zero-engines at the Hamamatsu-Tama plant. Finished products are rarely stored in great number at the plant where they are fabricated, and at the most this loss would amount to a few days output. The loss of raw stocks could be easily absorbed once production is resumed (within a few days following the attack) because of the depth at which they lie in the production cycle.

Superficial damage to the electrical shop could also be repaired quickly and any slight output loss made up before reduced output is necessitated at the main engine plant.

FUTURE  
TARGET  
VALUE

As no measurable loss in engine production resulted from this attack, this plant retains the high target value it has always had.

3144

HEADQUARTERS  
TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
ADJUTANT GENERAL



JUN 15 1945

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SECRET

11 Jan 45

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

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COPY NO. 7

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RESTRICTED  
 CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET  
By Authority of Commanding General  
Twentieth Air Force  
DATE: INITIALS: mp

CONFIDENTIAL

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE  
BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND

HONOLULU

DATE: 9 December 1944

WASHINGTON PARTIES

TERMINAL PARTIES

Lt. Col. Hewitt

Colonel Ankenbrandt

TELECON MESSAGE NO.

SUBJECT

FM 09-20

Photographs for San Antonio One

(From: BOMCOM 21 To: DEPCOMAF 20 Info: COMAF 20)

Telecon Message 8-8-3 your Headquarters Subject: Photo San Antonio One. Strike photos of San Antonio One were shipped via Air Courier Number SA4611 on 6 December. Photos San Antonio Three were shipped via Air Courier SA4727 on 8 December. In the future strike photos will be shipped within two days after landing of aircraft.

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten marks*

CONFIDENTIAL

DISTRIBUTION	ACTION	A-2 (2 eye)
	INFORMATION	C/S ; DC/S <i>lpr</i>

5-33, AF (REV 14 OCT 44)

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Authority UND760063  
By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

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HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RESTRICTED  
 CONFIDENTIAL

**SECRET**

*P*  
*Mission 7*  
*III BC*

**SECRET**  
By Authority of Commanding General  
Twentieth Air Force  
DATE 26 Nov 44 INITIALS *WJ*  
DATE 26 November 1944

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE  
BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND HONOLULU  
WASHINGTON PARTIES Lt. Col. Hewitt  
TERMINAL PARTIES Colonel Ankenbrandt  
TELECON MESSAGE NO. 26-Q  
SUBJECT Preliminary Damage Assessment Report on Mission San Antonio One

(From: DepComAF20 To: COMAF 20)  
Following Telecon herewith passed to you: Telecon Message No. FN 26-20  
from Harmon for Hansell to Arnold

Of bombs released on primary target, 43 hits were plotted within 5000 feet of target. 15 of these, hits are shown on the target, 7 being in the old plant and 8 in the new portion. Probably hit on power house in old plant. One small building on west side of new plant burned out and another about 25 percent destroyed. Smoke was observed coming from hits on other buildings in both sections of plant. No damage estimate on latter. No photo coverage of damage to secondary and last resort targets available at this time. It is appreciated that bombing accuracy of San Antonio One was unsatisfactory. Factors contributing to this condition were high ground speed of attaching units and interference by scattered clouds over general target area. Wind at bombing altitude was 120 knots from westerly direction producing ground speed of 445 miles per hour.

**ACTION COPY**

**SECRET**

DISTRIBUTION ACTION DC/S Opr (2 copies)  
INFORMATION C/S ; A-2; A-3 OC&R (2 copies); OP ANAL

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5-33, AF (REV 14 OCT 44)

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Authority *UND760063*  
By *PT* NARA Date *8/26/05*

ARE YOU THERE? GAOK

NOTE NR 9

RELAY FROM SAIPAN

QUOTE

TELECON MSG FN-24-9 TOP SECRET

FROM HTNSELL BOMCOM TWO ONE 240217Z  
TO COMGEN AF 20 INFO DEP COM GEN AF 20

SENDING F-13 MISSION 17-P OF 3RD PHOTO RECON SQ FOR PRIMARY  
TARGET RCM 100 . MILES SOUTH EAST OF COAST OF JAPAN SECONDARY TOKYO  
AREA WITH TAKE OFF 232005Z OVER TARGET 240435Z RETURN 241300Z  
AND 18-P FOR PRIMARY TARGET PHOTO RECON OF TOKYO AREA WITH TAKE OFF  
-32006Z OVER TARGET 240612Z RETURN 241235Z PAREN BOMCOM TWO ONE  
CHARLIE 0476 PAREN

END TOD 240321Z

R

UNQUOTE

END

TOD:-240444Z RH

ACK PLS

KCKC

OK

OK TNX

1944 NOV 24 04 50

WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

~~TOP SECRET~~

1944 NOV 24 04 50

WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

~~TOP SECRET~~

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

TELECON MSG NR 24

SECRET

RELAY FROM SI  
SAIPAN

SECRET

Mission 7  
XXI BC

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAG NO FN24-46 240307Z SECRET  
FROM HANSELL TO ARNOLD INFO HARMON  
SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY MPSS ON REPOR, MISSION NUMBER 18-P, 24 OMXXX 24  
NOVEMBER 1944.

2 F713A A/C OF 3RD PHOTO RECON SQDN PARTIIPATING. TWRGES RCM AND  
PHOTO RECON FOR SAN ANTONIO 1 MISSION. RESULTS: RCM MISSION COMPLETED  
AS PLANNED BY BOTH A/C. PHOTOHRECON NIL BOTH A/CHDUE MECHANICAL .  
DIFFICULTIES. A/C NO. 93851 TROUBLE NO.3 ENG. COMMENCING ONE HOUR  
AFTER TACEOFF. PERNORMED RCM AT PROPEG POINT ALTITUDE 24,000 FT.  
CLIMBING TO 28,000 FT. TURNED HOM AT THIS POINT

FLEW TO JAPAN COAST CLIMBING TO 28,00 FT. TURNED HOME AT THIS POINT  
DUE CONTINUED ENG, TROUBLE. WEATHER ON RCM RUN ALTO CUMULUS CLOUDS LOW  
HOW IS THAT

OBSERVATIONS, ONE ENEMY CRUISER AT 34 DEBRES 55 MINUTES IXXXXXX

N- 140 DEGREES 30 MINUTES E. TIME SEEN 240320Z. (THIS INFO REPORTED  
TO NAVAL AUTHORITIES). NO ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION. NO FLAK. A/C LANDED

240805Z.

A/C NO. 93852 FLWE RCM AS BRIEFED. PROCEEDED UP COAST JAPAN AND

ATTEMPTED PHOTOS FROM POINT 35 DEGREES N- 740 DEGREES E. TO CITY

OF MITO. TURNIXXXXXX TURNED INLAND AT ALTITUDE 31,000 FT. MECHANICAL  
DIFFICULTIES, DYNAMO FAILURE, SMALL FIRES AND DEPARRESURIZING AT THIS  
POINT. FAILED TO REPRESSURIZE, AND RETURNED HOME BASE. 3 CREW  
MEMBERS SUFFERING OXYGEN LOSS. OBSERVATIONS AT POINT 2 MILES FROM  
TOKYO SAW APPARENT OIL FIRE IN CENTRAL TOKYO DISTRICT, SMOKE RISING  
APPROX 20,000 FTJM WEATHER HAZS AT TARGET AREA. ONE ENEMY FIGHTER  
TYPE UNOBSERVED ENCOUNTERED AT ALTITUDE 26,00 FT. WHILE LOSING ALTITUDE  
AFTER DPRESSURIZING. NO PRXXXXX PASSES BY ENEMY. NO FLAK. A:C ANDED

241031Z

END

TO

GWRPEQRZ VB

SECRET

UNQUOTE

END

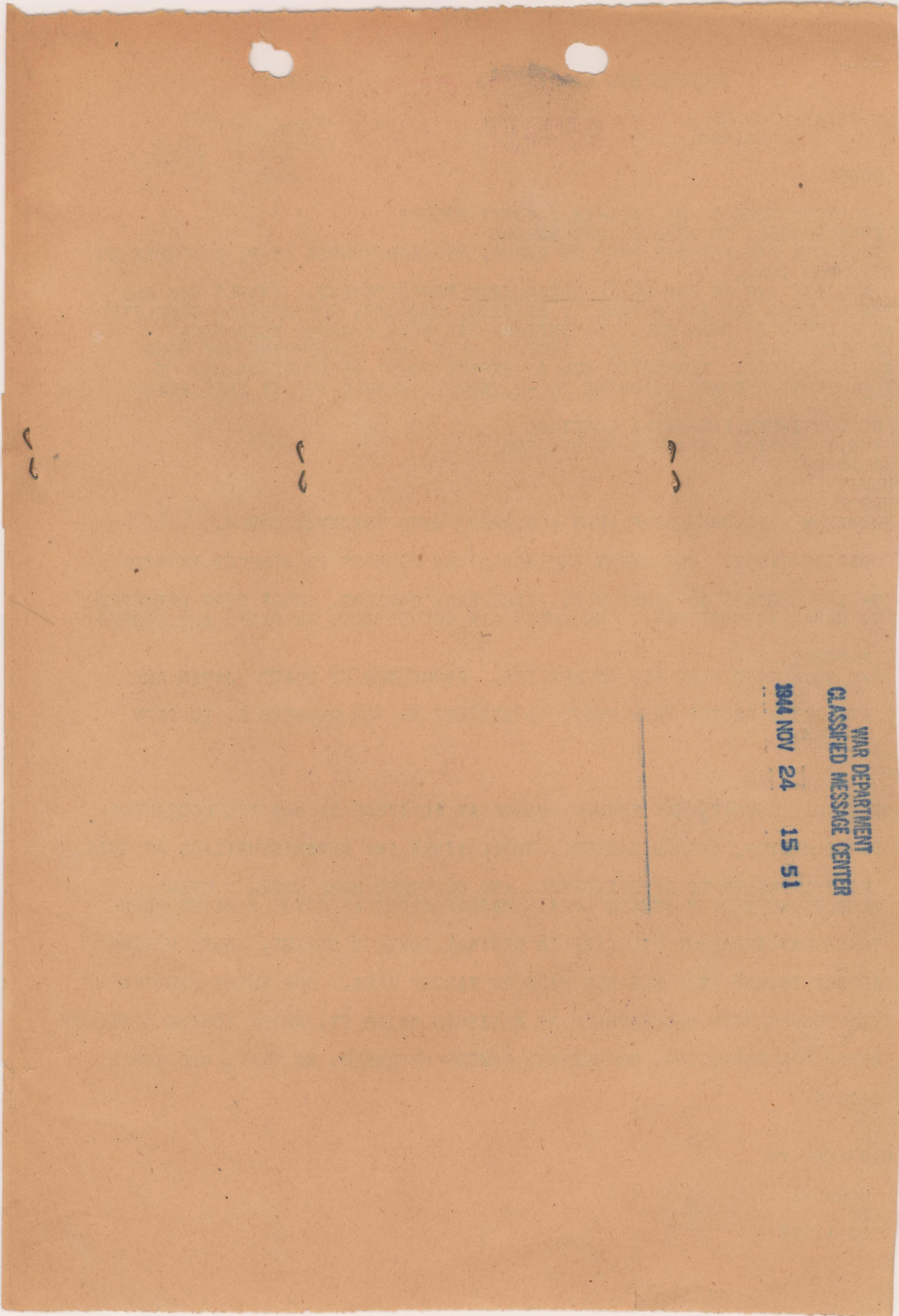
TOD 1350Z

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By PT NARA Date 8/26/05





WAR DEPARTMENT  
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1944 NOV 24 15 51

HHH/dn/4840

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 CONFIDENTIAL

**TOP SECRET**

**TOP SECRET**  
By Authority of Commanding General  
Twentieth Air Force  
DATE 17 Nov 44  
INITIALS JPB  
DATE 17 November 1944

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE  
BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND

HONOLULU

WASHINGTON PARTIES

TERMINAL PARTIES

Lt. Col. Hewitt

Colonel Ankenbrandt

TELECON MESSAGE NO.

SUBJECT

17-H

Strike Reporting

*San Antonio 1*

(From Harmon to Horstad)

Reference your Telecon No. 1-16 and our answer No. 16-L, plans for communicating by Telecon the Strike Reports on XXI Bomber Command strike San Antonio One will be as set forth in our above noted Telecon No. 16-L, only change will be twenty-four hour difference in times, providing strike is made.

*UAC  
A  
D*

**TOP SECRET**

DISTRIBUTION	ACTION	Comm (2 copies) c/s DC/S Ops A-2
	INFORMATION	

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5-35, AF (REV 14 OCT 44)

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Authority UND760063

By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Commendation C/S X 13C	Tele.	SM 3-1	24 Nov	HA
Congratulations fm.	Tele.	J-1090	25 Nov	HA

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<input type="checkbox"/> CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE  
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

**SECRET**

*mission 7  
XXI  
BC*

**SECRET**  
 By Authority of Commanding General  
 Twentieth Air Force

DATE	INITIALS
25 Nov 44	<i>YH</i>

**EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE  
 BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND**

**Kharaahpur**

**25 November 1944**

WASHINGTON PARTIES

TERMINAL PARTIES

Lt. Col. Hewitt

Col. Herman

TELECON MESSAGE NO.  
**J-1090**

SUBJECT  
**Congratulations from COMGEN BOMCOM XX**

THUR: COMGEN AF 2G TO: COMGEN BOM 21 FROM: COMGEN BOMCOM XX

1. Please relay the following to Hansell.
2. Congratulations to the XXI Bomber Command on its initial mission. You have established an enviable record on this your first full scale operation. My sincere best wishes for continued success.

**SECRET**

**ACTION COPY**

DISTRIBUTION →	ACTION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>
		DC/opr (2 eye) C/S

5-33, AF (REV 14 OCT 44)

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DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority UND760063  
 By PT NARA Date 8/26/05

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

Command  
(section)

24 Nov 44  
(date)

MEMORANDUM TO: The Adjutant General, Twentieth Air Force.  
SUBJECT: Transmittal of TELECON message.

*Mission 7  
A X L BC*

It is requested that the following TELECON message be transmitted. This message pertains to the business of the Twentieth Air Force and its transmission by normal means of communication is impracticable.

General Norstad

(Originator) Name and Rank

TELECON MESSAGE NO. *SM-3-1* (TOP SECRET\* SECRET\* CONFIDENTIAL\* RESTRICTED)  
(encircle proper classification)

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: COMGEN BOMCOM 21 FROM: COMGEN 20

(To Hansell from Arnold) You have successfully engaged the enemy in the very heart of his empire. This marks the beginning of what I know will be a most distinguished career for the Twenty-First Bomber Command. We are proud of you. Good luck and God bless you.

*CR*

(do not fill in spaces below)

ORIGINATOR:

DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION	C/S	DC/S-OP	DC/S-Adm	A-1	A-2	A-3 Trg	A-3 OC&R	A-4	A-5 Plans
	A G	Air Sur	Air Insp	PRO	COM	OP	ALAL	STAT	COL
INFORMATION	C/S	DC/S-OP	DC/SAAdm	A-1	A-2	A-3 Trg	A-3 OC&R	A-4	A-5 Plans
	A G	Air Sur	Air Insp	PRO	COM	OP	ALAL	STAT	COL

2

0830

WAR DEPARTMENT  
SIGNAL CENTER

SECRET

TELECON MESSAGE NO SM-3-1

SUBJECT : COMMENDATION

TO: COMGEN BOMCOM 21

FROM: COMGEN 20

(TO HANSELL FROM ARNOLD) YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY ENGAGED THE ENEMY IN THE VERY HEART OF HIS EMPIRE. THIS MARKS THE BEGINNING OF WHAT I KNOW WILL BE A MOST DISTINGUISHED CAREER FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND. WE ARE PROUD OF YOU. GOOD LUCK AND GOD BLESS YOU.