

FORM "F"

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE AND PERSONAL COMBAT REPORT.

FROM : R.A.F. WEST MALLING. TO : H.Q.F.O. H.Q. NO. 11 GROUP, BIGGIN HILL.

STATISTICAL

DATE

(A) 8.3.43.

UNIT

(B) 29 Squadron

TYPE AND MARK OF OUR AIRCRAFT

(C) Beaufighter 1.

TIME ATTACK WAS DELIVERED

(D) 00.45 hours approx.

PLACE OF ATTACK AND/OR TARGET

(E) South West of Horsham.

WEATHER

(F) Clear starlight, but no moon.

OUR CASUALTIES - AIRCRAFT

(G) NIL

OUR CASUALTIES - PERSONNEL

(H) NIL

ENEMY CASUALTIES - IN AIR COMBAT

(J) 1 Do.217 destroyed.

ENEMY CASUALTIES - GROUND OR SEA TARGETS

(K) NIL

GENERAL.

One Beaufighter 1 fitted Mark VII A.I., pilot S/L G.H. Goodman, R/O F/O W.F.E. Thomas, took off West Malling 0030 hours and landed 0150 hours on 8.3.43. The Beaufighter was controlled by Sector (Controller F/Y, Webber) and told to orbit Beacon "I" at 12,000 feet, were given "smack" almost immediately south and a contact was obtained at maximum range at 12,000 feet altitude on an aircraft slightly below and to port. The target was jinking violently and was chased for about 5 minutes south west; A visual was then obtained at 350 yards range and was identified at 200 yards as a Do.217. The Beau opened fire at 150 yards, on the target which was still jinking giving a 3 second burst with cannon and machine gun. A large explosion was soon on the in-board of the port engine. The Beau drew away slightly to port and then closed in again at 140 m.p.h. as the e/a lost speed and giving a further 3/4 second burst saw another violent explosion. The e/a practically stalled and the Beaufighter had to climb steeply to avoid a collision. The pilot then saw a large fire and explosion on the ground approximately to the south west of the Horsham area at about 00.45 hours.

Beaufighter was next ordered to orbit "Beacon" M and two further contacts were obtained but no visuals, these contacts being lost owing to the violent evasive action being taken by the o/a at minimum range.

One Do.217 claimed as destroyed.

Pilot, S/L G.H. Goodman.

R/O W.F.E. Thomas.

Intelligence Officer,  
29 Squadron.