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U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES, WWII

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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EUROPE-Air Attacks on Ploesti

The oil refineries near Ploesti, Romania, underwent a number of American & Brit bombing attacks. The first US raid on 12 Jun 1942 involved 13 B-24D bombers of the Halverston Detachment based in Egypt. The second, best-known mission occurred 1 Aug 1943 featuring a low-level attack by American B-24s. Seven bombers force-landed in Turkey, stranding 79 airmen for the duration. From 5 Apr until 19 Aug 1944, the Fifteenth US Air Force and the 105th Group (Royal Air Force) attacked the Ploesti facilities from bases in Italy. See:

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EUROPE-Firebombing of Dresden

The controversial bombing of an historic German city that had become a refugee center occurred late in the European war, when continuation of the Allied strategic bombing offensive can be questioned. British and American bombers conducted the most destructive raid on 13-15 Feb 1945, creating the huge firestorm that caused most of the devastation. Exact numbers of civilian casualties are unknown, but reputable estimates range from 25,000-60,000 killed. See:

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