

HOW RAF "OBLITERATE"

The night bombers were waiting to go. This was the opening scene of a saturation raid on Mannheim Ludvigshaven, and as darkness enveloped the airfields of Bomber Command the great host of 4-engined aircraft took off.

A bomber's dream target, Mannheim Ludvigshaven lies at the intersection of ^{clearly seen} waterways, between rivers Rhine and Neckar. The ~~Mannheim~~ Docks.... Ludvigshaven goodsyard.... The Lenz Engineering works.... The gasworks.... A diesel engine factory. ~~Down~~ ^{Down} went the bombs on scores of targets.

A terrific explosion lights up the south bank of the River Luitpoldhafen, where it joins the Rhine. The pathfinders have done their work well. Thousands of incendiaries, as well as block busters, rain down.

Mannheim good-yard and main station are well alight. So are the Lenz ~~main~~ works.... And the Luitpoldhafen warehouses.

The raid is now nearing saturation point. There are hundreds of fires ^{all along} of the west bank of the Rhine and around the main bridge.

^{Manheim} This is/Ludvigshafen at the height of a great raid. Let's ~~hope that equally informative pictures~~

hope that the RAF will soon release pictures of the still more interesting air battle which aims at the obliteration of Berlin itself.