

*F-85-08670 12-16-43*

Phone Call

December 16, 1943

GERMANY

(1). Here is a summary of the ~~most~~ <sup>best</sup> ~~detailed reports~~ <sup>seen</sup> on the bombing damage done to Berlin. The Wilhelmstrasse government quarter is not fully destroyed, as the press reported, but practically every house has some damage in this area. <sup>In</sup> The Foreign Office, the Propaganda Ministry and in the <sup>in the</sup> special office of Ribbentrop <sup>in the</sup> Wilhelmstrasse work is being carried on only in the cellar and on the first floors. The British Embassy has been burnt. The Luftfahrtministerium and the Gestapo headquarters in Prinz Albrechtstrasse had some hits, but on the whole remained intact. Under den Linden suffered heavily. <sup>bullet of</sup> The French Embassy and the Speer Ministry <sup>on the Paris plant</sup> have been made entirely unusable by fire and water. The nearby administration building of

*Imp' Mr Speer Min. has other building*

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Date 5 OCT 1992

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Esplanade - all windows, etc

the I.G. Farben has been heavily damaged. The Russian Embassy, the Ministry of Culture, the ~~Hotel Kaiserhof~~ Hotel Bristol, the Ministry of the Interior, the Hotel Victoria, the ~~Commerzbank and the Diskontogesellschaft~~ (David Isaac Samuel King Olga Nora Tommy Olga George Edward Samuel Edward Louis Louis Samuel Charlie Henry Albert Frank Tommy), and the palace of Kaiser Wilhelm the First, the Prussian State Library, the University, the State Opera House have all been heavily damaged and many of them entirely burnt out. In the Rehrenstrasse (Bertram Edward Henry Robert Edward Nora) the Dresdner Bank, the ~~Commerzbank~~ Deutsche Bank, the Metropol theater and the Papal Nunciature have been heavily damaged. In the Leipzigerstrasse from the Leipzigerplatz to Dönhoffplatz (David Olga Nora Henry Olga Frank Frank) was largely burnt out, including Wertheims (William Edward Robert Tommy Henry Edward Isaac Mary). The Tietz (Tommy Isaac

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Edward Tommy zebra) establishment, however, did not suffer. On the Alexanderplatz the electricity works is out of order. The SS Kaserne on the Alexanderstrasse has been burnt out. The old Reichstag building also received incendiary bombs, and this time not placed there by Goering, but the building still stands. The freight station on the Lehrter (Louis Edward Henry Robert Tommy Edward Robert) Bahnhof (Bertram Albert Henry Nora Henry Olga Frank) was entirely destroyed and the well-known bakery von Wittler (William Isaac Tommy Tommy Louis Edward Robert) was very heavily damaged and the entire supply of flour burned. This bakery supplied almost half of Berlin with bread. The Hotel Eden and the nearby theater were destroyed. The Bahnhof Zoo had many hits and also the flak (Frank R Louis Albert King) tower in the Zoo was hit, but not destroyed.

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The Potsdamerbahnhof has collapsed. The Anhalter- (Albert Nora Henry Albert Louis Tommy Edward Robert) Bahnhof is still standing, but the tracks have been torn to pieces. The Stettiner-Bahnhof has partly collapsed. The Friedrichstrasse Bahnhof has been put in commission again for transit traffic. However <sup>at the date of the report</sup> persons going to the west take their trains in Potsdam and those to the east in the Bahnhof Ostkreuz (Olga Samuel Tommy King Robert Edward uncle zebra). para

In the workers quarters there was great damage and entire housing quarters were destroyed. According to the report the number killed is around 35,000, the number of homeless is over a million. para

It is difficult to describe the reaction of the population. The people are so busy trying to take care of themselves that they

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have not had time to draw conclusions. The Nazi leaders are busy spreading among the population such phrases as quote English cannibals unquote, requote British air pirates unquote, but my informant does not think this propaganda has had much effect and some of the people were even heard saying it would have been much better if we had never started anything.

para

Of course the list of factories hit is also long and will be sent separately.