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 By *PT* NARA Date *7-18-05*

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TELECON. MSG. NO. *FM-10-9* SUBJECT: *Nagasaki* REPORT ON CENTERBOARD HIROSHIMA MISSION DATE: 10 August 1945

TO: COMGENUSASTAF GUAM
 COMGENUSASTAF (REAR) WASH
 FROM: COMGENAAF 20 GUAM

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FROM: COMGENBOMWR 313

TO: COMGENAAF 20

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CENTERBOARD

Strike and accompanying airplanes have returned to Tinian. Ashworth's message from Okinawa number 44 is confirmed by all observers. Cloud cover was bad at strike and it will be necessary to await photographs to give exact point of strike and damage. Strike plane barely had enough fuel to reach Okinawa. After listening to the accounts one gets the impression of a supremely tough job carried out with determination, sound judgement and great skill. It is fortunate for the success of the mission that its leaders, Ashworth and the pilot Sweeney were men of stamina and stout heart. Weaker men could not have done this job. Ashworth's small doubts reflected in his first strike report were resolved after checking at Okinawa with crews and observers from all three planes. He now feels confident that the bomb was satisfactorily placed and that it did its job well. Some detailed observations follow.

An observing plane reported that twenty minutes after explosion the southern edge of cloud was tangent to north end of Nagasaki Harbor with southeastern part of city visible. There were scattered fires on west side of Nagasaki Harbor. Top mushroom of cloud broke off in a manner similar to cloud at Hiroshima.

Pilot Sweeney who took an observing plane on Hiroshima mission reported that flash was brighter and bumps greater than Hiroshima. He was however somewhat closer to burst today. Weather over target was 7 or 8/10 cloud.

Bombardier believes his point of aim at time of strike was about 500 feet south end of Mitsubishi Steel Works. He and others report three bumps as compared with two at Hiroshima.

One crew member reported three shock waves as visible. Several reported the cloud as brighter than Hiroshima. It was a bright orange color with top mushroom definitely luminous of orange and pink colors. Cloud moved up faster and went higher than Hiroshima. Cloud burned away the existing clouds. Base cloud of dust and smoke was smaller in area than Hiroshima. Fires were seen on both east and west sides of cloud.

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