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INCOMING MESSAGE

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TELECON MSG NO. FN-09-16	SUBJECT Crew Observations from Reconnaissance Plane on Center-board 509th SBM 16, Flown 9 August 1945	DATE 9 August 1945
TO: COMGENUSASTAF	INFO: COMGENUSASTAF REAR BOMWG 313 for 509th Group	FROM: COMGENAAF 20

091541Z
AIMCR 5480

Attn: General Norstad

Approach to Nagasaki by reconn plane was from the south at 32,000 feet altitude. Column of smoke extended to an estimated altitude of 19,000 feet with black smoke covering most of the city. Approximately 20 large fires were seen through the smoke in the city area with the greatest concentrations in and around aiming point local at 11306 on Lithomosaic, Nagasaki area, Mitsubishi Steel and Arms Works, Target No. 90.36-546. Large explosions were visible at approximately 084071 and 094079 as reconn plane passed over target at 090522Z. No apparent damage to installations on southwest side of harbor and to three large and three small vessels anchored in harbor. Clouds and smoke in the northern area of city prevented further observations. No turbulence encountered over target. Reconnaissance plane landed at northwest field, Guam, because of weather causing delay in receipt of photography. Estimate preliminary damage assessment report ready at 092100Z depending upon quality and coverage of photography.

...End...
TOD: 091606Z

DECLASSIFIED
By: Air Force Declassification Office
27 May 2010

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