FINAL REPORT

TEST OF RADAR RANGE FINDER IN B-25G AIRPLANE

No. 28680413.682

DATES 25 OCTOBER 1943

Classification Cancelled

COMMANDER, APG COMMAND
AUTH DTD 1 JULY 51
BY HARRY S. TREE

Signature and Grade

Date 18 Nov. 54

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FINAL REPORT

ON

TEST OF RADAR RANGE FINDER IN B-26G AIRPLANE

Serial No.: 5-43-6      No. of Pages: 4      Date: 25 October 1943

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Colonel, Air Corps,
Actg. Chief, Proof Dept.

APPROVED:

GRANDISON GARDNER,
Brigadier General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.
1. **OBJECT:**

To determine the accuracy of fire of the 75mm airborne cannon using radar range.

2. **INTRODUCTION:**

This test was requested in a letter from the Commanding General, Army Air Forces Materiel Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, dated April 1, 1943, to the Commanding General, Army Air Forces Proving Ground Command, Eglin Field, Florida, subject: "Test of Radar Range Finder in B-25G Airplane." This test was begun 7 September 1943 and completed 11 October 1943.

a. Description. The SCR-726 (ARO) is a lightweight experimental radar set which provides continuous range on a calibrated range meter or if desired, in the form of a shaft rotation. In this particular installation range was read on a range meter only. It searched in range, locks-on, and automatically followed any target within the cone of the antenna (±15°). The radar operator's position was beside the pilot's seat in the B-25G Airplane. The radar transmitter-receiver and range unit was installed in the nose of the B-25G airplane, directly behind the .50 caliber ammunition cans. The antenna was installed on the nose of the airplane.

3. **CONCLUSION.**—It is concluded that:

The SCR-726 (ARO) provided satisfactory range for firing the 75mm cannon up to a maximum range of three thousand (3,000) yards.

4. **RECOMMENDATIONS.**—It is recommended that:

a. The installation be so designed that the range information from the radar unit be used to drive the sight, independent of a radar operator.

b. Further tests be conducted to determine the feasibility of firing the 75mm cannon with radar range up to five thousand (5,000) yards.

5. **RECORD OF TEST:**

This test was run in accordance with the program.

Serial No.: 5-43-6

No. of Pages: 4

Page No.: 1
attached, except the range used was Range 50, instead of Range 64. A ship silhouette one hundred nineteen feet (119') wide by fifty-eight feet (58') high covered with target cloth and with a corner reflector installed on it, was used as a target.

6. DISCUSSION:

a. The test was conducted with a radar operator seated beside the pilot. The radar operator read range from the range meter and notified the pilot at the proper range for firing. The Wagner reflector type sight was used, bore-sight data for same being obtained from earlier tests conducted by Major John C. R. Williams. Three (3) rounds were fired on each pass at three-thousand (3,000), two thousand five hundred (2,500), and two thousand (2,000) yards, respectively. The three thousand (3,000) yard shot in many cases was used to determine an aiming point from which the two thousand five hundred (2,500) and two thousand (2,000) yard shots could be corrected. The included data would indicate that the average range given the gunner was short, causing most shots to go over. But, the aiming point was at least half-way up on the target which would indicate that proper range would cause the projectile to land beyond the target. Therefore, the mean point of impact should be, and is, over the target.

b. During the three (3) days of the test, turbulent weather was experienced, making it very difficult for the pilot to hold the sight on the target. With the sight preset at a given range if the pilot is notified at the point of proper range and the sight is not on the target, a range error will be expected due to the time required to bring the sight back on the target. This error can be eliminated if the installation is made as suggested in RECOMMENDATIONS, paragraph 5.

c. All results are Range Officer's estimates since it was impossible to triangulate on the target used. (It was not possible for the range officer to give azimuth errors.) Where direct hits are indicated, it was assumed that any projectile landing within three hundred (300) feet beyond the target would be a hit. The approaches were made in many cases in excess of five thousand (5,000) yards and the radar range unit would lock on its maximum range indication (5,000 yards). Therefore, it is recommended that further tests be
conducted firing at ranges up to five thousand (5,000) yards using radar range.

7. **ENCLOSURES:**

Inclusion 1 - Test Program.
Inclusion 2 - Summary of Results.
Inclusion 3 - Photographs of the Installation.
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Serial No.: 543-5
No. of Pages: 4
Page No.: 4
### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range (Yds)</th>
<th>Point of Impact</th>
<th>M.P.I.</th>
<th>% Hits</th>
<th>Total Hits (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pilot No. 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>219</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>179</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Point of impact is the average distance (feet) beyond the target that the projectile hit the water.*

**NOTE:** If aiming point is 30 feet up on target the average point of impact should be approximately 300 to 350 feet beyond the target.