

Gable, on His Final Raid, Didn't Hit 'Damn Thing'

By COLLIE SMALL

A U. S. Bomber Station, Somewhere in England, Sept. 23 (U.P).—Capt. Clark Gable flew his fifth and final mission with the U. S. 8th Air Force today, manning a gun in the nose of the B-17 Flying Fortress Duchess, but failing to hit "a damned thing."

Gable, a gunnery officer, has been here on a special assignment making motion pictures of air battles to be used for instructing aerial gunners. His mission completed, he will return to the United States soon to assemble the film.

The former Hollywood star rode in the leading Fortress of the force which raided German Naval installations at Nantes, France, and the plane came back peppered with anti-aircraft shell holes. Gable was not injured.

The Fortresses met some of the most accurate flak ever encountered, but came through with light losses. About 50 fighters intercepted them about half an hour from the target and followed them all the way in.

Lieut. Col. Robert W. Burns, 26, of Ecu, Miss., led the raid and Gable was in his crew.

Gable made most of the trip in the waist section of the Duchess, where he had his camera in action. While over the target, however, he was at the nose gun.

"Today wasn't quite as tough as when we raided the Ruhr," he said, "but it still was tough enough."



(By Acme)

Capt. Clark Gable in an informal pose at a U. S. bomber station in England.