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**B-24 Liberator in Action Squadron Signal Publications** 

## **Operation Tidal Wave**

Early in the morning of Aug. 1, 1943 178 B-24D Liberators began "Operation Tidal Wave", the raid on the oil refineries at Ploesti, Romania. This was the most heavily defended target in Europe, and as the bombers arrived over Ploesti found that everything they had heard about Ploesti's defences was true and then some. Of the 178 B-24s that took off that morning, 54 were shot down, 23 had to make emergency landings before reaching home base and most of the planes that did return had battle damage.