

MISSING U.S. PLANE

Raft Spotted in Baltic

INTENSIVE AIR SEARCH

Wiesbaden, April 12.—What appeared to be a life raft containing a man wearing an exposure suit was spotted by a United States air force aircraft to-day 40 to 50 miles north-west of the Island of Bornholm, in the Baltic Sea. A total of 35 air force planes with crews numbering about 300 has been searching for an American naval bomber that has been missing since Saturday on a flight from Wiesbaden to Copenhagen.

Danish naval cutters are steaming to the scene where the sighting was made and a Danish navy Catalina flying boat has also been sent.

Bornholm is about 300 miles south-west of Latvia, where the Russians fired on an American plane last Saturday. Until the report of the sighting of the life-raft this morning's search had been concentrated in an area

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London, April 12. — A life raft has been spotted in the Baltic Sea 40 to 50 miles north-east of the island of Bornholm, says the Associated Press correspondent in Wiesbaden. The United States air force announced that it had been sighted by one of its search planes.

The pilot of the plane saw what appeared to be a man wearing an "exposure suit" in the raft. He also said that there were unidentified objects in the immediate area. "Exposure suits" are specially designed to protect fliers forced to bail out into icy water.

Danish naval cutters are steaming to the scene and a Danish navy Catalina flying boat has also been sent. Bornholm is about 300 miles south-west of Latvia, where the Russians fired on an American plane last Saturday. Until the report of the sighting of the raft this morning's search had been concentrated in an area around the Swedish island of Gotland, almost due west of Latvia.

The Danish navy has announced that it has sent a Catalina flying boat to the scene where a United

... to the scene where a United States plane has reported seeing a life raft, says the Associated Press correspondent in Copenhagen. If there are any survivors it will land in the Baltic to pick them up.

The American air force in Kastrup also asked the Danish naval authorities to send a marine cutter to the place where the raft was sighted. The area is a so-called dumping field where Russian ships last summer dropped thousands of tons of mustard gas seized from the Germans.

Buoy Mistaken for Raft

Later, Danish naval authorities at Copenhagen received a report that the Danish Catalina had seen a buoy placed where the Russians dumped the mustard gas. The report suggested that this might have been mistaken by the United States plane for a raft.
