

HEADQUARTERS 49TH BOMBARDMENT WING (H)  
APO 520 U S ARMY

16 August 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 138)

1. a. See Latest Intelligence Summaries and Annex "A".

b. (1) Bombers: Two Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack DISPERSAL AREAS OF NIS AIRDROME (43° 20'N, 21° 52'E); target time 0850B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack OIL TARGETS IN PLOESTI AREA; KP time 0930B. Four Gps, B-24s, 304th Wg, will attack OIL TARGETS IN PLOESTI AREA; KP time 1030B. 55th Wg Stand Down

(2) Escort: Four Gps fighters will provide close escort for 47th Wg, 49th and 304th Wgs on penetration, withdrawal and over target. Fighters will also provide top offensive cover for 47th Wg over the target. One Gp fighters will provide target and withdrawal cover for 5th Wg.

2. Normal effort B-24s each 451st BG, 461st BG and 484th BG will attack OIL TARGETS IN PLOESTI AREA on 17 August 1944. This is Plan "A".

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st and 484th BGs will line rendezvous behind 451st BG when 451<sup>st</sup> BG flies over CANDELA on a TC of 71° at 0720B. Lead Gp will depart between 304<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Wg assembly area. Rendezvous altitude 5000 ft, 6000 ft, and 7000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be furnished later.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Wgs are going in on thirty (30) minute intervals.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 451st BG lead; 461st BG; 484th BG.

ROUTE OUT: Base to Turn Point #1 to Turn Point #2 Turn Point #3 to Turn Point #4 Key Point to IP to Target.

KEY POINT: DRAGNASANI (44° 40'N, 24° 17'E) at 1000B.

TURN POINT #1: ULCINJ (41° 57'N, 19° 27'E).

TURN POINT #2: SVODE (42° 59'N, 22° 17'E).

TURN POINT #3: PIOANA (43° 55'N, 23° 04'E).

TURN POINT #4: COTOFENII (44° 28'N, 23° 40'E).

TURN POINT #5: FERDINAND (43° 25'N, 23° 12'E).

INITIAL POINT: Discretion of the Combat Wg Commander.

AXIS OF ATTACK: ASTRA ROMANA OIL REFINERY - 37° TC. UNIREA SPERANTZA OIL REFINERY - 29° TC. XENIA OIL REFINERY - 193° TC. DACIA OIL REFINERY - 209° TC. ROMANA AMERICANA - 168° TC.

AIMING POINT: Optional.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: Optional.

AREA TO BE BOMBED: ASTRA ROMANA OIL REFINERY - Target #1 on Briefing Chart 11-101B-NA. UNIREA SPERANTZA OIL REFINERY - Target #4 on Briefing Chart 11-101B-NA. XENIA OIL REFINERY - Target #3 on Briefing Chart 11-100B-NA. DACIA OIL REFINERY - Target

#2 on Briefing Chart 11-100B-NA. ROMANA AMERICANA - Target  
#1 on Briefing Chart 11-100B-NA.

TARGET TIME: Optional.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (451st BG - 22,000 ft.); (461st BG - 23,000 ft.); (484th BG - 24,000 ft.).

TARGET ELEVATION: ASTRA ROMANA OIL REFINERY - 502 ft. UNIREA SPERANTZA OIL REFINERY - 495 ft. XENIA OIL REFINERY - 565 ft. DACIA OIL REFINERY - 500 ft. ROMANA AMERICANA - 495 ft.

RALLY: ASTRA ROMANA OIL REFINERY - right. UNIREA SPERANTZA OIL REFINERY - Right. XENIA OIL REFINERY - Right. DACIA OIL REFINERY - Left and then right. ROMANA AMERICANA - Left and then right.

ROUTE BACK: Target to Turn Point #5 to Turn Point #2 to Turn Point #1 to Bases.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: UNIREA SPERANTZA AND STANDARD OIL REFINERIES (44° 56'N, 26° 04'E). See Special Instructions.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: IRON GATES CANAL R.R. INSTALLATIONS (44° 44'N, 22° 28'E). Axis of attack: 80° TC. IP: BERZASOA (44° 38'N, 21° 57'E). Rally: right. Bombing altitude: 451st BG - 18,000; 461st BG - 19,000; 484th BG - 20,000 ft. Area to be bombed: Target #1 on briefing chart 8-46-NA. Target elevation: 164 ft.

THIRD ALTERNATE TARGET: NIS M/Y (43° 19'N, 21° 54'E). Axis of attack: 322° TC. IP: ALEXSINAO (43° 33'N, 21° 43'E). Rally: left. Bombing altitude: 451st BG - 18,000; 461st BG - 19,000; 484th BG - 20,000 ft. Area to be bombed: Target #2 on briefing chart 8-102-NA. Target elevation: 610 ft.

FOURTH ALTERNATE TARGET: CUPRIJA BRIDGE (43° 54'N, 21° 21'E). Axis of attack: 340° TC. IP: CICEVAC (43° 43'N, 21° 27'E). Rally: left. Bombing altitude: 451st BG - 18,000; 461st BG - 19,000; 484th BG - 20,000 ft. Area to be bombed: C/D-10/11 on briefing chart 8-49-NA. Target elevation: 383 ft.

FIFTH ALTERNATE TARGET: LAPOVA M/Y (44° 11'N, 21° 05'E). Axis of attack: 322° TC. IP: PARACIN (43° 52'N, 21° 25'E). Rally: left. Bombing altitude: 451st BG - 18,000; 461st BG - 19,000; 484th BG - 20,000 ft. Area to be bombed: Target #1 on briefing chart 8-42-NA. Target elevation: 485 ft.

SIXTH ALTERNATE TARGET: KRALJEVO BRIDGE (43° 44'N, 20° 45'E). Axis of attack: 300° TC. IP: TRSTENIK (43° 37'N, 21° 01'E). Rally: left. Bombing altitude: 451st BG - 18,000; 461st BG - 19,000; 484th BG - 20,000 ft. Area to be bombed: H-17 on briefing chart 8-2-NA. Target elevation: 665 ft.

3. x. (1) Three Gps load 500# RDX fused .1 nose and .025 tail.
- (2) PFF A/C lead all units - employment SOP.
- (3) Lead attack units of Gps load three (3) cartons Window. Dispensing will begin two (2) minutes before IP and continue at the rate of four (4) units every twenty (20) seconds until clear of flak.
- (4) Gps will go into outside echelon at Key Point.
- (5) Altitude at Adriatic Yugoslavia Coast 12,000 ft.
- (6) Five oil target are assigned for attack as primary targets. They are listed in order of priority with target number prefixed:

- (1) ASTRA ROMANA (44° 55'N, 26° 02'E).
- (2) UNIREA SPERANZA (44° 55'N, 26° 04'E).
- (3) XENIA (44° 57'N, 25° 59'E).
- (4) DACIA (44° 56'N, 26° 03'E).
- (5) ROMANA AMERICANA (44° 56'N, 26° 05'E).
- (7) Three P-38 reconnaissance A/C will cover PLOESTI AREA in three periods. The first A/C will contact the 47<sup>th</sup> Wg leader between 0930B and 0935B and between 0945B and 0950B. The second A/C will contact the 49<sup>th</sup> Wg leader between 1000B and 1005B and between 1015B and 1020B. The third A/C will contact the 304<sup>th</sup> Wg leader between 1030B and 1035B and between 1045B and 1050B. Channel "A" will be used. Information transmitted will include direction and force of surface wind and smoke, and assigned number of target or targets which can be attacked visually. Wg leader will decide which target he will attack on the basis of this information and take up proper heading to respective IP. In the event contact is not established with the reconnaissance A/C, Wg leader will attack first alternate target assigned employing proper axis of attack. On receipt of this information from the recon A/C the Combat Wg Commander will announce over VHF Channel "B" his decision as to which target is to be attacked, by using the prefixed numbers assigned the targets. The route from the KP to target will be at the discretion of the combat Wg Commander and other Gps will follow the lead Gp to the target.
- (8) Axis of attack:
  - ASTRA ROMANA - 37°. Rally right.
  - UNIREA SPERANZA - 29°. Rally right.
  - XENIA - 193°. Rally right.
  - DACIA - 209°. Rally left then right.
  - ROMANA AMERICANA - 168°. Rally left then right.

4. No Change.

5. (1) Command Radio: SOP.
- (2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Shockproof"), (47th Wg, "Reckless"), (304th Wg, "Keyword"), (451st BG, "Daylong 1"), (461st BG, "Daylong 2"), (484th BG, "Daylong 3").
- (3) Fighter Call Signs: (5th Wg escort use "Exceed"). (47th Wg escort use "Greenherd" and 47th Wg recon use "Tailpiece 1"). (49th Wg escort use "Tankstop" and 49th Wg recon use "Tailpiece 2"). (304th Wg escort use "Crawford" and 304th Wg recon use "Tailpiece 2").
- (4) Recall Identification Codeword: (5th Wg, "Blackjack"), (47th Wg, "Carson"), (304th Wg, "Trumpet"), (49th Wg, "Quaker"), (306th Wg, "Dogface").
- (5) Bomber-Fighter VHF Channel: "A".
- (6) Visual Signals: SOP.

Aldis Lamp: SOP.

- b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: Col. Eaton.
- (2) Deputy Combat Wing Commander: Maj. Walkie.

By Order of Col. LEE:

LEROY L. STEFONOWICZ,  
Lt. Col., Air Corps  
A-3

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DISTRIBUTION:

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2 ea A-2, PI, CG XVAF

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