16 November 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 256)

- 1. a. See latest Intelligence Summaries and Annex "A".
  - b. (1) Bombers: Four Gps B-24s each 47th Wg will destroy VIENNA/FLORISDORF OIL REFINERY AND VIENNA/KORNEUBURG OIL REFINERIES; time at KP 0904A. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will destroy VIENNA/FLORISDORF OIL REFINERY; time at KP 0914A. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will destroy VIENNA/FLORISDORF OIL REFINERY; time at KP 0930A. 5th Wg will not employ a Blue Force.
    - (2) Escort: 15th Ftr Cmd will provide penetration and target cover for Bombers.
- 2. Reduced effort, available remaining A/C B-24s each 451st BG, 461st BG and 484th BG will attack VIENNA/FLORISDORF OIL REFINERY (48-16N, 16-25E) on 17 November 1944. This is Plan Able, Blue Force.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st BG will be in rendezvous rectangle from 0759A until 0822A. 484th BG and 451st BG and will follow SOP to rendezvous with lead Gp. Lead Gp will enter rectangle at CANDELA, go around 1½ times and depart from BOVINO enroute to KP via CASANUOVO. Rendezvous altitudes 7,000, 8,000, and 9,000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be furnished later.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Close column of Wgs in order: 47th Wg- 55th Wg- 49th Wg- and 304th Wg-.

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

ROUTE OUT: Base to KP to TP #1 to TP #2 to IP to Target.

KEY POINT: VRGADA (43-51N, 15-31E) Base altitude 15,000 ft at 0922A.

TURN POINT #1: POLS (47-13N, 14-35E).

TURN POINT #2: NEUKIRCHEN (48-41N, 15-33E).

TURN POINT #3: TRNAVA (48-22N, 17-35E).

TURN POINT #4: CZELLDOMOLK (47-16N, 17-09E).

TURN POINT #5: ORAHOVO (45-12N, 17-02E).

TURN POINT #6: VIS (43-03N, 16-12E).

INITIAL POINT: AUGGENTHAL (48-42N, 16-04E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 154°.

AIMING POINT: Optional.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: Optional.

AREA TO BE BOMBED: All Gps MPI, r-16 on Target Chart 14-22-NA.

TARGET TIME: 1118A.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (461st BG- 24,000), (484th BG- 25,000), (451st BG- 26,000).

TARGET ELEVATION: 550 ft.

RALLY: Sharp left off target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to TP #3 to TP #4 to TP #5 to TP #6 to Bases.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: KAPFENBURG TANK WORKS (47-27N, 15-17E). IP: EISENERZ (47-32N, 14-53E). Axis of attack: 110 °. Rally: Right off target. Bombing altitude: 22,000, 23,000, 24,000 ft. Area to be bombed: (461st- N-17/18), (484th- L/M-18/19), (451st- K-18/19) on target chart 14-51-NA. Target elevation: 1597 ft.

- SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: GRAZ MAIN M/Y (47-05N, 15-24E). IP: KOFLACH (47-03N, 15-05E). Axis of attack: 88°. Rally left then right off target. Bombing altitude: 22,000, 23,000, 24,000 ft. Area to be bombed: (461st-F-19), 484th-F-18), (451st-H-15) on target chart 14-41-NA. Target elevation: 1180 ft.
- THIRD ALTERNATE TARGET: MARIBOR SOUTH M/Y (46-32N, 15-39E). IP: RIBNICA (46-32N, 15-26). Axis of attack:  $92^{\circ}$ . Rally Sharp left off target. Bombing altitude: 22,000, 23,000, 24,000 ft. Area to be bombed:  $(461^{\rm st}-$  K-16),  $(484^{\rm th}-$  K-15),  $451^{\rm st}-$ K/L-14) on target chart 8-107-NA. Target elevation: 883 ft.
  - 3. x. (1) All Gps load 500# RDX fused .1 nose and mixed .01 and .025 tail with 2 bombs per A/C fused for long delays of 6 to 72 hours. One out of every 6 A/C will load one propaganda bomb to be loaded at top station so as to be last bomb dropped.
    - (2) Gps will be at bombing altitude at TP #2 and go into left echelon at TP #2.
    - (3) PFF A/C will lead all units if available.
    - (4) 461st BG will employ one attack unit of 17 A/C. 484th BG and 451st BG will group their remaining available A/C to form another attack unit. 484th BG will fly the lead box, but bomb run will be by individual groups.
    - (5) There will be no WX Recon A/C for Blue Force.

## 4. No Change.

- 5. a. (1) Command Radio: SOP.

  - (3) Fighter Call Signs: "Shapely" with numbered suffixes in order of contact with bombers.
  - (4) Recall Identification Codeword: (47th Wg, "Barfly"), (49th Wg, "Ducksoup"), (55th Wg, "Poker"), (304th Wg, "Catwalk"), (15th Ftr Cmd, "Rotation").
  - (5) Bomber-Fighter VHF Channel: "A".
  - (6) Visual Signals: SOP.

Aldis Lamp: SOP.

(7) All units so equipped will employ carpet. All A/C of 451st BG and 461st BG load four (4) cartons Window (CHA-3). Dispensing will begin three (3) minutes before IP and continue at the rate of six (6) bundles every twenty (20) seconds until clear of flak. All A/C of 484th BG load two (2) carton Window (CHA-3-(3)). Dispensing

will begin three (3) minutes before IP and continue at the rate of three (3) bundles every twenty (20) seconds until clear of flak.

- b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: Major Word.
  - (2) Deputy Combat Wing Commander: Capt. Roberts.

By Order of Colonel LEE:

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

## OFFICIAL:

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

## DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea. CO, PI, 15th Ftr Cmd, 323rd Wg SOR 2 ea. CG, XVAF, A-3

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