

HEADQUARTERS
460TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
APO 520, U.S. ARMY

20 June 1944

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO: Commanding General, Fifteenth Air Force, Attention
Historian (through channels).

1. Unit history of the Headquarters 460th Bombardment Group (H) for the period 1 May 1944 to 31 May 1944.

a. The present designation of the unit is Headquarters 460th Bombardment Group (H).

b. Lt. Colonel Harold T. Babb became Deputy Group Commander vice Lt. Colonel Bertram C. Harrison.

c. Strength, Month of May.

(a)	27	Officers,	55	EM.
(b)	0	"	0	"
(c)	0	"	0	"
(d)	27	"	57	"

d. Spinazzola Air Base.

e. None.

f. (1) Italian Campaign.
(2) Still in progress.

g. During May targets in Roumania, Italy, Austria and France were attacked by the 460th Bomb Group (H). Oil refineries at Ploesti and A/C Factories at Wiener Neustadt were in the truest sense strategic objectives, in that they deprived the enemy of material and equipment with which to fight the war in any theatre. Railway targets in N. Italy and SE France had more nearly tactical significance, because they cut German supply routes and destroyed stores of use to the enemy against the 5th and 8th Armies. Likewise, the M/Ys in Roumania had the tactical importance of aiding Russian troops, as well as the strategic job of interrupting shipment of oil to Europe. Two missions to Valmontone were wholly tactical, in direct support of our own Ground Forces.

Three times during the month of May the Group hit the far distant and well-defended target of Ploesti and four times it hit targets in the Wiener Neustadt Area, as heavily defended as any section of Europe with the exception of Berlin. Outstanding among the missions was the bombing of Treviso M/Y, in Italy, when the Group put down well-nigh perfect bomb pattern, 60.8% of the bombs falling within 1000' of the aiming point and 97.2% falling within 2000'. Another mission which exhibited exceptional bombing accuracy resulted in the destruction of the Components Plant at Neudorfl, Austria. Here 62.4% of the bombs fell within 1000' and 81.7% within 2000'. The bombing accuracy throughout the month of May ranked third of all the groups in the Fifteenth Air Force.

<u>Missions flown in May</u>			
1. Parma, Italy	2 May 44	11. Valmontone, Italy	22 May 44
2. Ploesti, Roumania	5 May 44	12. Valmontone, Italy	23 May 44
3. Craiova, Roumania	6 May 44	13. Neunkirchen, Aus.	24 May 44
4. Wiener Neustadt	10 May 44	14. Amberieu, France	25 May 44
5. Ferrara, Italy	12 May 44	15. Lyon, France	26 May 44
6. Modena, Italy	13 May 44	16. Nines, France	27 May 44
7. Treviso, Italy	14 May 44	17. Atzgersdorf, Aus	29 May 44
8. Poimino, Italy	17 May 44	18. Neudorfl, Aus.	30 May 44
9. Ploesti, Roumania	18 May 44	19. Ploesti, Roumania	31 May 44
10. Bologna, Italy	19 May 44		

h. Lt. Colonel Bertram C. Harrison, Group Commander, led the missions listed below:

1. Parma, Italy	2 May 44		
2. Wiener Neustadt	10 May 44	5. Nines, France	27 May 44
3. Ploesti, Roumania	18 May 44	6. Ploesti, Roumania	31 May 44
4. Neunkirchen, Aus.	24 May 44		

Lt. Colonel Harold T. Babb, Deputy Group Commander, led the missions listed below:

1. Bologna, Italy	19 May 44		
2. Valmontone, Italy	23 May 44	3. Lyon, France	26 May 44

Major William B. Campbell, Group Operations Officer, led the missions listed below.

1. Bologna, Italy	2 May 44		
2. Treviso, Italy	10 May 44	4. Amberieu, France	27 May 44
3. Valmontone, Italy	18 May 44	5. Neudorfl, Aus.	31 May 44

i. There was no losses in action.

j. The following headquarters personnel have distinguished themselves and been decorated:

AIR MEDAL

Lt. Colonel

Bertram C. Harrison, 2nd cluster, GO 746, 31 May 44.

Lt. Colonel

Harold T. Babb, Air Medal & cluster, GO 340&665, 2&27 May 44.

Major

Wm. B. Campbell, Air Medal & cluster, GO 321&353, 1&4 May 44.

Captain

Britt S May, Air Medal & cluster, GO 321&667, 1&27 May 44.

Captain

James B. Crain, Air Medal & cluster, GO 321&664, 1&27 May 44.

Captain

Jackson D. Large, Air Medal & cluster, GO 321&---, 1&-- May 44.

2. Enclosed herewith are the historical records and supporting documents of the four squadrons.

For the Commanding Officer:

CLYDE C. CARPENTER, JR.
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

1 Incl.

Incl 1 - 4 H/Rs (in quad).