

HEADQUARTERS 49TH BOMBARDMENT WING (H)

APO 520

U S ARMY

19 April 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 11)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Six Groups B-17s of the 5th Wg attack PADUA West M/Y, CACTELFRANCO M/Y, and VICENZA M/Y; time at KP 1138B. Four Groups B-24s, 47th Wg attack TREVISO M/Y and NESTRE M/Y; time at KP 1128B. Four Groups B-24s, 304th Wg attack TRIOESTA/OPICINA M/Y and KONEALCONE Ship Building Yards; time at KP 1118B. One Group (460th BG) B-24s 55th Wg attach M/Y at CASTELMAGGIORE; time at KP 1148B.

(2) Escort: Close escort on penetration, cover over Target area and during withdrawal will be provided for the bomber formation as follows: Two Gps of Fighters will escort 304th Wg; One Gp Fighters will escort 47th Wg; One Gp Fighters will escort 5th Wg; 48 P-47s of 325th Fighter Gp will escort Composite Wg.

2. Normal effort B-24s each 451st BG and 461st BG will attack FERRARA M/Y on 20 April 1944. This is Plan "Able".

ALTERNATE TARGET: TAGLIAMENTO/CASARSA RR Bridge target number one (1) on Target Chart 4-80-NA; and LATISANA RR Bridge target number one (1) on Target Chart 4-140-NA. ALST RESORT TARGET: Any active M/Y in North Italy except FLORENCE and RIMINI.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st BG will rendezvous with 451st when 451st flies over TORRETTO at 1002B altitude 5000 ft. on TC of 133 degrees. 49th Wg Bombers will rendezvous with 460th BG over SPINAZZOLA at 1012B at 5000 ft. on a True Course of 62 degrees.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: All Fighter Gps will line rendezvous with Bomber formation before it reaches Key Point.

WING FORMATION: Column of Gps.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Close column of Wgs: 304th, 47th, 5th Wg, Composite.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 460th BG lead- 451st BG- 461st BG.

ROUTE OUT: Base to SPINAZZOLA to MOLFETZA to Turn Point to Key Point to IP to Target.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: 50 ft.

KEY POINT: (44 deg 00 min N, 14 deg 002 min E) Base alt 17,000 ft at 1148B.

TURN POINT: (41 deg 50 min N, 16 deg 50 min E).

INITIAL POINT: VALLI di COMMACCHIO LAKE (44 deg 43 min N, 11 deg 53 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 302 degrees.

AIMING POINT: 451st BG-J/K-7 on Target Chart 4-78-NA, 461st BG I-4 on Target Chart 4-78-NA.

TARGET TIME: 1227B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (451st BG - 21,500 ft).
(461st BG - 22,500 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: Primary 30 ft; 1st Alternate - TAGLIAMENTO/CASARSA RR Bridge 165 ft; 2nd Alternate - LATISANA RR Bridge 23 ft.

RALLY: 49th Wg will rally left before 55th Wg completes their attack. 55th Wg will fall in behind 49th Wg and follow back to base.

ROUTE BACK: Target (rally left) to Key Point to Bases with 451st BG leading Composite Wg.

3. x. (1) Lead attack units of Gps will load three (3) cartons Window in each A/C. Dispensing begins three (3) minutes before IP and will continue until three (3) minutes after bombs away.
 - (2) Two Gps load 500# GP with .1 second nose fuse and .025 tail fuse.

4. No Change.

5. a. (1) Command Radio: 6440 Kc.
 - (2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Kiddies"), (47th Wg, "Lacework"), (451st BG, "Scanty 21"), (461st BG, "Scanty 22"), (55th Wing, "Scanty 1"), (304th Wg, "Betty").
 - (3) Fighter Call Signs: (Composite Wg, "Exceed") Bomber to Bomber call same as for fighter to fighter.
 - (4) VHF Channel "B".
 - (5) Visual Signals - See 49th Wg Opns Memo 4-3. Red-Red flare will be used. Red-Red flare for abandoning Primary and on starting run on alternate.

Aldis Lamp: See 49th Wg Opns Memo 4-3, 460th BG Amber Letter "G".

b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: As designated by 55th Wg.

By Order of Colonel LEE:

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

DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea CO, A-2, A-3, P.I.
6 ea Bomb Gp
2 ea 306th Wing
1 ea CG, FAF

HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH WING (US)
APO 520

19 April 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A" TO
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 11, 19 APRIL 1944

PLAN: Simultaneous attacks on all primary railroad yards across northern ITALY from VERONA east to TRIESTE can seriously affect the movement of German supplies. The attack on the railroad yards should catch important quantities of military supplies and troops moving between ITALY and YUGOSLAVIA.

Our target, the FARRARA M/Y, is a vital part of this plan. A successful attack will sever the main line from PADOVA to BOLOGNA which connects the main lines across northern ITALY with the east coast lines.

DEFENSES: Flak defenses unchanged since last flak report. (See attached T. C. #4-10-NA) The fighter defense in the target area is estimated at 60 ME 109s, 30 Maachi 205s and possibly 10 Reggianis and a few George 55s. However, it is believed that opposition in all target area will not total more than 50 to 75 single engine fighters. Flak positions shown on attached T. C. reported heavy, accurate barrage type on last attack, 7 April 1944