

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

23 April 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 16)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Six Gps, 5th Wg, will attack PLOESTI South M/Y and BELGRADE/IKARUN A/C Factory; time at KP 1153B. Four Gps 47th Wg, will attack PLOESTI South, North, and East M/Y; time at KP 1205B. Four Gps 304th Wg, will attack BUCHAREST M/Y; time at KP 1225B. (460th BG) 55th Wg, will join 49th Wg Bombers to form Composite Wg to attack BUCHAREST Round House and M/Y with center of impact at S-2; time at KP 1215B.

(2) Escort: One Gp P-38s will line intercept Air Force formation at 43 deg 52 min N, 20 deg 38 min E at 1244B and give route cover to maximum limit of range. Maximum P-38Js will provide cover for bombers over BUCHAREST from 1423B to 1445B and cover withdrawal as far as possible. One Gp P-47s and one Gp P-38s will provide Air Force formation with general cover on withdrawal from maximum range. One Gp P-51s will escort Bombers going to PLOESTI.

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

ALTERNATE TARGET: Bomb BUCHAREST Main M/Y on ETA; target elevation 300 ft.
SECOND ALTERNATE: NIS North and South M/Y, target elevation 620 ft. THIRD ALTERNATE: TURNUL SEVERIN M/Y and Barge workshops; target elevation 490 ft.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st BG will line rendezvous with 451st over TORRETTO at 1115B at 5,000 ft on TC of 130 degrees. 49th Wg will line rendezvous with 460th BG over SPINAZZOLA at 1125B at 5,000 ft. on a TC of 58 degrees.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be furnished later.

WING FORMATION: Column of Gps stepped down.

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

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

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

KEY POINT: BUDVA (42 deg 17 min N, 18 deg 51 min E) Base altitude 12,000 ft at 1215B.

TURN POINT #1: CORONINI (44 deg 42 min N, 21 deg 41 min E).

TURN POINT #2: MOSACENI (44 deg 34 min N, 25 deg 10 min E).

INITIAL POINT: CLEJANI (44 deg 19 min N, 25 deg 42 min E).

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: 40 ft for 461st BG; 50 ft for 451st BG.

AXIS OF ATTACK: 58 degrees TC.

AIMING POINT: 451st BG: P-5/6 on Target Chart 11-10-NA; 461st BG: P/Q-4 on
Target Chart 11-10-NA.

TARGET TIME: 1419B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (460th BG - 23,500 ft).
(451st BG - 22,500 ft).
(461st BG - 21,500 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: 300 ft.

RALLY: Left off Target to Rally Point which is 5 miles North of PITESTI
(44 deg 52 min N, 24 deg 52 min E).

ROUTE BACK: Target to Rally Point to Key Point to Base.

3. x. (1) Lead attack units of Gps will load four (4) cartons Window in each A/C. Dispensing begins four (4) minutes before IP and will continue until clear of Flak.
 - (2) Gp Commanders will assure that radio operators are standing by on ground station frequency. On recall Gp Leaders will break radio silence, notify formation of recall, and Gp will return home intact.
 - (3) Two Gps will load 500# GO, .1 sec nose fuse, .025 tail fuse.
4. No Change.
5. a. (1) Command Radio: 6440 Kc.
 - (2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Rubbish 1"), (47th Wg, "Rubbish 2"), (55th Wg, "Rubbish 3"), 451st BG, "Rubbish 41"), 461st BG, "Rubbish 42"), (304th Wg, "Rubbish 5"), 483rd BG, "Rubbish 6").
 - (3) Fighter Call Signs: (Penetration Escort: "Flywheel 1"), (Withdrawal Escort: "Flywheel 2 and 3"), (Top cover at BUCHAREST, "Large Cup") Channel B will be used. (AZON bombers are Roosevelt-Escort is Brewer" on Channel "A".
 - (4) VHF Channel: "B".
 - (5) Visual Signals: SOP for 49th Wg. Red-Red flare will be used. Red-Red flare for abandoning Primary and on starting run on alternate.

Aldis Lamp: SOP for 49th Wg. 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

OFFICIAL:

LEROY L. STEFONOWICZ
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DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea CO, A-2, A-3, P.I.
6 ea Bomb Gp
2 ea 306th Wing
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HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH WING (US)
APO 520

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX TO FIELD ORDER #8
15 April 1944

ANNEX A

1. Completing the destruction of the GERMAN Air Force particularly fighters, is an objective secondary in importance only to the BALKAN Front military situation. This plan covers both these objectives. With all major fighter production centers in GERMANY, AUSTRIA and HUNGARY, out of action, BRASOV, the last major fighter producer in our area is particularly important. Likewise important are our simultaneous attacks on the BRASOV M/Y, the third largest in ROMANIA - the primary locomotive repair shops at BRASOV - the concentration of locos at TURNUL SEVERIN, transshipment point for rail traffic to East and DANUBE shipping to West and North. The main shops at the aircraft factory are believed to be producing about 30 ME 109s per month. The car repair shops east of the factory and the hangars on north side of the airfield are believed to be used for final modification, and operational purposes. Photos taken April 4th show 65 ME 109s concentrated along the north and south sides of the field. Included photos #3038 and #4058 show all above dispositions. The latest flak information was distributed the end of January, but it is probable that additional batteries have been moved into BRASOV area. Expect heavy flak with principal known batteries north of the town. Light defenses at TURNUL SEVERIN, but flak boats and trains may be present. Fighter interception possibilities are as follows - Enroute there are 25 to 30 ME 109s in BELGRADE area but interception here unlikely considering the strength of our formations and fighter escort. Estimate little opposition through BULGARIA and well into ROUMANIA. In the target area the enemy can put up 60 to 70 ME 109s, 30 to 40 ME 110s and JU 88s and 25 to 30 ROUMANIAN Air Force IAR 80s. Suggest these fighters may follow off the target on return route. Also you can expect further interceptions on the way back from BULGARIAN ME 109s and DENOITINE 520s from SOFIA Airfields. Out operations can arouse an estimated total of 200 enemy fighters of which 30 to 40 may be twin engines.