

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

29 April 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 26)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Six Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack VARFSE, MILAN, REGGIO, EMILIA, and the ANCONA RIMINI RR; time at KP 1053B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack ALESSANDRIA M/Y; time at KP 1116B. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will attack MILAN LAMBRATE M/Y; time at KP 1106B. Two Gps B-24s, 55<sup>th</sup> Wg, will attack CASTEL MAGGIORE M/Y; time at KP 1156B.

2. Normal effort B-24s each 451st BG, 461st BG and 484th BG will attack ALESSANDRIA M/Y on 30 April 1944. This is Plan "A".

ALTERNATE TARGET: PIACENZA M/Y (45 deg 05 min N, 09 deg 45 min E) target elevation 450 ft.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Gps will assemble over assembly areas at 5,000 ft. 451st BG leading will pass over MELFI BOVINO and out the west boundary to CASALNUOVO (41 deg 37 min N, 15 deg 06 min E) and from there to Turn Point #1 on a TC of 355 degrees. 484th BG will line rendezvous with 451st BG over ROCCHETTA SCALO at 5,000 ft at 0939B. 461st BG will line rendezvous behind 484th BG over BOVINO at 5,000 ft at 0944B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be furnished later by telephone.

WING FORMATION: Column of Gps stepped down.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Column of Wgs: 5th Wg lead-304th Wg-47th Wg-49th Wg-55th Wg- AZON Unit.

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

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

KEY POINT: RAVENA (44 deg 25 min N, 12 deg 12 min E) Base altitude 16,000 ft at 1126B.

TURN POINT #1: (42 deg 30 min N, 15 deg 00 min E).

TURN POINT #2: (44 deg 10 min N, 13 deg 20 min E).

TURN POINT #3: PONTEVICO (45 deg 16 min N, 10 deg 05 min E).

TURN POINT #4: BINASCO (45 deg 20 min N, 09 deg 06 min E).

INITIAL POINT: MORTARA (45 deg 15 min N, 08 deg 43 min E).

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: 451st BG-100 ft; 484th BG-150 ft. 461st BG-150 ft.

AXIS OF ATTACK: 194 degrees TC.

AIMING POINT: 451st BG I-10; 484th BG- H/I-11/12; 461st BG F/G-11. All on Target Chart 4-127-NA.

TARGET TIME: 1228B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (451st BG - 20,000 ft).  
(484th BG - 21,000 ft).

(461st BG - 22,000 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: 300 ft.

RALLY: Left off Target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to PORTOCIVITANOVA (43 deg 18 min N, 13 deg 44 min E)  
to Base.

3. x. (1) Lead attack unit of Gps will load four (4) cartons Window in each A/C. Three (3) cartons will be dispensed in target area beginning three (3) minutes before IP and continuing until three (3) minutes after bombs away. Extra carton will be dispensed if Flak is encountered en route. (Dispensing to begin when Flak is sighted.)
  - (2) Three Gps load 500# GPs, .1 sec nose fuse and .025 tail fuse.
  - (3) All units must be at Key Point at proper time. Source must be followed closely to avoid forcing someone out of proper attack position.
  - (4) Imperative no bombs be dropped on SWISS Territory.

4. No Change.

5. a. (1) Command Radio: 6440 Kc.
  - (2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg Bombers attacking VARESE and MILAN, "Cartload 1"), (5th Wg Bombers attacking REGGIO EMILIA, "Cartload 6"), (47th Wg, "Cartload 3"), (49th Wg, "Cartload 4"), (55th Wg, "Cartload 5"), (304th Wg, "Cartload 2"), (AZON Aircraft, "Trueman").
  - (3) Fighter Call Signs: All escort Gps will have call sign "MAYFLOWER" with an attached suffix number which will be furnished later by telephone.
  - (4) RECALL IDENTIFICATION CODEWORDS: (5th Wg, "Looselip"), 47th Wg, "Riot"), (49th Wg, "Polite"), (55th Wg, "Pepper"), (304th Wg, "Putrid"), (306th Wg, "Partial"), AZON Force, "Pencil"), (AZON Escort, "Afford").
  - (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.
  - (6) VHF Channel: "B".

Aldis Lamp: SOP for 49th Wg.

b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: Col. EATON.

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.  
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HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH BOMB WING  
APO 520 US ARMY

29 April 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A"  
TO  
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 26, 29 April 1944

PLAN: Plan ABLE continues out attacks on the two top priority objectives severing communications across northern ITALY and to the eastern front and enemy aircraft production.

The 49th Wing primary target and the alternates as well are important rail centers in the communications system. The ALESSANDRIA M/Y shows considerable activity and substantial increase in rolling stock.

DEFENSES: There is no indicated change in flak from the last report - (about 12 plus heavy guns and four (4) light at ALESSANDRIA and eight (8) plus heavy guns at PLACENZA).

Fighter defenses are estimated as follows: 40 - 50 ME 109s in area near RIMINI, 20-25 from FERRARA and POGGIO and the possibility of interception, on the return route, by 25 ME 109s from LAVARIANO (NW of TRIESTE).

There are about 30 Macchi 205s at REGGIO EMILIA west of our target, in the MILAN TURIN area there are an estimated 30 Macchi 205s (of the ITALIAN Fascist Air Force) and a few George 55s. Enemy fighter effort against all Operations may total 100 S/E fighters with twin engine shadowers directing them

REFERENCE:

T. C. No. 4-127-NA - Marked for Primary Target.

T. C. No. 4-130-NA - For alternate target.

PHOTO COVERAGE of Primary Target

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A. C. of S., A-2