

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

5 December 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 277)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Six Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will destroy BRUX SYNTHETIC OIL REFINERY (50-33N, 13-36E). Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg will destroy Rolling Stock in SOPRON EAST and WEST M/Ys (47-41N, 16-36E) and SZOMBATHELY MAIN and STATION M/Ys (47-14N, 16-39E); target time 1120A to 1155A. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will destroy Rolling Stock in Bratislava RANGIER M/Y (48-08N, 17-08E) and HEGYESHALOM M/Y (47-55N, 17-09E); target time 1045A to 1120A. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will destroy GRAZ MAIN STATION M/Y (47-05N, 15-24E) and GRAZ NORTH M/Y; target time 1155A to 1230A.

(2) Escort: 15th Ftr Cmd will provide strong close escort for 5th Wg on penetration, target and withdrawal and general target area cover for 47th, 49th, 55th, and 304th Wgs.

2. Maximum effort B-24s (36 A/C plus spares per Gp) each 461st BG and 484th BG will destroy Rolling Stock in MARIBOR SOUTH M/Y (46-32N, 15-40E) and 451st BG will destroy Rolling Stock in MARIBOR MAIN STATION M/Y (46-33-30N, 15-40E) on 6 December 1944. This is Plan "Able".

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st BG will be in rendezvous rectangle from 1020A until 1043A. 484th BG and 451st BG will follow SOP to rendezvous with lead Gp. 461st BG will enter rectangle at CANDELA, go around 1½ times, and depart from BOVINO enroute to KP via CARALNUOVO. Rendezvous altitudes: 10,000, 11,000 and 12,000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be furnished later.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Two columns. Left column: 5th Wg. Right column: Loose column of Wgs in order: 47th-55th-304th-49th.

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

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

KEY POINT: MOLAT (44-13N, 14-52E) Base Altitude: 18,000 ft at 1148A.

TURN POINT #1: LJUBLJANA (46-04N, 14-31E).

INITIAL POINT: DRAVOGRAD (46-36N, 15-01E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 461st BG and 484th BG- 97°. 451st BG- 94°.

AIMING POINT and INTERVALOMETER SETTING: Optional.

AREA TO BE BOMBED: MPI 461st BG- K/L-14, 484th BG- K-15/16 on target chart 8-107-NA. 451st BG MPI L-28 on target chart 8-107-NA.

TARGET TIME: 1245A.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 461st- 22,000, 484th- 23,000, 451st- 24,000 ft.

TARGET ELEVATION: 1885 ft.

RALLY: Sharp 461st and 484th BGs- sharp right off target. 451st BG- rally sharp left off target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to KP to Base.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: GRAZ M/Y (47-05N, 15-24E). IP: KNITTLEFIELD (47-12N, 14-50E). Axis of attack: 109°. Rally left off target. Bombing altitude: 461st- 22,000; 484th- 23,000, 451st- 24,000 ft. Area to be bombed: 461st BG- F-19; 484th- F-18; 451st- H-15 on target chart 14-41-NA. Target elevation: 1180 ft.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: ZAGREB EAST M/Y (45-49N, 16-02E) and WEST M/Y (45-49N, 15-59E). IP: BEND IN RIVER AT (45-45N, 16-13E). Axis of attack: East M/Y 298°; West M/Y 290°. Rally sharp right off target. Bombing altitude: 461st- 22,000; 484th- 23,000, 451st- 24,000 ft. Area to be bombed: MPI 461st- T-25/26; 484th- S/T-24; 451st- O/P-11 on target chart 8-4-NA. Target elevation: 400 ft.

3. x. (1) All Gps load 500# RDX fused .1 nose and non delay tail.
- (2) Gps will be at bombing altitude and go into left Echelon five (5) minutes before IP.
- (3) PFF A/C will lead for navigation only.
- (4) There will be no WX Recon for 49th Wg by 154th WX Recon Sq.
- (5) In view of favorable visual bombing weather, size of target and slight opposition from flak and enemy fighters expected, all Gps will attack using a six A/C front with three attack units of two boxes each.
- (6) It is recommended that Gps maintain approximately 20,000 ft until arrival over coast to avoid possible mobile flak on route back.

4. No Change.

5. a. (1) Command Radio: SOP.
- (2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Cantab"), (47th Wg, "Scentspray"), (451st BG, "Firtree 3"), (461st BG, "Firtree 1"), (484th BG, "Firtree 2"), (55th WG, "Seedcake"), (304th Wg, "Bookclub").
- (3) Fighter Call Signs: Target cover for 47th, 49th, 55th and 304th Wgs, "GREENHERD" with numbered suffixes.
- (4) Recall Identification Codeword: (5th Wg, "Sweatshirt"), (47th Wg, "Baseball"), (49th Wg, "Darkhorse"), (55th Wg, "Marshland"), (304th Wg, "Flatbush"), (15th Ftr Cmd, "Snakebite").
- (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, 461st, and 484th BGs load two (2) cartons 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: Capt Nixon.
(2) Deputy Combat Wing Commander: Capt. Vieluva.

By Order of Colonel LEE:

A. J. BIRD, JR.,
Colonel, Air Corps,
A-3.

OFFICIAL:

A. J. BIRD, JR.,
Colonel, Air Corps
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DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 ea. CO, PI, 15th Ftr Cmd, 323rd Wg SOR.
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