

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

4 May 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 33)

1. a. See Latest Intelligence Summaries and Annex "A".
 - b. (1) Bombers: Three Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack PLOESTI M/Y; time at KP 1230B. Two Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack PLOESTI Pumping Station; time at KP 1230B. 483rd BG B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack TURNUL SEVERIN M/Y. Two Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack PLOESTI M/Y; time at KP 1204B. Four Gps, 304th Wg, will attack PLOESTI M/Y; time at KP 1214B. 484th BG B-24s, 49th Wg, and two Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will attack town of PODGORICA. One Gp B-24s 460th BG, 55th Wg, will join two Gps B-24s, 49th Wg, to form composite Wg and attack PLOESTI M/Y; time at KP 1224B.
 - (2) Escort: One Gp Fighters will line rendezvous with Air Force formation at 43 deg 26 min N, 20 deg 38 min E at 1242B. This FG will accompany Air Force formation to point where 483rd BG leaves formation to attack TURNUL SEVERIN. Four Gps Fighters will furnish maximum target and withdrawal escort. Type of escort will be telephoned later.
2. Normal effort B-24s each 451st BG and 461st BG, will attack PLOESTI M/Y on 5 May 1944. This is Plan "A".

ALTERNATE TARGET: PLOESTI CITY on ETA.

LAST RESORT TRAGET: TURNUL SEVERIN M/Y and Ship Building Yards.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st BG will line rendezvous behind 451st BG over MELFI on a TC of 165 degrees at 1123B. 451st BG will be at 6,000 ft, 461st BG will be at 7,000 ft. 49th Wg will line rendezvous behind 460th BG over SPINAZZOLA on a TC of 58 degrees at 1129B. 460th BG will be at 5,000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: See Para. 1. b. (2).

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped down.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Left echelon of Wgs. 47th Wg lead-304th Wg-Composite Wg-5th Wg.

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

ROUTE OUT: Base to SPINAZZOLA to KP to TP #1 to TP #2 to TP #3 to IP to Target.

KEY POINT: BUDUA (42 deg 17 min N, 18 deg 51 min E) Base altitude 14,000 ft at 1224B.

TURN POINT #1: (42 deg 50 min N, 19 deg 10 min E).

TURN POINT #2: (44 deg 14 min N, 22 deg 41 min E).

TURN POINT #3: SLATINA (44 deg 26 min N, 24 deg 22 min E).

INITIAL POINT: TARGOVISTE (44 deg 57 min N, 25 deg 28 min E).

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: Primary: 451st BG 80 ft; 461st BG 90 ft.

1st Alternat: 250 ft.

Last Resort Target: 451st BG 45 ft, 461st BG 50 ft.

AXIS OF ATTACK: Primary 86 degrees. Last Resort Target (desired) 180 deg.

AIMING POINT: Primary H/I-1 on Target Chart 11-100B-NA.

Last Resort Target L-10/11 on Target Chart 11-19-NA.

TARGET TIME: 1420B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (460th BG - 22,000 ft).

(451st BG - 21,000 ft).

(461st BG - 20,000 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: Primary 565 ft; 1st Alternate 565 ft; Last Resort 160 ft.

RALLY: Left off target going North of CAMPINA.

ROUTE BACK: Rally to TP #2 to Bases.

3. x. (1) Lead attack units of Gps will load four cartons window. Dispensing will begin four minutes before IP and continue until clear of flak.

(2) Two Gps load 500# GP with .1 sec nose fused and tail fused half .01 and half .025 sec.

(3) Gps will remain below the base of cirrus clouds anticipated at 24,000 ft.

(4) Decision of which Plan to be executed ("A" or "B") will be rendered at 2400B.

4. No Change.

5. a. (1) Command Radio: 4085 kcs.

(2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Betty 5"), (47th Wg, "Betty 1"), (304th Wg, "Betty 2"), (451st BG, "Betty 41") (461st BG, "Betty 42"), (483rd BG, "Betty 6"), (55th Wg, "Betty 3").

(3) Fighter Call Signs: (Penetration escort "Bartend 1"), (Target and withdrawal cover, "Bartend 2, 3, 4 and 5").

(4) VHF Channel "B".

(5) Recall Identification Codeword: (47th Wg, "Market"), (55th Wg, "Football"), (304th Wg, "Obtain"), (306th Wg, "Keeper"), (5th Wg, "Love Bird"), (451st BG and 461st BG, "Crank 1"), (484th BG, "Crank 2").

(6) 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:

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HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH BOMB WING
APO 520 US ARMY

4 May 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A"
FOR
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 33, 4 MAY 1944

PLAN: The Plan ABLE target, Ploesti, is the most important communications target in the BALKANS.

The importance of the particular target of the 49th Wing groups is shown on the target chart.

DEFENSES: No change in flak reports at PLOESTI. On the route to PLOESIT, 25-30 ME 109s may (although it is not anticipated) intercept from NISH-BELGRADE or follow to the target. If no contact is made by this force on the way out, they may intercept on return. In the PLOESTI area itself there are an estimated 50-60 ME 109s plus a possible 15-20 ME110s and JU-88s

T. C. No. 11-100B-NA - Marked for Plan Able.
T. C. No. 11-19-NA - Marked for last resort target.
Flak Chart No. E/1187.
Photo #5020

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