11 May 1944

## OPERATIONS ORDER)

## NUMBER 41)

- 1. a. See Latest Intelligence Summaries and Annex "A".
  - b. (1) Bombers: Two Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack GERMAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS at 7703 on sheet 144 of GSGS 4164; time at KP 0730B and 0745B. One Gp B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack GENOA Small Boat Docks; time at KP 0645B. One Gp B-17s, 5th Wg, will attackPIACENZA M/Y; time at KP 0645B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack PIAMBINO and SAN STEFANO; time at KP 0710B. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will attack PARMA, REGIO EMILIA, and FERRARA M/Y; time at KP 0700B. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will attack LEGHORN, SPEZIA, and FIDENZA; time at KP 0650B.
    - (2) Escort: 52nd FG will provide target cover for units attacking GENOA and SPEZIA. One Gp fighters will conduct strafing attacks on A/D in PO Valley. Three Gps fighters will provide maximum area cover for bombers attacking PIACENZA, FIDENZA, PARMA, REGIO EMILIA, BOLOGNA area and FERRARA. One Gp fighters will provide cover for B-17s attacking GERMAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS.
- 2. Normal effort (no spares) B-24s, 461st BG, will attack CASTEL MAGGIORE M/Y; 484th BG will attack BOLOGNA New M/Y, 451st BGwill attack SAN RUFFILLO rail installations on 12 May 1944. This is Plan "A".

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: Any active M/Y in Northern Italy except Florence and Rimini.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 461st BG will line rendezvous with 304th Wg at TP #1 on a TC of 303 degrees at 0627B at 8,000 feet. 484th BG will line rendezvous behind 451st BG over MELFI on a TC of 276 degrees at 0650B. 451st BG will be at 5000 ft, 484th BG will be at 6000 ft.

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

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Columns of Gps.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 451st BG - 484th BG- (461st BG will go with 304th Wg. ROUTE OUT: Base to TP #1 to KP to TP #2 to TP #3 to TP #4 to TP #5 to TP

#6 to TP #7 to TP #8 to TP #9 to IP to Target.

KEY POINT: ISERNIA (41 deg 35 min N, 14 deg 14 min E) Base altitude 12,000 ft at 0720B.

TURN POINT #1: BISACCIA (41 deg 01 min N, 15 deg 22 min E).

TURN POINT #2: VENAFRO (41 deg 29 min N, 14 deg 03 min E).

TURN POINT #3: MARZANO (41 deg 19 min N, 14 deg 02 min E).

TURN POINT #4: MONDRAGONE (41 deg 07 min N, 13 deg 54 min E).

TURN POINT #5: (41 deg 06 min N, 13 deg 00 min E).

TURN POINT #6: (41 deg 40 min N, 12 deg 00 min E).

TURN POINT #7: PIONOSA ISLAND (42 deg 35 min N, 10 deg 05 min E).

TURN POINT #8: CAPRAIA (43 deg 03 min N, 09 deg 50 min E).

TURN POINT #9: (44 deg 30 min N, 10 deg 20 min E).

TURN POINT #3: (44 deg 30 min N, 13 deg 00 min E).

INITIAL POINT: MODENA (44 deg 39 min N, 10 deg 56 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 461st BG 102 deg TC; 484th BG 113 TC; 451st BG 119 deg TC.

AIMING POINT: 484th BG 0-14/15 on Target Chart 4-213-NA; 451st BG 400 ft short of M/Y (No Target Chart available) at coordinates 912448 on sheet 87 on one to one hundred thousand map of Italy; 461st BG 400 ft short of M/Y (No target Chart available) at coordinates 908572 on sheet 87 on one to one hundred thousand map of Italy.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: 484th BG 60 ft; 451st BG 24 ft; 461st BG 30 ft.

TARGET TIME: 451st BG and 484th BG 0931B; 461st BG 0906B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (451st BG - 21,000 ft)

(484th BG - 22,000 ft)

(461st BG - 22,000 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: BOLOGNA New M/Y 164 ft; SAN RUFILLO Rail Installations 272 ft.; CASTEL MAGGIORE M/Y 95 ft.

RALLY: Right off Target.

ROUTE BACK: (All Gps) Target to East end of LAKE VALLI DI COMACCHIO to TP #10 to LAKE LESINA to Bases.

- 3. x. (1) Gps will not fly over front lines on return route. This also applies to A/C returning early.
  - (2) Lead attack units of Gps will load three (3) cartons window. Dispensing will begin two (2) minutes before IP and continue until clear of flak.
  - (3) Maximum Altitude along the CASSINO front will be 12,000 ft.
  - (4) Three Gps load 500# GP with .1 sec nose and .025 sec tail fusings.
- 4. No Change.
- 5. a. (1) Command Radio: 4085 kcs.
  - (2) Bomber Call Signs: (49th Wg, "Mixtub 6"), (For unit attacking GENOA, "Mayflower 1"), (For units attacking SPEZIA, "Mayflower 2"), (For unit attacking PIACENA, "Mixtub 1"), (For unit attacking REGGIO EMILIA, "Mixtub 4"), (For unit attacking FERRARA, "Mixtub 5"), (For units attacking GERMAN ARMY HQ, "Platoon").
  - (3) Fighter Call Signs: (52nd FG covering GENOA and SPEZIA, "Fruit Tart"), (For fighters covering targets in PO VALLEY, "Rubbish"), (For escort over GERMAN ARMY HQ, "Shockproof").
  - (4) Recall Identification Codeword: (5th Wg, "Afford"), 47th Wg, "Riot"), (304th Wg, "CAtwalk"), (55th Wg, "Rusty"), (49th Wg, "Bargain"), (306th Wg, "Remedy").
  - (5) VHF Channel "B" for units attacking GENOA, SPEZIA, and GERMAN ARMY HQ. VHF Channel "A" for units attacking PO VALLY M/Y.

(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.

b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: Colonel Eaton.

By Order of Colonel LEE:

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

## OFFICIAL:

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

## DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea CO, A-2, A-3, P.I.
10 ea Gps.
2 ea 306th Wg.
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