

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

13 May 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 45)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Six Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack FERRARA M/Y and PIACENZA A/D Installations; time at KP 1218B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack VINCENZA M/Y; time at KP 1125B. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will attack TREVISO North East M/Y and MESTRE M/Y; time at KP 1145B. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will frag PIACENZA A/D dispersal area and REGGIO EMILIA A/D; time at KP 1210B.

(2) Escort: Fighters will provide penetration cover, target cover, and withdrawal cover for bomber formation. Two Gps fighters will provide withdrawal cover for two Gps 304th Wg and three Gps 5th Wg returning via LIGUREAN SEA. One Gp P-38s will precede bomber formation up ADRIATIC at minimum altitude and strafe JU-88s at VILLAORBA and AVIANO A/D.

2. Normal effort B-24s each 461st BG, 484th BG, and 451st BG will attack PADUA SOUTH M/Y on 14 May 1944. This is Plan "C".

ALTERNATE TARGET: Any active M/Y in PO Valley except FLORENCE and RIMINI.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 484th BG will line rendezvous with 461st BG over BOVINO at 0945B on TC of 332 degrees. 451st BG will line rendezvous behind 461st BG and 484th BG over CASTELLUVIO at 0958B on TC of 341 degrees. 461st BG will at 5,000 ft; 484th BG - 6,000 ft; 451st BG - 7,000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: See Para. 1. b. (2). To be telephoned later.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Column of Wgs in two waves. First Wave: 47th Wg lead- 49th Wg- 55th Wg. Second Wave: 304th Wg lead- 5th Wg.

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

ROUTE OUT: Base to Key Point to IP to Target.

KEY POINT: (45 deg 20 min N, 13 deg 20 min E) Altitude 461st BG 18,000 ft; 484th BG 19,000 ft; 451st BG 20,000 ft; time at 1135B.

TURN POINT #1: 44 deg 50 min N, 13 deg 00 min E.

INITIAL POINT: Southern tip of LAKE VENETA (45 deg 11 min N, 12 deg 15 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 310 degrees TC.

AIMING POINT: H/I-8 on Target Chart 4-67-NA.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: 451st BG-50 ft; 461st BG- 55 ft; 484th BG- 60 ft.

TARGET TIME: 1157B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: (461st BG - 20,000 ft).
(484th BG - 21,000 ft).
(451st BG - 22,000 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: 42 ft.

RALLY: Left off Target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to Turn Point #1 to Bases.

3. x. (1) Lead attack units of Gps will load three (3) cartons Window. Dispensing will begin three (3) minutes before IP and continue until clear of flak.
(2) Three Gps load 500# GO .1 sec nose fuse and with mixed .01 sec and .025 sec tail fuse.

4. No Change.

5. a. (1) Command Radio: 4085 kcs.
(2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Playfair 5"), (47th Wg, "Playfair 1"), (304th Wg, "Playfair 4"), (55th Wg, "Playfair 3"), (451st BG, "Playfair 23", (461st BG, "Playfair 21", (484th BG, "Playfair 22").
(3) Fighter Call Signs: (Escort will use "Goway" with suffix numbers to designate Gps).
(4) Recall Identification Codeword: (5th Wg, "Catwalk"), 47th Wg, "Crank"), (304th Wg, "Dandy"), (55th Wg, "Dainty"), (49th Wg, "Class"), (306th Wg, "Hotseat").
(5) VHF Channel "A".
(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. Lead Gp will fire single Green flare on starting to climb, a Yellow-Yellow flare for leveling off, and a Green-Yellow flare for starting descent.

Aldis Lamp: SOP for 49th Wg.

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

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
- 1 ea CG, XVAF

HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH BOMB WING
APO 520, US ARMY

13 May 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A"
FOR
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 45, 13 MAY 1944

PLAN: Previous damage to the rail facilities of northern Italy has caused the backing up of traffic to the northwest of the PISA RIMINI line. Recent reconnaissance shows over 3000 cars at the targets selected for Plan CHARLIE.

The damage done to the repair facilities on 13 May 1944 will render this entire transportation system of northern Italy very vulnerable to this new attack.

PADUA, the particular target for the 49th Wing, is on the main double track steam line from TRIESTE to MILAN and to BOLOGNA. It also has direct connections with the TARIVISIO and PIEDICOLLE routes to VIENNA.

Along with the attacks on the M/Ys, Plan CHARLIE contemplates direct action against the enemy's fighter and bombers strength in northern Italy—the fragging of PIACENZA and REGGIO EMILIA A/Ds and dispersal areas and the strafing of JU-88s at VILLAIRBA and AVIANO.

DEFENSES: The flak at PADUA totaled 46 heavy guns as of 5 May and is disposed with the least protection on the southeast approach to the city.

Fighter opposition to our operation against PADUA could come from the 25 ME-109s at FERRARA and possibly from the 30 ME-109s at BERGAMO or the 30 Macchi-205s at REGGIO EMILIA.

There are also 15-20 George-56s and Macchi-202s based in the western PO Valley.

The enemy reaction against all our operations in the north Italy area could total 100-110 single engine fighters.

T. C. No. 4-67-NA Marked for Padua.

ARTHUR J. LUND,
Major, Air Corps,
A. C. of S., A-2.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy ea CO, A-2, A-3, PN
10 cys ea Op
2 cys 306th Wg
2 cys XV AF