

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

21 May 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 51)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Six Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack VIAREGGIO M/Y and LA SPEZIA Oil Storage, dry docks and M/Y; time at KP 1212B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack LATISANA RR Bridge and PORTO MARGHERA Oil Storage; time at KP 1150B. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will attack RIMINI RR Bridge, FERRARA M/Y, and FAENZA M/Y; time at KP 1135B. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will attack CASTEL FRANCO DE EMILIA, BORGIO PANIGALI, and CASTEL MAGGIORE M/Ys; time at KP 1205B.

(2) Escort: Fighters will provide close escort for all Wgs on penetration, over target, and on withdrawal.

2. Normal effort B-24s each 484th BG, 461st BG, and 451st BG will attack MARINA DE CARRARA Storage and Supplies on 22 May 1944. This is Plan "A".

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: PIOMBINO Harbor installations.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: PORTO SAN STEFANO Harbor installations.

LAST RESORT TARGETS: LEGHORN and PORTO FERRAJO.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 451st BG will line rendezvous behind 461st BG over ROCCHETTA SOALO on a TC of 334 degrees at 0925B. 484th BG will line rendezvous behind 461st BG and 451st BG over BOVINO on a TC of 292 degrees at 0933B. 461st BG will be at 5,000 ft; 451st BG at 6,000 ft; and 484th BG at 7,000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: See Para. 1. b. (2). Additional information to be telephoned later.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Up ADRIATIC SEA: Column of Wgs - 55th Wg lead - 47th Wg - 304th Wg. Up the TYRRHENIAN SEA: Column of Wgs - 49th Wg lead - 5th Wg.

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

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

KEY POINT: CAPRAIA (43 deg 02 min N, 09 deg 49 min E) Base altitude 15,000 ft at 1142B.

TURN POINT #1: ISERNAI (41 deg 36 min N, 14 deg 14 min E).

TURN POINT #2: PONZA ISLAND (40 deg 54 min N, 12 deg 58 min E).

TURN POINT #3: MONTE CRISTO ISLAND (42 deg 20 min N, 10 deg 19 min E).

TURN POINT #4: GORGONO (43 deg 27 min N, 09 deg 53 min E).

INITIAL POINT: (43 deg 50 min N, 09 deg 54 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: Primary 34 degrees TC. 1st Alternate(PIOMBINO) 34 degrees TC. 2nd Alternate(PORTO SAN STEFANO) 70 degrees TC.

AIMING POINT: Primary: See attached photo. 1st Alternate: All Gps F/G-18 on Target Chart 3-124-NA. 2nd Alternate: O/P-8/9 on Target Chart 4-218-NA. None for Last Resort Targets.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: Primary: 1st Attack Unit - 451st BG - 25 ft; 461st BG - 20 ft; 484th BG - 25 ft. 1st Alternate: 451st BG - 125 ft; 461st BG - 125 ft; 484th BG - 125 ft. 2nd Alternate: 451st BG - 35 ft; 461st BG - 35 ft; 484th BG - 35 ft.

TARGET TIME: 1202B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: Primary: (461st BG - 17,000 ft).  
(451st BG - 18,000 ft).  
(484th BG - 19,000 ft).

All Alternates:

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

TARGET ELEVATION: Primary: 50 ft. 1st Alternate: Sea Level. 2nd Alternate: Sea Level. LAST RESORT TARGETS: Sea Level.

RALLY: Right Off Target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to Turn Point #4 to Key Point to Turn Point #3 to Turn Point #2 to Bases.

3. a. 461<sup>st</sup> BG will load M-47 incendiaries clustered fused with M-126 nose fuse.
  - b. 451<sup>st</sup> BG and 484<sup>th</sup> BG will load 100# GPs clustered fused .1 sec nose and .01 sec tail.
  - x. (1) Gp leader of 461<sup>st</sup> BG will use a Pathfinder A/C. All other Pathfinder A/C will stand down.  
(2) Lead attack units of Gps will load three (3) cartons Window. Window will not be used on primary target. If alternates are attacked dispensing will begin five (5) minutes before target and continue until clear of flak.
4. No Change.
5. a. (1) Command Radio: 4085 kcs.
  - (2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Bookclub"), (47th Wg, "Mixtub"), (304th Wg, "Fairplay"), (55th Wg, "Coalman"), (451st BG, "Encore 2"), (461st BG, "Encore 1"), (484th BG, "Encore 3").
  - (3) Fighter Call Signs: (5th Wg escort, "Mayflower"), (47th Wg escort, "Roosevelt"), (49th Wg escort, "Shortbread") (55th Wg escort, "Boulder"), (304th Wg escort, "Pumpup"),.
  - (4) Recall Identification Codeword: (5th Wg, "Riot"), (47th Wg, "Rusty"), (304th Wg, "Pepper"), (55th Wg, "Polite"), (49th Wg, "Remedy"), (306th Wg, "Mudpie").
  - (5) VHF Channel "A".
  - (6) Visual Signals: SOP for 49th Wg. Except Red-Green flare will be fired by Wing leader on 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  
2 ea CG, XVAF

HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH BOMB WING  
APO 520, US ARMY

21 May 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A"  
FOR  
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 51, 21 May 1944

PLAN: The advance of our ground forces in ITALY has been so accelerated that the battle crisis appears imminent. This makes our top objectives, the destruction of vital enemy supplies or blocking their movement to the front and cutting his avenues of escape. The weather prospect is not sufficiently favorable to carry out a plan of complete interdiction—but Plan ABLE does anticipate the destruction of vital enemy supplies which are most immediately available for shipment to the front. The supplies which are to be attacked are located at GENOA, SPEZIA and several large dumps at MARINA DI CARRARA.

The primary target for the 49th Wing is MARINA DI CARRARA. Here, reconnaissance photographs of 14 May show very large accumulations of supplies.

The network of light rail lines—designed for handling the shipment of CARRARA marble has made this a favorable place for the enemy to accumulate supplies for convenient handling and rapid shipment to the front.

Targets being attacked by other Wings include oil storage and communications.

DEFENSES: There is no flak indicated at MARINA DI CARRARA—except possibly light guns. The first alternate PIOMBINO is defended by 20 heavy guns and on 19 May the flak was reported as moderate and accurate. At the second alternate, PORTO SAN STEPHAMO there are 16 heavy guns and also six (6) guns at ORBATELLO near by. At the last attack here the flak also was reported as moderate and accurate.

Enemy fighter defenses in range of the 49th Wing targets total about 30 ME-109s. The other fighters based in north Italy as well as those in our area are expected to be put up on only a limited scale in view of the enemy's obvious intent to conserve his fighter strength.

T. C. No. 4-122-NA Marked for primary.  
T. C. No. 3-124-NA Marked for 1st Alternate.  
T. C. No. 4-218-NA Marked for 2nd Alternate.  
Photo #4124 - Marked for Primary (484th)  
Photo #4132/4133 - Marked for Primary (451st & 461st)  
ARTHUR J. LUND,  
Major, Air Corps,  
A. C. of S., A-2.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI  
10 ea Op  
2 ea 305th Wg  
2 ea CG 15AF