

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

22 May 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 53)

1. a. See Latest Intelligence Summaries and Annex "A".
  - b. (1) Bombers: Four Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack FERENTINO town, target time 1030B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack troop concentrations in FRASCATE and GROTTAFERATO area, target time 1030B. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will establish a road block at VALMONTONE, target time 1100B. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will attack troop concentrations in MARINO and NEMI area, target time 1000B.
    - (2) Escort: Fighters will provide close escort on penetration, over target and on withdrawal for all Wgs.
2. Three Gps B-24s each 461st BG, 484th BG, and 451st BG and will establish a road block at SUBIACO (41 deg 56 min N, 13 deg 06 min E) on 23 May 1944. This is Plan "C".

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: AVEZZANO (42 deg 03 min N, 13 deg 25 min E).

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: POPOLI (42 deg 10 min N, 13 deg 50 min E).

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 484th BG will line rendezvous behind the 461st BG over BOVINO on a TC of 331 degrees at 0847B. 451st BG will line rendezvous behind the 484th BG when the 461st BG and 484th BG fly over CASALNUOVO on a TC of 04 deg at 0900B. 461st BG will be at 5,000 ft; 484th BG will be at 6,000 ft; 451st BG will be at 7,000 ft.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: See Para. 1. B. (2). Additional information as to type and rendezvous time will be telephoned later.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: None.

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

ROUTE OUT: Base out WEST BOUNDARY to TP #1 to TP #2 to TP #3 to TP #4 to IP to Target.

TURN POINT #1: (42 deg 10 min N, 15 deg 10 min E).

TURN POINT #2: (42 deg 30 min N, 14 deg 40 min E).

TURN POINT #3: PINETO (42 deg 36 min N, 14 deg 04 min E).

TURN POINT #4: FONTEOCHIO (42 deg 14 min N, 13 deg 36 min E).

INITIAL POINT: AVEZZANO (42 deg 03 min N, 13 deg 25 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 247 degrees TC.

AIMING POINT: See attached photo.

INTERVALOMETER SETTING: All Gps use 50 feet.

TARGET TIME: 1000B.

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

(451st BG - 19,000 ft).

TARGET ELEVATION: Primary - 1340 ft; 1st Alternate - 2285 ft; 2nd  
Alternate - 820 ft.

RALLY: Left off Target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to TP #3 to TP #2 to Base.

3. x. (1) Window will not be used unless flak is encountered enroute.
- (2) No flak is anticipated over target.
- (3) All Gps will load 500# GP with .1 sec nose and mixed .01 and .025 sec tail fusions.
- (4) On leaving target, all Gps descend at normal rate to 10,000 feet altitude to avoid other Wgs enroute.
- (5) At IP Gps will be spaced one (1) mile behind each other and will go into formation whereby they will bomb by individual boxes.
- (6) Gps may lower their bombing altitude to 12,000 feet if necessary to avoid overcast.
- (7) First boxes attacking targets will radio information to following boxes concerning proper deflection in order to aid the succeeding boxes in identifying target.
- (8) Due to the fact that there is no flak anticipated at primary or alternates, a determined effort will be made to hit one of the briefed targets.
- (9) Box leaders will sight for range and deflection; other ships will sight for range.

4. No Change.

5. a. (1) Command Radio: 4085 Kcs.
- (2) Bomber Call Signs: Same as Plan "A".
- (3) Fighter Call Signs: Same as Plan "A".
- (4) RECALL IDENTIFICATION CODEWORD: Same as Plan "A".
- (5) VHF Channel "A".
- (6) Visual Signals: SOP for 49th Wg.

Aldis Lamp: SOP for 49th Wg.

b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: Colonel 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 Wing

2 ea CG, XVAF

HEADQUARTERS FORTY NINTH BOMB WING  
APO 520, US ARMY

22 May 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A"  
FOR  
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 53, 22 May 1944

PLAN: Plan Charlie considers the possibilities of blocking all the enemy's avenues of escape from the Italian front. The indications of imminent enemy withdrawal toward AVEZZANO emphasizes the vital part this Air Force can now play in the final destruction of the enemy forces in Italy. The attack is plotted at vital points as close as possible behind the enemy lines.

There are no more than three or four routes from the western section of the front which are capable of handling large masses of troops and supplies rapidly. Cutting these may realize the possibilities of trapping a great part of the enemy armies.

The 49<sup>th</sup> Wing target, the SUBICO concentration area is especially vulnerable because of the nature of the terrain. The road has sharp grades at this point and runs thru a narrow valley in mountainous territory.

The alternate target at AVEZZANO and POPOLI are also very vital rail and road junctions and likewise may have concentrations of troops and supplies present.

DEFENSES: There is no flak indicated at the primary or alternates. The nearest known fighter opposition is about 30 ME-109s based near VITERBO (north of ROME).

Italy Road Map Sheet 17

Photos #3087 of Subiaco - Marked for Primary Target.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI  
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