

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

23 May 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 54)

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

b. (1) Bombers: Four Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack ATZGERSDORF Installations; time at KP 0940B. Two Gps B-17s, 5th Wg, will attack AVISIO Viaduct; time at KP 0940B. Four Gps B-24s, 47th Wg, will attack WOLLERSDORF Hangars and Installations; time at KP 0908B. Four Gps B-24s, 55th Wg, will attack WOLLERSDORF Stores and Machine shops; time at KP 0938B. Four Gps B-24s, 304th Wg, will frag MUNCHENDORF A/D and Dispersal area; time at KP 0903B.

(2) Escort: One Gp fighters will provide close penetration, target, and withdrawal escort for bombers attacking AVISIO Viaduct. Five Gps fighters with maximum effort will provide penetration cover, target cover, and withdrawal cover for main bomber force.

2. Normal effort B-24s each, 461st BG, 451st BG, and 484th BG, will attack WOLLERSDORF Installations and Hangars on 24 May 1944. This is Plan "A".

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: Same as Primary by Pathfinder.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: ZAGREB A/D and Installations.

LAST RESORT TARGET: BIHAC Troop Concentrations.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 484th BG will line rendezvous behind the 461st BG over BOVINO on a TC of 331 degrees at 0754B. 451st BG will line rendezvous behind the 461st BG and 484th BG over CASALNUOVO on a TC of 349 deg at 0807B. 461st BG will be at 5,000 ft; 484th BG will be at 6,000 ft; 451st BG will be at 7,000 ft or above overcast.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: See Para. 1. B. (2). To be furnished later by telephone.

WING FORMATION: Staggered column of Gps stepped up.

AIR FORCE FORMATION: Close left echelon of Wgs, 304th Wg lead - 47th Wg - 49th Wg - 5th Wg.

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

ROUTE OUT: Base to TP #1 to KP to TP #2 to TP #3 to TP #4 to IP to Target.

KEY POINT: OSTARIJE (45 deg 14 min N, 15 deg 17 min E). Base Altitude - 14,000 feet at 0928B.

TURN POINT #1: (43 deg 10 min N, 14 deg 40 min E).

TURN POINT #2: LITIJA (46 deg 03 min N, 14 deg 50 min E).

TURN POINT #3: ZELJWEG (47 deg 11 min N, 14 deg 45 min E).

TURN POINT #4: FRANENFELS (47 deg 59 min N, 15 deg 20 min E).

TURN POINT #5: VRBPOVEC (45 deg 53 min N, 16 deg 25 min E).

TURN POINT #6: DRVNIK (43 deg 27 min N, 16 deg 09 min E).

INITIAL POINT: ALTENMARKT (48 deg 02 min N, 15 deg 55 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: Primary - 129 degrees TC; 2nd Alternate - 129 degrees TC;
Last Resort Target - Any axis of attack.

AIMING POINT: Primary - 451st BG and 484th BG - O-13, 461st BG - L/K-12/13
all on Target Chart 14-35-NA. 2nd Alternate - 461st BG - R-
21, 484th BG - R-24, 451st BG - S-24 on Target Chart 8-4-
NA. Last Resort Target - Troop concentrations.

TARGET TIME: 1050B.

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

TARGET ELEVATION: Primary - 892 ft; 2nd Alternate - 400 ft; Last Resort
Target - 650 ft.

RALLY: Right off Target.

ROUTE BACK: Target to Rally Point, FURSTENFELD (47deg 03 min N, 16 deg 05
min E) to TP #5 to TP #6 to Base.

3. x. (1) Three Gps will load 500# GP with .1 sec nose fuse and mixed .01 sec and .025 sec tail fusings.
(2) On leaving target, bombers will descend to 12,000 feet or 1,000 feet above overcast at not more than 500 feet per minute and at sufficiently reduced airspeed to enable stragglers to regain formation positions.
(3) All aircraft will load four cartons Window, dispensing to begin three (3) minutes before IP and continue until clear of flak.
(4) One Pathfinder aircraft will lead 461st Gp and one Pathfinder A/C will lead each attack unit of the 451st Gp.
(5) Critique for all Gps will be held at 461st BG Hqts at 1540B. It is desired that Group Commander, Group Operations Officer, Combat Group Leader, Second Attack Unit Leader, Group Lead Navigator, Group Lead Bombardier on mission set up in this Operations Order attend. Other personnel may attend at discretion of Group Commanders.
4. No Change.
5. a. (1) Command Radio: 4085 Kcs.
(2) Bomber Call Signs: (5th Wg, "Foothold 5"), (47th Wg, "Foothold 2"), (304th Wg, "Foothold 1"), (55th Wg, "Foothold 4"), (451st BG, "Foothold 33"), (461st BG, "Foothold 31"), 484th BG, "Foothold 32"), (5th Wg bombers attacking AVISIO Visduct, "Ringway").
(3) Fighter Call Signs: Air Force Escort: "Brewer", with suffix numbers in order of contact with formation. Escort to AVISIO formation, "Largecup".
(4) RECALL IDENTIFICATION CODEWORD: (5th Wg, "Dandy"), 47th Wg, "Mudpie"), 304th Wg, "Partial"), (55th Wg, "Other"), 49th Wg, "Failure"), 306th Wg, "Pencil"), 5th Wg to AVISIO, "Fuel").
(5) VHF Channel: "A".
(6) Visual Signals: SOP for 49th Wg.

Aldis Lamp: SOP for 49th Wg.

b. (1) Combat Wing Commander: Lt. Col. Hawes.

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 ARMU

23 May 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX "A"
FOR
OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 54, 23 May 1944

PLAN: WIENER NEUSTADT remains as the top priority target for the 15th Air Force. Altho damaged by previous attacks it's still one of the principal producers of enemy fighters. The hangars, assembly plants and parked A/C along the northwest end of WOLLERSDORF A/D are the particular targets for the 49th Wing.

DEFENSES: Flak at latest reports totaled 91 heavy guns at WIENER NEUSTADT; 42 guns at ZAGREB (the 2nd alternate); and eight (*) guns at BIHAC (the last resort target).

Lighter fighter opposition is expected as far as the GRAZ-KLAGENFURT area with interception by 30-40 S/E fighters possible. Over the target area there is estimated a total of 90-100 ME-109s and FW-190s plus 20-25 TE fighters. One group of fighters from MUNICH has been included in this estimate.

The return route from WOLLERSDORF is plotted east of ZAGREB and east of the head of the ADRIATIC so that little if any fighter interception is anticipated after leaving the fighters defending the target.

T. C. No. 14-35-NA Marked for Wollersdorf.

T. C. No. 8-4-NA Marked for Zagreb.

2 Pathfinder Charts No. 1 for Wollersdorf A/D (for 461)

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

DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI
10 ea Gp
2 ea 306th Wg
2 ea CGXVAF