HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMBARDMENT WING (Hv)
APO 520 US ARMY

3 February 1945
1745A

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 47)

TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 47)

This is plan Able

Maps and Target Materials:
GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (MUNCHEN, BOLZANO, VENEZIA) 1:500,000
Target and/or Briefing Charts:
No. 13-42-NA (RDGENSBURG)
No: 13-13-NA (SALZBURG)
No. 4-67-NA (PADUA)
Minimum Briefing and/or Photocharts:
No. MBC; MP 13-147 (REGENSBURG)
No: MBC, Mp 13-71 (SALZBURG)
No. MBC, MP 14-9 (WORGL)
Approach Chart, Target photochart:
No. A-C, TP 13-151 (REGENSBURG)
Approach Chart:
No. 14-9 (WORGL)
Briefing Chart:
No. BC 13-151 (REGENSBURG)
Illustrations:
No.3(e)53/5,8 (REGENSBURG)
No. 6(c)(i)16/2,4 (REGENSBURG)
No:6(d)(vi)88/1,2,3 (REGENSBURG)
No: 6(d)(vi)130/1,2 (SALZBURG)
No. 6(d)17/1,2 (PADUA)
Pathfinder Charts:
RPC Series 6 (REGENSBURG)
RPC Series 19 (SALZBURG)
Pathfinder Scope Photos:
28-0(34) Route
28-0(15) Route
28-0(9) Route and SALZBURG from West
21-0(38) REGENSBURG
21-0(14) REGENSBURG
21-0(12) REGENSBURG
21-0(70) SALZBURG from Northeast

1. plan Able directs an attack by four Bombardment Wings against oil installations and stock at REGENSBURG and an attack against communications at SALZBURG by one Bombardment Wing. The main weight of the attack is on REGENSBURG oil, which, although it consists of only three small refineries is now of automatically higher target priority following the removal from the list of oil targets in SILESIA and the

successful attack on MOOSBIERBAUM. The alternate targets selected are strategically located communications centers, SALZBURG, 1st AT on plan Able, is the Primary Target on Plan Baker.

2. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAK

(1) REGENSBURG: Refer to Map 4E271 (20 Dec 44) as last amended by Report 4E472 (14 Jan 45). Moderate to Intense Accurate flak may be expected. Time in flak will be approximately 5 minutes. Axis of attack has been selected to take advantage of the PFF approach.

(2) SALZBURG: Refer to Map 4E474 (17 Jan 45) as amended by Report 4E526 (24 Jan 45). Moderate Accurate flak may be expected. Time in flak will be approximately 22 minutes.

(3) WORGL: No flak has been reported in this area.

(4) PADUA: Refer to Map 3E376 (4 Jan 45) as last amended by Report 3E528 (26 Jan 45). Strict adherence to route, as ordered; is necessary to avoid the large number of flak defenses in Northeastern ITALY.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT: The enemy is capable of moving from the North fighters in defense of REGENSBURG, and 40-50 SEF is the reasonable capability. However, the enemy is hard pressed on the western Front, before BUDAPEST, and on the Eastern Front, and it is unlikely that he will decide to commit his fighters to defend Fifteenth Air Force targets, especially in view of expected weather conditions. There is a probability that the enemy may direct a force of 10-15 trainer aircraft from the MUNICH area as well as attacks on stragglers by a few ITALIAN FASCIST Air Force fighters in Northern ITALY.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGETS

(1) REGENSBURG O/S: As the GERMANS were forced to withdraw from the various occupied countries, important oil refineries were removed from their dwindling sources of oil and gasoline. The Axis succeeded in shipping extensive amounts of oil products to dispersed storages situated in GERMANY. REGENSBURG comprises three small oil refineries which are now important as oil storage depots. Ideally situated along the DANUBE River, the city has splendid inland waterway connection with various centers in GERMANY and AUSTRIA. The DANUBE River is navigable to REGENSBURG for barges up to 1000 tons, as a result, oil can be shipped from VIENNA by water and relieve this burden from rail lines. It is known that large amounts of oil were shipped here from RUMANIA and could have been stored in the large oil facilities at the port area. Reconnaissance of the attack executed on 28 December shows that the bulk of the bombs fell on or in the vicinity of the eastern parts of the RHENANIA and DANUBIA Refineries.

On this same date, four medium tanks were destroyed and some damage inflicted to rolling stock. 0n 20 January 1945, REGENSBURG was again attacked with considerable damage to railroad sidings and rolling stock but only minor damage to oil storages. A successful execution of this plan will continue the sustained attacks of the Fifteenth Air Force against the depleting oil resources of the Axis.

(2) SALZBURG: This communications center is so situated that very important lines from North-South and East-West cities pass through its yards. The main VIENNA-MUNICH lines pass through SALZBURG as well as the direct BRENNER, TARVISIO, and PIEDECOLLE routes to Northern ITALY. The two yards designated as targets for this Wing, lie to the East of the SALZACH River which divides the city. These yards form a "U" shaped target with the open end to the South. Latest reconnaissance showed the car content at the west yard (Main Station) and at the East Yard (Main Yard) to be 503 and 203 units respectively of rolling stock. In addition to its location and car content, SALZBURG has extensive facilities. All rail lines leaving the yards are electrified double tracks. It appears that steam locomotives are utilized for operation in the yards.

(3) WORGL M/Y: This target is situated 35 miles NE of INNSBRUCK and 25 miles South of ROSENHEIM. The M/Y forms a junction for the ROSENHEIM-INNSBRUCK line as well as the SALZBURG-VILLACH route. The importance of this target rests primarily on the fact that were the BRENNER Pass completely cut, WORGL would constitute an alternate route for the bulk of traffic from Southern GERMANY to ITALY via the VILLACH-TARVISIO route. All rail lines leading to the junction are double track electrified. The Marshalling Yard consists of 22 tracks and has approximate dimension of 2500' x 500'. Reconnaissance of 26 January 1945 revealed a moderate heavy loading of 325 units of rolling stock.

(4) PADUA: See Intelligence Annex No. 31, 26 Jan 45.

3. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. Coordination of this attack is as follows:

(1) 5th Bombardment Wing (6 Groups), 49th Bombardment Wing (3 Groups) and 304th Bombardment Wins (4 Groups) attack REGENSBURG O/S.

(2) 47th Bombardment Wing (4 Groups) attack SALZBURG M/Y.

b. The Fifteenth Fighter Command will provide close escort on penetration, target cover, and withdrawal for the force attacking REGENSBURG. Fighter aircraft will conduct a photo recon of REGENSBURG.

c. Escape Intelligence - Current Bulletins including Bulletin No. 14.

d. POW Camps are located at HOHENFELS (4913-1152) and at MOOSBURG (4828~1157). Crews will be briefed on these locations and it is directed that special attention in briefing be devoted to the MOOSBERG camp since it represents one of the largest camps in this section of EUROPE.

e. All combat crews will be informed of the pertinent contents of FFW D 62 teletype dated 3 February 1945.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ACHESON:

JAMES D. BOOK,
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Asst A-2.

DISTRIBUTION: "C"