

HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMB WING (H)
APO 520
US ARMY

2 August 1944.

OPERATIONS ORDER)

:

NUMBER 143)

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex.

b.

2 Groups of 47th Wing destroy AVISIO RR BRIDGE. Key Point Time: 0855B.

1 Group of 47th Wing destroy ORA RR BRIDGE (4623N, 1118E). Key Point Time: 0855B.

1 Group of 47th Wing destroy ST. MICHELE RR BRIDGE (4613N, 1108E). Key Point Time: 0855B. Alternate Target For All Groups: Any M/Y, Bridge or section of Track along BRENNER PASS route.

3 Groups of 49th Wing destroy OBER RADERACH CHEMICAL WORKS at 1100B. Key Point Time: 0905B. Alternate Target: FRIEDRICHSCHAFEN/ZAHNRADFABRIK WORKS.

4 Groups of 304th Wing destroy LOWENTHAL A/C FACTORY and adjacent GEAR WHEEL FACTORY at 1110B. Key Point Time: 0915B. Alternate Target: Same as 49th Wing.

5 Groups of 5th Wing destroy OBER RADERACH CHEMICAL WORKS at 1130B. Key Point Time: 0927B. Alternate Target: FRIEDRICHSCHAFEN/MANZELL A/C WORKS by PFF.

Normal effort of 7 Groups of Fighters provide Window dispensing a/c. Provide penetration, individual Wing Target cover and withdrawal cover for Bombers. Remainder of force provide offensive high cover for Bomber formation.

2.

Normal effort of 4 Groups of the 55th Wing destroy FRIEDRICHSCHAFEN/MANZELL A/C WORKS at 1120B, 3 AUGUST 1944. This is Plan ABLE.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: MANZELL A/C WORKS by PFF.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 464th and 465th line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 6000 and 7000 feet. 465th falling in behind 464th in 464th area prior to rendezvous. 464th over ANDRIA at 0743B.

485th and 460th line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 8000 and 9000 feet. 485th approaching ALTAMURA from SANTERAMO IN COLLE. 460th approaching ALTAMURA from TORITTO. 485th over ALTAMURA at 0745B.

Wing Rendezvous: 464th lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0756B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: (Close column of Wings) 47th, 49th, 304th, 55th, (464-465-485-460), 5th.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to (4200N, 1620E) to KP (4340N 1350E) to S. DONA (4533N 1234E) to BRESSANONE (4643N 1139E) to OBERSTDORF (4725W 1017E) to IP to Target. Last Point to start climb at Bombing Altitude (4510N 1252E). Key Point time: 0925B at 12000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: BREGENZ (4730N 0944E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 307 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 1120 B.

BOMBING ALTITUDES: 464-24,000 feet; 165-23,000 feet; 485-23,800 feet; 460-22,800 feet.

TARGET ELEVATION: 1335 feet.

RALLY: Right to (4755N 0930E).

ROUTE BACK: Rally point to BRESSANONE to S. DONA to (4200N 1620E) to Bases.

3.

x.

Bomb load: All Groups load 10 500# GP fused .1 nose and non-delay tail.

Intervalometer settings: All Groups 50 feet.

Use MPI as shown on attached target charts.

PFF will fly lead, deputy lead and lead of 2nd attack in each Group. If only 2 PFF A/C are available, they will fly lead and deputy lead, the 2nd attack wave dropping on 1st attack wave.

Do not fly over SWITZERLAND.

Avoid flak areas at VENICE, FESTRE, TREVISO, (4532N 124LE), BIBERACH (4805N 0948E) and INNSBRUCK.

Lead crews will receive special briefing as every effort will be made to destroy targets.

Synchronous PFF bombing will be employed if smoke or cloud is encountered.

FFF operators will conduct synchronous bombing procedure in all cases. In the event of FFF equipment failure, offset bombing using the Grid System will be employed.

Brief crews on landing fields and emergency landings in SWITZERLAND.

All Groups, Last Resort Targets: Any point on the INNSBRUCK/VERONA RR which may be bombed visually, preferably a bridge.

4. No Change.

5.

a.

Command Radio: Assigned Group Frequency for communication within the Group.

VHF Wing Channel "B" for Group to Group within the Wing.

b. VHF Channel "A" for Bombers to Fighters and Wing to Wing.

c. Bomber Call Sign: 5th Wing - SEEDCAKE 4; 47th Wing - BETTY; 49th Wing - SEEDCAKE 1; 55th Wing - SEEDCAKE 3 (464- SEEDCAKE 3 Leader, 465 - SEEDCAKE 32, 485 - SEEDCAKE 33, 460 - SEEDCAKE 34), 304th Wing - SEEDCAKE 2.

d. Fighter Call Sign For All Wings Except 47th Wing: BURGLAR with numbered suffixes in order of contact with Bomber formation.

Fighter Call Sign for 47th Wing: THICKRUG.

e. Recall Signs; 5th Wing - WHISTLE; 47th Wing - PORTRAIT; 49th Wing - THRILL; 55th Wing - SNOB; 304th Wing - SHAMPOO; 306th Wing: LOCKJAW.

x. Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped.

Load 3 cartons Window on aircraft of lead attack unit of each Group only, dispensing 6 units every 20 seconds from 2 minutes before IP until clear of Flak.

306th Wing will drop Chaff Bombs ahead of lead Group of 49th Wing.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

JOHN N. MELCHER,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy Co, A-2, A-3, PI 55BW.
2 cys ea Gp 55BW.
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