

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

13 July 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)
:
NUMBER 124)

1.
a. See Intelligence Annex of Operations Order #123.
b.
4 groups of 5th Wing attack LATISANA, PINZANO, CASARSA RR BRIDGES and VENZONE VIADUCT at 1000B. Key Point Time: 0804B. Alternate Target: VERONA, MANTOUA and MESTRE M/Y.

4 groups of 47th Wing attack BRESCIA M/Y at 1010B. Key Point Time: 0820B. Alternate Target: Same as 5th Wing.

4 groups of 304th Wing attack TRIESTE and FIUNE Oil Storage. Key Point Time: 0910B. Alternate Target: PORTO MARGHERA Oil Refinery and MESTRE M/Y.

306th Wing provide 1 group to cover each Wing.

2.
Normal effort of 4 groups of the 55th Wing attack Oil Storage at PORTO MARGHERA at 0933B, 14 July 1944. This is Plan CHARLIE.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: MESTRE N/Y.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: MANTUA M/Y.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 464th and 465th line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 5,000 and 6,000 feet respectively, 465th falling in behind 464th in 464th area prior to rendezvous. 464th over ANDRIA at 0657B.

485th and 460th line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 7,000 and 8,000 feet respectively, 485th approaching ALTAMURA from SANTERAMO IN COLLE, 460th approaching ALTAMURA from TORITTO. 485th over ALTANURA at 0702B.

Wing Rendezvous; 464th lead Wing over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0712B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: At Key Point with P-38s.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 5th, 47th, 55th (464th, 465th, 485th, 460th), 304th.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to (4200N - 1620E) to Key Point (4420N - 1340E) to IP to target. Key Point Time: 0900B at 18,000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: (4518N - 1230E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 310 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 0933B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 464th - 21,300 feet, 465th - 20,300 feet, 485th - 21,000 feet, 460th - 20,000 feet.

TARGET ELEVATION: Sea Level.

RALLY: Left avoiding PADUA and CHIOGGIA.

ROUTE BACK: Rally to Key Point to (4200N - 1620E) to base.

3.

a.

464th load 40 clustered 100# GP with mixed instantaneous and .1 nose and non-delay tail fuse.

x.

465th, 485th, 460th load 10 - M-17s

All groups use MPI as shown on inclosed target chart.

Intervalometer settings: 464th - 50 feet, 465th, -485th, 460th - 35 feet.

PFF will not be used.

Wing will be right echelon on route and column of groups over target.

Under no circumstances will bombs be dropped on VENICE.

First Alternate: MESTRE M/Y.

All groups use MPI as shown in inclosed chart.

All elements of attack are same as for Primary.

Intervalometer setting - same as Primary.

Second Alternate: MANTUA M/Y,

Initial Point: OSTIGLIA (4504N - 1109E).

Axis of Attack: 292 degrees.

Use MPI as indicated.

Method of Attack: Column of groups.

Rally: Left.

Intervalometer settings: Same as Primary.

Route Back: Rally to (4359N - 1230E) to (4200N - 1620E) to base.

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-RUBBISH 1, 447th Wing-RUBBISH 2, 49th Wing-RUBBISH 3, 55th Wing-MAYFLOWER (464th-MAYFLOWER 21, 465th-MAYFLOWER 2, 485th-MAYFLOWER 23, 460th-MAYFLOWER 24), 304th Wing RETAIN.
 - d. Fighter Call Sign For: 5th Wing-BETTY 1, 47th Wing-BETTY 2, 49th Wing-BETTY 3, 55th Wing-LACEWORK, 304th Wing-KEYWORD.
 - e. Recall signs: 5th Wing-COMIC, 47th Wing-FEATHER, 49th Wing-PEANUT, 55th Wing-ROBBIN, 304th Wing-DEER, 306th Wing-HURRICANE.
 - x. Load 2 cartons of Chaff in lead attack units dispensing 4 units every 20 seconds from 2 minutes before IP until clear of Flak.

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.
- 1 cy CG 306th Fighter Wg.
- 1 cy CG XV AF.