

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

19 July 1944.

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 131)

1

- a. See Intelligence Annex.
- b. 4 Groups of 304th Wing destroy WAYBACH ENGINE FACTORY BUILDINGS at 1110B. Key Point Time: 1010B. Alternate Target: Primary by PFF. Last resort: Same as 5th Wing.

5 Groups of 5th Wing attack MEMMIGEN A/D INSTALLATIONS and frag parked A/C at 1116B. Key Point Time: 1013B. Alternate Target: Installations and parked A/C on LECHFIETD and LANDSBERG A/Ds. Last resort: Any M/Y in GERMANY or INNSBRUCK by PFF.

4 Groups of 47th Wing destroy FRIEDRICHSHAFEN/LOVENTHAL A/C FACTORY INSTALLATIONS at 1120B. Key Point Time: 1020B. Alternate Target: WAYBACH A/C FACTORY by PFF. Last resort: Same as 5th Wing.

49th Wing: Stand down.

7 Groups Fighters of 306th Wing provide penetration, target and withdrawal cover with special cover for 5th Wing.

- 2 Normal effort of 4 Groups of the 55th Wing destroy LUFTSCHIFFBAU ZEPPELIN WORKS at 1100B, 20 July 1944. This is Plan ABLE.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: Primary by PFF.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: INNSBRUCK MAIN K/Y by PFF.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 465 and 464 line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 5000 and 6000 feet. 464 falling in behind 465 in 465 area prior to rendezvous. 465 over ANDRIA at 0722B.

460 and 485 line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 7000 and 8000 feet. 460 approaching ALTALURA from TORITTO. 485 approaching ALTAMURA from SANTERAMO IN COLLE. 460 over ALTAMURA at 0728B.

Wing rendezvous: 465th lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0739B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: Parallel column of Wings: Left column 55th Wing (465-464-460-485) 304th, 47th. Right column 5th Wing.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to (4200N 1620E) to turnpoint (4400N 1350E) to keypoint S. BIAGIO D CALI (4541N 1222E) to PONTE (4636N 1132E) to IMST (4715N 1044E) to IP to target. Last point to start climb to keypoint (4200N 1620E). Last point to start climb to bombing altitude - PONTE. Key Point Time: 1000B at 21,000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: BREGENZ (4730N 0945E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 314 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 1100B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 465 - 24,000 feet; 464 - 23,000 feet; 460 - 23,800 feet; 485 - 22,800 feet.

TARGET ELEVATION: 1335 feet.

RALLY: Right to BLITZENREUTE (4753N 0935E)

ROUTE BACK: BLITZENREUTE to PONTE to Keypoint to base.

3
x.

1. All Groups load 5 1000/ GP bombs fused .1 nose and non delay tail. Intervalometer Settings: All Groups 50 feet (if target is bombed by PFF all Groups will use 100 feet).
2. All Groups use MPI as shown on attached target chart.
3. PFF A/C will fly lead, deputy lead and 2nd attack lead in each group. If only 2 PFF A/C are available, they will fly lead and deputy lead and 2nd attack unit will drop on group leader.
4. Target will be bombed visually if possible. If smoke or cloud are encountered, bombing will be by synchronous Pathfinder method. Pilot, Bombardier and Mickey Operator teamwork is essential.
5. Wing will fly close right echelon on route out and close column of groups over the target for maximum protection and bombing accuracy.
6. Do not bomb SWITZERLAND.
7. Brief crews on procedure for emergency landings in SWITZERLAND.

8. On route avoid following flak areas: VENICE, MESTRE, TPEVISO, (4533N 1243E), BOLZANO, INNSBRUCK, MEMMIGEN
9. Second Alternate: INNSBRUCK M/Y.
Initial Point: LEPMOOS (4724N 1054E)
Axis of attack: 110 degrees.
Rally: Right to PONTE (4636N 1132E)
Route Back: PONTE then reverse route out.
Method of Attack: Column of Groups.
Intervalometer Settings: All Groups 100 feet.
4. No Change.
- 5.a. Command Radio: Assigned Group Frequency for communication within the Group. VHF 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 - BOOKCLUB; 47th Wing - FIRTREE 3; 55th Wing - FIRTREE 1 (465-FIRTREE 1 Leader, 464 - FIRTREE 12, 460 - FIRTREE 13, 485 - FIRTREE 14); 304th Wing - FIRTREE 2.
- d. Fighter Call Sign For: 5th Wing - BETTY; for 55th, 304th, 47th Wings - RUBBISH with suffixed numbers in order of contact.
- e. Recall Signs: 5th Wing - PEANUT; 47th Wing - PROUDFOOT; 55th Wing - FEATHER; 304th Wing - REALTY; 306th Wing - LOCKJAW.
- x. Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped. Load 3 cartons Window in lead attack units dispensing 6 units every 20 seconds from 2 minutes before IP until clear of flak. Wing VHF control on Channel B callsign UPHILL. Groups will check in at rendezvous using following callsigns: 460 - SQUANDER; 464 - WINDBLOW; 465 - REWARD; 485 - THORAX.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

DEWITT L. JONES,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst. A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

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