

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

4 July 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

:
NUMBER 116)

1. a. See Intelligence Annex.

b. (1) Normal effort of 4 groups of B-24's of 304th Wing attack RIVESALTES M/Y and Bridge, Key Point Time: 0950B. Alternate Target: TOULON MARBOR IIST LLATIONS.

(2) Normal effort of 3 groups of B-24's of 49th Wing attack SETE BEZIERS M/Y. Key Point Time: 1010B. Alternate Target: M/Y. Last resort: TOULON HARBOR INSTALLATIONS.

(3) EIGHTH AF Task Force attack CARCASSONNE M/Y and Bridge. Key Point Time: 1017B. Alternate Target: TOULON HARBOR INSTALLATIONS.

(4) Normal effort of 6 groups of B-17's of 5th Wing attack MONTPELIER W/Y and Bridges. Key Point Time: 1027B. Alternate Target: MIRAMAS M/Y. Last resort: TOULON HARBOR INSTALLATIONS.

(5) Normal effort of 4 groups of B-24's of 47th Wing attack TOULON SUHARINE DOCKS, Control point 1 time: 1151B.

(6) Normal effort of Fighters of 306th Wing and EIGHTH AF provide cover for all Bombers.

2. Normal effort of 4 groups of 55th Wing attack TOULON SUEMARINE DOCKS, 5, July 1944. This is Plan CHARLIE. Plan BAKER is STAND DOWN.

ALTERNATE TARGET: NONE.

BOMER RENDEZVOUS: 465th and 464th line rendezvous from CORATO to ANDRIA at 7,000 and 8,000 feet respectively. 465th on course over CORATO at 0834B.

485th and 460th line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 9,000 and 10,000 feet respectively. 485th on course over ALTAMURA at 0839B.

Wing rendezvous: 465th and 464th over SPINAZZOLA on course at assigned altitudes at 0849B. 485th and 460th approach from the SE falling in behind 465th and 464th at assigned altitudes at 0851B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RINDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF TLIGHT: Close column of Wings: 304th, 55th (465th, 464th, 485th, 460th), 49th, 8th AF Task Force, 5th, 47th.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to MELFI to Key Point (4143N - 1217E) to Control Point 1 PALAZZO POINT (4222N - 0832E) to IP to target.
Control Point 1 time: 1111B.
Key Point Time: 1000B at 16,000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: (4300N - 0540E).

AXIS OF AITACK: 56 degrees.

TARGET TIIE: 1206B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 465th - 22,800 feet, 464th - 21,800 feet, 485th - 22,500 feet, 460th - 21,500 foot.

TARGET ELEVATION: Sea Lovel.

RALLY: Slight Right.

ROUTE BACK: Rally to Control Point 1 to base.

3.x. (1) Bomb Load for 465th, 464th, 485th - 10 - 500# GP bombs fused .1 nose and mixed .01 and .025 tail.

(2) Bomb Load for 460th group - 5 - 1000# GP fused .1 nose and .01 tail.

(3) Intervalometer settings: 460th - 100 feet, 465th, 464th, 485th - 60 feet.

(4) All groups use MPI as shown on inclosed target charts.

(5) Keep ground running time to a minimum. Top off all tanks after pre-flight. Use auto. lean whenever possible. On route back fly at 155 MPH. Koop ball turrets up except in immediate target area unless attacked.

(6) All bombing will be visual. Only briefed targets will be attacked. Any A/C which must jettison bombs will do so over water.

(7) 55th Wing Bombers will stage at DECIMOMANNU, SARDINIA. Notify formation leader if leaving formation. Do not stage unless necessary. All planes staging should return to bases before dark.

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 (AIRSLUG 5), 8th AF Task Force (AIRSLUG 4), 49th Wing (AIRSLUG 3), 55th Wing (AIRSLUG 2), (465th - AIRSLUG 21, 464th - AIRSLUG 22, 485th - AIRSLUG 23, 460th - AIRSLUG 24), 304th Wing (AIRSLUG 1), 47th Wing (AIRSLUG 6).

d. Fighter Call Sign For: 47th Wing (RADCLIFF), Penetration (FOOTHOLD), MONTPELIER Escort (BREVER), BEZIERS Escort (BOULDER), S> NARBONNE Escort (SCIEGIRL), CARCASSONNE Escort (RETAIN), RIVESALTES Escort (HEADTOP).

e. Recall signs: 5th Wing (GREASE), 8th AF Task Force (ORANGE),
49th Wing (TEMPLE), 55th Wing (VENISON),
304th Wing (TAVERN), 306th Wing (CRINE),
47th Wing (HURRICANE).

x. Load 3 cartons Window in alternate attack units dispensing 4 units every 20 seconds from 2 minutes before IP until clear of Flak.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

DEWITT L. JONES,
Captain, AC,
Assistant A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy CO, A-2, A-3, PI 55BW.
2 cys ca Gp 55BW.
1 cy CG 306th Fighter Wg.
1 cy CG XV AF.