

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

5 July 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

:
NUMBER 117)

1. a. See Intelligence Annex.

- b. (1) Normal effort of 2 Groups of B-17s of 5th Wing attack and destroy VERONA Main M/Y. Key Point Time: 0846B. Alternate Target: VERONA East M/Y, MATUA, CREMONA, BRESCIA M/Ys.

Normal effort of 2 Groups of B-17s of 5th Wing attack and destroy BERGANO Steel Works. Key Point Time: 0846B. Alternate Targets: VERONA East N/Y, MATUA, CREMONA, BRESCIA M/Ys.

Normal effort of 2 Groups of B-17s of 5th Wing employing AZON Force attack AVISIO VIADUCT. Key Point Time: 0846B. Alternate Target: VERONA N/Y.

(2) Normal effort of 3 Groups of B-24s of 49th Wing attack and destroy AVINO Oil and Gasoline Storage. Key Point Time: 0841B. Alternate Target: VICENZA N/Y.

(3) Reduced effort of 2 Groups of B-24s of 47th Wing attack and destroy TAGLIAMENTO CARSARSA RR Bridge. Key Point Time: 0851B. Alternate Target: VICENZA M/Ys.

Reduced effort of 2 Groups of B-24s of 47th Wing attack and destroy LATISANO RR Bridge. Key Point Time: 0851B. Alternate Target: VICENZA N/Ys.

Normal effort of 4 Groups of B-24s of 304th Wing attack and destroy TRIESTE North Refinery. Key Point Time: 0901B. Alternate Target: PORTO MARGHERA and MESTRE M/Ys.

(5) Normal effort of 4 Groups of Fighters provide penetration, target and withdrawal cover for Bombers.

2. Normal effort of 4 Groups B-24s of the 55th Wing attack and destroy PORTO MARGHERA Oil Storage at 1034B, 6 July 1944. This is Plan Able. Plan Baker: Stand Down.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: MESTRE M/Ys - Small yard East of Passenger Station.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 485 and 460 line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 7000 and 8000 ft respectively. 485 on course over ALTAMURA at 0810B.

465 and 464 line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 9000 and 10000 ft respectively. 465 on course over. ANDRIA at 0807B.

Wing rendezvous: 485 and 460 over SPINAZZOLA on course at assigned altitudes at 0822B. 465 and 464 approach from the Southwest falling in behind 485 and 460 at assigned altitudes at 0824D.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: One Group Fighters rendezvous 50 miles before Koy Point.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: Two columns of Wings. Left column - 5th, Right Column - 49th, 47th, 304th, 55th (485-460-465-464).

ROUTE CUT: Base to (4200N 1620E) to Key Point (4305N 1528E) to Turn Point (4500N 1320E) to IP to Target. Key Point Time: 0941B at 12,000 ft.

INITIAL POINT: (4513N 1227E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 330 deg.

TARGET TIME: 1034B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 485 - 21,000; 460 - 20,000; 465 - 20,800, 264 - 19,800.

TARGET ELEVATION: Sea Level.

RAILY: Right to (4532N 1233E)

ROUTE BACK: Rally Point to Turn Point (4500N 1320E) to (4200N 1620B) to Base.

3. x. (1) Bomb Load: All Groups 500 GP .1 nose, .01 and .025 tail mixed.

(2) Wings will lose altitude immediately after bombing so as not to interfere with any units on bombing run.

(3) Close Right Echelon of Groups will be flown for maximum fighter protection and Bombing Accuracy.

(4) Method of Attack - Column of Groups.

(5) MPI as shown on attached target charts.

(6) PFF Stand Down.

(7) Intervalometer settings, all Groups - 35 ft.

(8) First Alternate - MESTRE M/Y - Small yard East of Station. I.P.: Same as Primary. Axis of Attack: Same as Primary. Rally: Same as primary Route back: Same as primary. Method of Attack: Same as primary using MPI as shown on target chart. Intervalometer settings: All Groups - 40 ft.

4. No Change.

5. a. Command Radio: Assigned Groups Frequency for communication within the Group. VHF Channel "B" for Group to Group within the Wing.

b. VHF Chennel A for Bombers to Fighters and Wing to Wing.

c. Bomber Cell Signs: 5th Wing - BELLBOUY, 47th Wing - TRUNIN, 49th Wing - PREPUP, 55th Wing - EXCEED (485 - EXCEED 1, 460 - EXCEED 2, 465 - EXCEED 3, 464 - EXCEED 4), 304th Wing - RUBBISH.

d. Fighter Call Sign For: 5th Wing - SCNNTY, 47th Wing - PLAYFAIR, 49th Wing - TWICKRUG, 55th Wing - RADCLIFF, 304th Wing - SAXHORN.

e. Recall signs: 5th Wing - THRILL, 47th Wing - SNOB, 49th Wing - DOLLAR, 55th Wing - PLANTER, 304th Wing - ROBBIN, 306th Wing - PEANUT.

x. Window will be employed, load two (2) cartons, dispensing to begin 2 minutes before IP and continue until clear of flak area. Dispensing rate: 4 units every 30 seconds.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

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

DISTRIBUTION:

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