

HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMBARDMENT WING (Hv)
APO 520 U S ARMY

3 June 1944
1800B

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 82)
TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 82)

This is Plan Able.

Maps: GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (TORINO Sectional) 1:500,000.
Target Charts: No. 4-135B-NA (TURIN)
No. 4-213-NA (GENOA)
No. 4-90-NA (RECCO VIADUCT)

1. ENEMY SITUATION.

a. FLAK.

(1) TURIN - The city proper is well defended by Heavy Flak. The marshalling yards as a target does not permit the enemy maximum use of defenses. To the East of the yards, 9 Heavy Guns are reported. To the SE are 6 Heavy Guns, and to the SW are 14 Heavy Guns. The batteries to the SW are not within full range of the target. It is possible that rail flak may be employed. The TURIN Aircraft Factory was attacked on 25 April, at which time M to IAH flak was encountered. It is to be expected that the flak will be accurate but may vary in intensity.

(2) GENOA - (Alternate Target) - The latest "E" Map shows 4 Heavy guns North of the yards, 4 Heavy Guns West and 10 Heavy Guns East of the yards. More recent reports show a part of these batteries unoccupied. The last attack on the harbor, 28 May, encountered MAH. It is to be expected that the flak over the M/Y will be MAH.

(3) RECCO VIADUCT (Last Resort Target) - No flak is reported here.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

(1) An attack in the Western PO VALLEY will put attacking forces within range of aircraft based at TURIN and PIACENZA. The enemy is capable of interception by from forty to fifty single engine fighters, mostly G55s and Mecchi 205s. This is an appreciably increased strength in this area and interception is likely.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET.

(1) TURIN - The M/Y at this city is a strategic part of the enemy lines of communication. It has direct connections with the main routes from FRANCE, and routes through SWITZERLAND. The main

yard absorbs traffic from FRANCE and from MILAN and distributes traffic to Northern ITALY and to other points South. In view of the critical situation of the enemy on the ITALIAN front, he is straining to maintain all routes for supplies and troops. Since it has been indicated that reinforcements are being moved to the ITALIAN front from DENMARK, it is also possible that troops may be brought from other areas of occupied EUROPE and it is expedient that all routes be destroyed. A report of 31 May indicated that there were 920 wagons present in these yards. Destruction of this target will be a major attack on this important rail line. Stated attack will be in support of ground operations on the ITALIAN front.

(2) GENOA - This target has double importance, because of good rail facilities, as well as harbor facilities. Traffic from FRANCE may reach GENOA either by land or water. These yards have connections with the main NW route from MILAN. Destruction of this M/Y will sever connections with the North and thus will impede traffic on major routes of communications in Northern ITALY.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION.

a. This is a coordinated attack against communication routes in Northern ITALY connecting with FRANCE.

(1) 5th Bombardment Wing: 1 Group attacks VAR RIVER bridge; 1 Group attacks ANTHEOR viaduct.

(2) 47th Bombardment Wing: 2 Groups attack GENOA M/Y; 2 Groups attack NOVI LIGURE M/Y.

(3) 49th Bombardment Wing: 1 Group attacks GAD RR Bridge; 1 Group attacks BUSSOLENO RR Bridge; 1 Group attacks CRELLE RR Bridge.

(4) 304th Bombardment Wing (4 Groups) attacks ALESSANDRIA M/Y.

b. The 306th Fighter Wing will provide penetration, escort and target cover, and withdrawal support.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

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