

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

6 June 1944  
1725B

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER :  
86)

1. a. See Intelligence Annex.

b. (1) Normal effort of 3 Groups of B-24s of 49th Wing attack ANTHEOR VIADUCT and VAR RIVER BRIDGE at 1000B. Key Point time 0801B. Alternate Target: VENTIMIGLIA and IMPERIA BRIDGES, RAGUE River VIADUCT.

(2) Normal effort of 4 Groups of B-24s of 304th Wing attack VOLTRI and SESTRI PONENTE Shipyards. Key Point Time: 0811B. Alternate Targets: Any active harbor installations.

(3) Normal effort of 2 Gps of Fighters of 306th Wing:  
1 Group Dive bomb RICCO VIADUCT at 1000B.  
1 Group provide general cover in GENOA and LA SPEZIA Areas.

2. Normal effort of 4 Groups of B-24s of the 55th Wing attack LA SPEZIA Harbor Installations, oil storage and refineries at 1021B, 7 June This is Plan Able.

ALTERNATE TARGETS: LEGHORN and VIAREGGIO Installations.

LAST ESORT TARGET: PIOMBINO Shipping.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Composite 464 and 465 Groups rendezvous in local group areas, 465th forming second attack wave behind 464th as soon as possible. Composite Group leave ANDRIA on course to SPINAZZOLA at 8,000 feet at 0716B, passing over SPINAZZOLA at 0725B on course to MELFI. 485th and 460th Groups line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 9,000 and 10,000 feet respectively, leaving CRAVINA on course to SPINAZZOLA at 0716B. Fall in immediately behind composite group and maintain position until return to bases.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: One Group Fighters provide target cover over GENOA and SPEZIA.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 49th Wing, 304th Wing, 55th Wing  
(composite 464, 465, 485, 460).

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to MELFI to Key Point SAN FELICE  
CIRCEO (41 deg 13 min N - 13 deg 05 min E) to PIANOSA  
ISLAND (42 deg 35 min N - 10 deg 05 min E) to  
ROGLIANO (42 deg 57 min N - 09 deg 25 min E) to  
SESTRI (44 deg 16 min N - 09 deg 23 min E) to IP to  
Target.

Key Point: 10,000 feet at 0821B.

Close echelon of Groups from Rendezvous to IP, column of  
Groups over Target and on return.

Echelon at IP is left.

INITIAL POINT: Roads and River Junction at (44 deg 20 min  
N - 09 deg 35 min E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 142 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 1021B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: Composite Group 465, 464, - 22,000 feet,  
485th - 21,000 feet, 460th - 22,000 feet.

TARGET ELEVATION: 50 feet.

RALLY: Sharp Right.

ROUTE BACK: Rally to 43 deg 50 min N - 09 deg 30 min E and  
reverse of route out.

3. x. Composite 464 and 465 Group, 485 Group, 460 Group attack LA  
SPEZIA installations using MPI as shown on attached charts.

Bomb Load: composite 464 and 465, 16 double clustered 250  
# GP, .1 "nose and .01" and .025" mixed  
tail fuses.

Bomb Load for 485th and 460th Groups - 5 : 1000 # GP,  
.1 "nose and mixed .01" and .025" tail  
fuses.'

Intervalometer settings: 250 # GP - 150 feet, 1000 #  
GP - 125 feet.

Composite Group load 3 cartons chaff in First Attack  
Wave only 485th and 460th load 3 cartons  
chaff in lead attack waves. Dispense 6  
units every 20 seconds from 3 minutes  
before IP until clear of Flak. Return all  
Chaff not used.

4. No Change.

5. a. Command Radio: assigned Group Frequency for communication within the Group.

b. VHF Channel A for Bombers to Fighters and Group to Group.

c. Bomber Call Signs: 49th Wing - ENCORE 1 55th Wing - ENCORE 3 304th Wing - ENCORE 2.

d. Fighter Call Signs: Escort for 49th, 55th, and 304th Wings - PUSSCAT.

e. Recall Signs: 49th Wing - OBTAIN      55th Wing - OTHER  
304th Wing - PENCIL      306<sup>th</sup> Wing - PEPPER

x. Wing Call Station - SEMPER. Wing Commander will be flying in formation and will use call Sign SEMPER ONE.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

DALE S. SEEDS,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Ass't A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

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