

HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMBARDMENT WING (Hv)
APO 520 US ARMY

17 November 1944
2045A

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 255)

TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 255)

This is Plan Able

Maps: GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (VENEZIA/BOLZ/NO) 1:500,000

GSGS No. 3982 EUROPE Air (UDINE) 1:250,000

GSGS No. 4164 ITALY 1:100,000, Sheet 25 (UDINE)

Target Chart No. 4-14-NA (UDINE/CAMPOFORMIDO A/D)

No. 14-44-NA (VILLACH)

Communications Report No. H(c) 253, 7 March 44 (VILLACH)

Interpretation Report No. DE 245, 21 October (VILLACH)

Mosaic MC 40-054 (UDINE/CAMPOFORMIDO)

1. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAK

(1) UDINE: The route, as ordered, will come within the outer perimeter of the 11 guns to the East of the target, 16 others lie to the North, and 4 to the South in the UDINE area. Flak may be expected from these 16 guns. The route passes over MONTEGLIANO where there are 6 additional guns. Refer to Map No. 3E88, dated 7 November 44.

(2) VILLACH: The E Map No. 2493, 8 September 44 as amended by E Report No. 2543, 15 September 44, shows the area to be defended by 6 heavy guns. It is possible that this defense has been increased by railway flak. S-MH, probably Accurate, flak is to be expected.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT: Enemy air opposition will probably be negligible or nil in North ITALY.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGETS

(1) The UDINE/CAMPOFORMIDO A/D is an important part of the enemy fighter system. It is a well-equipped field with complete facilities for both day and night flying. It has a runway over 5,000' in length and adequate dispersal area with numerous revetments. The hangers and storage facilities have been damaged but latest reconnaissance shows them serviceable. Reconnaissance photographs have

shown an increasing number of aircraft present. Most recent cover available shows 35 single engine fighters present. Increasing number and aggressiveness of Italian based fighters makes it necessary to culminate in this hazard to our formations and ground forces.

(2) VILLACH M/Y: See Paragraph 1, c, (4) of Intelligence Annex No. 244, 10 November 44. Reconnaissance since 10 November show the yard active and still heavily loaded. Latest cover shows over 600 units present.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. This is an attack on Oil targets in GERMANY and counter air targets in ITALY coordinated as follows:

(1) 5th Wing, 6 Groups, attacks an oil target in GERMANY

(2) 47th Wing, 4 Groups, attacks AVIANO A/D

(3) 49th Wing, 3 Groups, attacks VILLAFRANCO A/D

(4) 304th Wing, 4 Groups, attacks VICENZ A/D

b. XV Fighter Command (Provisional) conducts medium altitudes sweeps to hold enemy aircraft on the ground at AVIANO, VILLAFRANO and UDINE, and provides top cover for all Wings.

c. See Escape Intelligence Bulletin No. 4, 13 November 1944.

By command of Brigadier General ACHESON:

DONALD W. RIDDLE,
Major, AC,
A-2.

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