

HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMBMENT WING (Hv)
APO 520, U. S. Army

18 November 1944.
1900A

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 257)
)
TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 257)

This is plan Able

Maps: Those listed in Intelligence Annex No. 250, 14 November 1944 and
the following:

Pathfinder Chart No. RPC 9, 9-A (LINZ, AUSTRIA) 1:500,000
Minimum Photochart No. MP-14-60 (LINZ)
Target and Briefing Chart No. 14-42-A (HORSCHING A/D)
Minimum Briefing Chart No. MBC-14-51 (HORSCHING A/D)
Illustration No. 3/AIR/257/4 (HORSCHING)
Photographs (HORSCHING A/D) sent with Operations Order
Target Chart No. 14-41-NA (GRAZ)
Pathfinder Chart No. RPC 14, 14-A (GRAZ, AUSTRIA - MARIBOR,
YUGOSLAVIA) 1:500,000
Target Chart No. 8-107-NA (MARIBOR)
Minimum Photochart No. MP-14-55, 14-57 (GRAZ)
Minimum Briefing and Photochart No. MP, MBC-8-4 (MARIBOR)
Target Area and Target Photochart Oblique No. TAO, TPO-14-15 (GRAZ)
Illustration No. 3(f) 47/1,2,3; 4 (a) 13/1 (GRAZ)
Report No. H (c) 741, 9 November 1944 (with photograph) (MARIBOR)
Report No. DB 253, 6 November 1944 (MARIBOR)

1. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAK

(1) LINZ Benzol Plant: Refer to "E" Map No. 2728 (7 October 1944), No. 2783 (11 October 1944), and No. 2781 (11 October 1944) as amended by "E" report No. 4E25 (31 October 1944). On 4 & 15 November varying degrees of flak from scant inaccurate to intense accurate were encountered. On axis prescribed bombers will be exposed to flak approximately 5 minutes. Enroute the 8 heavy guns at RIED and the 18 heavy guns at PASSAU will be avoided by strict adherence to proscribed course.

(2) HORSCHING A/D: Of the 57 heavy guns which are within range of the airdrome, 42 are at maximum range while the other 15 are from mid-range to maximum. Avoiding the WELS area and the main defenses of LINZ, as ordered, will insure the least amount of flak.

(3) GRAZ M/Y: Refer to "E" Map No. 2706 (5 October 1944) and 2510 (10 September 1944) as amended by "E" Report No. 2594

(20 September 1944). On 1 November moderate to intense accurate flak was encountered. Time in flak will be approximately 3½ minutes.

(4) MARIBOR M/Y: Refer to E4 Map 13 (24 October 1944) as amended by report 4E86 (15 November 1944). This latest report shows an increase of 6 guns, the first change in 2 months when the defenses were decreased, possibly indicating the withdrawal of defenses in YUGOSLAVIA. On 5 November, M to IAH flak was encountered.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT: Intelligence Annex Fifteenth Air Force estimates negligible or nil e/a opposition against this Wing. Enemy capability in VIENNA remains substantially the same as recently estimated, so that any opposition will be absorbed by forces attacking VIENNA. If any e/a based on HORSCHING are airborne and committed against attacking force it will be within the capability of bombers and fighter escort to cope with them.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGETS:

(1) LINZ Benzol Plant: See Intelligence Annex No. 250, 14 November 1944.

(2) HORSCHING A/D: This A/D is situated directly NE of the town of HORSCHING, between the WELS-LINZ road and railway. The town of HORSCHING is approximately 61 miles SW of LINZ. It's altitude is 950 feet above sea level. The arca is almost rectangular, with the hangars located S of the landing ground arca. The landing area is approximately 1100 x 1640 yards. There are two parallel runways. The hangars, which will be a prominent recognition feature if visual bombing conditions prevail, lie at the South of the landing area. They include 6 very large curved roof buildings, and 1 very large V-type repair hanger. On 17 November 1944 there were 83 e/a on the A/D, including 69 SEF. This number indicates the high profitability of the target.

(3) GRAZ M/Y: See Intelligence Annex No. 248, 13 November 1944.

(4) MARIBOR M/Y: See Intelligence Annex No. 247, 12 November 1944.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. Coordination of attack:

(1) 5th Wing - RED FORCE - 6 Groups attacks
VIENNA/WINTERHAFEN O/S

(2) 5th Wing - BLUE FORCE - (remaining a/c of maximum effort), 6 Groups attack FERRARA RR Bridge.

- (3) 47th Wing, 4 Groups, attacks VIENNA/SWECHAT O/R
- (4) 49th Wing, 3 Groups, attacks VIENNA/VOSENDORF O/R
- (5) 304th Wing - RED FORCE - 4 Groups attack
VIENNA/LOBAU O/S
- (6) 304th Wing - Blue Force - (remaining a/c of
maximum effort), 4 Groups attack VERONA Locomotive Repair Depot.

b. The XV Fighter Command (Provisional) will provide target area cover for the 5th, 47th, 49th, and 304th Wings over VIENNA and target area cover for the 55th wing at LINZ, will strafe parked a/c on SEREGELYES A/D and VESZPREM A/D, will strafe M/T and railroad traffic on the main roads and railroads between VIENNA and BUDAPEST, and a Force of 8 P-38 droop snoots will stand by for bombing a target in the BALKANS.

c. Escape Intelligence: See current Bulletins, including Escape Bulletin No. 4.

d. Prisoner of War Camps: See Teletype FFWD 445, 10 November 1944, and brief accordingly.

By command of Brigadier General CHESON:

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

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