

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

22 September 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 186)

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex

b.

Night bombers attack SAN BAMEDETTO BRIDGE 22/23 September 1944.

6 Groups of 5th Wing attack BRUX/BERGIUS SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1200A. Key Point Time: 1031A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: KRALUPY REFINERY, PILSEN/SKODA WORKS, WELS ORDNANCE DEPOT.

4 Groups of 47th Wing attack AVISIO VIADUCT, ADIGE/ORA and ADIGE/MEZZOCORONA RR BRIDGES. Key Point Time: 1015A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: VERONA and VICENZA M/Ys.

4 Groups of 304th Wing attack VENZONE VIADUCT and SALCANO RR BRIDGE at 1130A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: PLAVE SUSEGNA, PONTI DI PLAVE, DONA RR BRIDGES, TRIESTE HARBOR INSTALLATIONS.

1 Group of 49th Wing transport supplies to FRANCE.

15 PFC provide cover for 5th Wing Bomber Formations.

2.

Normal effort of 4 Groups of 55th Wing destroy RR BRIDGES in NORTH ITALY, 23 September 1944. This is Plan ABLE.

FIRST ALTERNATE: PLAVE/PONTE DI PLAVE RR BRIDGE. SECOND ALTERNATE: PLAVE/S. DONA DI PLAVE RR BRIDGE.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 485th and 460th line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 8,000 and 9,000 or 1000 and 1500 feet above the overcast. 485th over ALTAMURA at 0640A.

465th and 464th line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 10,000 and 11,000 or 2,000 and 2500 feet above the overcast. 465th over ANDRIA at 0837A.

Wing Rendezvous: 485th lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0852A.

NOTE: This rendezvous is subject to change.

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

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to BISCEGLIE to (4200N - 1620E) to IESOLO (4532N - 1239E) Then by individual routes to targets.

TARGET TIME: 485th - 1050A, 460th - 1103A, 465th - 1103A, 464th - 1108A.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 485th - 14,000 feet, 460th - 13,500 feet,
465th - 14,500 feet, 464th - 14,000 feet.

RAILY: Left to IESOLO.

ROUTE BACK: IESOLO AND REVERSE ROUTE OUT.

3.

a.

485th destroy LATISANA RR BRIDGE.

Bomb Load: 5 - 1000# GP or RDX bombs fused .1 nose and non-delay tail.

IP: ILSOLO.

AXIS OF ATTACK: 46 degrees.

TARGET ELEVATION: 21 feet.

b.

460th and 465th destroy TAGLIANENTA-CASARSA BY-PASS.

Bomb Load: 2 - 2000# GP or RDX bombs fused .1 nose and non-delay tail.

IP: XOTTA (4546N - 1237E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 49 degrees.

TARGET ELEVATION: 165 feet.

464th destroy PINZANO SOUTH RR BRIDGE.

Bomb Load: Same as 485th.

IP: PORDENONE (4557N - 1240E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 45 degrees.

TARGET ELEVATION: 617 feet.

x.

Intervalometer Settings: 50' for ships carrying 2000# bombs and 25 feet for ships carrying 1000# bombs.

Each Group employ 1 PFF A/C for navigation.

Use MPI as shown on attached target chart.

Weather ship will precede Bomber formation.

485th will maintain 155 MPH on rally and return until Wing is reformed.

FIRST ALTERNATE: PLAVE/PONTE DI PLAVE RR BRIDGE.

INITIAL POINT: SAGILE (4557N - 1230E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 190 degrees.

RALLY: Left to IESOLO (4532N - 1239E)

ROUTE BACK: IESOLO and then reverse route out.

METHOD OF ATTACK: Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target chart.
INTERVALOMETER SETTINGS: Same as for Primary.

SECOND ALTERNATE: PLAVE/S. DONA DI PLAVE RR BRIDGE.

INITIAL POINT: PASLANO DI. PORD (4551 N - 1238E).

AXIS OF TT.CK: 195 degrees.

RALLY: Left to IESOLO (4532N - 1239E).

ROUTE BACK: Reverse route out.

METHOD OF ATTACK: Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target chart.

INTERVALOMETER SETTINGS: Same as for Primary.

4.

No Change.

5.

a.

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

b.

VHF Channel "A" for Bombers to Fighters and Wing to Wing.

Bomber Call Sign: 5th Wing (CHANNEL), 55th Wing (PEGASUS) (485th-PEGASUS LEADER, 460th PEGASUS 2, 465th- PEGASUS 3, 464th - PEGASUS 4).
WX RECONN - TAILPIECE

c.

Fighter Call Sign For: 5th Wing - SANDSAIL with suffixes in order of contact.

d.

Recall Signs: 5th Wing (ROTATICN), 47th Wing (SNAKEBITE), 49th Wing (FLATBUSH), 55th Wing (MARSHLAND), 304th Wing (DARKHORSE), 15th Pr FC (BASEBALL).

x.

Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped.

Standard bombs away signals will be observed.

Radio discipline must be enforced.

No Chaff will be used.

By command of Brigadier General ACHESON:

DALE S. SEEDS,
Major, Air Corps,
Acting A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy CG 55BW.

3 cys ea A-2, A-3 55BW.

1 cy GG XV Ftr Cmd

1 cy CG IV AF

4 cys ea 460, 465 Gps 55BW
3 cys on 464, 485 Gps 55BW