

and Deputy Lead ships were hit by flak but they were able to get their bombs out and lead the formation before going down.

Mission No. 161, 22 February 1945, Donauworth M/Y.

Twenty-three aircraft took off to bomb this target, but because of adverse weather conditions all returned their bombs to the base. Runs were attempted on the alternates, but they were also closed in.

Mission No. 162, 23 February 1945, Knittelfeld M/Y.

The 484th bomb Group was scheduled to hit the Amstettin M/Y on this date, but weather again forced the formation to go to the third alternate, Knittelfeld M/Y. A great deal of difficulty was experienced in picking up the target in the 7/10 undercast, but good results were made. One box scored direct hits on the M/Y, and on the round house, while other bombs fell short. Forty-five tons of bombs were dropped.

Mission No. 163, 24 February 1945, Bolzano M/Y, Italy

The 484th Bomb Group was briefed to bomb the M/Y at Bolzano but because of adverse weather conditions all bombs were returned to the base. Attempts were made to bomb alternates, but they were all closed in.

Mission No. 164, 25 February 1945, Linz North Main M/Y, Austria

The Linz M/Y was bombed on this date using offset bombing methods because of a very effective smoke screen. However, just before bombs away another bomb group rallied under the 484th Bomb Group forcing the bombardier to hold his bombs. The results were scattered patterns starting short of the target with some bombs in the area. Thirty-four tons were dropped on this target.

Mission No. 165*, 26 February 1945, Capraz, Yugoslavia.

28 aircraft recalled a/c bad weather

Mission No. 166, 27 February 1945, Augsburg M/Y's, Germany.

Because of its key position in the enemy rail network from west to east or from Italy to the north, Augsburg was made the target of the day. The target was covered in smoke from previous bombings so that PFF methods had to be used. Results could not be observed, but hits were believed to have been made in the target area. 56 tons of 1000 pound bombs were dropped.

Mission No. 167, 28 February 1945, Bressanone M/Y, Italy

The object of this mission was to close the Brenner pass, but the target was missed. The M/Y was to be bombed in a column of boxes, but poor terrain features and faulty navigation from the IP to the target caused the bombs to hit over the target. This was the last mission for the month of February.

Awards for February 1945

484th Bomb Group Headquarters

Silver Star

Lt. Col. Chester C. Busch

DFC

Col. William B Keese Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC)

824th Bomb Squadron

DFC

Capt. Wayne K. Hinkle

Capt. John F. McCaulay

1st Lt. Harry S. Allen

1st Lt. Dominick J. Blanda

1st Lt. Richard E. Brown

1st Lt. Neil E. Kahler

1st Lt. Walter Kaus

1st Lt. Israel B. Markowitz

1st Lt. Jack A. Willis

1st Lt. Donald G. Zimmerman

2nd Lt. George Bouras

2nd Lt. David A. Nickerson

T/Sgt. Gaston A. Intoccla

T/Sgt. Marshall Kahn

T/Sgt. Elmer H. Vermie

Bronze Star

M/Sgt. Julius H. Myers

825th Bomb Squadron

DFC

Capt. Percy H. Kramer

Capt. William E. McCoy

1st Lt. York T. Lew

T/Sgt. Alfred W. Cooper

826th Bomb Squadron

DFC

Maj. William H Dowd

Capt. Kenneth D. Dowdey

1st Lt. William L. Archer

1st Lt. John A. Atkinson

1st Lt. John E. Barth

1st Lt. William H Cox

1st Lt. Joseph N. Crystall

1st Lt. Ray E. Zeimantz

2nd Lt. Harry J. Persoff

T/Sgt. John R. Neall

S/Sgt. David E Titus

Bronze Star

M/Sgt. William A Pekkala

827th Bomb Squadron

DFC

Maj. Henry B Hewett

Capt. John H. Stebbins

1st Lt. Wilburn M. Kitchen