

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

19 August 1944
1810B

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 156)

TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 156)

Maps: (on maps refer to DZIEDZICE as variant spelling of CZECHOWICE)

GSGS No. 4082 EUROPE Air (TAIRY) 1:500,000

GSGS No. 4082 EUROPE Air (BUDAPEST) 1:500,000

GSGS No. 4082 EUROPE Air (BEOGRAD) 1:500,000

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

Target Chert No. 16-4-NA (CZECHOWICE) (DZIEDZICE) O/R)

No. 12-25-NA (SZOLNOK M/Y)

No. 12-19-NA (SZEGED A/D)

Briefing Chert No. 16-4-NA (CZECHOWICE) (DZIEDZICE O/R)

Report No. HI 203, 269 (with photographs)

Target Information Sheet, CZECHOWICE, T.C. No.16-4-NA, 20 June 44

1. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAK

(1) No report of flak defense of CZECHOWICE (DZIEDZICE) has been issued. Recent reconnaissance photographs show no Heavy Guns. If flak is present, the size of target suggests that it will be of no more than Moderate intensity, with Scent the probable intensity. Ordered course must be followed exactly to avoid flak defense of other oil targets in general vicinity. OSWIECIEM (77 Heavy Guns), MORAVSKA, BOHUMIN, PRZECISZOW and CRACOW especially should be avoided in target area, and SLAV POZEGA and BROD en route.

(2) SZEGED - Written report E 1930, issued 8 July, sortie of 7 July reports no Heavy batteries. Previous report, N. 1702, issued 13 June indicates no Heavy flak.

(3) SZOLOK - Written report E 1634 based on sortie of 2 June indicates 1X4 and 1X4 Heavy batteries with two positions unoccupied. On attack 3 July MIH was encountered.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT

(1) 110 SEF in VIENNA-BUDAPEST area may be airborne to intercept formations en route to targets, with possibility of 30-35 additional from MUNICH area.

(2) 15-20 TEF may be airborne, but none of these have established contact on recent missions.

(3) Contacts with formations passing East of BUDAPEST will probably be less than enemy capability.

(4) Opposition in target area will be by not more than 50-60 SEF, probably by less.

(5) Possibility of 30-40 SEF second sorties in VIENNA-BUDAPEST area.

(6) Attacks on stragglers in ZAGREB area will be on reduced scale.

(7) It is believed that enemy reporting system is not as effective in this Eastern area of penetration.

c. It is not known whether or not target is protected by smoke screen. Target is not camouflaged.

d. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET. Degree of success achieved on recent attacks of PLOESTI indicates at least temporary neutralization of ROUMANIAN oil, and raises POLISH and CZECH oil targets to top priority. The CZECHOWICE (DZIEDZICE) plant processes crude oil from ZISTERSDORF, AUSTRIA. This plant ranked with DROHOBYCZ as the two largest plants in POLAND, and since the capture of DROHOBYCZ by RUSSIANS our target is most important crude plant in POLAND, as OSWIECIM is most important synthetic. Capacity of CZECHOWICE plant is 90,000 tons per year; current output is estimated at 48,000 tons per year. Its destruction will be a major loss to GERMANY.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. Coordination of attack: On these missions against Oil targets in POLAND and CZECHOSLOVAKIA and against rail and counterair targets in HUNGARY, coordination is as follows:

(1) 5th Wing, 5 Groups (1 Group stands down), attacks OSWIECIM O/R.

(2) 47th Wing, 4 Groups, attacks SZOLNOK M/Y.

(3) 49th Wing, 3 Groups, frags SZOLNOK/RAKOCZIFALVA A/D.

(4) 304th Wing, 3 Groups (1 Group stands down), attacks DUBOVA O/R.

b. The 306th Fighter Wing, 5 Groups, provides escort for 5th, 55th, and 304th Wings, and target and withdrawal cover for the 304th Wing. No escort is provided for 47th and 49th Wings, since their missions are diversionary in nature.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

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

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy ea CG, A-2 Duty O, Fifteenth AF
1 cy CG, 306th Fighter Wing
1 cy ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI, 55th Bomb Wing
3 cys ea Gp, 55th Bomb Wing