

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

21 August 1944

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 158)

TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 158)

Maps: GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (WIEN) 1:500,000
GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (GR/.2) 1:300,000
GSGS No. 3982 EUROPE Air (VIEN.W.) 1:250,000
GSGS No. 3982 EUROPE Air (GR .. Z) 1:250,000

Target Chart No. 14-45-NA (KORNEUBURG)

Briefing Chart No. 14-45-NA (KORNEUBURG)

Target Chart NO. 14-16-N. (GRAZ FLUGZUGMOTORENWERKE)
No. 8-107-N. (MARIBOR AREA etc.)

Pathfinder Chart No. 1, VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 1:250,000

Pathfinder Chart No. 1A, VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 1:450,000

Target Photochart No. TP 14-2- FLORISDORF REFY, AUSTRIA 1:63,360
(shows KORNEUBURG)

Illustration No. 1 (a) (ii) 37/1 (KORNEUBURG near WIEN)

Photograph: 1 cy with Annex.

1. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAX

(1) KORNEUBURG -

References: E map No. 2298 issued 16 August
E map No. 2271 issued 12 August
E map No. 2265 issued 12 August
E map No. 2268 issued 12 August

E map 2265 is amended by written report E No. 2316, 17 August.

The outer flak defenses on the NE and NW extremities of VIENNA are composed of six gun batteries so located as to give slight overlap in horizontal range. The target is situated on the NW edge of these defenses and maximum possibility is from 24 heavy guns at the target proper, however on the bomb run, the formation will be exposed to 6-12 guns for a period of approximately 2 minutes maximum with some amount on rally. Special attention will be given by briefing officer to flak defenses in vicinity of TULLN as shown on flak map E-2298.

(2) 1st Alternate Target: Industrial center, city of VIENNA by PFF. If attached volume of flak will be of maximum intensity, with degree of accuracy depending upon weather conditions and effectiveness of chaff.

(3) 2nd Alternate Target: GRAZ A/C engine factory: GRAZ - E map No. 2178, issued 2 August, sortie 30 July amended by written report E-2264 11 August shows target to be in close proximity

of 2x6 heavy batteries (2 positions unoccupied in each). The slight left rally will clear formation of defenses approximately 7 miles S of target.

(4) Last Resort Target: MARIBOR A/C factory: MARIBOR, E map No. 1786 issued 21 June, sortie 16 June, amended by written reports E-2082 end 2293 shows target to be in range of 39 heavy guns, capable of Intense flak.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT

(1) Enemy can put up 60-70 SEF in VIENNA-BUDAPEST area plus 10-15 TEF.

(2) Enemy is capable of bringing in 35-40 ME-109s and FW-190s from MUNICH area, but is unlikely to do so.

(3) Attacks by 5th and 304th Wings will draw off some of total fighter strength in VIENNA-BUDAPEST area.

(4) Enemy is likely to establish contact and exert maximum effort between LAKE BALATON and target area.

(5) Total e/a opposition in VIENNA area will be absorbed by 3 Wings (11 Groups).

(6) Crews should be briefed to expect concentration of e/a against single Wing and/or single Group of Wing, particularly if off course or separated from other units of formation. Gunners should be alerted to expect attacks from or through cloud formations from below.

c. No information of smoke screen is available.

d. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET. Intelligence Annex Fifteenth Air Force advises that attacks of 20 August 1944 were most successful and bring initial program against oil targets near completion. Three tasks remain: (1) to knock out ODERTAL (target of 5th Wing), to hit PARDUBICE, KOLIN, and KROLUPY in CZECHOSLOVAKIA, and (3) to police oil targets attacked. Objective of attack by 55th Wing is to take out one of the two refineries in VIENNA area which have been repaired and are again active. The importance of completing oil program cannot be overemphasized. Program to date has been successful; continued success will be the most vital contribution, that air power has made to the EUROPEAN war and can quickly seal the fate of the GERMAN Army and Air Force.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. Coordination of attack

(1) 5th Wing, 6 Groups, attacks ODERTAL synthetic O/R.

(2) 47th Wing, 4 Groups, attacks VIENNA-LOBAU underground O/S.

(3) 49th Wing, 3 Groups, attacks VOSENDORF O/R.

(4) 304th Wing, 4 Groups, attacks BLECHHAMMER South O/R.

b. The 306th Fighter Wing, 7 Groups, provides escort for Bomber formations.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

DONALD W. RIDDLE,
Major, A.C,
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.