

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

21 August 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 158)

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex.

b.

4 Groups of 47th Wing destroy LOBAU UNDERGROUND O/S at 0958B. Key Point Time: 0815B. ALTERNATE TARGET: INDUSTRIAL AREA of VIENNA by PFF.

3 Groups of 49th Wing destroy LOBAU UNDERGROUND O/S at 1008B. Key Point Time: 0825B. ALTERNATE TARGET: Same as 47th Wing.

6 Groups of 5th Wing destroy ODERTAL SYNTHETIC O/R at 1100B. Key Point Time: 0843B. ALTERNATE TARGET: BOHUMIN O/R and MORVASKA O/R.

4 Groups of 304th Wing destroy BLECHHAMMER SOUTH O/R at 1110B. Key Point Time: 0901B. ALTERNATE TARGET: Same as 5th Wing.

3 Groupe of 306th Wing provide escort for 49th, 55th and 47th Wings.

4 Groups of 306th Wing provide escort for 5th and 304th Wings.

2.

Normal effort of 4 Groups of the 55th Wing destroy KORENEUBERG O/S at 0950B, 22 August 1944. This is Plan ABLE.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: INDUSTPIAL CENTER OF VIENNA by PFF.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: GRAZ A/C ENGINE WORKS.

LAST RESORT TARGET: MARIBOR A/C ENGINE WORKS.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 465th and 464th line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 6,000 and 7,000 feet. 464th falling in behind 465th in 465th area prior to rendezvous. 465th over ANDRIA at 0654B.

460th and 485th line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 8,000 and 9,000 feet. 485th approaching ALTAMURA from SANTERAMO IN COLLE. 460th approaching ALTALURA from TORITTO. 460th over ALTAMURA at 0700B.

Wing Rendezvous: 465th lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0709B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 2 columns of Wings - 1st column 55th (465th, 464th, 460th, 485th), 47th and 49th. 2nd column 5th and 304th.

ROUTE OUT: Base to Key Point SCEDRO ISLAND (4305N - 1642E) to KERESZTUR (4641N - 1722E) to CSORNA (4737N - 1714E) to FELBAR (4757N - 1728E) to PEZINOK (4817N - 1716E) to IP to target.

Last Point to start climb to Bombing Altitude - (4405N - 1655E).

Key Point Time: 0805B at 14,000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: MATZEN (4824N - 1641E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 255 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 0950B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 465th - 22,400 feet, 464th - 23,200 feet, 460th - 24,000 feet, 485th - 23,000 feet,

TARGET ELEVATION: 550 feet.

RALLY: Right to STOCKERAU (4822N - 1612E) to TRATTENBACH (4736N - 1552E) to BARAZDIN (4619N - 1620E) to PAKRAC (4526N - 1712E) to Key Point SCEDRO ISLAND (4305N - 1642E) to Base.

3.

x.

All groups load 10 - 500# GP fused .1 nose and .025 tail.

Intervalometer settings: All groups 25 feet.

Use MPI as shown on inclosed target chart.

PFF lead all Groups.

Wing will fly close right echelon on Route and column of Groups over target.

On Rally 465th Group will make sharp right and following Groups will plan Rally to establish Wing formation as soon as possible. It is essential that Groups fly in close column during Rally, until TRATTENBACH is reached to avoid Flak defended points in area. At TRATTENBACH Wing will form in right echelon.

Weather briefing indicates that there will be a heavy cirrus layer of clouds over targets with base between twenty five and twenty seven thousand feet. Bombing altitude will be flexible

enough to allow bombing below the cloud base if it is not too low to permit a safe bombing altitude.

FIRST ALTERNATE: INDUSTRIAL CENTER OF VIENNA NE OF DANUBE RIVER by PFF.

IP: SAME AS PRIMARY.

RALLY: Right to TULLN.

ROUTE BACK: TULLN to LAABEN then same as PRIMARY.

METHOD OF ATTACK: Column of Groups.

INTERVALOMETER SETTIMGS: 100 feet.

SECOND ALTERNATE: GRAZ MEUDO/ 4/C FACTORY (1708N - 1529E).

IP: FELDBACH (4657N - 1552E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 284 degrees.

RALLY: Left to STAINZ (4654N - 1515E),

ROUTE BACK: Rally Point to METLIKA (4539N - 1519E) to LAKE VRANSKO (4354N - 1535E) to Base,

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

INTERVALOMETER SETTINCS: 25 feet.

LAST RESORT: MARIBOR A/C ENGINE WORKS.

IP: RADKERSBURG (4641N - 1600E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 232 degrees.

RAILY: Left to LUSECKA VAS (2618N - 1535E),

ROUTE BACK: LUSECKA VAS (2618N - 1535E) to PAKRAC (4526N - 1712E) then reverse Route Out,

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

INTERVALOMETER SETTINGS: 25 feet,

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.

c.

Bomber Call Sign: 5th Wing (EXCEED 1), 47th Wing (KEYWORD.2), 49th Wing (KEYWORD 3), 55th Wing (KEYWORD 1) (465th-KEYWORD 1 Leader, 464th - KEYWORD 12, 460th-KEYWORD 13, 485th-KEYWORD 14), 304th Wing (EXCEED 2).

d.

Fighter Call Sign For: 5th and 304th Wings (KIDDIES), for 55th, 47th and 49th (BOOKCLUB), with suffixed numbers in order of contact.

e.

Recall Signs 5th Wing (CALIFORNIA), 47th Wing (CONVERTIBLE), 49th Wing (BOOTLEGGER), 55th Wing (MANHATTAN), 304th Wing (STEATSHIRT), 306th Wing (DARKHORSE).

x.

Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped. 465th load 3 cartons Window in all a/c of Group, using same dispensing rate and method as below. 464th, 460th and 485th load 3 cartons Window in lead attack unit of each Group dispensing 4 units every 20 seconds from 3 minutes before IP until clear of Flak.

Standard Bombs Away signals will be observed.

Radio discipline must be enforced.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

JOHN N. MELCHER,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 5 - 460th and 465th BGs
- 3 - 464th and 465th BGs
- 1 - CO; A-2, A-3, PI, 55BW.
- 1 - CG, 306th Ftr Wg.
- 1 - CG, XV AF.