

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

24 August 1944
1820B

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 161)

TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 161)

This is Plan Baker.

Maps : GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (WIEN Sectional) 1:500,000

GSGS No. 4072 EUROFE Air (GRAZ Sectional) 1:500,000

Target Chart No. 15-4-NA (PROSTEJOV)

No. 14-26-NA (MARMERSDORF)

No. 14-15-NA (ST. VALEITIN)

No. 14-16-NA (GRAZ)

PIR Report No. 2296 (PROSTEJOV) 60 Sqdn, 14 June 1944

Prints Nos. 4017-4023.

1. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAK

(1) PROSTEJOV A/D - Written "E" Report #1989 issued 12 July 1944, covers sortie including this A/D. In addition Fifteenth Air Force Intelligence Annex dated 24 August 1944 states no heavy guns are present.

(2) MARKERSDORF and ST. VALENTIN - See Intelligence Annex #160, dated 23 August 1944.

(3) GRAZ - "E" Map (2178) 2 Aug 44. Axis of attack will bring formation within range of 10 heavy guns on SW edge of GRAZ and 8 heavy guns at the target proper.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT

(1) Since 20 August 1944 operations have been in the same area. For this reason it is believed that bombers may have only negligible interception during penetration East of BUDAPEST and North to GYOR.

(2) Fifteenth Air Force estimates 15-20 Hungarian fighters may be airborne, plus 35-40 ME-109s from VIENNA area. The ME-109s may attempt to establish contact along approaches to or over target area.

(3) In addition, at target or upon withdrawal it is possible for the enemy to establish contact to the strength of 40-50 ME-109s and FW-190s from the MUNICH area.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET.

(1) PROSTEJOV - It is evident that the enemy is concentrating fighters particularly FW-190s in the MONRAVIAN area which has substantial airdromes with excellent facilities. The strategic location of these fields makes possible excellent defense for the highly industrialized area at BRNO and OLOMOUC. Destruction of this target will eliminate one of these fighter defense bases.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. This is a coordinated attack:

(1) 5th Wing (6 Groups) attacks A/D installations and LISEN A/C Factory at BRNO (4912N-1639E).

(2) 304th Wing (3 Groups) attacks BRNO KURIM A/C Factory.

b. The 306th Fighter Wing will provide 7 Groups of fighters for penetration, target cover and withdrawal support.

c. Briefing officers will brief escape procedure as given in Escape Bulletin No. 37, dated 21 July 1944.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

JAMES D. BOOK,
Major, AC,
Asst A-2.

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