

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

24 August 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

:

NUMBER 168)

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex.

b

Night Bombers will attack SZOLNOK RR Bridge night of 24/25 August.

6 Groups of 5th Wing attack BRNO A/D Installations & BRNO LISEN A/C Factory at 1100B. Key Point Time: 0810B.

3 Groups of 304th Wing attack KURIM A/C Factory at 1114B. Key Point Time: 0830B.

4 Groups of 47th Wing Stand By for TACTICAL TARGETS until 2400B.

7 Groups of Fighters of 306th Wing provide close escort and top offensive cover for 5th, 304th and 55th Wings on penetration, target and withdrawal.

2.

Normal effort of 3 Groups of the 55th Wing attack and destroy PPOSEJOV - installations at 1118B, 25 August 1944. This is Plan Baker.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: MARKERSDORF A/D

SECOND ITFRNATE TARGET: ST VALENTIN Tank Works

LAST RESORT TARGET: GRAZ A/C Components Factory.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 464 and 465 line rendezvous from AMORIA to CANOSA at 5000 and 6000 feet. 465 falling in behind 464 in 464 area prior to rendezvous. 464 over ANDRIA at 0733B,

485 rendezvous in normal area at 7000', approaching ALTAMURA from SANTFRAMO IN COLIE. Over ALTAMURA at 0735B.

WING RENDEZVOUS: 464th lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0744B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: Close right echelon of Wings: 5th, 304th, 55th (464-465-485).

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to Key Point SCEDRO ISLAND (4305N 1642E) to DAVOR (4507N 1731E) to NJEGOSEVAC (4535N 1812E) to HATVAN (4740N 1940E) to IP to Target. Last Point to start climb to bombing altitude: NJEGOSEVAC. Key Point Time: 0840R at 12000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: HOLESOV (4920N 1735E).

AYIS OF ATTACK: 293 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 1118B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 464 - 20000'; 465 - 20800'; 485 - 21600'.

TARGET ELEVATION: 708'.

RALLY: Left to TISNOV (4921N 1623E).

ROUTE BACK: TISNOV to YBBS (4811N 1504E) to UNZMARKT (4712N 1426E) to TOPLICE (4608N 1500E) to BRBINJ (4405N 1500E) to (4200N 1620E) to Base,

3:

a.

460 Group stand down.

464 - 465 - 485 Groups load 10-500# GP Bombs, fused .1 nose and .01 tail. Intervalometer settings: 25'. Use MPI as shown on attached Target Chart.

Wing will fly close right echelon enroute and column over the target. Wing and Group formations will keep closed up to gain maximum advantage from limited fighter cover.

Conservation of fuel is essential. Top tanks after pre-flight.

Known flak areas must be avoided.

First Alternate: MARKERSDORF A/D. I.P.: River Junction at 4823N 1544E. Axis of attack: 223 degrees. Rally: Right to MARBACH (4813N 1508E). Route back - MARBACH to UNZMARKT then same as Primary. Method of attack - Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target chart. Intervalometer settings: 50'. Target Elevation - 902'.

Second Alternate: ST VALENTIN Tank Works. I.P.: WEISZENBACH (4826N 1441E). Axis of attack - 213 degrees. Rally - Left to MAIDHOFEN (4758N 1447E). Route back - MAIDHOFEN to UNZMARKT then same as Primary. Method of attack - Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target

chart. Intervalometer settings: 40', Bombing Altitude - 464 - 22,000; 465 - 22,800'; 435 - 23,600. Target Elevation - 885'.

Last alternate: GRAZ A/C Components Factory. I.P.: BOTIACH (4704N 1505E). Axis of attack - 93 degrees. Rally: Right to WILDON (4053N 1531E). Route back - WILDON to TOPLICE thon same as Primary. Method of attack - Column of Groups using WPI as shown on target chart. Intervalometer settings: 25'; Target Elevation - 980'.

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 - PUSSCAT 1; 55th Wing - PUSSCAT 3 (464 - PUSSCAT 3 leader; 465 - PUSSCAT 32; 485 - PUSSCAT 33); 304th Wing - PUSSCAT 2.

d.

Escort use SCANTY with suffixed numbers in order of contact.

e.

Recall Signs: 5th Wing - DUCKSOUP; 55th Wing - QUAKER; 304th Wing - TRUMPET; 306th Wing - ABBOTT.

x.

Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped.

Load 2 cartons Window in lead attack units dispensing 4 units every 20 seconds from IP until clear of Flak. This will be used only Repeat ONLY if ST VALENTIN is attacked.

Radio discipline must be enforced.

Standard "Bombs Away" signals will be observed.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

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

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI 55BW.
5 cys ea 460, 465 Gps; 55BW.
3 cys ea 464, 485 Gps, 55BW.
1 cy CG 306th Fighter Wg:
1 cy CG XV AF.