

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

6 August 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 145)

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex.

b.

3 groups of 49th Wing destroy BLECHHAMMER SOUTH SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1100B. Key Point Timo: 0835B. ALTERNATE TARGET: BOHUNIN FANTO O/R, PRIVOS O/R, AIMASFUZITO O/R, GYOR A/D FACTORY BUILDINGS.

3 groups of 304th Wing destroy BLECHHAMMER SOUTH SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1110B. Key Point Timo: 0845B. ALTERNATE TARGET: Same as 49th Wing.

5 groups of 5th Wing destroy BLECHHAMMER SOUTH SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1131B. Key Point Timo: 0855B. ALTERNATE TARGET: Same as 49th Wing.

2 groups of 47th Wing destroy A/C on ALIBUNAR A/D (4504N - 2100E). Key Point Timo: 0921B. ALTERNATE TARGET: NONE.

1 group of 47th Wing destroy NOVI SAD OIL PUMPING STATION AND SIDINGS. Key Point Time: 0921B. ALTERNATE TARGET: LAPOVO H/Y, KRALJEVO AND CUPRIJA RR BRIDGES.

7 groups Fighters of 306th Wing provide penetration, target and withdrawal cover for Wings going to BLECHHAMMER. Provide Chaff dispensing a/c.

2.

Normal effort of 4 Groups of the 55th Wing attack BLECHHAMMER NORTH SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1121B, 7 August 1944. This is Plan BAKER.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: BOHUMIN O/S.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: GYOR A/D FACTORY BUILDINGS.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 464th and 465th line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA at 9,000 and 10,000 feet. 465th falling in behind 464th in 464th area prior to rendezvous. 464th over ANDRIA at 0752B.

485th and 460th line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA at 9,000 and 10,000 feet. 485th approaching ALTAMURA from SANTERAMO IN COLLE. 460th approaching ALTAMURA from TORITTO, 485th over ALTAURA at 0758B.

Wing Rendezvous: 464th lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 0807B.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: Close right echelon of Wings: 49th, 304th, 55th (464th, 465th, 485th, 460th), 5th.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOIA to Key Point TRPANJ (4300N - 1717E) to VRPOLJE (4513N - 1825E) to LAKE VELENCEI (4713N - 1836E) to PISKE (4745N - 1830E) to VRUTKY (4907N - 1855E) to IP to Target.
Altitude at LAKE BALATON - 18,000 feet.
Last Point to start climb at Bombing Altitude (4730N - 1813E)
Key Point Time: 0855B at 15,000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: PAWLOWICE (4958N - 1843E).

AXIS OF ATTACK: 325 degrees

TARGET TIME: 1121B.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 464th - 21,000 feet, 465th - 21,800 feet, 485th - 22,600 feet, 460th - 21,500 feet.

TARGET ELEVATION: 693 feet.

RALLY: Left to TROPPAU (4957N - 1754E).

ROUTE BACK: TROPPAU to TRNAVA (4823N - 1735E) to CSORNA (4737N - 1714E) to BJELOVAR (4554N - 1651E) to BISEVO ISLE (4259N - 1600E) to (4200N - 1620E) to Base.

3.

x.

All groups load 10 - 500# GP fused .1 nose and .025 tail. Use MPI as shown on inclosed target chart. Intervalometer settings: All Groups - 100 feet.

Wing will fly close right echelon on route out and close column over the target for mutual support against enemy aircraft and for efficient escort function.

PFF lead all units. Special briefing will be conducted for lead PFF crews on preparations for visual, synchronous PFF, or offset bombing.

Wing leader will maintain 155 MPH after rally until Wing is reformed.

Every precaution must be taken to conserve fuel. Keep ball turrets up unless needed until area of LAKE BALATON is reached.

Care must be taken to avoid 5th Wing arriving at Key Point at same time as 55th Wing.

8th AF will attack targets in BERLIN area.

First Alternate: BOHUMIN O/S.

IP: BAURWITZ (5010N - 1830E)

Elevation: 662 feet.

Axis of attack: 138 degrees.

Rally: Slight left then right around OSTRAVA to TRNAVA.

Route Back: TRNAVA to CSORNA then same as primary.

Method of attack: Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target chart.

Intervalometer settings: All groups - 75 feet.

Second Alternate: GYOR A/D FACTORY BUILDINGS.

IP: GUTA (4755N - 1801E)

Elevation: 400 feet.

Axis of attack: 221 degrees.

Rally: Left to PAPA (4720N - 1729E).

Route Back: PAPA to BJELOVAR then same as primary.

Method of attack: Column of groups using MPI as shown on target chart.

Intervalometer settings: All groups - 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-LARGECUP 4, 47th Wing-BURGLAR, 49th Wing-LARGECUP 1, 55th Wing-LARGECUP 3 (464th-3 Leader, 465th-32, 485th-33, 460th-34), 304th Wing-LARGECUP 2.

d.

Fighter Call Sign: RINGWAY 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, in order of contact with Bomber Formation.

e.

Recall Signs: 5th Wing-BANKER, 47th Wing-PAINTER, 49th Wing-YODEL, 55th Wing-CRIME, 304th Wing-DIAMOND, 306th Wing-FEATHER.

X.

Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped.

Load 4 cartons Window in lead attack units dispensing 6 units every 20 seconds from 2 minutes before IP until clear of Flak.

Radio discipline must be enforced.

Standard bombs away signals will be observed.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

DEWITT L. JONES,
Captain, Air Corps,
Assistant A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy CO, A-2, A-3, PI 55BW.
5 cys ea 460th and 465th B.Gs.
3 cys ea 464th and 485th B.Gs.
1 cy CG 306th Fighter Wing
1 cy CG XV AF.