

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

15 December 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 290)

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex, No. 282.

b.

6 Groups of 5th Wing attack BRUX SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1205A Key Point Time: 1007A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: PILSEN SKODA WORKS, LINZ BENZOL PLANT, REGENSBURG O/S.

4 Groups of 304th Wing attack BRUX SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1227A. Key Point Time: 1027A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: Same as 5th Wing.

3 Groups of 49th Wing attack BRUX SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1237A. Key Point Time: 1037A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: Same as 5th Wing.

4 Groups of 47th Wing attack INNSBRUCK MAIN and INNSBRUCK HALL M/Ys. ALTERNATE TARGETS: VEROMA/PAROMA RAIL BAIDGE, VERONA LOCO REPAIR WORKS, VEROMA SOUTH RAIL BRIDGE, BRENNER Route Targets. Key Point Time: 1055A.

154 Wx Recon Sq. A/C precede Air Force on Route Out and Back.

Fighters of 15FC provide: Strong close escort for bombers attacking BRUX, no escort for 47th Wing.

2.

Maximum effort of 4 Groups of the 55th Bomb Wing attack and destroy BRUX SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT at 1245A, 16 December 1944. This is Plan Able.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: PILSEN SKODA WORKS

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: - LINZ BENZOL PLANT

PROFITABLE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY: REGENSBURG O/S, STRAUBING M/Y, PASSAU M/Y, VILLACH M/Y.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Line rendezvous from CERIGNOLA to RODI. 460th leave CERIGNOLA at 0848A.

460th and 465th at 6000 feet; 485th and 464th at 7000 feet.

FIGHTER BOMBER RENDESVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: Close column of Wings: 5th, 304th, 49th, 55th (460-485-465-464), 47th.

ROUTE OUT: CERIGNOLA to RODI to Key Point SANSEGO (4430N 1419E) to FIAMONA (4508N 1411E) to MILLSTATTER LAKE (4646N 1338E) to CHUNBE (4755N 1345E) to ESTERNBERG (4633N 1335E, to DOIMAZLICE (4927N 1257E) to IP to KAADEN (5023N 1317E) to Target. Start climb to Bombing Altitude at: GMUMDEN. Key Point Time: 1045A at 19000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: LICHTENSTADT (5019N 1252E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 64 degrees from IP; 54 degrees from KAADEN.

TARGET TIME: 1245A.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 460 - 23000; 485 - 24000; 465 - 23500; 464 - 24,500.

TARGET ELEVATION: 810 feet.

RALLY: Left until clear of flak.

ROUTE BACK: Rally Point to LIBICOVICE (5024N 1403E) to GERHOVICE (1915N 1350E) to GMUMDEN then reverse route out.

x.

Load 8 - 500 # RDX bombs fused .1 nose and mixed .01 and .025 tail with 2 bombs per A/C fused from 1 - 72 hour long delay. One leaflet bomb in every sixth A/C.

Intervalometer Settings: 100 feet PFF; 25 feet visual.

Use MPI as shown on target chart.

Employ 3 PFF A/C but bomb visually by waves if possible. Use evasive action point KAADEN only if run is visual.

Conservation of gas is essential: top off tanks after preflight;

Keep taxiing time to a minimum; take-off at last possible time to complete successful rendezvous.

Start initial turn off target as soon as bombs are away completing rally in a series of left turns of not over 20 degree bank nor 20 second duration, maintaining constant altitude and not over 165 MPH.

FIRST ALTERNATE: PILSEN SKODA WORKS

Initial Point: OSVRACIN (4931N 1303E)

AXIS OF ATTACK: 42 degrees.

RALLY: Left to PLASY (4956N 1323E)

ROUTE BACK: PLASY to CERHOVICE (4951N 1350E), then same as for primary.

Use MPI as shown on target chart.

Intervalometer Settings: 25 feet visual; 100 feet PFF.

SECOND ALTERNATE: LINZ BENZOL PLANT

Initial Point: WRIZENKIRCHEN (4820N 1351E)
Axis of Attack: 100 degrees.
RALLY: Left to KEFERMARKT (4826N 1429E)
Route Back: KEFERMARKT to GREEN (4814N 1451E) to ALTERMARKT
(4743N 1439E) to MILLSTATTER LAKE, then same as for primary.
Use MPI as shown on target chart.
Intervalometer Settings: 25 feet visual; 100 feet PFF.

4.
No Change.

5.
a.
Assigned Group Command Frequency and VHF Channel "B" for communication within the Group. VHF Wing Channel "C" for Group to Group within the Wing. VHF Channel "A" for Bombers to Fighters and Wing to Wing.

b.
Bomber Call Sign: 5th Wing - BUTLER; 47th Wing - HEADTOP; 49th Wing - SHORTBREAD; 304th Wing - SCANTY; 55th Wing - RETAIN (460 - RETAIN Leader; 485 - RETAIN 2; 465 - RETAIN 3; 464 - RETAIN 4).

c.
Fighter Call Sign: PLATOON with suffixes in order of contact. Wx A/C - MIXTUB.

d.
Recall Signs: 5th Wing - MOONGLOW; 47th Wing - POOLTAPLE; 49th Wing - SKIPPER; 55th Wing - DUCKSOUP; 304th Wing - BLACKJACK; 15th PR FC - POKER.

x.
Carpet will be employed by all units equipped. Employ Chaff per S.F. 32-2. Radio discipline must be enforced. Standard bombs away signals will be observed.

By command of Brigadier General ACTESON:

DALE S. SEEDS,
Major, Air Corps,
A-3.

DISTRIBUTION: "C".