

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

17 December 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER)

NUMBER 292) THIS IS PLAN ABLE

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex.

b.

4 Groups of 304th Wing attack OSWIECIN O/R. Key Point Time 0915A.
ALTERNATE TARGETS: MORAVSKA OSTRAVA O/R, PRIVOZ O/R & M/Y.

3 Groups of 49th Wing attack BLECHHAMMER North & South O/Rs at 1135A.
Key Point Time 0935A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: Same as 5th Wing.

6 Groups of 5th Wing attack ODERTAL O/R at 1146A. Key Point Time:
0946A. ALTERNATE TARGETS: OSWIECIN O/R, MORAVSKA OSTRAVA O/R, PRIVOZ
O/R & M/Y.

1 Groups of 47th Wing attack FLORISDORF O/R. Key Point Time, 1010A.
ALTERNATE TARGETS: SOPRON West M/Y, GRAZ Main M/Y, MARIBOR Main M/Y.

15h Tx Recon Sq A/C precede bombers out and back.

Fighters of 15FC provide route cover through VIENNA area for
BLECHHAMMER bombers, target cover for BLECHHAMMER & ODERTAL bombers,
target cover for 304th Wing, PTW cover for 47th Wing.

2.

Maximum effort of 4 Groups of 55th Wing attack BLECHHAMMER North &
South O/Rs at 1125A, 18 December 1944. This is Plan Able.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: OSWIECIN O/R.

SECOND ALTERNATE TARGET: MORAVSKA OSTRAVA O/R.

PROFITABLE TARGETS OF OPPORTIIIIY: ERSEKUJVAR M/Y, HEGYESHALOM M/Y,
SOPRON City or M/Y, MARIBOR M/Y, GRAZ M/Y.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: 465 and 464 rendezvous in normal areas at 6000 and
7000 feet. 465 over ANDRIA at 0820A.

485 and 460 rendezvous in normal areas at 8000 and
9000 feet. 465 over ALTAMURA at 0825A.

Wing Rendezvous: 465th lead over SPINAZZOLA at 0835A.

FIGETER BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: 304th, 55th (465-464-485-460), 49th, 5th.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZOLA to KP SPLIT (4330N 1628E) to M. BUKOVEC (4618) 1643E) to JOKA (1608) 1730E) to IP to Target.

Start Climb to Bombing Altitude at BUKOVEC.

Key Point Time: 0925A at 16000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: PRENDENTHAL (4959N 1728E)

TARGET TIME: 1125A.

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 465 - 24000, 464 - 25000, 485 - 24500, 460 - 25500.

3.

a.

464 & 165 attack BLECHHAMMER North O/R.

Axis of Attack: 55 degrees.

Target Elevation: 693 feet.

Rally: Left to HIMELMITZ (5034N 1823E)

Route Back: HIMELMITZ to PROSKAU (5035N 1752E) to FRIEDEBERG (5019N 1706E) to JOKA & reverse route out.

b.

485 & 460 attack: BLECHHAMMER South O/R.

Ais of Attack: 57 degrees.

Target Elevation: 606 feet.

Dally: Right to WODZILAW (5000N 1829 E)

Route Back: WODZILAW to ZILIMA (4914N 1845E) to JOKA & reverse route out.

BOMB LOAD: 8 - 500 RDX fused .1 nose & mixed .01 & .025 tail.

Intervalometer Settings: 25 feet if visual, 100 feet if PFF.

MPI: See Charts.

Use 3 PFF but bomb visually by waves if possible.

Waves of 2 Groups each will attack targets simultaneously.

Very tight wave formation must be flown from IP to targets in order to split flak defenses. Close timing is essential to properly execute this maneuver. Make rallies off targets at constant altitudes until clear of flak.

NOTE: Brief gunners to be alert for fighters. Air Force experienced many aggressive encounters 17 December 1944.

FIRST ALTERNATE: OSWIECIN O/R.

Initial Point: CHYBIE (4954N 1849E)

Axis of Attack: 65 degrees.

Rally: Right to SPYTKOMICE (5000N 1930E)

Route Back: SPYTKOMICE to MAKOA (4944N 1941E) to ZILIMA (4914N 1844E) then same as for Primary.

MPI: See Target chart.

Intervalometer Settings: 25 feet visual, 100 feet PFF.

SECOND AITERMATE: MORAVSKA OSTRAVA O/R.
Initial Point: ODRAU (4940N 1730E)
Axis of Attack: 57 degrees.
Rally: Right to PRYSTAT (4952N 1833E)
Route Back: PRYSTAT to ZILIIA (4914N 1844E) then same as for primary.
MPI: See target chart.
Intervalometer Settings: 25 feet visual, 100 feet PFF.

4.
No change.

5.
a.
Assigned Group Command Frequency and VIF 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 CARTLOAD, 47th Wing PUSSCAT, 49th Wing KEYWORD, 304th Wing SAXHORN, 55th Wing SADLER (465 SADLER Leader, 464 SADLER 2, 485 SADLER 3, 460 SADIER 4)

c.
Fighter Call Sign: 47th Wing SCHOOLROOM. For 5th, 49th, 55th, 304th Wings: SHAPELY. WX A/C: MAYFLOWER.

d.
Recall Signs: 5th Wing DOGFACE, 47th Wing PICKPOCKET, 49th Wing RUMRUNNER, 55th Wing BOOTLEGGER, 304th Wing ASHTRAY, 15th Pr FC SWEATSHIRT.

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

By command of Brigadier General ACHESON:

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

DISTRIBUTION "C".