

HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMBARDMENT WING (Hv)
APO 520, U. S. Army

10 June 1944
1930B

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 89)
TO OPEN/TIONS ORDER NO. 89)

Maps: GSGS 4072 EUROPE Air (BEOGRAD) 1:500,000.
Target Chart: No. 8-41-NA (SMEDEREVO)
Briefing Chert: No. 8-41-NA (SMEDEREVO)
H. C. Report: No. 374, 23 May 1944, with photo.

Photograph: No. 5006 (SMEDEREVO)

1. ENEMY SITUATION:

a. FLAK.

(1) No flak defense of SMEDEROVO by heavy guns has been reported. Enemy is known to have strengthened his flak defenses in BALKANS. It is possible that railway and/or barge flak may have been brought in.

(2) BELGRADE (Alternate target): Flak map No. E/1531, 31 May 1944 shows 3 x 6 and 5 x 4 batteries of heavy guns occupied and 2 x 4 batteries unoccupied. "E" Report No. 1576, 3 June 1944 adds 1 x 4 battery. On attack 6 June 1944 MAH flak was encountered.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT

(1) Intelligence Annex Fifteenth Air Force advises that negligible or nil opposition to target and return may be expected. Enemy has withdrawn much of fighter strength based in YUGOSLAVIA for statistics. See Intops Summary No. 323, 9 June 1944,

C. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET.

(1) Intelligence Annex Fifteenth Air Force states that crude oil formerly refined at PLOESTI is now, due to damage to refineries, being piped to GUIRGIU and sent by barge up DANUBE for processing at smaller refineries in HUNGARY, AUSTRIA and YUGOSLAVIA. Thus SMEDEREVO refinery has high target value, so that its destruction will further reduce vital resources now critically needed by enemy.

(2) Destruction of train ferry will further reduce communications facilities already seriously strained,

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION.

a. Coordination of this attack is as follows:

(1) 5th Bombardment Wing (2 Groups) attacks SMEDEREVO RR repair shops and M/Y.

(2) 47th Bombardment Wing (4 Groups) attacks CRAIOVA M/Y.

(3) 49th Bombardment Wing (3 Groups) attacks GIURGIU oil storage installations.

(4) 304th Fighter Wing (4 Groups) attack GIURGIU leading quays and ferry landing.

b. 306th Fighter Wing (4 Groups) will furnish penetration, target and withdrawal cover for all units and withdrawal cover for task force.

c. Escape Intelligence Officers will use Safe Landing Area Map, SOFIA and BUDAPEST sections, in briefing.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

DONALD W. RIDDLE.
Major, AC.
A-2.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 cy ea CG, A-2 Duty O, Fifteenth AF.
- 1 cy CG, 306th Fighter Wing.
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