

HEADQUARTERS 55TH BOMBARDMENT WING (Hv)
APO 520 US ARMY

25 June 1944
1930B

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 106)
)
TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 106)

This is Plan A.

Maps: GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (WIEN Sectional) 1:500000.
GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (FIUME Sectional) 1:500000.
Target Chart No. 14-22-NA (VIENNA, North).
No. 8-4-NA (ZAGREB).
Communications Report H(I) No. 159 dated 30 Mar 44.
Illustration No. 6(d) (iv) 11/1 (FLORISDORF).

1. ENEMY SITUATION.

a. FLAK.

(1) FLORISDORF - The axis of attack is planned with the primary purpose of minimizing the amount of flight time. formation will be in concentrated flak on the bomb run. With the 245 deg heading, the outer ring of defense is 1 X 8 gun battery, with the target itself on outer ring of 3 X 6 batteries located. SE from target. The concentration of 16 heavy guns ESE from target, not in effective range. Right rally then left will clear heavy defenses SW from target, however formation will be in range of 16 heavy guns on route out. Strict adherence to given course is imperative for minimum effect of AA. IAH will be encountered.

(2) ZAGREB - Defenses at this target have evidently been increased in the past month. Usually, flak here has been from SAH to MIH. Last attack on 16 June showed that flak encountered was MAH. With the general trend in YUGOSLAVIA to increase flak defenses, the enemy has increased defenses here.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

It is unlikely if the enemy will attempt any interception enroute as far north as 46 deg. Encounters will probably begin from the Lake BALATON area and thence to the target. Fifteenth Air Force estimates the total enemy air opposition to be from 50 to 60 SEF and 40 to 50 TEF. It is likely that enemy fighters may pursue bombers on return as far south as ZAGREB on the lookout for stragglers or loose formations. In the ZAGREB area, the enemy is capable of interception of from 10 to 15 SEF, mostly ME-109s.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET.

(1) FLORISDORF Oil Refinery and Marshalling Yards has prime importance to the enemy now; much more than in the past. Attacks on oil refineries in Central EUROPE, BALKANS, and FRANCE has caused the Axis to make strong efforts to protect and maintain all refineries in production, regardless of size. This refinery is the largest crude oil distillation plant in AUSTRIA, and is the twelfth largest refinery outside of RUMANIA. Slight damage was inflicted on the last attack on 16 June, so it is necessary that this attack destroy installations and storage facilities along with the rail facilities.

(2) ZAGREB - To sustain operations in the BALKANS, and particularly in YUGOSLAVIA, the Axis must maintain supply routes from the North to the BALKANS. Destruction of this yard will sever both a central route from the North as well as from Eastern ITALY.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION.

a. This is a coordinated attack against Oil Refineries and storages in the VIENNA area.

5th Bombardment Wing:

- 1 Group destroy WINTERHAFEN Oil Storage.
- 2 Group destroy SCHWECHAT Oil Refinery.
- 3 Groups destroy LOBAU Oil Refinery.

47th Bombardment Wing destroy SCHWECHAT Aircraft Factory.

49th Bombardment Wing (3 Groups) destroy KORNEUBURG Oil Refinery.

304th Bombardment Wing (4 Groups) destroy MOOSBIERBAUM Oil Refinery.

b. The 306th Fighter Wing will provide penetration escort from Lake BALATON to target, give target cover and withdrawal escort.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

JAMES D. BOOK,
Capt, AC,
Asst A-2.

DISTRIBUTION:

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- 1 cy CG, 306th Fighter Wing.
- 1 cy ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI, 55th Bomb Wing.
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