

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

4 June 1944
1900B

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 84)

:

TO OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 84)

This is Plen B.

Maps: GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (VENEZIA Sectional) 1:500000.

Target Cherts: No. 4-78-N (FERRARA).

No. 4-82-N (FAENZA).

No. 4-2-N. (FORLI).

Photographs: 15SG/456/3PG/19 May.

1. ENEMY SITUATION.

a. FLAK.

(1) FERRARA - Latest "E" Flak Map with amendments now shows the target defended by a total of 18 Heavy Guns. The cet orics are siz gun batteries euu are located to the NE, NW, end SW of the target. Attacks of 14 and 24 May would indicate the flak to be encountered to range from SAH to MAH.

(2) FAENZA - There is no risk reported at this target. Attacks 13 and 19 May encountered no flak.

(3) FORLI - This target was last attacked on 19 May by this command and no flak was encountered, since then, there has been no report of any flak defenses. Unless rail flak is employed, none should be encountered.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

(1) In defense of the targets in this area the enemy is capable of interception of from 40 to 50 fighters based at the FARRARA and BOLOGNA areas. In view of the coordination of the attack and the fighter sweeps over airdromes, the enemy should not be capable of any major air opposition.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TARGETS.

These three marshaling yards are on the main route running from BOLOGNA to RIMINI. The enemy is attempting to make maximum use of this line especially since the route from the BRENNER PASS is open. Destruction of these rail yards will sever this North to South route of communications and will be in support of ground forces.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION.

a. This is a coordinated attack against communications in Northern ITALY.

(1) 5th Bombardment Wing (1 Group each) attacks VADO Bridge and PIOPPE Bridge.

(2) 47th Bombardment Wing: same as Plan Able.

(3) 49th Bombardment Wing (1 Group each) attacks BORGO VAL DI TARO Bridge, MARDI Bridge, and RIMINI Bridge.

(4) 306th Fighter Wing (2 Groups) strafe airdromes in Eastern Po Valley.

b. The 306th Fighter Wing will provide cover with 3 Groups for all wings.

By order of Colonel ACHESON:

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

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