

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

5 November 1944
1900A

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX NO. 239)

70 OPERATIONS ORDER NO. 239)

This is Plan Able

Maps: GSG3 No. 4072 EUROPE Air (WIEN) 1:500,000
GSGS No. 4072 EUROPE Air (GRAZ) 1:500,000
GSGS No. 3982 EUROPE Air (VIENNA) 1:250,000
GSGS No. 3982 EUROPE Air (GRAZ) 1:250,000
Target Chart No. 14-23A-NA (VIENNA Southwest)
No. 14-41-NA (GRAZ WETZELDORF O/D)
No. 14-12-NA (DEUTSCH/WAGRAM M/Y)
Briefing Chart No. 14-23/-NA (VIENNA Southwest)
Target Photocharts No. 14-1, 14-2 (VIENNA SWOLFAXING and FLORISDORF;
show VIENNA South O/D and DEUTSCH/WAGRAM)
Pathfinder Chart No. 1A (VIENNA, AUSTRIA) 1:250,000
Pathfinder Supplement, Positive Relief Chart, Pathfinder Supplement,
South Central EUROPE 1:2,892,000; Negative Relief Chart (same)
Pathfinder Charts No. RPC 1, 1-A.
Pathfinder Relief Chart No. RPC-1B, 1-C
Pathfinder Scope Photo No. RPC-1-D, 1-E (PSP No. RCP-1-E will not be
taken into air on mission)
Pathfinder Supplement No. RPC 1-F, 1-G
Illustration (Target shows on) No. 1(g) (i) 148/7, 6(d) (vi) 97/4,
117/1, 118/6
DB Report No. 211, 13 Sept 44 (w) Photo No. 4044; VIENNA South O/D)
Target Photographic Interpretation Report No. TR/83, 7 Aug 44, with
Stereopair (VIENNA South O/D)
Report No. TR 34 (GR/.Z WETZELDORF O/D) w/photograph
Report No. H (C) 212, 24 January 1944 (DEUTSCH WAGRAM); Print #2

1. ENEMY SITUATION

a. FLAK

(1) VIENNA: South Ordnance Plant lies in the central defenses of VIENNA and Scant to Nil flak may be encountered. Intense Accurate flak is to be expected for approximately 6 minutes. Refer to "E" maps 4E 15, 16, 17 and 18, dated 27 Oct 1944 as amended by 4E40 report, dated 3 Nov 1944. Additional flak may be expected in the area between VIENNA and BUDAPEST.

(2) DEUTSCH/WAGRAM: M/Y is on the perimeter of the gun defenses of VIENNA, within the heavy concentration. Route, as ordered, circles end avoids defenses of BRATISLAVA.

(3) GRAZ: Refer to E map No. 2706 (5 Oct 44) and 2510 (19 Sept 44) as amended by E report No. 2594 (20 Sept 44). Moderate flak may be expected for approximately 4 minutes.

b. ENEMY AIRCRAFT: Enemy capability in VIENNA area is 100-125 SEF. In operations on 6 November 1944 bomber formation is in two columns, requiring division of enemy force, or concentration upon one which will leave other unopposed.. A/c of Bomb Group of this Wing saw e/a airborne on mission of 5 November 1944. On 4 November 1944 a/c of Fifteenth Air Force had encounters in North ITALY, where it is believed that 25-30 e/a formerly of ITALILN (FASCIST) AF are based. It is obvious that there is no immunity to encounters by e/a. While it is likely that enemy will conserve his fighter force, committing it only under conditions favorable to himself, crews must be alert for possible attacks. The enemy must not be underestimated.

c. SIGNIFICANCE OF TARGET

(1) The VIENNA South Ordnance Depot is still the top priority in AFV production, and has immediate target value with reference to its capability of distributing vehicles and munitions to the Axis forces defending BUDAPEST. Its destruction will deprive the enemy of essential materials, especially of tanks, critically needed in view of heavy losses in Eastern HUNGARY battles. Further, destruction of target will deprive enemy of use of tanks, vehicles, and ordnance for the defense of VIENNA, which will soon be his tactical problem.

(2) If PFF bombing conditions prevail, the industrial area in which pinpoint target is located is a profitable target, both for military and for morale reasons.

(3) When, as in the case of recent missions to VIENNA, weather conditions prevent reconnaissance photography, it is required to continue bombing with unobserved results.

(4) DEUTSCH WAGRAM STRASSHOF M/Y is a target of high tactical value at this time when all Southern GERMANY communications are vital to the supply of troops in BALKANS and ITALY. This M/Y is located Northeast of VIENNA on the main railway line from PRAGUE, UPPER SILESIA, and POLAND. Most of the traffic between AUSTRIA and the Eastern and Southern fronts uses this line, which is currently in maximum use in shipping supplies to BUDAPEST. This M/Y is of major size approximately 6900'x800', and has complete facilities to handle traffic from both directions by means of its double set of reception and sorting sidings. Recent reconnaissance shows a large quantity of goods units present, latest cover indicating ~~1800~~1781 mixed units.

(5) This target, under earlier war conditions, was of minor significance, but now, when the enemy is critically short of all war materials, it has considerable target value. Its destruction will deprive the enemy of ordnance greatly needed in current operations in HUNGARY und ITALY.

2. FRIENDLY SITUATION

a. This mission is a coordinated attack on oil and industrial targets in the VIENNA area, with target assignments as follows:

- (1) 5th Wing: 6 Groups attack BLECHHAMMER South O/R
- (2) 47th Wing: 4 Groups attack MOOSBIERBAUM OR
- (e) 49th Wing: 3 Groups attack VIENNA/VOSENDORF O/R
- (4) 304th Wing: 4 Groups attack VIENNA South O/D

b. XV Fighter Command (Provisional) will provide penetration escort for 5th Wing, strong close escort for 5th Wing over target and on withdrawal, and close escort over target for 47th, 49th, 55th, and 304th Wings.

c. Escape Intelligence: Current Bulletins.

By command of Brigadier General ACHESON:

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

DISTRIBUTION:

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