

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

3 September 1944.

OPERATIONS ORDER )

NUMBER 169 )

1.

a.

See Intelligence Annex.

b.

4 Groups of 47th Wing destroy AVISIO Viaduct and TRENTO North M/Y. Key Point Time: 1150B.

4 Groups Bf 304th Wing destroy TAGLIALENTO/CASARSA and LATISANA RR Bridges. Key Point Time: 1210B.

6 Groups of 5th Wing destroy 7 submarines in GENOA Harbor at 1300B.  
ALTERNATE TARGETS: None.

Fighters of 306th Wing provide penetration, target and withdrawal cover for 5th, 47th, 55th, and 304th Wings, destroy BRONZOLO North M/Y by high level bombing at 1200B.

2.

Normal effort of 4 Groups of the 55th Wing attack communication targets in North ITALY at 1312B, 4 September 1944.

FIRST ALTERNATE TARGET: for 485 and 460 - AVISIO Viaduct; for 464 - 465 - TRENTO North M/Y.

LAST RESORT TARGET: for 485 & 460 - PESCHIERA DEL GARDA RR Bridge. For 464 & 465 - VERNOA East M/Y.

BOMBER RENDEZVOUS: Group Rendezvous: 485 and 460 line rendezvous from ALTAMURA to GRAVINA. 485 approaching ALTAMURA from SANTERAMO IN COLLE. 485 over ALTAMURA at 1030B. 460 approaching ALTAMURA from TORITTO, at 7000 feet.

464 and 465 line rendezvous from ANDRIA to CANOSA. 465 falling in behind 464 in 464 area prior to rendezvous. 464 over ANDRIA at 1032B, at 6000 feet; 465 at 7,000 feet.

Wing Rendezvous: 485 lead over SPINAZZOLA on course at 1041B, at 6,000 feet.

FIGHTER BOBER RENDEZVOUS: To be signalled later.

ORDER OF FLIGHT: Close column of Wings: 47th, 55th (485-460-464-465),  
304th.

ROUTE OUT: SPINAZZDIA to 4200N 1620E to Key Point (4350N 1350E to  
CAORLE (4536N 1253E) to SEDICO (4607N 1206E) to IP to  
Target. Start climb to Bombing Altitude at Key Point.  
Key Point Time: 1200B at 15000 feet.

INITIAL POINT: PREDAZZO (4619N 1137E) .

AXIS OF ATTACK: 280 degrees.

TARGET TIME: 1312B,

BOMBING ALTITUDE: 485 - 21000; 460 - 21800; 464 - 22600; 465 - 21500.

TARGET ELEVATION: 783'.

RALLY: Left to SAN ANTONIO (4612N 1047E).

ROUTE BACK: SAN ANTONIO to RIVA (4553N 1050E) to COMEGLIANO (4554N  
1218E) to CAORLE, then reverse route out.

3.

x.

485 and 460 Groups will attack and destroy ADIGE/CRA RR Bridge using  
MPI as shown on attached target chart. Load 5 - 1000# RDX, fused .1  
nose and non-delay tail.

464 and 465 Groups will attack and destroy BRONZOLO South M/Y, using  
MPI as shown on attached target chart. Load 10 - 500# GP, fused .1  
nose and .025 tail.

Intervalometer setting, all Groups - 25'. PFF lead for navigational  
aid only.

Wing will fly close column enroute and over the target and on route  
back. Route has been planned to avoid heavily defended areas. Close  
adherence to briefed route is essential.

Wing leader will determine at IP, for Primary target, whether the  
Primary or First Alternate Target will be attacked. He will then  
inform the Group Leaders on Channel "B", VHF.

First Alternate for 485 and 460: AVISIO Viaduct. IP: ORA.  
Axis of Attack: 213 degrees. Rally: Left to PEDEROBBA (4552N-1158E).  
Route Back: PEDEROBBA to CAORLE, then reverse route out.  
Method of attack - Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target  
chart.  
Intervalometer settings: 25'. Target Elevation - 650'.

FIRST ALTERNATE FOR 464 AND 465: TRENTO M/Y. IP: ORA (4622E 1118E).

Axis of Attack: 203 degrees. Rally: Left to PEDEROBBA (4552N 1158E).  
Route Back: Same as 485 and 460. Method of attack: Column of Groups  
using MPI as shown on target chart. Intervalometer settings: 25'.  
Target Elevation: 642'.

LAST RESORT FOR 485 AND 460: PESCHIERA DEL GARDA (4526N 1042E).  
IP: SALO (4537N 1031E). Axis of Attack: 144 degrees.  
Rally: Left to BOSCO CHIESANUOVA (4538N 1102E). Route Back:  
CHIESANUOVA to ESTE (4513N 1140E) to 4500N 1240E to 4200N 1620E to  
Base.  
Method of Attack: Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target chart.  
Intervalometer settings: 25'.

LAST RESORT FOR 464 AND 465: VERONA M/Y. IP: AVIO (4544N 1058E) .  
Axis of Attack: 175 degrees. Rally: Left to ESTE (4513N 1140E).  
Route Back: ESTE to 4500N 1200E to 4200N 1620E to Base.  
Method of Attack: Column of Groups using MPI as shown on target chart.  
Intervalometer settings: 25'.

4.  
No Change.

5.  
a.  
Command Radio: Assigned Group Frequency for communication within the  
Group. VHF Wing Channel "B" for Group to Group within the Wing.

b.  
VHF Channel "A" for Bombers to Fighters and Wing to Wing.

c.  
Bomber Call Sign: 5th Wing - CLEARSOUP; 47th Wing - PUSSCAT 1; 55th  
Wing - PUSSCAT 2 (485 - PUSSCAT 2 Leader; 460 - PUSSCAT 22; 464 -  
PUSSCAT 23; 465 - PUSSCAT 24); 304th Wing - PUSSCAT 3.

d.  
Fighter Call Sign For: 5th Wing - CLEARGUM; For 47th, 55th and 304th  
Wings - PIXIE with suffixed numbers in order of contact.

e.  
Recall Signs: 5th Wing - SNAKEBITE; 47th Wing - MANHATTAN; 55th Wing -  
SWEATSHIRT; 304th Wing - MARSHLAND.

x.  
Carpet will be employed by all units so equipped.

Load 2 cartons Window in lead attack units, dispensing 4 units every  
20 seconds from IP until clear of Flak.

Standard Bombs Away signals will be observed.

Radio discipline must be enforced.

By order of Colonel AC ESON:

DEWITT L. JONES,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Asst A-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 cy ea CO, A-2, A-3, PI 55BW.  
5 cys 460, 465 Gps 55BW.  
3 cys 464, 485 Gps 55BW.  
1 cy 306th Fighter Wg.  
1 cy CG XV AF