

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
NASOUSA A.P.O. 520

Intelligence Narrative No. 18 Day Operation 18 May 1943

Twenty-six B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off this morning to bomb Pantelleria Airdrome. They were escorted by 36 P-40's of the 325th Fighter Group. Eight B-26's returned early; 2 due to mechanical difficulties, six when the Flight leader got separated from the main formation in the clouds.

At the target the I.P. was obscured by cumulus, which was built up in a solid bank from 4000 to 14000 ft. Poor horizontal visibility was encountered there, making a good bombing run extremely difficult, if not impossible. Most of the hits were observed on the eastern edge - off the airdrome target. The target was missed.

Route: This base to target, and return.

Chronology: Bombers off between 0945 and 0958 hours. Rendezvous above this field immediately after take off. Bombs away at 1142 hours. Bombers down between 1257 and 1319 hours.

Bombs: 18 ships dropped 308 x 100 lb demolition bombs, instantaneous nose fuse, .045 second delay tail fuse, at the target. Of the bombers over the target, six planes returned 52 bombs to this base. The eight B-26's which returned prior to bombing brought back 160 x 100 lb bombs to this base.

Results: Missed target. Most of our bombs landed off the airdrome on the eastern edge, with some bombs overshooting tremendously and landing in the water.

Flak: Moderate heavy flak accurate for altitude; inaccurate for deflection, trailing the formation. Deflection accuracy increased towards the end of the flight. See Appendix I for special flak report, also Appendix I-a.

Enemy Aircraft: None.

Observations: Five single engine E/A was sighted on the western edge of the field, widely dispersed. Three two-engined E/A over N/E end of field, widely dispersed. Time 11:42 hours at 10,000 feet.

On approach, at 11:20 hours from 10,000 ft., huge fires were sighted in harbor; 5 distinct columns of smoke were counted; 4 to 8 (3 large) M/V reported in the inner harbor; 2 large vessels and 3 smaller vessels were in the outer harbor, 2 of which seemed to be ferries.

There were a big concentration of oil tanks seen north of the town at 11:40 hours from 10,000 ft.

One crew reports 3 slim, grey vessels in a cove on southern side of the island near the town of Scauri. Time 11:44 hours at 10,000 ft. Boats were anchored.

Weather: Haze and frequent showers encountered enroute. Over Cape Bon, 8 to 7/10 cloud. At target, 7/10 at 12000 ft, solid bank of cumulus over I.P. (over ocean 1 miles north of field) built up from 4000 to 14000 feet.

SECRET

JAMES H. MACIA Jr.,
Captain, Air Corps,
Op. Intelligence Officer.

Mission No. 22

18 May 1943

Take-off - 09:45

"A"

RED "A"	<u>WEIZNER</u> 002	<u>HORRAS</u> 855	<u>PATTERSON</u> 060
BLUE "A"	<u>BRADEN</u> 036	<u>KARLOWITZ</u> 874	<u>HOY</u> 100
YELLOW "A"	<u>TRESCH</u> 842	<u>CARTER</u> 195	<u>GRAVES</u> 955
GREEN "A"	<u>BURNS</u> 027	<u>SUMMERS</u> 798	<u>LUTTRELL</u> 871

"B"

RED "B"	<u>GOODSON</u> 061	<u>MC CRORY</u> 959	<u>WORTHINGTON</u> 981
BLUE "B"	<u>TOWNS</u> 861	<u>BARRETT</u> 853	<u>URNER</u> 024
YELLOW "B"	<u>LADD</u> 048	<u>FRIDAY</u> 006	<u>OSBORN</u> 088
GEN "B"	<u>CORDILL</u> 987	<u>HEIMROTH</u> 056	<u>CHURCH</u> 077

SPARES

BREWER
041

DAVIS
074

RILEY
001

SUND
013

Radio:

Channel "A"

Bomber Call BUTLER
Fighter Call GANGSTER

Emergency Fields:
Bone and Telergum
(Hospital Units)

Deputy FLIGHT COMMANDER - Maj. POLK - 855
Deputy FLIGHT COMMANDER - Capt. SIMS - 874

BOMBING ALTITUDES

Squadron "A"

1st. Flt. -

2nd. Flt. -

Squadron "B"

1st. Flt. -

2nd. Flt. -

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Appendix I to Intelligence Narrative No. 18 Day Operation 18 May 1943

Special Flak Report - Target, Pantelleria Airdrome.

Capt. Holt, Photo-Observer, Ship No. 060, Lt. Patterson, Pilot.

Position in flight, No. 2 ship of lead element.

"We were over the target at 1140 hours, altitude approximately 9,500 feet. I was looking out of the camera hatch ready to snap pictures of the bomb hits. Suddenly I noticed, about 200 ft. and directly below our ship, 10 to 15 paper-like gray streamers. They were in a loose cluster and I saw no wires holding them together. At first they looked like pamphlets, but as we were in the leading element they couldn't have come from any of our ships. They appeared to be about four inches wide and eighteen inches long and were of a dark gray color. I called the waist gunner's (S/Sgt. Erien) attention to this, and shortly following the first cluster we saw two more which seemed to be considerably closer. The last one was so close that I ducked back into the ship for protection. We did not see the source of these streamers but suspected that they came from the flak bursts which were appearing below our flight."

Compiled by Interrogator, Lt. R. A. Woods.

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Appendix I-a to Intelligence Narrative No. 18 Day Operation 18 May 1943.

Special Flak Report - Target, Pantelleria Airdrome.

Capt. Luttrell, Pilot; Lt. Yeager, Co-pilot; Lt. Dickey,
Bombardier.

Position in flight, No. 11 ship, last element, 1st squadron.

The following is the report by Capt. Luttrell on a strange burst of flak seen in attack on Pantelleria Airdrome May 18, 1943. The observation was made as they passed slightly to the left of the target at 1142 hours from an altitude of 9,000 ft. The Pilot, Co-pilot, and Bombardier all report the same observation. Their position in the flight was No. 11, or right wing man in last element of first squadron.

The burst was seen off to the right of the plane at the same altitude. The puff was black and mushroomed in the usual fashion, but it seemed to have a peculiar whirling motion to it. At the same time a streamer of dense black smoke, blacker in density than the actual burst, was seen to trail out from behind it, still having that same whirling motion. The trail narrowed down to a point, so that Lt. Yeager suggested that it resembled a horizontal waterspout, while Capt. Luttrell suggested that it looked like an ice cream cone. It stretched for about one plane length, but no one reports seeing any kind of streamers or wire.

Capt. Luttrell offers the opinion that it was nothing more than a faulty detonation of one of their shells.

Compiled by Interrogator, Lt. W. L. Farberow.

Sketch of flak:



THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON PANTELLERIA SICILY
 May 18, 1943.

CREW NO. AND PERSONNEL.	SQUADRON,	SHIP NO.
# 2 Horras, Pilot, Flight leader, Captain. Soniat, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Allen, Navigator, 1st Lt. Ozuk, Bombardier, Captain. Foss, Engineer gunner, S/SGT Archer, radio gunner, T/sgt. Corp, aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st NOTE: MAJ. POLK WAS FLIGHT COMMANDER ON THIS SHIP <i>O.K.</i>	855 TOOK OFF 0945 LANDED AT. 1257.
# 5 Patterson, Pilot, 1st Lt. Cartwright, Co, Pilot, F/O Scott, Navigator Bombardier, T/SGT. Brien, Engineer gunner, S/SGT. Bain, Radio Gunner, M/SGT Spor, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st NOTE: CAPT SIMS RODE AS DEP. FLIGHT COMMANDER. <i>O.K.</i>	060 Took off 0945 ³⁰ Landed at. 1257.20 Capt Helt
# 10 Wegener, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Koontz, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Kennedy, Navigator Bombardier, SGT. Levi, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Berrigan, Radio Gunner, S/SGT. Wurst, Aerial Gunner, S/sgt.	441st <i>O.K.</i>	002 Took off 0946 Landed at 1258
# 4 Karlowitz, Pilot, 1st Lt. Crotty, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Shevelson, Navigator, 1st Lt. McGeever, Bombardier, 2nd Lt Fishman, Engineer gunner, s/sgt. Cofield, Radio gunner, s/sgt. Cain, Aerial gunner, S/SGT.	441st <i>O.K.</i>	874 Took off 0946 ³⁰ Landed at 1258 ³⁰
# 9 Hoy, Pilot, 1st Lt. Condit, Co, Pilot, S/O Moore, Navigator, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Cinnamon, Engineer gunner, S/SGT. Kleinschmidt. Radio Gunner, Cpl. Brown, Aerial gunner, sgt.	441st	100 Took off 0947 Landed at. 1312 <i>O.K.</i>
# 15 Braden, pilot, 2nd Lt. Walker, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Cockrell, Navigator Bombardier, s/sgt. Olson, engineer gunner, S/sgt. Aldrich, Radio gunner, s/sgt. Hancock, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	441st <i>O.K.</i>	036 Took off 0947 ³⁰ Landed at. 1300

CREW NO. AND PERSONNEL

SQUADRON,

SHIP NO.

3

443rd

195

Carter, Pilot, Captain, ✓
Bigelow, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓
Kardis, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. ✓
Dore, ~~Mx~~ Bombardier, 1st Lt. ✓
Smith, Engineer gunner, Sgt. ✓
Hunter, Radio gunner, T/SGT. ✓
Foulkes, Aerial Gunner, S/sgt. ✓

TOOK OFF 0948

Landed at

1311 OK

#

443rd

955

Graves, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓
Bracken, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓
Kimbrow, Navigator Bombardier, SGT, ✓
Pierce, Engineer gunner, SGT. ✓
Miles, Radio Gunner, S/SGT. ✓
Yim, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. ✓

took off 0948/30

Landed at

1318 OK

#

443rd

842

Tresch, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓
Brown, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓
Key, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. ✓
Carter, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. ✓
Doolittle, Radio gunner, s/sgt. ✓
Powell, aerial gunner, cpl. ✓

took off 0949

Landed at 1142

1

443rd

~~842~~ - 023

Summer
F2222222222222222
Buttrel, Pilot, Captain, ✓
Yeager, co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓
Dickey, Navigator Bombardier, Pfc. ✓
Thompson, engineer gunner, S/sgt. ✓
Robichaux, Radio gunner, S/sgt. ✓
Britton, Aerial gunner, s/sgt. ✓

Took off Not a take off

To 0950

1310 OK

3

444th

959

Mc Crory, Pilot, Captain, ✓
Ball, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓
Burton, Bombardier, 1st Lt. ✓
Shryock, Navigator 1st Lt. ✓
Schwerkhart, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. ✓
Reyes, Engineer gunner, Sgt. ✓
Hurt, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. ✓

~~959~~ 951b

took off 0951

Landed at 1313 OK

13

444th

981

Worthington, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓
Coffey, F/O Co, Pilot, ✓
Breeding, navigator Bombardier, S/SGT. ✓
Horne, Engineer gunner, pvt. ✓
Teter, Radio Gunner, Sgt. ✓
Sewell, Aerial gunner, Cpl. ✓

Took off 0951/30

Landed at 1318 OK

8

444th

960 OK

Goodson, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓
Fair, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓
Hausner, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. ✓
Porter, engineer gunner, s/sgt. ✓
Tucker, Radio gunner, t/sgt. ✓
Hansen, aerial gunner, sgt. ✓

Took off 0952

Landed at 1314 OK

CREW NO. AND PERSONNEL	SQUADRON,	PLANE NO.
# 9 Barrett, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓ Kisler, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓ Brown, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. ✓ Wells, Engineer gunner, pvt. ✓ Kracker, Radio gunner T/SGT. ✓ Hedgepeth, Aerial gunner, sgt. ✓	444th	853 took off 0952/30 landed at 1314 ³⁰
# 16 Urner, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓ English, co, pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓ Vaughan, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. ✓ Stoerkel, engineer gunner, t/sgt. ✓ Morocco, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. ✓ Monaghan, Aerial gunner, sgt. ✓	444th	024 took off, 1953 landed at 1315
# 7 Towns, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓ Perry, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. ✓ De Santis, Navigator Bombardier, T/sgt. ✓ Dicke, Aerial Engineer gunner, S/sgt. ✓ Meadows, Radio gunner, S/sgt. ✓ Chojnard, Aerial gunner, cpl. ✓	444	861 Took off 0953/30 Landed at 1310 ³⁰
# 1 Friday, Pilot, Captain, Baucum, Co, Pilot, 1st lt. Amundsen, Bombardier, lt. Evans, Navigator, lt. Peck, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Harper, Radio gunner, s/sgt. Buchanan, Aerial gunner, T/sgt.	442nd	006 Took off, 0954 Landed at 1044
# 9 Osborn, Pilot, 1st Lt. Byram, Co, Pilot, lt. Andrewson, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. Glockner, Engineer gunner, S/SGT. Hageman, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Legutho, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	442nd	088 Took off 0954/30 Landed at 1053 10 Note Maj. Sullivan was observer on this ship
# 11 Ladd, Pilot, 1st Lt. Tieman, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Monroe, Navigator Bombardier, lt. Stander, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Hite, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Griffin, Aerial gunner, pvt.	442nd	048 Took off 0955 landed at 1044

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CREW NO. AND PERSONNEL,	SQUADRON,	SHIP NO.
# 7 Heimroth, Pilot, lt. Carragher, Co, Pilot, 1st.lt. Hesman, Navigator Bombardier Mitchell, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Strop, radio gunner, S/sgt. Wornoff, aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	056 Took off 0955/30 Landed at. 1045
# 10 Church, Pilot, 1st lt. James, Co, Pilot. lt. Walker, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. Madraid, Engineer gunner, s/sgt. Swartz, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Levesque, aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	077 Took off 0956 Landed at. 1045/30
# 14 Cordill, Pilot, captain, Chandler, Co, Pilot, lt. Thranhardt, Navigator Bombardier, lt. Hall, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Eupka, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Baronet, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	987 Took off 0956/30 Landed at 1047
# 20 Tuck, Pilot, 1st Lt. Becker, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Pace, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Schinkel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Long, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Mc Gaha, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	443rd	012 Took off 0949/30 Landed at 1047/30
# Sund, Pilot, 1st Lt. Sullivan, Co, Pilot, F/O Moran, navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Ferrara, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Cook, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Wedzeck, Aerial gunner, S/sgt	444th	013 Took off 0957/30 Landed t 1047/30
# Doxseep, Pilot, 1st Lt. Deutman, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Farrer, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. Lasher, Engineer gunner, S/SGT Allen, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Burns, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	859 Took off 0958 Landed at 1048

O.K. L 1317

CREW NO. AND PERSONNEL	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
#	443rd	027
Burns, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓		Took off
Baker, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓		
Mowry, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. ✓		Landed at 0950/30
Caputo, Engineer gunner, Sgt. ✓		
Wall, Radio gunner, S.sgt. ✓	O.K.	1318/30
Shepherd, aerial gunner. Sgt. ✓		

074 Davis Pilot, did not take off

# 14	441st	001
Church, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓		Took off 0957
Riley, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. ✓		
Brosi, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. ✓		Landed at 1319
Formichelli, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. ✓		
Meeker, Radio gunner, sgt. ✓	O.K.	
Martz, Aerial gunner, sgt. ✓		