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HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)  
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer  
APO 520

Intelligence Narrative No. 41, Day Operation, 5 July 1943

(Ref: Target Chart 2-15-MA)

Thirty-eight B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off this morning to bomb Gerbini A/D #7, Sicily. They were escorted by 36 P-38's of the 1st Fighter Group, and 12 Spitfires from Malta. Seven B-26's returned early: 1 because of an oil leak, 1 because tail gunner became sick, 1 because tail guns were inoperative, and 4 because of engine trouble. 24 B-26's returned safely to this base on schedule; 6 B-26's returned safely to this base after having landed at either Malta or Gozo; 1 B-26 is safely down at Malta.

Routes and Altitudes: Direct line from this base at 3,500 to rendezvous at Diedo at 4000; 98° T for 24.7 miles, curve to left, 35° T for 37 miles to Sampieri, Sicily; 38° T and curve to the left, for 4.5 miles to I.P. (Vallassande) climbing gradually to 11500; bomb run 306° T for 15 miles, dropping to 10500; 160° curve to the left, then curve to right, then 194° T for 55 miles; 215° T, curve to the left for 37 miles; 276° T for 24.7 miles, dropping gradually to 3000.

Bombs: 114 x 500-lb. demolition bombs, 1/10 .045 second delay fuse carried by 19 B-26's; 378 x 100-lb. demolition bombs, 1/10 .025 second delay fuses carried by 19 B-26's (17 carried 20, two carried 19); 24 x 500-lb. demolition bombs and 60 x 100-lb. demolition bombs returned to this base in planes that returned early. 90 x 500-lb. demolition bombs and 278 x 100-lb. demolition bombs dropped over target area. 40 x 100-lb. demolition bombs returned to this base, one plane having not dropped because target was observed too late, and one plane having not dropped because element leader failed to drop.

Chronology: Time off between 1000 and 1018; on course 1035; rendezvous with P-38's at 1040, rendezvous with Spitfires at 1204; target 123; 24 B-26's down at this base between 1411 and 1429; 6 B-26's down at this base after having landed at Malta or Gozo between 1605 and 1910.

Results: Bombs were dropped on Gerbini A/D #2. A good pattern of bombs was laid across the eastern end of the field, destroying an estimated 12 to 15 twin engine A/C, believed to be JU 88's. *landed among*

Flak: Moderate to intense inaccurate heavy flak was encountered over the target. The following heavy gun positions were reported:

- 8 guns in an east-west line south of Gerbini A/D #2
- 4-gun battery at 37° 25' N, 15° 02' E
- 2 one-gun positions at B/22-23, one gun east of Florida
- 4 guns just west of Catania A/D
- 3/4 guns forming triangle at G/23, G/24, and H/24:
  - 1 gun at 37° 23' N, 14° 58' E,
  - 1 gun at 37° 27' N, 14° 56' E,
  - 1 gun at 37° 05' N, 14° 41' E.
- 4/5 guns in ravine northwest of Palgonia at 37° 22' N, 14° 47' E
- 1 gun at Caltagirone; 2 four-gun batteries at H/9. *Many flashes*

by one crew. Intense inaccurate heavy flak was encountered from gun positions bordering Lake Lentini.

Over the target, at 1230 from 11,000, white puffs, which hung in the air longer than flak bursts, were seen bursting at our altitude and higher immediately preceding concentrated bursts of heavy flak. It was thought that these were used in an attempt to ascertain our altitude. One crew reported that escort radioed warning immediately before white bursts appeared that aerial bombs might be expected because E/A had been sighted flying above and ahead of the formation.

Red bursts were seen as final shot of various positions, but no fighters appeared.

Observations:

- (1) 1 unidentified S/E A/C with brown camouflage markings reported to have flown parallel to formation for several minutes and then cut off to northeast, at 20 miles north of Malta, from 9000 at 1205.
- (2) B5 S/R were reported to have been seen in S/P base at Augusta at 1231 from 10500.
- (3) 1 S/S E/A sighted flying on deck headed west over Gerbini A/D #2, at 1231 from 10500.
- (4) At 1227 from 10600, 3 S/S E/A flying south at 6000 were sighted.
- (5) One rear gunner reported several S/E E/A engaged by P-38's, seen at 1234 from 10000.
- (6) 6 E/A were reported circling Carlentini, sighting at 1230 from 10700.
- (7) 20 S/E A/C were sighted on a field to north of Gerbini A/D #2.
- (8) 30/40 S/E and twin/E A/C were reported at Catania, southwest corner, not well dispersed, at 1231 from 10500.
- (9) One 6-engine and 3/4 twin/E transports sighted on Comiso A/D at 1235 from 8500.
- (10) Shipping at Augusta:
  - 2 large M/V at 0/3 and 1/5 (Target Chart 2-101-NA;
  - 10 medium M/V, gray in color, close to shore in inner harbor (one had steam up and was leaving a short wake)
  - 30 barged and other small craft also in harbor.
  - Sighted at 1227 from 10500.
- (11) 1 large M/V anchored off coast at Puntaseci, sighted at 1237 from 8000.
- (12) At 1217 from 8500, 10 miles north of Malta, 1 medium M/V and destroyer escort, headed north by north, speed 10 knots.
- (13) At Militello In Val Di Catania a large number of gun emplacements or revetments were sighted at 1235 from 8500 feet.
- (14) Large gun positions made of freshly dug earth along the coast of Sicily between Punta Secca and Pozzatto were reported, seen at 1237 from 8000.
- (15) Five miles north of the coast of Sicily numerous objects, apparently haystacks, but having gray tops as though covered with canvas, were reported at

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1235 from 9000. These objects were evenly dispersed and were square in shape. A well defined road was seen running between them.

Weather: En route hazy with low thin stratus at 2500 near Malta, 3 - 5 miles horizontal visibility; at target, haze, visibility 10 miles; return as en route.

Our losses: None. 4 B-26's damaged, 3 slightly damaged by flak; 1 B-26 slightly damaged when escape hatch blew off and hit stabilizer.

Comments: None.

JAMES H. MACIA, JR.  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Group Intelligence Officer

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5 July 1943

Flight Commander - Maj. Peddie  
 Deputy Flight Commander - Capt. Friday

<u>"A"</u>			
<u>RED "A"</u>	<u>BREWER</u> 851	<u>ROBERTS</u> 195	<u>TRESCH</u> 842
<u>BLUE "A"</u>	<u>HIGGLOW</u> 763	<u>VAN MARTER</u> 023	<u>BUTLER</u> 780
<u>YELLOW "A"</u>	<u>SWIGART</u> 798	<u>SWALL</u> 575	<u>LUTTSKILL</u> 010
<u>GREEN "A"</u>	<u>CHURCH</u> 964	<u>DOXSEK</u> 283	<u>LOVECE</u> 999
<u>"B"</u>			
<u>RED "B"</u>	<u>INGALLS</u> 077	<u>ROSS</u> 298	<u>MILLER</u> 048
<u>BLUE "B"</u>	<u>LIMBERG</u> 958	<u>HEINROTH</u> 596	<u>HOLLIS</u> 017
<u>YELLOW "B"</u>	<u>BRADEN</u> 100	<u>DOBNEY</u> 595	<u>HAYWARD</u> 765
<u>PURPLE "B"</u>	<u>CWEN</u> 002	<u>WILLER</u> 009	<u>EDENNER</u> 980
<u>"C"</u>			
<u>RED "C"</u>	<u>HUY</u> 001	<u>KILBY</u> 189	<u>MCGLANNON</u> 036
<u>BLUE "C"</u>	<u>COULTER</u> 853	<u>MALLORELL</u> 904	<u>BURNS</u> 785
<u>YELLOW "C"</u>	<u>BULLARD</u> 978	<u>BOYTH</u> 920	<u>PETERSON</u> 260
<u>GREEN "C"</u>	<u>KINLER</u> 061	<u>URNER</u> 882	<u>FAIR</u> 013
	<u>KOCHT</u> 060	<u>SHAKES</u> <u>BARRETT</u> 959	<u>BURNS</u> 051

RADIO : CHANNEL "A"  
 FIGHTER CALL - CRAWFORD  
 BOMBER CALL - LIMHOUSE

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMB GROUP (M) AAF  
 Office of the Operations Officer  
 A. P. O. #520 NATOUSA

5 July 1943

LIST OF CREWS PARTICIPATING IN RAID ON Gerbeni Airdrome #7, this date:

Names of crews	Squadron	Plane No.	
Roberts, Pilot, Captain	443rd	195	B
Goff, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt.		Took-off:1000	
Baswell, Bombardier, 1st. Lt.		Landed at: 16:15	
Stevens, Navigator, 2nd. Lt.			
Perkins, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			Maj. Peddie flew as Flt. Comm.
Hansen, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Hart, Aerial Gunner, <del>W/K</del> S/Sgt.			
Tresch, Pilot, 1st. Lt.	443rd	842	B
Wilbur, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt.		Took off:1000:30	
Key, Bombardier, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 17:04	
Carter, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.			
Doolittle, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Powell, Aerial Gunner, Cpl.			
Brewer, Pilot, 1st. Lt.	443rd	851	B
Pearce, Co-Pilot, F/O.		Took-off:1001	
Quine, Bombardier, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 16:25	
O'Keefe, Navigator, Captain			
Bolton, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.			
Yost, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Clarke, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Van Marter, Pilot, 1st. Lt.	443rd	575	B
Turner, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt.		Took-off:1003	
Clark, Bombardier, 2nd. Lt.		Landed at: 17:30	
Dore, Navigator, 1st. Lt.			
Watt, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.			
Lillo, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Schempp, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Butler, Pilot, F/O.	443rd	780	B
Landrum, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt.		Took-off:1002	
Chambers, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt.		Landed at: 14:5:30	
Waterman, Engineer Gunner, Cpl.			
Saccardo, Radio Gunner, Sgt.			
Gniadek, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Bigelow, Pilot, 1st. Lt.	443rd	763	B
Bracken, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt.		Took-off:1002:30	
Leffler, Bombardier, Sgt.		Landed at: 14:15	
McCloud, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Chalfant, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			T/Sgt. Waltman flew as
Martin, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.			Photographer.

NAMES OF CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Swall, Pilot, Captain	443rd	023	B Took-off:1001:30 Landed at: 1152 (early)
Brown, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt.			
Karidis, Nav-Bomb., 1st. Lt.			
Williams, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Lewis, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Mountain, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.			Capt. Friday flew as Deputy Flt. Comm.
Luttrell, Pilot, Captain	443rd	010	B FAILED TO TAKE OFF.
Swigart, Pilot, 1st. Lt.	443rd	798	B Took-off:1004 Landed at:
Coleman, Co-Pilot, F/O.			
Dufour, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt.			
Stone, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Lacerva, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
O'Connell, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Doxsee, Pilot, Lt.	442nd	283	B Took-off:1004:30 Landed at: 1411
Baird, Co-Pilot, Lt.			
Amundson, Nav-Bomb., Lt.			
Laster, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Allen, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Legutko, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Lovece, Pilot, Lt.	442nd	999	C Took-off:1005 Landed at: 1150 (early)
Chandler, Co-Pilot, Lt.			
Nav-Bomb., Evans, Lt.			
Branning, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Wright, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Brown, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Church, Pilot, Lt.	442nd.	964	B Took-off:1005:30 Landed at: 1414
James, Co-Pilot, Lt.			
Walker, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt.			
Madrid, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Swartz, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Levesque, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Ross, Pilot, Lt.	442nd	298	B Took-off:1006 Landed at: 1416 <sup>30</sup>
Thompson, Co-Pilot, Lt.			
Beatty, Nav-Bomb., Lt.			
Peck, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Williams, Radio Gunner, Sgt.			
Moberly, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Miller, Pilot, Lt.	442nd	048	B Took-off:1006:30 Landed at: 1417
Bougher, Co-Pilot, F/o.			
Payton, Nav-Bomb., Lt.			
Folger, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.			
Conlon, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Eden, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			

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NAMES OF CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Holmes, Pilot, Lt. Burrows, Co-Pilot, Lt. Hermann, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Walden, Engineer, Gunner, S/Sgt/ Palmer, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Linco, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	017	Took-off:1007 Landed at: 1422 <sup>30</sup> B
Heimroth, Pilot, Lt. Carragher, Co-Pilot, Lt. Miller, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Mitchell, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Street, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt/ Wornoff, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	596	Took-off:1007:30 Landed at: 1422 B
Limberg, Pilot, Lt.	442nd	958	FAILED TO TAKE OFF. B
Ingalls, Pilot, Lt. Defan, Co-Pilot, Lt. Baker, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt/ Burgess, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Siegel, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Gunning, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	077	Took-off:1030 Landed at:1045 (Early) B
Peterson, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Lumpkin, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Morocco, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt. Janise, Engineer Gunner, T/Sgt. Tucker, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Kieffer, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	260	Took-off:1015 Landed at: 1425 B
Marras, Pilot, Captain Robins, Co-Pilot, Lt. Stevens, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Trotter, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Wolf, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Hancock, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	441st	595	Took-off:1008 Landed at: 1423 <sup>30</sup> C
Hayward, Pilot, Lt. Walker, Co-Pilot, Lt. Scott, Nav-Bomb., T/Sgt. O'Keefe, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Appleton, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Dickenson, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.	441st	765	Took-off:1009 Landed at: 1424 <sup>30</sup> B
Braden, Pilot, Lt. Turner, Co-Pilot, Lt. Cockrell, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt. Gearing, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Aldrich, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Corp, Aerial Gunner, Pvt.	441st	100	Took-off:1008:30 Landed at: 1416 B

NAMES OF CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Miller, Pilot, Captain Lankford, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt. McGeever, Bombardier, 2nd. Lt. Lehman, Navigator, 1st. Lt. Dahl, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Patzke, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Watkins, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	441st	009 Took-off:1010 Landed at:1105	B
Wegener, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Dillon, Co-Pilot, F/O. Bloom, Nav-Bomb., Cpl. Levi, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Archer, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Wurst, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	441st	980 Took-off:1009:30 Landed at: 1424	B
		Cpl. Bushong flew as photographer	
Owen, Pilot, Lt. Kapstein, Co-Pilot, Lt. Eastburn, Nav-Bomb., T/Sgt. Thatcher, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Roger, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Mazzo, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	441st	002 Took-off:1011 Landed at: 1423	B
Kirley, Pilot, Captain Belcher, Co-Pilot, Captain Ascienzo, Bombardier, 1st. Lt. Malsbury, Navigator, Captain Delaware, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Langman, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Foss, Aerial Gunner, Pvt.	441st	189 Took-off:1010:30 Landed at: 1420	B
McGlannan, Pilot, Lt. Crotty, Co-Pilot, Lt. Allen, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Goodman, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Downing, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Mulligan, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	441st	036 Took-off:1012 Landed at:1048 (Early)	B
Hoy, Pilot, Lt. Condit, Co-Pilot, F/O. Moore, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Christianson, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Berrigan, Radio Gunner, Pvt. Kary, Aerial Gunner, Pvt.	441st	001 Took-off:1011:30 Landed at:	B
Hallowell, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Wier, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Dittmar, Bombardier, 2nd. Lt. Bourgault, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Lenz, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Etsel, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	904 Took-off:1013 Landed at: 1425	C

NAMES OF CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Burns, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Taylor, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt. Stephens, Bombardier, 1st. Lt. Snebold, Engineer Gunner, T/Sgt. Smith, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Petroski, Aerial Gunner, M/Sgt.	444th	785	B
		Took-off: 1012:30 Landed at: 16:05	
Coulter, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Conley, Co-Pilot, F/O. Starkweather, Nav-Bomb., 2nd. Lt. Reynolds, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Connelly, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Blossman, Engineer Gunner, Cpl.	444th	853	B
		Took off: 1014 Landed at: 14:21	
		Pfc. Gad flew as photographer.	
Booth, Pilot, Captain Jackson, Co-Pilot, F/O. Shyrock, Navigator, 1st. Lt. Ott, Bombardier, 2nd. Lt. Clark, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Klingeman, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Harrison, Aerial Gunner, Cpl.	444th	920	C
		Took-off: 1013:30 Landed at: 1427	
Bullard, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Bryden, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Bowen, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt. Babel, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Devaul, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. McGuire, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	978	B
		Took-off: 1014:30 Landed at: 1428	
Urner, Pilot, 1st. Lt. English, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Miller, Nav-Bomb., 2nd. Lt. Vaughn, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Stoerkel, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Monaghan, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	882	C
		Took-off: 1016 Landed at: <u>    </u> ?	
Fair, Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Green, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt. Babler, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Mikles, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Haney, Aerial Gunner, Cpl. Hausner, Navigator, 2nd. Lt. Banick, Bombardier, 2nd. Lt.	444th	013	B
		Took-off: 1015:30 Landed at: 1429	
Kisler, Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Ball, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Meadows, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt. Schweikhart, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Reyes, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Hurt, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	061	B
		Took-off: 1017 Landed at: 1428:30	

NAMES OF CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Barrett, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Wienberg, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt. Ferrin, Bombardier, Captain Weil, Engineer Gunner, T/Sgt. Kraker, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Long, Aerial Gunner, Cpl.	444th	959 Took-off:1017:30 Landed at: 17:35	B
Burns, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Baker, Co-Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Mowry, Nav-Bomb., S/Sgt. Caputo, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Wall, <del>Engineer</del> Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Shepherd, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	444th	051 Took-off:1003:30 Landed at:1200 (Early)	C
Koontz, Pilot, 2nd. Lt. Vandergrift, Co-Pilot, Lt. Weyrich, Nav-Bomb., 2nd. Lt. Dorey, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Apgar, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt./ Minassian, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	441st	060 Took-off:1016 Landed at:1427	B