

~~SECRET~~

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 43 Day Operation 7 July 1943

Twenty-three B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group took off this morning to bomb Gerbini A/D #11, Sicily. They were escorted by 24 P-38's of the 1st Fighter Group, and 72 Spitfires from Malta. Two B-26's returned early, one because of a malfunctioning engine and the other because the tail guns jammed.

Routes and Altitudes: To Target: from 3500' at this base, 90° T for 56 miles to rendezvous at Menzel Heurr with P-38's at 5,000'; 98° T for 198 miles to rendezvous at 36° 20' N, 14° 30' E with Spitfires; curve to left, 46 miles to I.P. (Lentini) climbing gradually to 11,500'; bomb run 314° T for 14 miles dropping to 10,800'; breakaway to the left.

From target: 180° curve to left for 68 miles to Buccheri, 192° T for 39 miles to Saspieni; 205° T for 30 miles; 273° T for 205 miles; 291° T for 50 miles, dropping to 3000' at this base.

Bombs: 96 x 300 lb demolition bombs, 1/10, 45 second delay fuses, carried by 12 B-26's. 220 x 100 lb demolition bombs, instantaneous nose, .025 second delay tail fuses, carried by 11 B-26's. 40 x 100 lb demolition bombs returned to this base in planes that returned early. 96 x 300 lb demolition bombs and 176 x 100 lb dropped over target area. 40 x 100 lb demolition bombs hung up over target, and were later jettisoned over Sicily.

Chronology: Time off between 09:00 and 09:35; first rendezvous, 09:45; second rendezvous, 10:43; target, 11:10; down at this base between 13:00 and 13:09.

Results: 300 lb bombs of the 1st and 2nd flights landed in the dispersal area on the north side of the field. One of eight S/E E/A suffered a direct hit and burst into flames. 100 lb bombs of the 3rd and 4th flights landed along the south edge of the field among five A/C parked there. 4/5 S/E A/C dispersed on both sides of the west end of the runway.

Flak: Slight to moderate inaccurate heavy flak was encountered over the target area, which appeared to come from the general vicinity of Gerbini Satellite A/D's, however, no flak positions on Gerbini A/D # 11 were observed. Gun positions were reported as follows:

- (a) Heavy gun emplacement 37° 27' N, 14° 47' E.
- (b) 8 guns in straight line parallel with and along south side of runway of main Gerbini A/D.
- (c) 1 gun at B/7 (T.C. 2-15-NA)
- (d) 1 gun midway between Gerbini A/D's #2 and #3.
- (e) 1 gun 100 yds. south of southeast corner of Gerbini A/D #5.
- (f) 7 guns in vicinity of R/6 (T.C. 2-15-NA)
- (g) 6 guns in position of 1/5 near crossroads (gun positions appear new, surrounded by white "patches") (T.C. 2-15-NA)

Slight inaccurate heavy flak was encountered coming from the vicinity of Comiso A/D at 10:18. Exact positions of guns were not observed.

Observations: (1) A large grass fire midway between Gerbini A/D #7 and Lake Lentini was seen at 11:08 from 10,800'.
(2) 3 strings of what appeared to be bomb craters were seen across the middle of Gerbini A/D #7 runway and field.

Observations (cont'd): (2) 16/8 1/8 N/C on each side of Gerbini A/D #2 were seen at 11:09 from 10,800'.

(4) One bombardier of one crew reports a series of trenches running (roughly) parallel to the coast along valleys and hills in the area from the south coast of Sicily to 10 miles inland, reportedly seen at 10:52 from 11,000'.

(5) One crew reports that one unidentified plane crashed far to the rear of formation off the coast of Sampieri at 10:50 from 11,500

(6) Shipping at Augusta: Medium M/V at M/17, F/17, M/10, F/9, E/7 and J/4; T.C. 2-109-NA, 3 barges of undetermined type, at F/11 to L/16, seen at 11:00 from 11,000.

(7) The following positions were noted at 11:13 from 9,500, guns were not firing:

- (a) 5 AA guns just east of railroad in Buccheri.
- (b) 5 guns west of railroad in Buccheri.

(8) Coastal defense gun at Religione Pt. Sighted at 11:17 from 8,000'. This gun, too, was silent.

(9) 2 members of one crew reported a few white puffs directly below the formation at 500 to 1000', continuing throughout the bomb run.

(10) It was reported that no activity was seen; all roads appeared to be deserted.

Weather: Enroute, 1/10 cloud cover over water extending to coast of Sicily, hazy horizontal visibility, 4 miles. Target, hazy, horizontal visibility, 7 miles; return, as enroute.

Our Losses: None. 2 B-26's slightly damaged by flak.

Comments: Escort was excellent.

JAMES H. MACIA Jr.,
Captain, Air Corps
Gp. Intelligence O.

Note: Two K-17's were to have photographed this raid, but they were brought back to this base in the two early returns. The K-20's shots were unworthy of reproduction.

MISSION # 50 FLIGHT COMMANDER CAPTAIN DORRAN.
DEPUTY FLIGHT COMMANDER CAPTAIN MCCRY.

JULY 7, 1943.

"A"			
<u>RED "A"</u>	<u>RILEY</u> 009	<u>KIRLEY</u> 189	<u>DOBNEY</u> 980 <i>Wegman</i>
<u>BLUE "A"</u>	<u>WALKER</u> 036	<u>McVAY</u> 765	<u>COOPER</u> 002
<u>YELLOW "A"</u>	<u>FERRY</u> 061 <i>K-17 Cicmo</i>	<u>HALLGATE</u> 904	<u>COOPER</u> 295
<u>GREEN "A"</u>	<u>BULLARD</u> 978	<u>DEYER</u> 959 920	<u>COOPER</u> 861
"B"			
<u>RED "B"</u>	<u>FRAGIN</u> 027	<u>CARTER</u> 307	<u>FRESCH</u> 822
<u>BLUE "B"</u>	<u>GRAVES</u> 763	<u>TUCK</u> 575	<u>BARBER</u> 852 <i>K-19 WALTMAN</i>
<u>YELLOW "B"</u>	<u>LIMBERG</u> 283	<u>ROSS</u> 596	<u>HOLMES</u> 017
<u>GREEN "B"</u>	<u>INGALLS</u> 859	<u>DOXSON</u> 999 C	<u>CHURCH</u> 077
S P A R T A S			
<u>HAYWARD</u> 595 B	<u>BUTLER</u> 857 984	<u>SUND</u> 013	<u>MILLER</u> 298

CHANNEL "A"
BOMBER CALL: DAYLONG THREE
FIGHTERS: FIRE TRAIL.

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

7 July 1943

SUBJECT: Photos.

TO : Commanding General, 2686 (M) Bomb Wing (Prev.), APO 520.

1. The following is the location of cameras of the formation as over the target (Gerbin A/D, Satellite #11, Sicily) of this Group this date.

T
T T
T 002
T T-K-20
852

T
T T
T T

T
T T
T T

283 T
K-20-T T
712-T T

Incl: 5 sets photos.
plus negatives.

JAMES H. MACIA Jr.,
Captain, Air Corps
Gp Intelligence O.

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON GERBINI SATTELITE AIRDROME

11 *Sully.*

July 7, 1943;.....

NAMES OF THE CREW	SQUADRON,	PLANE NUMBER.	
Kirley, Pilot, Captain, LaMoe, Co, Pilot, F/O Ascienzo, Navigator Bombardier, 1st Lt. Malsbury, Navigator, Captain, Delaware, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Langman, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.	441st	189	B Note Captain Dorman was flight commander and flew on this plane. Took off 0900 0900 <i>Landed 13:03</i> Landed
Dobney, Pilot, 1st Lt. Robins, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Stevens, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Trotter, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Wolf, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Hancock, Aerial gunner,	441st	980	B Took off 0900½ Landed at. 13:03
Riley, Pilot, 1st Lt. Church, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Brosi, Navigator, bombardier, S/sgt. XXXXXXXXXXXX Dolan, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Cromer, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Stipe, Aerial gunner, S/sgt/	441st	009	B Took off 0901 Landed at. 13:03½
McVay, Pilot, 1st Lt. Turner, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Corson, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Rickless, Navigator, 1st Lt. Rinaldi, Engineer gunner, S/sgt/t Greenlee, Radio gunner, S/sgt. McCroory, Deputy Flight commander, Captain	441st	765	B Took off 0901½ Landed at. 13:04
Megener, Pilot, 1st Lt. BLAKE, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Camp, Bombardier, S/sgt. Fope, engineer gunner, Sgt. Largent, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Boals, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. Macia, Observer, Captain,	441st	002	B Took off 0902 Landed at. 13:00
Walker, Pilot, 1st Lt. Braden, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bloom, Bombardier, Cpl. Lyons, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Aldirch, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Lidicker, Aerial gunner, Cpl.	441st	0902½	036 B Took off Landed at. 12:15 <i>Landed Early</i>
Hallowell, Pilot, 1st Lt. Buckhout, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Dittmar, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Porter, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Lenz, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Bourgaul, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	904	C Took off 0903 Landed at. 13:08

NAMES OF THE CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Coulter, Pilot, 1st Lt. Conley, Co, Pilot, F/O Stockweather, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Blossman, Engineer gunner, Cpl. Connelly, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Reynolds, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	444th	295	^B Took off 0903½ Landed a t. 13:09
Edwards, Pilot, 1st Lt. Hicks, Co, Pilot, FO. Strong, Bombardier, T/sgt. Wells, Engineer gunner, Pvt. Dean, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Tucker, Aerial gunner, Sgt. Cirno, Photographer, Sgt.	444th6	933	^C Took off 0911 Landed at. 13:08
Dieter, Pilot, Captain, Nash, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Stephens, Bombardier, lt. Green, Engineer gunner, Collins, Radio Gunner, Aul, Aerial gunner,	444th	792	^B Took off 0904½ Landed at. 13:04
Weir, Pilot, 1st Lt. Stumm, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bowen, Bombardier, S/sgt. Frenzel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Tucker, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Noe, Cpl. Aerial gunner, Taylor, Observer, 1st Lt.		861	^B Took off 0904 Landed at 13:00½
Bullard, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bryden, Co, Pilot 2nd Lt. Hausner, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Devault, Radio Gunner, T/sgt, Babel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. McGuire, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	978	^B Took off 0905½ Landed at. 13:02
Carter, Pilot, Captain, Bläbert, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Boswell, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Grove, Navigator, Captain, Smith, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Hunter, T/Sgt. Radio Gunner, Foulkes, Aerial gunner,	443rd	307	^B Took off 0905 Landed at 13:02½
TREsch, Pilot, 1st lt.	443rd	842.	^B
this ship did not take off			
Feagink, Pilot, F/O Orr, Co, Pilot, F/O Rose, Bombardier, S/sgt. Noakes, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Harpster, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Gamble, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	443rd	027	^B Took off 0906 Landed at. 13:03½

NAMES OF THE CREW,	SQUADRON	AIRCRAFT NUMBER
Tuck, Pilot, 1st Lt. White, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Pace, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Bombardier, Chase, Observer, Captain, Schinkel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Long, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. McGaha, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	443rd	575 Took off 0906 $\frac{1}{2}$ Landed at. 13:07
Barber, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	851
THIS AIRCRAFT DID NOT TAKE OFF ..		
Graves, Pilot, 1st Lt. Stroud, Co, Pilot, P6. Kimbrow, Bombardier, Sgt. Pierce, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Miles, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Yim, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	443rd	763 Took off , <i>no T.O.</i> NO TAKE OFF
Ross, Pilot, 1st Lt. Thompson, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Beatty, Bombardier, lt. Peck, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Williams, Radio Gunner, Moberly, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	596 Took off 0908 0908 Landed at. 13:04 $\frac{1}{2}$
Holmes, Pilot, lt. Burrows, Co, Pilot, lt. Ciesielski, Bombardier, S/sgt. Welden, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Palmer, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Linco, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	017 Took off, 0907 $\frac{1}{2}$ Landed at. 13:05
Limberg, Pilot, 1st Lt. Baucum, Co, Pilot, Stakes, Bombardier, Navigator, S/sgt. August, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Kennedy, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Clark, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	283 Took off 0909 Landed at. 13:05
Doxsee, Pilot, lt. Baird, Co, Pilot, lt. Thranhaft, Navigator bombardier, lt. Laster, Engineer, gunner, S/sgt. Allen, Radio Gunner, S/sgt Bauchanan, Aerial gunner, T/sgt.	442nd	999 Took off 0910 Landed at 13:06
Church, Pilot, 1st Lt. James, Co, Pilot, lt. Walker, Bombardier, S/sgt. Madrid, Engineer gunner, Swartz, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Levesque, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	077 Took off 0910 Landed at. 13:06 $\frac{1}{2}$

CREW NAMES	SQUADRON	AIRCRAFT NUMBER	
Ingalls, Pilot, 1st Lt. DeFan, Co, Pilot, lt. Baker, Bombardier, S/sgt. Burgess, Engineer gunner, Siegel, Radio Gunner, Gunneng, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	859	<i>Returned Early</i> Took off 0909½ Landed at. 11:40 B
SPARES,			
Hayward, Pilot, Walker, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Weyrich, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. O'Keefe, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Appelton, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. SDickinson, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st	595	Took off 0915 Landed at. 12:07 C
Butler, Pilot, FO.	443rd	051	
THIS PLANE DID NOT TAKE OFF			
Sund, Pilot, 1st Lt. Sullivan, Co, Pilot, E/O Fair, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Reyes, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Cook, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Wadzeck, Aerial gunner,	444th	853	Took off 0907 Landed at. 13:02½ B
Miller, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bougher, Co, Pilot, FO Miller, Bombardier, Filger, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Conlon, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Eden, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	298	<i>Returned Early</i> Took off 0935 Landed at. 12:30 B