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

Intelligence Narrative No. 48, Day Operation, 12 July 1943.

Thirty-one B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off this morning to bomb Canicatti, Sicily. They were escorted P-38's of the 14th Fighter Group. Seven B-26's returned early; one because of oil pressure trouble, one because of a faulty prop governor; five were spares.

At the target there was a mistake made in the identity of Canicatti and the lead ship of the first squadron lead his squadron on a bombing run to Naro. The first flight of the second squadron followed.

The bombardier of the second (six ship) flight of the second squadron identified the target correctly and lead his flight toward Canicatti, dropping his bombs in a good pattern on the marshalling yards on the eastern edge of town.

Interrogation reveals that no one in the first eighteen ships was aware of the error made, and until landing at this base, they were under the impression that the correct target had been bombed.

Bomb Strike photos taken by E-17's reveal the error and are the basis upon which this report is made.

Twenty-four planes returned safely to this base.

Routes and Altitudes: 88° T for 220 miles to 37° 00' N, 13° 42' E; 19 mile curve left to Licata; 344° T to IP (road junction at 37° 12' N, 13° 54' E);. At this point, the twenty-four ships were to take up a heading of 344° T to Canicatti. They started on the run properly, but at some point midway between Canicatti and the IP, the town of Naro was mistakenly identified as Canicatti and the lead ship led the formation to the left on a bomb run towards Naro. The bombardier of the lead ship in the last flight of the second squadron identified the target properly, and led his flight on an individual bombing run on a heading of 12° T toward Canicatti.

Breakaway was to the left, the eighteen ship flight and the six ship flight joined formation and left the coast at Bianca Pt., flying to 36° 52' N, 13° 20' E, then flew a reciprocal course homeward. (268° for 193 miles)

Bombs: 192 x 300-lb. demolition 1/10 nose, 45 second delay tail fuses, were carried by 24 ships.

48 x 300-lb. demolition bombs were dropped on Canicatti; 133 x 300-lb. bombs were dropped on Naro; 11 bombs hung up over Naro and were returned to this base. (8 in one B-26; 3 in another)

Chronology: Time off between 0635 and 0655; on course 0705; rendezvous 0705; target 0813; down at this base between 0926 and 0943.

Results: Two strings of bombs landed in the southwest corner of Naro and walked northward toward the center of town. Two sticks fell "over," landing in the fields north of town.

The bombs dropped on Canicatti landed in the marshalling yards on the eastern edge of town. A tank car or oil storage depot may have been struck, for directly following a terrific explosion, a huge column of black smoke arose which was visible for 15 miles after leaving the target.

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Enemy aircraft: None.

- Observations:
- 1) Unidentified number of trucks—reported as "small"— were heading southwest in a closed convoy on the northeast-southwest road at N4, TC 2-203-NA. One gas or oil truck in this convoy was seen to explode, at 0811 from 10500.
 - 2) A twelve truck convoy heading south on the road south of Canicatti at 0813 from 10000.
 - 3) Huge columns of dust were reported above Porto Empedocle and Agrigento at 0800 from 11000. There were no boats in the harbor of Empedocle, and the crews report the water had a muddy appearance.
 - 4) Five vehicles possibly tanks were parked, heading north, on the Naro-Canicatti road, at 0813, from 10000.
 - 5) A big oil fire was sending up dense columns of black smoke 10 miles south of Canicatti. This appeared to be on a road (not shown on maps) running east-west from the Canicatti-Licata road to Naro. 0813 hours, from 10000.
 - 6) One observer reports that smoke and dust observed on a line roughly running east-west 5 to 10 miles south of Canicatti may indicate that the line of battle exists there. 0813 from 10000.

Our losses: None. Damaged planes, none.

Altitudes: First leg 3500 to 11000; landfall at Licata at 11000; bomb run 10000; diving turn on the breakaway, dropping 2000; 8000 at 36° 52' N, 13° 20' E, gradual letdown to 3500 at arrival this base.

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

MISSION # 55

July 12, 1943

FLIGHT COMMANDER Major PEIDIE
 DEPUTY FLIGHT COMMANDER Capt. ~~WERNER~~ FRIDAY

"A"

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>RED "A"</u> | <u>BORTSLINGTON</u> 920 | <u>RISTER</u> 292 861 | <u>TRNER</u> 904 |
| <u>BLUE "A"</u> | <u>COLTAR</u> 933 - 061 | <u>TOMBS</u> 295 | <u>HAIR</u> 260 |
| <u>YELLOW "A"</u> | <u>FRAGIN</u> 763 <i>Bushard K-17</i> | <u>SWALL</u> 894 | <u>BURNS</u> 027 |
| <u>GREEN "A"</u> | <u>ROTLER</u> 010 | <u>GRAVES</u> 575 | <u>RIGGLOW</u> 851 |

"B"

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>RED "B"</u> | <u>LAOD</u> 048 | <u>HEINROTH</u> 298 | <u>LINSIG</u> 859 |
| <u>BLUE "B"</u> | <u>BAIRD</u> 074 | <u>MYER</u> 283 | <u>Carragher</u> 056 |
| <u>YELLOW "B"</u> | <u>TINNOIS</u> 001 | <u>KARLOWITZ</u> <i>Capt. Maria</i> 189 | <u>DOONEY</u> <i>Capt. Holt</i> 980 - <i>K-17</i> |
| <u>GREEN "B"</u> | <u>KOONTE</u> 100 | <u>MCVAY</u> 984 | <u>STILL</u> 009 |

S P A R S S

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|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>BURNS</u> 53 | <u>TRISCH</u> 842 | <u>KENNEDY</u> 002 H | <u>LOVACH</u> 999 |
| <u>KISLER</u> 061 | <u>BRUSH</u> 307 | <u>MCLANAHAN</u> 036 | <u>CHURCH</u> 077 |

CHANNEL "A"
 D-MBER CALL "KNOCK"

596

*Reminiscence
 Companion
 = 12 copies
 of "Counsel"*

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

12 July 1943.

SUBJECT: Photos.

TO : Commanding General, 2686 (M) Bombardment Wing (Prov), APO 520.

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

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

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON

CANICATTI, SICILY.

JULY 12, 1943.

| NAME OF THE CREW | SQUADRON | PLANE NO. | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Deiter, Pilot, Captain Nash, CO, Pilot, 1st Lt. Hausner, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Stephens, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Peddje, Flight commander, Maj. Grear, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Collins, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Aul, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 444th | 861 | B Took off 0635 Landed at 0932 |
| Urner, Pilot, 1st Lt. Ellison, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Miller, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Vaughan, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Stoerkel, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Bush, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 444th | 904 | C Took off 0635½ Landed at. 0943 |
| Worthington, Pilot, 1st Lt. | 444th | 292 920 | |
| THIS AIRCRAFT DID NOT TAKE OFF | | | |
| Towns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Hicks, Co, Pilot, F/O Friday, Deputy Flight Commander, Captain, Burton, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Ridge, Navigator, 1st Lt. Chouniard, Radio gunner, Dickie, Engineer gunner, Desantis, Aerial gunner, | 444th | 295. | B Took off 0636 Landed 0727 Osc, Oil Pressure |
| Coulter, Pilot, 1st Lt. Conley, Co, Pilot, F/O Starkweather, Navigator Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Reyes, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Connelly, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Reynolds, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | 444th | 061 | B Took off 0637½ Landed at 0924 |
| WORTHINGTON, Pilot, 1st Lt. Caffey, Co, Pilot, F/O Meadows, Bombardier, S/sgt. Horne, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Sewell, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Teter, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 444th | 292 | B Took off 0651 Landed at. 0936½ |
| Swall, Pilot, Captain Brown, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Karidis, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Williams, Engineer Gunner, S/sgt./ Lewis, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Mountain, Aerial gunner, T/sgt. | 443rd | 894 | C Took off 0638 Landed at. 0933½ |

| NAMES OF THE CREWS, | SQUADRON | PLANE NO. | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|---|
| Burns, Pilot, 1st Lt. | 443rd | 027 | B |
| Baker, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. | | Took off 0638½ | |
| Mowry, Bombardier, S/sgt. | | Landed at. 0933 | |
| Caputo, Engineer gunner, Sgt. | | | |
| Wall, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Shepherd, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | | | |
| Feagin, Pilot, F/O | 443rd | 763 | B |
| Orr, Co, Pilot, F/O | | Took off 0639 | |
| Rose, Bombardier, S/sgt. | | Landed at. 0954 | |
| Bushong, Aerial Photographer, Cpl. | | | |
| Noakes, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Harpster, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Gamble, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | | | |
| Graves, Pilot, 1st Lt. | 443rd | 575 | B |
| Nolan, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt | | Took off 0639½ | |
| Swindler, Bombardier Navigator, 1st Lt. | | landed at. 0953 | |
| Chase, Observer, Captain, | | | |
| Pierce, Engineer gunner, Sgt. | | | |
| Miles, Radio gunner, S/sgt/ | | | |
| Yim, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Bigelow, Pilot, 1st Lt. | 443rd | 851 | B |
| Bracken, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. | | Took off 0640 | |
| Leffler, Navigator Bombardier, Sgt. | | Landed at 0934 | |
| McCloud, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Chalfant, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Fant, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | | | |
| Butler, Pilot, F/O | 443rd | 010 | B |
| Landrum, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. | | Took off 0640½ | |
| Chambers, Navigator Bombardier, S/sgt. | | | |
| Waterman, Engineer gunner, Cpl. | | | |
| Saccardo, Radio Gunner, Sgt. | | | |
| Gniadeck, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | | xxxxx Landed at. 0944 | |
| Heinroth, Pilot, 1st Lt. | 442nd | 298 | B |
| Smith, Co, Pilot, Lt. | | Took off 0641½ | |
| Miller, Bombardier, Lt. | | Landed at. 0700 | |
| Bass, Navigator, Lt. | | | |
| Mitchell, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Street, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Wornoff, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Linberg, Pilot, 1st Lt. | 442nd | 859 | B |
| Dreyer, Co, Pilot, Lt | | Took off 0642½ | |
| Stakes, Bombardier, S/sgt. | | Landed at. 0936+ | |
| Cerchiaro, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Kennedy, Radio gunner, S/sgt. | | | |
| Clark, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | | | |

| NAMES OF THE CREW. | SQUADRON | PLANE NO. | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Ladd, Pilot, 1st Lt. Tiemann, Co, Pilot, Lt. Monroe, Bombardier, Lt. Stander, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Hite, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Griffin, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | 442nd | 048 Took off 0643½ Landed at. 0936 | B |
| Meyer, Pilot, Captain, Ingalls, Co, Pilot, Lt. Fargo, Bombardier, T/sgt. DeWitte, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Arsenault, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Long, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 442nd | 283 Took off 0644 Landed at. 0935 | B |
| Carraher, Pilot, Lt. Freeman, Co, Pilot, Lt. Ciesielski, Bombardier, S/sgt. Palkouie, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Shavs, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Johnson, Aerial gunner, Sgt. | 442nd | 056 Took off 0644½ Landed at. 0942 | B |
| Baird, Pilot, Lt. Byram, Co, Pilot, Lt. Walker, Bombardier, S/sgt. Gomez, Engineer gunner, S. Sgt. Trupka, Radio gunner, S/sgt. Baronet, Aerial gunner, | 442nd | 055 074 Took off 065 Landed at 0935 | B |
| Tresch, Pilot, 1st Lt. Wilbur, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Key, Bombardier, S/sgt. Carter, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Doolittle, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Powell, Aerial gunner, Spl. | 443rd | X 842. Took off 0650 Landed at 0823 | B |
| Brewer, Pilot, 1st Lt. Fearce, Co, Pilot, F/O Quine, Bombardier, S/sgt. Bolton, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Yost, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Lunberg, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 443rd | X 307 Took off 0650½ Landed at 0847 | B |
| Lovece, Pilot, Lt. Baucum, Co, Pilot, Lt Evans, Bombardier, Lt. Branning, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Wright, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Brown, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 442nd | X 999 took off 0615½ Landed at. 0835 | C |
| Church, Pilot, Lt James, Co, Pilot, Lt Herman, Bombardier, Lt Madrid, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Swartz, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Levesque, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. | 442nd | 077 Took off 0652 Landed at. 09327 | B |

| NAMES OF CREWS | SQUADRON | PLANE NO. | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kennedy, Pilot, Lt. Turner, Co-Pilot, Lt. Abeln, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Beldon, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Taylor, Radio Gunner, Miller, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. | 441st | 002 | Took-off: 0647 Landed at: 0940 Met. Macia flew as Flight Commander. B |
| Karlowitz, Pilot, Captain. Wegener, Co-Pilot, 1st. Lt. Shevelson, Nav-Bomb., 1st. Lt. Fishman, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Cofield, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Cain, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. | 441st | 189 | Took-off: 0645:30 Landed at: 0938 Capt. Macia flew as observer. B |
| Dobney, Pilot, 1st. Lt. Robins, Co-Pilot, Lt. McFarland, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Trotter, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Kurtz, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Hancock, Aerial Gunner, Sgt. | 441st | 980 | Took-off: 0646 Landed at: 0938 Capt. Holt flew as observer. B |
| Timmons, Pilot, Lt. Valls, Co-Pilot, Lt. Viaille, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Gearing, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Berrigan, Radio Gunner, Pvt. Foster, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. | 441st | 001 | Took-off: 0646:30 Landed at: 0939 B |
| McWay, Pilot, Lt. Paulantis, Co-Pilot, Lt. Corson, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Rinaldi, Engineer, S/Sgt. Greenlee, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Corp, Aerial Gunner, Pvt. | X 441st | 946 | Took-off: 0654 Landed at: 0830:30 B |
| Steinberg, Pilot, Lt. Dillon, Co-Pilot, F/O. Fisher, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Farr, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Marino, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Barker, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. | 441st | 009 | Took-off: 0647:30 Landed at: 0940 B |
| Koontz, Pilot, Lt. Vandergrift, Co-Pilot, Lt. Weyrich, Nav-Bomb., Lt. Dorey, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Apgar, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Gignac, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. | 441st | 100 | Took-off: 0648:30 Landed at: 0940.2 B |
| McGlannan, Pilot, Lt. Cobby, Co-Pilot, Wilson, Nav-Bomb., Sgt. Goodman, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Downing, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Mulligan, Aerial Gunner, Sgt. | X 441st | 036 | Took-off: 0655:30 Landed at: 0813 B |