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

Intelligence Narrative No. 52, Day Operation, 20 July 1943

Twenty-six B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off this morning to bomb Vibo Valentia A/D, Italy. They were escorted by 72 F-38's of the 1st and 14th Fighter Groups. Four B-26's returned early, one because a generator was out, one because of a loose coil, one because engine was malfunctioning. The target was bombed successfully by 22 B-26's. 19 B-26's returned on schedule; 1 B-26 returned late after landing at Malta for fuel; two B-26's returned late after landing at Licata, Sicily, for fuel.

Routes and Altitudes: To target: rendezvous at 4000 with the 17th and 319th Bomb Groups, 90° T for 42 miles to Marsal Haarr, 80° T for 175 miles, climbing, and making landfall Sicily 5 miles W of Licata, 38° T for 45 miles to CP at C. Calavo, at 12000; 87 miles from OP to IP, 11700, (4 miles N of Bratico in the Golfo di S. Eufemia), 180° T for 17 miles at 11200 to target.

To base: Breakaway to the right, 77 miles to 38° 24' N, 15° 10' E, then reciprocal course homeward.

Bombs: 3120 x 20-lb. fragmentation bombs carried by 26 B-26's.
480 x 20-lb. fragmentation bombs returned to this base in planes that returned early.
2544 x 20-lb. fragmentation bombs dropped over the target area.
96 x 20-lb. fragmentation bombs returned to this base, having hung up over the target.

Chronology: Time off between 1149 and 1201; rendezvous with 319th Bomb. Group, 17th Bomb Group and escort, and on course 1220; target 1415; 19 B-26's down at this base between 1604 and 1630; 1 B-26 down at 1801; 2 B-26's down at 1851 and 1852.

Results: Bombs of the first squadron started a pattern in the center of the field on the assigned eastern side and carried on beyond the field in the wooded area to the south.

Bombs of the second squadron landed in two strings just beyond the hangars at the north end of the field and carried to the south end of the field. A few planes parked in this area were hit.

Flak: None.

Enemy aircraft: None

Observations:

- 1) Vibo Valentia A/D looked deserted; the hangars were gutted, the field pothole-carved with bombs of former raid. Many (perhaps all) of the planes there were damaged. One twin-engine A/C was parked close to the perimeter on the NW side of field. 20 S/S, 1 T/S A/C were stretched along the W & S perimeter.
- 2) There was heavy traffic in Sicily NW of Mt. Etna between Troina and Florista. 50 to 60 trucks—in two-way traffic—were sighted at 1315 hours from 11000.

- ~~SECRET~~
- 3) One convoy of 6/7 trucks with trailers heading E on road 8 miles SW of Calva at 1340 from 12000.
 - 4) Huge column of smoke coming from the Italian foothills due E of Messina Straits was visible for 30 miles.
 - 5) Smoke was coming from one of the Aeolian Islands.
 - 6) At the Carloforte A/D there was one multi-motored, four 5/8 A/C in an area that gave the appearance of having been burned out. The aircraft seemed destroyed. At 1500 from 10000.

Enemy Shipping:

- 1) Two 400' M/V heading E at high speed in Gulf of Givina, at 1400 from 12000.
- 2) One medium M/V heading NE slowly (very little wake) just off Tropea at 1412 from 11800.
- 3) One medium M/V heading E at 8 knots, three miles E of Straits of Messina, at 1420 from 11000.
- 4) 20 boats, 17 small and 3 medium in Marino di Vibo Valentia at 1412 from 11800. One of the small craft appeared to be in drydock; 3 medium vessels had steam up.
- 5) One small M/V headed S slowly just above C. Seviro at 1410 from 11500.
- 6) 3/4 small vessels in Milazzo, at 1430 from 11000.
- 7) Two small vessels close to shore (may be beached) between Milazzo and Paradise. 2 medium vessels on eastern side of peninsula, at 1430 from 10000.
- 8) One large M/V close to shore at C. Rasocolmo heading E, at 1425 from 11000.

Our losses: None. No aircraft damaged.

Comments: None.

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

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HEADQUARTERS 380TH RECONNAISSANCE GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 520

20 July 1943.

Subject: Photos.

TO : Commanding General, 2686 (M) Bomb Wing (Prov).

1. The following is the location of cameras of the formation as over the target, (Vibo Valentia A/D, Italy), of this Group, this date.

	T	768
	T	(T) K-20
798	T	
K-17 (T)	T	

		T	
	T		T
	859	T	
K-20 (T)			T

	T	
T		T
776	T	
K-17(T)		T

	T	
T		T
	T	858
T		(T) K-20

WILLIAM COCK
1st Lt., Air Corps
Asst't. Op. S-2 O.

Mission No. 62
FLIGHT COMMANDER-CAPTAIN MARBLE

20 July 1943
DEPUTY FLIGHT COMMANDER-CAPTAIN MC CRODY

"A"

<u>RED "A"</u>	<u>WHITE</u> 041	<u>CARTER</u> 307	<u>BIGELOW</u> 763
<u>BLUE "A"</u>	<u>BUTLER</u> 798	<u>SWALL</u> 575	<u>BURNS</u> 027
<u>YELLOW "A"</u>	<u>DOXSEE</u> 017	<u>ROSS</u> 983	<u>CARRAHER</u> 056
<u>GREEN "A"</u>	<u>HIMMELREICH</u> 859	<u>HEIMROTH</u> 283	<u>MILLER</u> 048

"B"

<u>RED "B"</u>	<u>CROTTY</u> 036	<u>KARLOWITZ</u> 189	<u>HAMMOND</u> 167
<u>BLUE "B"</u>	<u>KENNEDY</u> 776	<u>DOBNEY</u> 030	<u>KOONTZ</u> 176
<u>YELLOW "B"</u>	<u>BURNS</u> 061	<u>BARRETT</u> 904	<u>STUMM</u> 292
<u>GREEN "B"</u>	<u>WEINBERG</u> 024	<u>HALLOWELL</u> 927	<u>COULTER</u> 853

SPARES

<u>HAYWARD</u> 911	<u>BAIRD</u> 077	<u>SWIGART</u> 010	<u>SUND</u> 013
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<u>ORDER OF LINEUP</u>			
RUNWAY NO. 1		RUNWAY NO. 2	
Carter	307	Bigelow	763
White	041	Swall	575
Burns	027	Butler	798
Ross	983	Carraher	056
Doxsee	017	Heimroth	283
Miller	048	Himmelreich	859
Karlowitz	189	Hammomd	167
Crotty	036	Dobney	030
Koontz	176	Kennedy	776
Barrett	904	Stumm	292
Burns	061	Hallowell	927
Coulter	853	Weinberg	024
Hayward	911	Swigart	010
Baird	077	Sund	013

RADIO: CHANNEL "B"
BOMBING CALL - "PATHFINDER"

FIGHTER CALL - "FOURSQUARE" - 14th
"PARKBENCH" - 1st

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON VIBO VALENTIA ITALY. 20 July 1943.

NAMES OF THE CREW.	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
Quarter, Pilot, Captain Gilbert, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Boswell, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Grove, Navigator, Captain, Smith, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Hunter, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Schempp, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	443rd	307 Took off 1149 1151 Landed at.
Captain, Marble, Flight commander.		
Bigelow, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bracken, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Quine, Bombardier, S/sgt. McCloud, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Fant, Aerial gunner, Sgt. Chavez, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.	443rd	763 Took off 1149 1149+ Landed at.
White, Pilot, 1st Lt. Balk, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Mechan, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Anderson, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Jones, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Rousch, Aerial gunner, Pfc.	443rd	041 Took off 1200 Landed
Swall, Pilot, Captain, Brown, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Verdiz, Bombardier, 1st Lt. [Name], Navigator, 1st Lt. Williams, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Lewis, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Mountain, Aerial gunner, T/sgt.	443rd McCrorry, DFC	575 Took off 1500+ Landed at.
Burns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Baker, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Gant, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Caputo, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Wall, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Shepherd, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	443rd	028 Took off 1157 Landed at.
Butler, Pilot, F/O Landrum, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Chambers, Bombardier, S/sgt. Waterman, Engineer gunner, Cpl. Saccardo, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Gniadek, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	443rd Gadd, cpl. Photographer,	798 Took off 1154 Landed at.
Ross, Pilot, 1st Lt. Defan, Co, Pilot, Lt. Tharnhardt, Bombardier, Lt. Gandy, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Williams, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Buchanan, Aerial gunner, T/sgt. [Name], Captain, Bridsay, Observer.	442nd	983 Took off 1152 Landed at.

NAME OF THE CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
Arraher, Pilot, Lt. Freeman, Co, Pilot, Lt. Leahy, Bombardier, Lt. Hall, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Harper, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Johnson, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	442nd	056 ^B Took off 1152+ Landed
Doxsee, Pilot, 1st Lt. Cassaboom, Co, Pilot, Lt. Amundson, Bombardier, Lt. Laster, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Allen, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Burns, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	017 ^B Took off 1153 Landed
Heimroth, Pilot, 1st Lt. Smith, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Miller, Bombardier, Lt. Mitchell, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Street, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Wornoff, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	283 ^B Took off 1153+ Landed at.
Miller, Pilot, Lt. Bougher, Co, Pilot, F/O Robert Payton, Bombardier, Lt. Falger, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Lon, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Eden, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	048 ^B Took off 1154 Landed at.
Himmelreich, Pilot, Lt. Tscheige, Co, Pilot, Lt. Hooper, Bombardier, Lt. Glockner, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Hageman, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Deselm, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	859 ^B Took off 1154+ Landed at.
Karlowitz, Pilot, Captain, Barlow, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Tapp, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Ozuk, Navigator, Captain, Fishman, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Coeffiell, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Cain, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st	189 ^B Took off 1155+ Landed at.
Hammond, Pilot, 1st Lt. Blake, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Camp, Bombardier, S/sgt. Gormichelli, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Cromer, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. LLOYD, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	441st	167 ^B took off Took off 1155+ Landed at.
Otty, Pilot, 1st Lt. McLanmon, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. McFarland, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Goodman, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Downing, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Mulligan, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	441st	036 ^B Took off Landed

No. To,

NAMES OF THE CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
Dobney, Pilot, 1st Lt. Winberg, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Corson, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Trotter, Engineer gunner, /sgt. Wolf, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Hancock, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	441st Belcher, Captain, Observer.	030 ^B Took off 1156+ Landed
Koontz, Pilot, 1st Lt. Vandergrift, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. weyrich, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Dorey, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Apgar, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Bruce, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	441st 	176 ^A Took off 1157 Landed
Kennedy, Pilot, 1st Lt. Levine, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Viaille, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Beldon, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Taylor, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Miller, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st Gemmill, observer Waltman, Photographer, T/sgt.	776 ^B Took off 1157+ Landed at.
Barrett, Pilot, 1st Lt. Lumpkin, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Ott, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Ridge, Navigator, 1st Lt. W Weil, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. ker, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Cross, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	444th 	904 ^C Took off 1158 Landed at. 1230
Stumm, Pilot, Weir, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Burt, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Bowen, Bombardier, S/sgt. Brenzel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Noe, Aerial gunner, Cpl.	444th 	292 ^B Took off 1158+ Landed at. 1405
Burns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Peterson, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Ramirez, Bombardier, Sgt. Smith, Radio unner, T/sgt. Snebold, Engineer gunner, /sgt. Petroski, Aerial gunner, M/sgt.	444th this plane did not take off <u>No 78</u>	061 ^B Took off Landed at.
Hallowell, Pilot, 1st Lt. Buckhout, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Dittmar, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Etsel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Lenz, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Bourgault, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th 	927 ^C Took off 1157+ Landed 1350
Coulter, Pilot, 1st Lt ley, Co, Pilot F/O erson, Bombardier, Sgt. Blossman, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Connelly, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Reynolds, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th 	853 ^B Took off 1200 Landed at.

NAME OF THE CREW.	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
Imberg, Pilot, 1st Lt. Nagel, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Robinson, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Kuhne, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Brown, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Long, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	444th	024 <i>B</i> Took off 1201+ Landed 1232
Sund, Pilot, 1st Lt. Sullivan, Co, Pilot, F/O Fair, Navigator, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Barth, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Cook, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Wadzeck, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	023 <i>B</i> Took off 1201 Landed
Swigart, Pilot, 1st Lt. Coleman, Co, Pilot, F/O Dufour, Bombardier, S/sgt. Stone, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Lacerva, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. O'Connell, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	443rd	010 <i>B</i> Took off 1201 1201+ Landed at.
Baird, Pilot, Lt. Byram, Co, Pilot, Lt. Walker, Bombardier, S/sgt. Gomez, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Upka, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Baronet, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	442nd	077 <i>B</i> Took off 1159 Landed at.
Hayward, Pilot, 1st Lt. Paulantis, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Fisher, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Pope, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Appelton, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Boals, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	441st	911 <i>C</i> Took off 1156 Landed.