

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 68, Day Operation, 29 August 1943

Twenty-eight B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off this morning to bomb Torre Annunziata M/Y, Italy. They were accompanied by the 17th Bombardment Group, and were escorted by 48 P-38's of the 1st Fighter Group. Four B-26's returned early; 1 because a gunner was ill, 1 because the left engine was losing power and 2 were spares. The target was bombed successfully. The formation and escort were engaged by 25/30 ME 109's, MA 202's and RE 2001 on the breakaway from the target and an air battle followed which lasted for approximately 15 minutes. Our escort and gunners were successful in preventing serious damage to our planes or injuries to our crew members. 24 B-26's returned safely to this base.

Routes and Altitudes: To target: 38° T for 32 statute miles to rendezvous with escort at Cape Sidi Ali el Mekki at 4,000'; 42° T for 325 statute miles to I.P., 40° 43' W, 14° 16' E, climbing gradually to 11,000'; bomb run, 80° T for 12 miles at 10,500', breakaway left.

From target: Curve left, curve right for 28 miles to coast west of Monte Corvino A/D; 227° T for 340 miles to this base, dropping gradually to 3,000'.

Bombs: 168 x 500 lb demolition bombs (1/2 instantaneous nose, 1/2 1/10 second delay nose, all 45 second delay tail fuses) carried by 28 B-26's.

24 x 500 lb demolition bombs (1/2 inst., 1/2 delay) returned to this base by B-26's that returned early.

142 x 500 lb demolition bombs (1/2 inst., 1/2 delay) dropped over the target area.

2 x 500 lb demolition bombs (1 inst., 1 delay) returned to this base, having hung up due to shackle mal-functioning.

Chronology: Time off between 11:00 and 11:15; rendezvous with 17th Bomb Group and on course, 11:30; rendezvous with escort and on course, 11:40; target, 13:14; down at this base between 15:23 and 15:40.

Results: Bombs started in a good concentration on the west edge of the center of the yards, carrying across the buildings on the eastern side.

Other bombs landed in a good pattern on the south-eastern portion of the yards.

Flak: Only negligible inaccurate heavy flak was encountered over the target. In the vicinity of Salerno, the flak increased in accuracy and intensity; as the formation left the coast (west of Monte Corvino A/D) heavy moderate to intense accurate flak was encountered. Cloud coverage prevented observation of gun positions except for 4 heavy guns near the railroad yards at Pontecagnano and 4 heavy guns near the railroad tunnel between Pallezano and Salerno.

4 heavy coastal defense guns were seen between the two river mouths south of Salerno.

Enemy Aircraft: (1) 25/30 ME 109's and MA 202's attacked the formation about 5 minutes after leaving the target on the breakaway, and continued a running battle for approximately 15 minutes. The escort was seen to engage these E/A during the bomb run, and continuing for some 20 minutes. The escort was seen to shoot down at least 1 ME 109.

(2) One large S/P was seen flying on the deck heading north just south of Ischia Island at 13:09 from 11,000'.

(3) 12/15 S/P, 3 of which were white, were seen at Naples/Nisida Base at 13:12 from 11,000'.

(4) 2/30 A/D about half of which were T/E and half S/E, were seen on Montal Corvino A/D at 13:24 from 9,500'. They were dispersed in even groups in front of hangars, and on the southeast edge of the A/D.

Enemy Aircraft Tactics: Enemy aircraft used two distinct types of tactics. Some hung outside of the formation to the side at 1500 yards, firing rocket shells which left red flash like trails and exploded on time fuses with black bursts similar to heavy flak.

Close attacks were made by groups of three to six E/A in trail or in line abreast, from 5, 6 and 7 o'clock, high and level. Only one low attack was reported. When attacking in groups of 6, in line abreast, the enemy formation would split into groups of 2 or 4 and attack almost simultaneously from different directions.

Observations: (1) A large fire in a field on Licosa Point was seen at 13:25 from 9,500'.

(2) One medium M/V, motionless, 3 miles west of Torre Annunziata with 2 tugs on each side of it, was observed at 13:13 from 10,500'.

(3) Two large M/V's and several small craft were seen at Torre del Greco inside the mole at 13:13 from 10,500'.

(4) 2 medium and 2 large M/V's were observed in the harbor at Naples at 13:14 from 10,600'.

(5) One tug pulling a barge along the shore, 7 miles southwest of Vico Equense was seen at 13:14 from 10,500'.

Our Losses: None. 10 B-26's were slightly damaged by flak and 1 B-26 was damaged by a heavy shell passing through the rudder.

Six crew members were injured, none seriously.

Victories: 9 ME 109's, 1 MA 202 destroyed; 4 ME 109's probably destroyed; 3 ME 109's damaged.

Weather: Enroute, 8 to 9/10 cumulous at 4,000'; target, 9/10 cloud cover from 3,000' to 10,000' over the target and inland from the target; return, 8/10 cumulous at 4,000', decreasing to 4/10 near the coast of Tunisia.

Comments: None.

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

MISSION NO. 8.

PILOT COMMANDER-LT. COL. FLANAGAN
DEPUTY FLIGHT COMMANDER-CAPT. MCCROCKY

29 August 1943

"A"			"B"		"C"	
TOWNS	BARRETT	HARRIS	PAIR	SWALL	CALHOUN	HARRIS
853	025	247	260	922	023	247

BULLARD	BOOTH	PAIR	Barrett	025	Steinberg-037	Harris-247
978	904	260	Towns	853		Booth 904

FEAGIN	SWALL	CALHOUN	Pair	260	Swall	Ballard 978
798	922	023	Swall	922	Feagin	Calhoun 023

SWIGART	BARBER	BURNS	Feagin	798	Burns	Barber 328
750	328	027	Burns	027	Rose	Swigart 750

MILLER	ROSS	THOMPSON	Rose	596	Miller	Thompson 987
074	596	987	Miller	074	Church	Worley 283

DOHSEE	WORLEY	CHURCH	Church	859	Kirley	Dowse 035
035	283	859	Kirley	595	Owen	Stall 776

OWEN	KIRLEY	STALL	Owen	100	Kennedy	Miller 176
100	595	776	Kennedy	030	Perry	Timmons 896

TIMMONS	MILLER	KENNEDY	Perry	927		Tresch 842
896	176	030				Deutman 017

SPARES						
PERRY	TRESCH	DEUTMAN	STEINBERG			
927	842	017	037(N)			

RADIO:

CHANNEL "B"

Bomber Call - BUDDY

Fighter Call - LACEWORK

COLORS OF THE DAY

B-TIME	2-STAR	LETTER CHALLENGE	LETTER REPLY	LETTER COLOR
0800-0800	RR	X	Q	WHITE
0800-1100	YY	W	G	RED
1100-2000	NO	N	C	WHITE
2000-2100	NY	B	Z	RED

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF
Office of the Operations Officer
APO-520 NATOUSA

29 August 1943

Crew Lists for 29 August 1943

<p>Lt. BARRETT, Pilot Capt. Sims, Co-Pilot Lt. Stephens, B Lt. Shryock, N Lt. Col. Fletcher, F.C. T/Sgt. Weil, Eng. T/Sgt. Kraker, RG S/Sgt. Hedgepeth, G</p>	<p>147</p>	<p>Take-off 11:00 Landed</p>	<p>C</p>
<p>Harris, Pilot Lt. Edwards, Co-Pilot Lt. Brown, Bomb. Sgt. Patton, RG S/Sgt. Alstat, Eng. S/Sgt. Vaughn, G Capt. George, Obs.</p>	<p>025</p>	<p>Take-off 11:00½ Landed</p>	<p>C</p>
<p>Lt. TOWNS, Pilot F/O. HICKS, Co-Pilot 2nd Lt. OTT, Bomb. S/Sgt. DICKE, EG T/Sgt. DE SANTIS, RG Sgt. SZEXCZ, G Spl. BUSHONG Photo.</p>	<p>853</p>	<p>Take-off 11:01 Landed</p>	<p>B</p>
<p>Capt. BOOTH, Pilot Lt. GREEN, Co-Pilot Capt. NERONE, Nav. Lt. BURTON, Bomb. S/Sgt. CLARK, Eng. T/Sgt. KLINGEMAN, RG Sgt. HARRISON, G Capt. McCORRY, Obs. DF/C</p>	<p>904</p>	<p>Take-off 11:01½ Landed</p>	<p>C</p>
<p>Lt. FAIR, Pilot Lt. STEWART, Co-Pilot Lt. HAUSNER, Nav. S/Sgt. BABLER, ENG S/Sgt. CLOUINARD, Bomb. S/Sgt. MICKLES, RG Sgt. HANEY, G</p>	<p>260</p>	<p>Take-off 11:02 Landed</p>	<p>B</p>

Lt. BULLARD, Pilot Lt. BRYDEN, Co-Pilot T/Sgt. DEVAUL, RG Cpl. ROBERTS, Bomb. S/Sgt. BABEL, ENG. S/Sgt. McGUIRE, G	978	Take-off 1102½ Landed	B
Capt. SWALL, Pilot F/O STROUD, Co-Pilot Lt. SWINDLER, BOMB. S/Sgt. HART, ENG S/Sgt. LEWIS, RG T/Sgt. MOUNTAIN, G	922	Take-off 1103½ Landed	C
Lt. CALHOUN, Pilot Lt. SPACE, Co-Pilot S/Sgt. THOMPSON, BN Sgt. SMITH, ENG T/Sgt. MARTIN, RG Sgt. GUZZIO, G	023	Take-off 11 15 Landed	B
F/O FEAGIN, Pilot Lt. SMART, Co-Pilot Lt. GRANT, BN S/Sgt. NOAKES, ENG S/Sgt. OAKES, RG Sgt. GAMBLE, G	798	Take-off 1104½ Landed	B
Lt. BARBER, Pilot Lt. RUCKER, Co-Pilot Lt. KARIDIS, BN S/Sgt. ROBECHAUX, ENG S/Sgt. LONG RG S/Sgt. DROSS, G	328	Take-off 11:05 Landed	B
Lt. BURNS, Pilot Lt. BARKER, Co-Pilot S/Sgt. MOWRY, BN Sgt. CARR, EG Sgt. SHEPHERD, G	041	Take-off 11:14 Landed 13:01	B
Lt. SWIGART, Pilot F/O COLEMAN, Co-Pilot S/Sgt. DUFOUR, BN Sgt. WATT, EG Sgt. O'CONNELL, G S/Sgt. LACERVA, RG	780	Take-off 11:06 Landed	B
Lt. ROSS, Pilot Lt. DE FAN Co-Pilot Lt. THRANHARDT, BN Lt. LEAHY, N S/Sgt. GANDY S/Sgt. DELAN T/Sgt. BUCHANAN,	596	Take-off 11:06½ Landed	B

Lt. THOMPSON, Pilot Lt. HIMMELREICH, Co-Pilot S/Sgt. SYMONS, BN S/Sgt. BURGESS, ENG Spl. MOORE, RG S/Sgt. GUNNING, G Capt. LOUIS, Obs.	987	Take-off 11:07	B
Lt. MILLER, Pilot F/O BOUGHER, Co-Pilot Lt. PAYTON, BN Capt. FRIDAY, Obs. Sgt. FOLGER, ENG. S/Sgt. CONLON, RG S/Sgt. EDEN, G	074	Take-off 11:08 Landed	B
Lt. MORLEY, Pilot Lt. CHANDLER, Co-Pilot Lt. HARRISON, BN Maj. GLADDEN, Obs. S/Sgt. CALDWELL, EG S/Sgt. UNCLES, RG T/Sgt. MARTIN, G	283	Take-off 11:08½ Landed	B
Lt. CHURCH, Pilot Lt. DRYER, Co-Pilot Lt. HERMANN, BN Lt. MORAN, N S/Sgt. MADRID, E S/Sgt. SWARTZ, RG S/Sgt. LEVESQUE, G	859	Take-off 11:09 Eng. Trouble Landed 11:23	B
Lt. DOXSEE, Pilot Lt. DEDELN, Co-Pilot Lt. AMUNDSON, BN Maj. SMITH, Obs. S/Sgt. LASTER, EG S/Sgt. ALLEN, RG S/Sgt. BURNS, G	035	Take-off 11:09½ Landed	C.
Capt. KIRLEY, Pilot Lt. PENKA, Co-Pilot Lt. ASCIENZO, BN Capt. OZUK N S/Sgt. DELNARE, EG T/Sgt. LANGMAN, RG S/Sgt. STIPE, G	595	Take-off 11:10 Landed	C.

Lt. STELL, Pilot	776	Take-off 11:10½	B
Lt. WILLS, Co-Pilot		Landed	
Sgt. BERDAUS, BN			
S/Sgt. HANSON, ENG			
S/Sgt. MARINO, RG			
S/Sgt. BARKER, G			
Capt. LAVURE, Obs. French			
Lt. OWEN, Pilot	100	Take-off 11 11	B
Lt. PAULANTIS, Co-Pilot		Landed	
T/Sgt. EASTBURN, BN			
S/Sgt. CHILTON, ENG			
S/Sgt. SPEARS, RG			
S/Sgt. MAZZO, G			
Capt. MILLER, Pilot	176	Take-off 11 11½	B C
Lt. LANEFORD, Co-Pilot		Landed	
Lt. MOORE, BN			
S/Sgt. DAHL, EG			
S/Sgt. KURTZ, RG			
S/Sgt. LEUTHOLT, G			
Lt. KENNEDY, Pilot	030	Take-off 11:12	C
Lt. LE VINE, Co-Pilot		Landed 12:13	
Lt. VIAILLE, BOMB.			
Sgt. DELDON, EG	Gunner Sick		
Sgt. TAYLOR, RG			
S/Sgt. MILLER, G			
Lt. TIMMONS, Pilot	896	Take-off 11:12½	C
Lt. WREST VALLS, Co-Pilot		Landed	
KONVALINKA, NB			
S/Sgt. RINALDI, EG			
T/Sgt. GREENLEE, RG			
S/Sgt. CURLEE, G			
Lt. PERRY, Pilot	927	Take-off 11:13	C
Lt. MEYER, Co-Pilot		Landed	
Lt. BANICKI, BN			
WELLS, EG			
S/Sgt. HANRAHAN, RG			
Sgt. TUCKER, G			

Lt. TRESCH Pilot	842	Take-off	11:05½	B
Lt. SHEARD, Co-Pilot				
Lt. BOSWELL, BN		Landed		
Sgt. CARTER, EG				
S/Sgt. DOOLITTLE, RG				
Sgt. BOLTON, G				
Lt. DEUTMAN, Pilot	017	Take-off	11:13½	B
Lt. BRAST, Co-Pilot				
S/Sgt. FURRER, BN		Landed		
S/Sgt. CROSS, E.G.				
S/Sgt. GODFREY, RG				
S/Sgt. BURNS, G				
Lt. STEINBERG, Pilot	037	Take-off	11:15½	e
Lt. ROBINS, Co-Pilot				
Cpl. LIDICKER, E. G.	SPARE	Landed	13:24	
Sgt. LARGENT, R.G.				
S/Sgt. DICKINSON, G				