

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 650

Intelligence Narrative No. 159, Day Operation, 3 March 1944

Flight Commander: Captain Speagle.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 0904 hours, 28 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb the Ostiense M/Y, Rome, Italy. They were escorted by Spitfires of the 52nd Fighter Group. 4 B-26's returned early; spares. 24 B-26's were over the target and 22 B-26's dropped 131 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1/10 - .025 and mixed delay fuses), on the target at 1124 hours from 11,100'. 7 x 500 lb. demolition bombs were salvaged in the water; 1 (1/10 - .025) because of rack malfunction and 6 (mixed delay) because a/c was not in a position to drop. 6 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1/10 - .025) second delay fuses, were returned to this base because they hung up. 23 B-26's returned safely to this base at 1324 hours. 1 B-26 returned late at 1724 hours after landing at Ghisonaccia, Corsica, for gas.

C. Results: The bombs started at K-11 cf. TC - 3-136A-NA and walked south-eastward through the center of the Marshalling Yards, destroying the Ferrovia Ostiae and Ostiense stations and at least 75 of the 180 RR cars in the area. Several fires, one from an oil tank, were observed.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: None.

B. Situation:

(1) A new dirt runway running NW/SE was observed at Cerveteri at 1127 hours from 10,800'.

(2) 3 S/E and 1 T/S a/c were seen dispersed along the river on Littorio A/D at 1127 hours from 10,800'.

2. Ground:

a. General: A Spitfire was seen to burst into flames and explode over Manicomio at 1132 hours from 10,500'. Reason unknown.

b. Communications:

(1) The target appeared 75% full at the time of the attack.

(2) Lorenzo M/Y appeared full at 1125 hours from 10,800'.

(3) 1-B of Lorenzo M/Y, cf. TC 3-136A-NA, was observed to have about 200 cars at 1125 hours from 10,800'.

(4) 3 strings of 40/50 flat cars each were seen in the passenger yards of Lorenzo M/Y at 1125 hours from 10,800'.

(5) An uncounted number of cars were seen in Tiburtina M/Y at 1126 hours from 10,800'.

(6) 2/3 strings of passenger cars of 10/15 cars each were observed in Littorio M/Y at 1127 hours from 10,600'.

(7) 1 train of 10/15 cars with steam up, facing south, was seen at F-4673 at 1112 hours from 12,000'.

(8) 10 cars, stationary, were seen on the tracks below F-4673 at 1112 hours from 12,000'.

(9) 40 cars were seen in the M/Y at Maccarese at 1113 hours from 12,000'.

(10) Moderate traffic was observed on the road between Rome and Pale at 1134 hours from 10,500'.

c. Flak: No flak was experienced from landfall to target or on the bomb run. Slight to Moderate, heavy, accurate for altitude, inaccurate for deflection, continuously pointed flak was experienced from guns around Centocelle A/D on breakaway until Littorio. Intense inaccurate small arms fire came from the streets around the target.

d. Shipping: 1 medium M/V was seen inside the mole of Civitavecchia harbor at 1108 hours from 12,000'.

3. Losses: No B-26's were lost or damaged.

4. Weather: Enroute: Few bands of scattered cumulus, base 3,000', tops 5,000'. 8/10 altostratus and cirrus above 15,000'. Visibility unlimited. Target: 3-4/10 cumulus, base 3,000', tops 5,000'. 6-8/10 altostratus and cirrus above 15,000'. Visibility unlimited. Return: No change.

5. ROUTES AND ALTITUDES: From this base at 2,500', 120° T for 37 statute miles to C. Carbonera, 10° T for 227 statute miles to Montecristo Island for rendezvous at 7,000'; 106° T for 96 statute miles to the Or, IP, at Palo, climbing gradually to 12,000'; 107° M for 20 statute miles to target at 11,100'; break left; 268° T for 20 statute miles to coast just S of Palo; 223° T for 241 statute miles to base, lowering gradually to 2,500'.

F. COMMENTS: None.

WILLIAM COOK
Captain, Air Corps
Gp Intelligence O.

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF
Office of the Operations Officer
APO 650 US ARMY

3 March 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Report.

TO : Commanding General, 42nd Wing (US), APO 650, US ARMY

1. The 320th Bomb Group, with Captain C. E. Speegle as flight commander left the Base, following the 319th Bomb Group at 1029 on a course of 120° T to a point two miles south of the Island of dei Cavoli at which time we altered course to 10° T easing at times to maintain our position behind the 319th Bomb Gp.

2. Arriving at our O.P. Montecristo Island at 1058, at which place we picked up our Spitfire fighter cover and proceeded altering course to 106° T. Made landfall three miles south of Palo, I.P. at 1020 altered course to 95° , in order to bring formation over target on the planned axis, at 1021 altered course to 105° T going over target and dropping bombs at 1024. The actual bomb run, due to evasive action was 43 seconds.

3. Broke sharp left. Picked up flak from Centocelle area. Left coast at 1131 on course of 270° T to avoid clouds. At 1145 altered course to 205° T making landfall at Cape Carbonera at 1239. Altered course to 295° T. Over the field at 1253. All but one ship returned - shortage of gasoline the only known reason. Mission successful.

Joseph S. Taranto
for JOSEPH S. TARANTO,
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

443RD BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON
320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF
APO 650 U.S. ARMY

3 March, 1944.

SUBJECT: Mission Report.

TO : Operations Officer, 320th Bomb Gp, (M) AAF, APO 650, U.S. Army.

Today's raid on the Marshalling yards at Rome was started by a very complete briefing because of the danger of damaging world famous religious buildings that were near the target area.

At our IP, a point on the Italian coast, we turned in toward our target, following the 319th Group, with a cover of Spitfires overhead. At first it was impossible to pickup the city of Rome due to cloud cover but as we drew nearer the Tiber river was easily picked up and the general location of our target was determined from the curves in the river. About a minute from the target we could distinguish it fairly well though a cloud was over the first part and billows of black smoke covered the rest due to the bombs dropped by the 319th Group. Our target was long and narrow and due to our axis of attack, it was necessary to have our drift completely killed.

From the coast in we were flying mild evasive action. The interphone was used to make all course corrections until we went on P.D.I. for a run of about thirty seconds. As the bombs dropped we broke sharply to the left around and over the city to avoid the flak which the 319th Gp. was getting because they didn't break fast enough. Our flight's bombs dropped a little short but the other flights did an excellent job.

The Navigator, Lt. Taranto, did a fine job of navigation and gave me every cooperation. The Pilot, Lt. Saylor, did a faultless job of flying and leading.

James H. Wagar
JAMES H. WAGAR,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Bombardier.

"A"
NELSON SAYLOR LALB
 69 63 62
 69 LONG 62
 ----- 57 -----
 "B"
KLARK SHANK
KELKAL 65 HRIBAL
 25 DEATHBY 54
 ----- 29 -----
 "C"
HARPSTER CONRAD HARTZ
 43 28 26
CLAYBOUGH
 ----- 31 -----

"D"
DILLON ROBBINS REEVES
 1 2 10
DILLON HELD
 ----- 17 -----

"E"
MCBRIDE BERGE STARNO
~~84~~ 17 11 BERGE 19
MCBRIDE 12
 ----- 82 BURKE 86 -----

RADIO:
 17th BELBUOY
 319th FOMFUP
 320th EVERBODY
 12th ASO ROVER
 52nd Fighter BUSTER

"F"
JOHNSON
FOULER 98 TURNER
 78 GASTERN 87
 ----- 96 -----

Channel "C"

SPARES FELT WARRING WILLS TURNER
 53 41 83 8 76

COLORS OF THE DAY	TIME	PLANE	CHALLENGE	REPLY	COLOR
	0100-0700	RG	F	V	RED
	0700-1300	GG	H	B	GREEN
	1300-1900	YY	Z	F	WHITE
	1900-0100	RR	C	J	GREEN

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON OF WISE MARSHALLING YARDS.

	Saylor, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	63
	Dungan, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0904
	Wagar, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1305
G	Taranto, Navigator, 2nd Lt.		
	Peaver, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.		
	Gulliams, Radio Gunner, Sgt.		
	Miller, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Speegle, Flight Commander, Captain.		
	Lamb, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	443rd	62
	Kolar, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0904½
	Saltarelli, Bombardier, S/sgt.		
W	Gerdy, Radio Operator, Sgt.		Landed 1305
	Glowatch, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	McDonald, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		
	Lamoureux, Engineer gunner, Sgt.		
	Rosenthal, Aerial photographer, Sgt.		
	Nelson, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	443rd	69
	Stinson, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0904 55
W	Szafir, Bombardier, Sgt.		
	Callahan, Radio Gunner, Sgt.		Landed 1305
	Austad, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		
	Larkin, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Coney, Aerial Photographer, S/sgt.		
	Long, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	57
	Moran, Co, Pilot 2nd Lt.		Took off 0905
E	Janeke, Bombardier, 1st Lt.		Landed. 1305
	Cassino, Navigator, 2nd Lt.		
	Bergamo, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.		
	Lumberg, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Just, Engineer gunner, Sgt.		
	Sheard, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	65
	Timm, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0905 15
f	Strickalnd, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1306
	Schwartz, Navigator, 2nd Lt.		
	Butler, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.		
	Yimm, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Terrel, Engineer gunner, Sgt.		
	Hribal, Pilot, Flt Off.	443rd	54
	Beaudro, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt.		Took off 0905 45
W	Tyson, Bombardier, Sgt.		
	Jackson, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		Landed 1306
	Guzzio, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Stone, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Felt, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	53
	Wirkkala, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off spare 0916
	Armao, Bombardier, S/sgt.		
	Calafut, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		Landed: 1204
	Avery, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		
	M/A, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		

SPARE

<p> Klark, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Kaden, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Harrington, Bombardier, Cpl. O'Neal, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Marsh, Radio Gunner, Cpl. Turner, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. </p>	442nd	<p> 25 Took off 0906 Landed 1306 </p>
<p> Deatly, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Williams, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Scafidi, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Penton, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Danko, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Johnson, Aerial gunner, Sgt. </p>	442nd	<p> 29 Took off 0906 45 Landed ? Possibly CORSIKA </p>
<p> Conrad, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Thornton, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Menaugh, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Darby, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Bly, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Wells, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Cross, Aerial Gunner, S/sgt. </p>	442nd	<p> 28 Took off 0907 Landed 1307 </p>
<p> Harpster, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Hensell, Co, Pilot, F/O Chamberlin, Bombardier, S/sgt. Beard, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Orgeron, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Nemier, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. </p>	442nd	<p> 43 Took off 0907 45 Landed 1308 </p>
<p> Harte, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Barnard, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Harlan, Cpl. Bombardier, King, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Knauer, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Weiss, Aerial Gunner, S/sgt. </p>	442nd	<p> 26 Took off 0908 15 Landed 1307 </p>
<p> Claybaugh, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Castor, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Hendrex, Bombardier, Lt. Melin, Engineer gunner, Pvt. Moore, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Hoyle, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. </p>	442nd	<p> 31 Took off 0908 45 Landed 1308 </p>
<p> Robbins, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bodie, Co Pilot, 2nd Lt. Brayden, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Halligan, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Huppe, Engineer gunner, S/Sgt. Spiess, Radio gunner, S/Sgt. Tompkins, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt. </p>	441st	<p> 2 Took off 0909 15 Landed 1309 </p>
<p> Reaves, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Oltman, Co Pilot, 2nd Lt., Hawkins, Bombardier, Sgt. Harrison, Engineer gunner, Sgt. Markus, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Levtholt, Aerial gunner, S/sgt. </p>	441st	<p> 10 Took off 0909 45 Landed 1309 </p>

	Dillon, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	441st	1
	Trunk, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt.		Took off 0910
	Berdaus, Bombardier, S/sgt.		Landed 1310
W	Trebenda, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Juve, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Bratton, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		
	Cataldi, Aerial photographer, cpl.		
	Held, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	441st	17
	Wachter, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0910 $\frac{1}{2}$
V	Polakov, Bombardier,		Landed 1309
	Thurston, Navigator, lt.		
	O'Dell, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Michaelson, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Mazzo, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Berge, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	11
	Flake, Co, Pilot, F/O		Took off 0911
	Greenwald, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1310
	Abart, Navigator, 2nd Lt.		
	Brush, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Byeznak, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Fata, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	St Arno, Pilot, F/O	441st	19
	Nold, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0911 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Kwiatkowski, Bombardier, Sgt.		Landed 1310
	Acerro, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Doran, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Gust, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Wills, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	8
	Williams, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0914 $\frac{1}{2}$
S.P.A.A.	Dill, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1308
	Barron, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Westbrook, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Medina, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Hubbard, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	441st	3
	West, Co, Pilot, F/O		Took off 0630
	Ozuk, Navigator, Captain,		Landed OK 0940
	Mears, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Carlisle, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Gignac, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Farthing, Radio Operator, S/sgt.		
	McBride, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	444th	84
	Richards, Co, Pilot, F/O		Took off 0912
	Moore, Bombardier, S/sgt.		Landed 1312
	Montgomery, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Shaffer, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Field, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		
	Burke, Pilot, F/O	444th	86
	Singer, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0912 $\frac{1}{2}$
V	Rodgers, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1312
	Filtrante, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	Ivey, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Koch, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		

Weather A/C

	Morganstern, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	444th	96
	Sinn, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0914 15
	Heller, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.		Landed 1313
F	Goldie, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		
	J. Peers, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	George, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		
	Steen, Photographer, S/sgt.		
	Fowler, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	444th	78
	Reeder, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0913 45
W	Jenco, Bombardier, S/sgt.		
	Coccolo, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		Landed 1313
	Woods, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	DeWitt, Aerial gunner, Sgt.		
	Campbell, Aerial Photographer, Cpl.		
W	Turner, Pilot, 2nd Lt. H.P.	444th	87
	Dickerson, Co, Pilot, Lt.		
	Gleason, Bombardier, Lt.		Took off 0913 1/2
	Carney, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.		Landed 1312
	Fennell, Radio gunner, S/sgt.		
	Alexander, Aerial gunner,		
	Clites, Aerial photographer,		
W	Turner, Pilot, 2nd Lt. I.P.	444th	76
	Nowak, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off 0915
	Roberts, Bombardier, S/sgt.		Landed 1212
	Montaruli, Engineer gunner, Sgt.		
	Cromin, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.		
	Malone, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.		