

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 163, Day Operation, 11 March 1944

Flight Commander: Lt. Rucker.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 0819 hours, 36 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb the Florence M/Y, NW, Italy. They were escorted by fighters of the 52nd Fighter Group. 1 B-26 returned early due to engine cutting out. 35 B-26's were over the target (primary) and 28 B-26's dropped 224 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1/10-.025) on the target at 1056 hours from 8,700'. 24 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1/10-.025) were salvaged on the target, 8 safe and 16 armed, due to rack malfunction. 4 B-26's dropped 32 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1/10-.025) on the secondary target, Cecina RR Bridge, at 1115 hours from 7,500', 1 because the bombs hung up over the primary, and 3 because the flight leader thought his bombs might hit the hospital area. No bombs were returned to this base. 30 B-26's returned safely to this base at 1315 hours. 4 B-26's returned late, 3 at 1502 hours and 1 at 1645 hours after landing at Ghisonaccia, Corsica for gas. 1 B-26 returned late at 1700 hours after landing at Borgo, Corsica for gas.

C. Results: An excellent pattern of bombs fell across the center of the is destroying 190 units of rolling stock and the N section of the C. I. S. A. factory. Some bombs of the second Squadron also damaged the Montecatini Chemical Works. Two explosions were seen, 1 from the yards and 1 from the C.I.S.A. factory.

Bombs dropped on the Cecina RR Bridge fell in good pattern with most bombs over to the W, but one or two damaging near misses.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: None.

b. Situation:

(1) 10/12 a/c, 3/4 of which looked U/S, were seen parked parallel to hangars on Pontedera A/D at 1047 hours from 9,500'.

(2) 5/7 S/E, 3/4 M/E a/c were seen near the hangars and on the SW corner of Peretola A/D at 1058 hours from 8,300'.

(3) 5 S/E and 1 M/E a/c were observed on a landing strip 2 miles due S of Florence at 1055 hours from 8,900'.

2. Ground:

a. General:

(1) The Gas Works in the target area appeared active with white smoke hanging over it.

(2) A factory with trucks moving around it was observed at Dicimano at 1058 hours from 8,400'.

(3) Factories at Poggibonsi appeared active at 1045 hours from 9,600'.

b. Communications:

(1) 263 cars and 23 hospital cars were in the target at the time of the attack and an 11 car train was moving out of the N end of the yards.

(2) 200 cars were seen in the S end of the main Florence M/Y I-H/8-9, cf. TC 3-150-NA, 1056 hours from 8,700'.

(3) 50 cars were seen in the S end of the M/Y in Florence at G/16-17, cf. TC 3-150-NA, at 1056 hours from 8,700'.

- (4) 75 Cars were observed in Signa M/Y at 1053 hours from 9,700'.
- (5) 60 coal cars were observed in a string on the tracks between Signa and Florence at 1059 hours from 7,700'.
- (6) 100-150 cars were seen in a string on tracks just E of Empoli at 1049 hours from 7,700'.
- (7) 50/75 cars were seen in Empoli M/Y at 1049 hours from 9,700'.
- (8) 40/50 cars were seen in Sesto Fiorentino at 1058 hours from 8,200'.
- (9) 100/150 cars were seen in sidings on tracks between Sesto Fiorentino and Prato at 1058 hours from 8,200'.
- (10) 20/25 cars were observed in Fontanella M/Y at 1047 hours from 9,700'.
- (11) 40/50 oil cars were seen in Castel Fiorentino at 1046 hours from 9,700'.
- (12) The M/Y at Pistoia appeared full at 1100 hours from 8,000'.
- (13) 6-8 M/T were headed E on road to Pontassieve from Florence at 1057 hours from 8,500'.
- (14) 10-15 M/T were seen headed S on road between Montelupo Fiorentino and Arbaia at 1051 hours from 9,700'.
- (15) 4 M/T, possibly towing heavy guns, were headed toward Florence about 5 miles W of the City at 1056 hours from 8,700'.

c. Flak: None.

d. Shipping:

- (1) 1 M/V and 4 small barges were seen anchored off the mouth of the Cecina River at 1115 hours from 7,600'.
- (2) 4 M/V were observed just S of the quay at Leghorn at 1115 hours from 7,500'.
- (3) 5/6 small barges and 1 long, slender, single stack vessel, possibly a warship, were observed in Porto Ferrajo, Elba at 1120 hours from 7,500'.

3. Losses: None.

4. Weather: Enroute: 6 to 8/10 stratocumulus, base 4,000', tops 7 to 8,000'. Broken middle and high clouds at 14,000' and above. Visibility 6 miles in the haze..

Target: Open. 2 to 3/10 cumulus, base 6,000', tops 8,000'. Scattered middle and high clouds at 14,000' and above. Visibility 6 to 8 miles in the haze.

Return: Stratoform type clouds in thin layers varying from 3,000' to 15,000'. Very thick haze limited visibility to 3 miles.

E. Routes and Altitudes: From this base at 2,500', 13° T for 129 statute miles to C. Ferro; 0° T for 98 statute miles to Borgo for rendezvous at 7,000'; 45° T for 72 statute miles to Cecina the OP; 70° T for 19 statute miles to Volterra; 12° T for 22 statute miles to Empoli the IP, bomb run across the target at 75° MH; break slight right then left; 222° T for 120 statute miles to point off Borgo, 180° T for 98 statute miles to C. Ferro, 193° for 129 statute miles to base, lowering gradually to 1,500'.

F. Comments: None.

WILLIAM COOK,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Group Intelligence Officer.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| "A" | | |
| <u>WILSON</u> | <u>11</u> | <u>FLAKE</u> |
| 7 | <u>HENDRIX</u> | 6 |
| ----- "B" ----- | | |
| "B" | | |
| <u>WILLS</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>GOODENOUGH</u> |
| 21 | <u>MC CONNELL</u> | 14 |
| ----- "C" ----- | | |
| "C" | | |
| <u>SING JR</u> | <u>98</u> | <u>MYER</u> |
| 94 | <u>BIRMINGHAM</u> | 76 |
| ----- "D" ----- | | |
| "D" | | |
| <u>MORE HALL</u> | <u>86</u> | <u>TURNER, J.A.</u> |
| 77 | <u>MATTESON</u> | 87 |
| ----- "E" ----- | | |
| "E" | | |
| <u>MAC KINNON</u> | <u>50</u> | <u>NEISON</u> |
| 65 | <u>HUNTER</u> | 61 |
| ----- "F" ----- | | |
| "F" | | |
| <u>LYDAY</u> | <u>57</u> | <u>HRIBAL</u> |
| 64 | <u>HUGHES</u> | 54 |
| ----- "G" ----- | | |
| "G" | | |
| <u>HARFSTER</u> | <u>45</u> | <u>LARSEN</u> |
| 43 | <u>HANOMIAKI</u> | 27 |
| ----- "H" ----- | | |
| "H" | | |
| <u>KING</u> | <u>33</u> | <u>ROIAN</u> |
| 47 | <u>FREEMAN</u> | 25 |

RADIO:
 17th SWINGBARD
 319th ROONEY
 320th SUSHAN
 PIANTER: BUSTER

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| SPARE | <u>HUNSBERGER</u> | <u>MORGANSTERN</u> | <u>WEEKS</u> | <u>RAFFERTY</u> | |
| | 19 | 90 | 66 | 41 | |
| COLORS OF THE DAY | <u>TIME</u> | <u>FLAKE</u> | <u>CHALLENGE</u> | <u>REPLY</u> | <u>COLOR</u> |
| | 0100-0700 | RR | D | S | GREEN |
| | 0700-1300 | GY | P | C | WHITE |
| | 1300-1900 | GG | Z | N | RED |
| | 1900-0100 | YY | B | Y | WHITE |

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON FLORENCE W/Y, ITALY

| | CREW | SQUADRON | PLANE NO. |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| | OGLIETTI, PILOT, Capt. | 441st | 11 |
| | NUNNALLEE, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. | | took off 0819 |
| C | CUKAR, BOMB. 2nd Lt. | | landed 1305 |
| | THURSTON, NAV. 2nd Lt. | | |
| | O'KEEFE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | ROGERS, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | |
| | GRIGGS, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | RUCKER, FLIGHT COMMANDER, 1st Lt. Hq. | | |
| | FLAKE, PILOT, F/O | 441st | 3 |
| W | OLTMAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0847 |
| | HAWKINS, BOMB. S/Sgt. | | landed 1241 |
| | CIGNAC, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | MARKUS, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | LEUTHOLT, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| W | WILSON, PILOT, F/O | 441st | 7 |
| | WEST, CO PILOT, F/O | | took off 0819 |
| | MC ILLVENNA, BOMB. Sgt. | | landed 1254 |
| | BEARS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | HOFFMAN, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | LIGGETT, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | HENDRIX, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | 441st | 17 |
| S | SCHULTZ, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0819 |
| | FARMER, BOMB. 2nd Lt. | | landed 1306 |
| | ABART, NAV. 2nd Lt. | | |
| | LIDICKER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | GERMANOUS, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | GRINER, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | CORNELIUS, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | 441st | 2 |
| F | WILHELM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0819 |
| | VESSELLS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. | | landed 1306 |
| | HALLIGAN, NAV. 2nd Lt. | | |
| | TESSUM, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | TIPTON, RADIO, Pvt. | | |
| | FRANK, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | GOODENOUGH, PILOT, F/O | 441st | 14 |
| W | SULLIVAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 14 |
| | DOCKERY, BOMB. S/Sgt. | | landed 1306 |
| | BARRON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | GAUNT, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | |
| | MC LAUGHLIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | WILLS, PILOT, 1st Lt. | 441st | 21 |
| W | MALCAIM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0820 |
| | MC GOLDRICK, BOMB. T/Sgt. | | landed 1305 |
| | MILLER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | WESTBROOK, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | MEDINA, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |

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| JOHNSON, PILOT, ROUND, CO PILOT, POCAN, BOMB. DEACY, NAV. JOHNSON, ENGINEER, MC ELMURRY, RADIO, CLARKE, GUNNER | 444th | 98 took off 0820 landed 1305 |
| MYER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. AUSTIN, CO PILOT, Col. CRAPSE, BOMB. S/Sgt. COOK, ENGINEER, DONALD MILLER, RADIO, S/Sgt HANEY, GUNNER, S /Sgt. | 444th 42nd Wing | 76 took off 0821 landed 1306 |
| SINGER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. GASSER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. JENCO, BOMB. S/Sgt. HENDRECK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. CAMPBELL, RADIO, Cpl. MOSKOWITZ, GUNNER, Sgt. COLTON, X, Cpl. | 444th 442nd | 94 took off 0821 landed 1245 |
| BIRMINGHAM, PILOT, 2nd Lt. JONES, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. LINDSTRUM, BOMB. GOLDIE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. STALCUP, RADIO, S/Sgt. ROSS, GUNNER, S/Sgt. AVENARD, X, 1st Lt. | 444th | 83 took off 0821 landed 1700 (Chise. for 9er |
| BURKE, PILOT, F/O DICKERSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. HELLER, BOMB. 2nd Lt. MICHEALS, NAV. 2nd Lt. FILTRANTE, ENGINEER, Sgt. IVEY, RADIO, S/Sgt. KOSH, GUNNER, Sgt. | 444th | 86 took off 0822 landed 1308 |
| J.A. TURNER, PILOT, PLACKTER, CO PILOT, GLEASON, BOMB. CARNEY, ENGINEER, FEINBERG, RADIO, ALEXANDER, GUNNER, | 444th | 87 took off 0822 landed 1308 |
| MARSHALL, PILOT, 2nd Lt. MARSHALL, 2nd Lt. CO PILOT, SHINGLE, BOMB. S/Sgt. WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. PERRY, RADIO, T/Sgt. CRONIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | 444th | 77 took off 0822 landed 1309 |

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| | LATTESON, PILOT, 1st Lt. | 444th | 96 |
| | REEDER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0822 |
| F | GLAWBITZ, BOMB. 2nd Lt. | | landed 1500 |
| | COCOLO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | (landed 0450) |
| | STEEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | ROBINSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | SAYLOR, PILOT, Capt. | 443rd | 50 |
| F | TIMM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0823 |
| | WAGAR, BOMB. TORANTO , 2nd Lt. | | landed |
| | TARANTO, NAV. 2nd Lt. | | 1310 |
| | PEAVER, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | |
| | GUILLIAMS, GUNNER, Sgt. | | |
| | MILLER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | NELSON, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | 443rd | 61 |
| W | STINSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0823 |
| | SZAFIR, NAV. Sgt. | | landed |
| | BERGAMO, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | 1310 |
| | AUSTAD, GUNNER, Sgt. | | |
| | LARKIN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | DRAPER, PHOTO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | MACKINNON, PILOT, 1st Lt. | 443rd | 65 |
| W | CLARK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0823 |
| | ARMAO, NAV. S/Sgt. | | landed |
| | COONS, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | 1310 |
| | PUTNIB, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | JUST, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | HUNTER, PILOT, Capt. | 443rd | 53 |
| E | SPRANG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0823 |
| | TIDWELL, BOMB. 1st Lt. | | landed 1203 |
| | SCHWARTZ, NAV. 2nd Lt. | | |
| | BUTLER, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | |
| | MACDONALD, GUNNER, Pvt. | | |
| | TERRELL, ENGINEER, Sgt. | | |
| | RITCHEY, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | 443rd | 52 |
| F | GOODWIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0824 |
| | JANEKE, BOMB. 1st Lt. | | landed |
| | LONG, NAV. 2nd Lt. | | 1311 |
| | TURRATTI, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | TEETERS, GUNNER, Sgt. | | |
| | JONES, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | HRIBAL, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | 443rd | 54 |
| V | BEAUDRON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. | | took off 0824 |
| | TYSON, NAV. Sgt. | | landed |
| | JACKSON, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | 1312 |
| | GUZZIO, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | STONE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | LYDAY, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | 443rd | 64 |
| W | REYNOLDS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0824 |
| | SALTERELLI, NAV. S/Sgt. | LAFFERTY, RADIO, T/Sgt. | |
| | FLAJNIK, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | VOLOSKY, ENGINEER, Sgt. | landed 1312 |

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|---|--------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| | HALE, PILOT, 2nd . | 59 443rd | 59 |
| | MC KINNEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | | took off 0824 |
| F | CARROLL, NAV. 1st L. | | landed 1235 |
| | MARSTELLAR, RADIO, Cpl. | | |
| | BROWN, GUNNER, Pvt. | | |
| | ELLIS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | BAKER, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 45 |
| F | TAYLOR, CO PILOT, Lt. | | took off 0825 |
| | PHILLIPS, BOMB. Lt. | | landed 1315 |
| | NARDINE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | MALBURNE, RADIO, Sgt. | | |
| | BENTLY, GUNNER, S /Sgt. | | |
| W | LARRABEE, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 27 |
| | WILLIAMS, CO PILOT, Lt. | | took off 0825 |
| | FRIEND, BOMB. Cpl. | | landed 1312 |
| | FLOTO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | ZEHNER, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | JOHNSON, GUNNER, Cpl. | | |
| | Maddock, GR. Cpl. Photographer | | |
| W | HARPSTER, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 43 |
| | MC KAY, CO PILOT, Lt. | | took off 0825 |
| | HARRINGTON, BOMB. Cpl. | | landed 1313 |
| | PEARL, ENGINEER, Sgt. | | |
| | KNAUER, RADIO, Sgt. | | |
| | NEMLER, GUNNER, Sgt. | | |
| F | HAKOMAKI, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 38 |
| | ZELLERBACH, CO PILOT, Lt. | | took off 0825 |
| | LYMAN, BOMB. Lt. | | landed 1502 |
| | UNDERWOOD, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | (Ghisoneccia) |
| | MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | SPANGLER, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| F | WENDLING, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 33 |
| | WILLIAMS, CO PILOT, Lt. | | took off 0826 |
| | MAGGIO, BOMB. Lt. | | landed 1314 |
| | ELLSWORTH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | HUGHES, RADIO, Sgt. | | |
| | FIELD, GUNNER, Sgt. | | |
| V | ROWAN, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 25 |
| | ROOD, CO PILOT, Lt. | | took off 0826 |
| | JACOBSON, BOMB. S/Sgt. | | landed 1447 |
| | LANNING, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | |
| | MC COY, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |
| | BOTH, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | |
| W | KING, PILOT, Lt. | 442nd | 47 |
| | HODGES, CO PILOT, LT. | | took off 0826 |
| | CHAMBERLIN, BOMB. S/Sgt. | | landed 1314 |
| | O'NEAL, ENGINEER, Sgt. | | |
| | MARSCH, RADIO, Cpl. | | |
| | KIMMECH, GUNNER, Sgt. | | |
| | ORGERON, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | |