

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 172, Day Operations, 23 March 1944

Flight Commander: Major Friday.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 0853 hours, 28 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Florence/Campo di Marte M/Y, Italy. 4 B-26's returned early, all spares. 24 B-26's were over the target, and 24 B-26's dropped 173 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1-10 - .025 second delay fuses) and 9 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (1-1; 2-2; 4-6; and 2-12 hour delay fuses) on the target at 1138 hours from 9000' to 9400'. 4 x 500 lb. demolition bombs were salvoed over water having hung up over the target. 24 B-26's returned at 1330 hours.

C. Results: The bombs landed in an excellent pattern in the assigned area of the M/Y, destroying approximately 120 units of rolling stock and hitting the viaduct crossing the yards. Bombs of one flight landed short and southeast of the target, and a few bombs landed among warehouses north of the assigned target area.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity:

- (1) Spitfires provided excellent escort.
- (2) A 3 engine transport was seen taking off at Florence/Peretola A/D at 1138 hours from 9000'.

b. Situation: None.

2. Ground:

a. General:

- (1) Supply dumps were seen on each of 2 hills just north of Canneto, Q3409, at 1118 hours from 10,000'.
- (2) Large active factory, with several trucks backed up to it, was seen at Q3409 at 1118 hours from 10,000'.
- (3) Factory activity, with supply dumps adjacent to it, was seen at S. Giovanni Vald, R0045, at 1136 hours from 9500'.

b. Communications:

- (1) 456 units of rolling stock were photographed in the target M/Y at 1138 hours from 9000'.
- (2) 5/6 strings of cars averaging 30 cars each were seen on tracks west of Florence at 1138 hours from 9000'.
- (3) 75/100 cars were seen in Florence northwest M/Y at 1138 hours from 9000'.
- (4) 15/20 cars were seen in M/Y at Signa, Q6669 at 1139 hours from 9000'.
- (5) 60/70 cars were seen in Florence/S M/Y at 1138 hours from 9000'.
- (6) 20 cars were seen at Figline, Q9651, at 1136 hours from 9500'.

- (7) 15 cars were seen at Lucisa, Q9455, at 1137 hours from 9000'.
- (8) 25 cars were seen at Valterra, Q4528, at 1125 hours from 9000'.
- (9) A 20 car train, stationary, with engine headed south, was seen at Q7826, at 1129 hours from 10,000'.
- (10) At Certaldo, Q6143, a 12 car train was seen at 1132 hours from 10,000'.
- (11) 5 M/T, 4 with trailers, were seen in the vicinity of S. Giovanni, R0045 at 1136 hours from 9500'.
- (12) 20 M/T headed north, were seen at R1231 at 1135 hours from 10,000'.
- (13) 25/30 scattered M/T, headed in both directions north of Florence, in 3's and 4's, were seen at 1138 hours from 9000'.
- (14) 4 M/T, headed north out of Poggibonsi, Q6540, were seen at 1134 hours from 10,000'.
- (15) 4 M/T headed south between Poggibonsi and Siena, Q7525, were seen at 1134 hours from 10,000'.
- (16) 30 M/T were observed headed south out of Arezzo, R2527, at 1135 hours from 10,000'.

c. Flak: None.

d. Shipping:

- (1) 2 med. M/V and 8 smaller craft were seen at Porto Ferraio, Elba, at 1115 hours from 10,000'.
- (2) 1 larg barge was seen on the beach at S. Vincenzo at 1116 hours from 10,000'.

3. Losses: None. No a/c damaged.

4. Weather: Enroute: 6/10 cumulus in bands, 4-5500'.

Target: Clear. 6/10 cumulus in large patches at 4 to 7000'.

Return: As enroute/

E. Routes and Altitudes: From base at 2500', 21° T for 116 statute miles to Tavolara Island; 353° T for 115 statute miles to rendezvous with escort at Borgo; 55° T for 65 statute miles to landfall 2 miles north of S. Vincenzo; 73° T for 42 statute miles to Siena; 73° T for 14 statute miles to 2 miles south of Ambra; 327° T for 10 statute miles to IP, Savr-iglia, climbing gradually to 10,000'; 322° M for 20 statute miles to target at 9000'; breakaway left; 183° T to Poggibonsi; 235° T for 100 statute miles to Borgo; reciprocal course to base.

F. Comments: 2 additional ME-109's were destroyed on 29 January, 1944,

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

MISSION #197

FLIGHT COMMANDER: _____ 23 MARCH 1944

"A"

80 BREWER
 91 GASSER Powers 79 GUNOR
 86 DILLING
 White

"B"

85 JOHNSON
 14 WEILER Pagan 99 MARSCH
 22 CONNELL
 Johnson

"C"

1 COENELIUS
 8 ST ARNO Ves Sells 16 WILLIAMS, D.L.
 18 O STEEN
 Polakoy

"D"

45 BAKER
 32 BARNARD Phillips 35 ROOD
 48 WANDLING
 Lyman

CALL SIGNS:

17th: _____
 319th: _____
 320th: _____

"E"

40 CONRAD
 63 LABE Freestone 38 RATZING
 62 ACKERMAN
 McCartney

FIGHTERS: _____

"F"

66 RITCHEY
 51 REYNOLDS Tidwell 52 STRACHAN
 64 HALE
 Lokan

GROUND SPARES

96
 12
 31
 53

SPARES

89 MORGANSTERN 3 SMITH 26 LARRABEE 67 STINSON

COLORS OF THE DAY

<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLARE COLORS</u>
0100-0700	YELLOW-YELLOW
0700-1300	RED-YELLOW
1300-1900	GREEN-YELLOW
1900-0100	RED-RED

ALDIS LAMP SIGNALS

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHALLENGE</u>	<u>REPLY</u>	<u>COLOR OF LENSE TO BE USED</u>
0100-0700	M	I	GREEN
0700-1300	Y	C	RED
1300-1900	O	D	GREEN
1900-0100	B	F	WHITE

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

CREW	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
BREWER, PILOT, Major MC GUGAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. POWERS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. GEST, NAV. 2nd Lt. TUNIS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. FAUCHIER, RADIO, T/Sgt. RABAL, GUNNER, Sgt. FOWLER, FLIGHT COMMANDER, 2nd Lt.	444th	took off 0853 landed 1330
CONNOR, PILOT, 2nd Lt. SINGER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. GLEASON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. HENDRICK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. ROSS, RADIO, S/Sgt. MOSKOWITZ, GUNNER, Sgt. CLITES, PHOTO, S/Sgt.	444th	79 took off 0853 landed 1319
GASSER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. PLACKTER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. JENCO, BOMB. S/Sgt. GOLDIE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. SPEARS, RADIO, S/Sgt. GEORGE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. ROSENTHAL, PHOTO, Sgt.	444th	91 took off 0854 landed 1330
DILLING, PILOT, 1st Lt. DRISCOLL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. WHITE, BOMB. 2nd Lt. DEACY, NAV. 2nd Lt. COCK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. VISCONE, RADIO, S/Sgt. HUMPHREY, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	86 took off 0854 landed 1330
JOHNSON, PILOT, ROUND, CO PILOT, POCAN, BOMB. MICHELS, NAV. JOHNSON, ENGINEER, MC ELMURRY, RADIO, CLARKE, GUNNER,	444th	85 took off 0855 landed 1331
MARSCH, PILOT, 2nd Lt. MIER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. WEIER DZIEDZIC, BOMB. Cpl. WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. PERRY, RADIO, T/Sgt. MASON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	444th	99 took off 0855 landed 1331
WEILER, PILOT, 1st Lt. ODTMAN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. KWIATKOWSKI, BOMB, S/Sgt. HULL, RADIO, S/Sgt. SMITH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. STEEVES, GUNNER, Sgt. YAVOROSK, PHOTO, Sgt.	441st	14 took off 0855 landed 1331

	MC CONNELL, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	22
	WILHELM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0855
F	JOHNSON, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed, 330
	HARRISON, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	MC DONOUGH, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	LEUTHOLT, GUNNER,		
	CORNELIUS, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	1
	MUELLER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0856
F	VESSELIS, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed, 332
	GIBSON, NAV. 1st Lt.		
	LIGGETT, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	RENCEHAUSEN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FULK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
D.L.	WILLIAMS, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	16
	TRUNK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	took off 0856
W	HAWKINS, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed, 330
	TREBENDA, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	HOFFMAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	BRATTON, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	MIDDLETON, PHOTO, PFC	442nd	
	ST. ARNO, PILOT, P/O	441st	8
W	NOLD, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0856
	BERDAUS, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed, 333
	ACCERRO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	DORAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	GUST, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	O'STEEN, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	18
F	PESEK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0856
	POLAKOV, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed, 333
	HILL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	FORBES, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MOORE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	BAKER, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	45
F	GREGG, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0857
	PHILLIPS, BOMB. Lt.		landed, 337
	BOYNE, NAV. Lt.		
	ENGINEER, SALVESON, S/Sgt.		
	MALBURNE, RADIO, Sgt.		
	STEWART, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	ROOD, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	31
no startie SPARK	RUWAN, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0857
	JACOBSON, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed, 1152
	MANNING, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	MILLIMAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	BUTH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	BARNARD, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	32
W	ARMSTRONG, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0857
	HARLAN, BOMB. Sgt.		landed, 310
	KING, ENGINEER, Sgt.	WEISS, GUNNER, Sgt.	
	MEHRER, RADIO, S/Sgt.	SAUTER, PHOTO,	

	WENDLING, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	48
	WILLIAMS, R.F., CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0857
	LYMAN, BOMB. Lt.		landed 1337
E	SCHWARTZ, NAV. Lt.		
	ELLSWORTH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	KNAUER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FIELD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	CONRAD, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	40
	THORNTON, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0858
F	FREESTONE, BOMB, Lt.		landed 1338
	KING, NAV. Lt.		
	COOKE, OBS. Capt.		
	FLOTO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	MARSH, RADIO, Sgt.		
	RODGERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	RATERING, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	38
W	ROBERTSON, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0858
	FULLER, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1338
	ROCHESTER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	LOCKWOOD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	LAMB, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	63
W	KOLAR, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0859
	TYSON, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1338
	GLOWATCH, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MC DONALD, GUNNER, Pvt.		
	LAMOUREUX, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	ACKERMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	62
E	COOKE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0859
	MC CARTNEY, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed 1338
	CALLAHAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MENSCH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	JUST, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	RITCHEY, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	66
F	GOODWIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0859
	CAFARELLA, NAV. Capt.		landed 1340
	TIDWELL, BOMB. 1st Lt.		
	TURATTI, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	TEETERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	JONES, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	STRACHAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	52
W	SPRANG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0859
	ARLAO, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1340
	COONS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	WESIFALL, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	HOPKINS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	MADDOCKS, PHOTO, Cpl.		
	REYNOLDS, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	51
W	BEAUDRO, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.	LAFFERTY, RADIO, T/Sgt.	took off 0900
	SALTARELLI, BOMB. S/Sgt.	FLAJNIK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	
	VOLOSKY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.	MILLER, RADIO, S/Sgt.	landed 1340

	HALE, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	64
	MORAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0900
	LOKAN, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed 1212
<i>X</i>	PEAVER, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
<i>no suite</i>	BROWN, GUNNER, Pvt.		
	ELLIS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	NELSON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	<u>SPARE</u>		
	MORGANSTERN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	89
	SCHNIEDER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0900
<i>no suite</i>	MOORE, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1155
	MONTGOMERY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	SHAFFER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FIELDS, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	<u>SPARES</u>		
	BERGE, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	3
	SULLIVAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0801
<i>no suite</i>	DOCKERY, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1200
	GOODMAN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	SPIESS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MC LAUGHLIN, GUNNER,		
	<u>SPARE</u>		
	LARNABLE, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	32 26
	MC KAY, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0907
<i>W</i>	MC GRAY, BOMB. Pvt.		landed 1337
	MELIN, Pvt. ENGINEER,		
	KRAUSE, RADIO, Sgt.		
	JOHNSON, PHOTO, Sgt.		
	<u>SPARE</u>		
	STINSON, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	53
	NELSON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 0900
	SZAFIR, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1340
	JOHNSON, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
	AUSTAD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	LARKIN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		