

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 176, Day Operation, 28 Mar. 1944

Flight Commander: Captain Probasco.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 1209 hours, 28 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group took off to bomb Certaldo RR Bridge, Italy. 3 B-26's returned early: 1 spare 2 wth engines cutting out. 25 B-26's were over the target and 22 dropped 174 x 500 lb demolition bombs (1/10, .025 second delay fuses) on the target at 1434 hours from 8,200' to 7,400' on an axis of 250° T. 10 x 500 lb demolition bombs were salvoed, 2 in the target area, having hung up, and 8 in the water because the a/c carrying them was not in position to drop on the target. 16 x 500 lb demolition bombs were returned base because the a/c carrying them was not in a position to drop on the target. 25 B-26's returned safely at 1610 hours.

C. RESULTS: A good pattern of bombs covered the bridge and a portion of the M/Y. One direct hit was scored on the bridge, and one hit on the N approach, 2 on the S approach were made. 3 cars were destroyed in the M/Y.

D. OBSERVATIONS:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: Spitfires from Corsica provided excellent escort.

b. Situation:

(1) 2/3 a/c were seen at Pontedera A/D, from considerable distance at 1429 hours from 8500'.

(2) 2 crew members reported an air strip on Pionosa Island, running east and west, at 1445 hours at 8000'.

(3) A landing strip south of Castiglione appeared to be in use at 1432 hours from 8000'.

2. Ground:

a. General:

(1) An army camp was seen just south of Castiglione at 1423 hours from 8000'.

(2) One span of Cecina RR Bridge was observed to be down at 1423 hours from 8000'; repairs were in progress but were not yet completed.

b. Communications:

(1) 30 RR cars were seen at Castiglione, Q1228, at 1023 hours from 8000'.

(2) 30 RR cars in 3 strings, most of them black in color, were observed at Castelfiorentino, Q5552, at 1432 hours from 8300'.

(3) 1 train moving north was observed at Q0440 at 1023 hours from 8000'.

(4) 60 RR cars were photographed at Certaldo at 1434 hours from 8200'.

(5) 12 RR cars were seen at Q1424 at 1423 hours from 8000'.

(6) 4 M/T, stationary, headed east were seen at Q6328 at 1433 hours from 8200'.

(7) 20 M/T were seen on the beach at Q1324 at 1423 hours from 8000'.

- (8) 3 very large M/T were observed at Q3137 at 1428 hours from 8500'.
c. Flak: None at target or elsewhere.
d. Shipping: Following were observed at 1423 hours from

8000':

(1) 1 medium M/V, half submerged, 1 small boat alongside, 2 yellow rafts nearby.

(2) 7/10 small boats off Castiglioneello.

(3) 1 TLC 2 miles north of Castiglioneello, beached.

(4) 6/10 small boats beached just offshore at Q1324.

(5) 1 small M/V, beached or anchored off Cecina Marina.

3. Losses: None; no s/c damaged.

4. Weather: Enroute: Broken cumulus over Sardinia and Corsica; otherwise clear.

Target: CAVU.

R^eturn: As enroute.

E. Routes and Altitudes: From this base at 2500', 2° T for 142 statute miles to C. Feno; 45° T for 20 statute miles to Porto Vecchio; 16° T for 38 statute miles to Aleria; 353° T to rendezvous with escort at Borgo; 38° T for 74 statute miles to Castiglioneello; 72° T for 17 statute miles to Laiatico; past target, 180° turn to right at 9000'; bomb run, 250° T at 8200', to Castiglioneello; reciprocal course to be

F. Comments: None.

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

MISSION # 201 ,

FLIGHT COMMANDER: LT. COL. FLEMMER.

28 MARCH 1944

LINE-UP FOR TAKE OFF

SQUADRON # 1.

2 ROBBINS
 9 GOODENOUGH
 4 HUBBARD
 1 HELD
 22 OLTMAN
 96 TURNER J. A.
 83 JOHNSON
 77 PLACKTER
 91 SINGER
 21 BERGE
 78 BIRMINGHAM
 85 BURKE

HUBBARD

4

"A"

2 ROBBINS

MacFarland

GOODENOUGH

21 BERGE

9

Plouck

"B"

1 HELD

TURNER J. A.

Polakov

OLTMAN

96

BIRMINGHAM

22

78

"C"

83 JOHNSON

SINGER

Pocan

PLACKTER

91

BURKE

77

85

"D"

66 RITCHEY

PALMER

Tidwell

HRIBAL

64

71 SHEARE

67

Adams

"E"

61 ACKERMAN

ARMSTRONG

McCartney

LYDAY

32

FREEMAN

60

43

"F"

33 WENDLING

KADEN

Scafidi

LARRABEE

38

RATERING

27

29

SPARES

ST. ARNO

MACKINNON

18 Goldin 20

Turner H. D. 84

53 Wagar 52

ROWAN

89

25 48

RADIO CALL SIGNS:

319th GROUP

LONGBEACH:

320th GROUP

BARCLAY :

52nd GROUP

BUSTER :

SQUADRON # 2.

66 RITCHEY
 67 HRIBAL
 64 PALMER
 61 ACKERMAN
 60 LYDAY
 32 ARMSTRONG
 33 WENDLING
 27 LARRABEE
 38 KADEN

71
 43
 29

SPARES

18 ST ARNO
 89 TURNER H. D.
 53 MACKINNON
 25 ROWAN.

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 28 MARCH 1944

FLARE COLORS
 0100-0700 GREEN - YELLOW
 0700-1300 RED - GREEN
 1300-1900 RED - YELLOW
 1900-0100 GREEN GREEN.

CHALLENGE REPLY COLOR LENSE TO BE USED
 0100-0700 O Z GREEN
 0700-1300 W P RED
 1300-1900 Y B GREEN
 1900-0100 J C RED.

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON CERTALDO R/Br, Italy.

CREW	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
ROBBINS, PILOT, Capt.	441st	2
BODIE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1209
MC FARLAND, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed 1607
GIBSON, NAV. 1st Lt.		
HUPPE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
SPIESS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
TOMPKIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
PROBASCO, FLIGHT COMMANDER, Capt.		
GOODENOUGH, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	9
SULLIVAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1209
MC GOLDRICK, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1607
BARRON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
GAUNT, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
MC LAUGHLIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
CATALDI, PHOTO, Sgt.		
HUBBARD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	4
PESEK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1209
BERDAUS, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1607
LLAS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
HULL, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
COCKER, GUNNER, Sgt.		
ROSENTHAL, PHOTO, Sgt.		
BERGE, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	21
WILHELM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1210
FLOUCK, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed 1609
ABART, NAV. 1st Lt.		
BRUSH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
BREZNAK, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
FATA, GUNNER, Sgt.		
HELD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	1
WACHER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1210
POLAKOV, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed 1607
O'DELL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
RENCEHAUSEN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
FRANK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
OLTMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	22
FLAKE, CO PILOT, F/O		took off 1210
KWIATKOWSKI, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1609
DOLAN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
MARKUS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
MARINELLI, GUNNER, Sgt.		
TURNER, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	96
DICKERSON, CO PILOT,		took off 1211
BZIEDZIC, BOMB.		landed 1608
CARNEY, ENGINEER,		
FEINBERG, RADIO,		
ALEXANDAR, GUNNER,		
DURN, PHOTO,		

BIRMINGHAM, PILOT, 2nd Lt. SINN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SHINGLE, BOMB. S/Sgt. STATON, ENGINEER, /Sgt. CAMPBELL, ADIC, Cpl. PIGGETT, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th (EARLY RETURN NO MISSION CREDIT)	78 took off 1211 landed 1323
JOHNSON, PILOT, ROUND, CO PILOT, POCAN, BOMB. BANG, NAV. JOHNSON, ENGINEER, MC ELMURRY, RADIO, CLARKE, GUNNER,	444th	83 took off 1211 landed 1609
PLACKTER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. GASSER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. JENCO, BOMB. S/Sgt. GOLDIE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. FAUCHIER, RADIO, T/Sgt. GEORGE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. YAVORSKY, PHOTO, Sgt.	444th	77 took off 1212 landed 1605
SINGER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. CONNOR, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. GLEASON, BOMB. Cpl. HENDRICK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. ROSS, RADIO, S/Sgt. MOSKOWITZ, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th (EARLY RETURN NO MISSION CREDIT)	92 91 took off 1212 landed 1301
BURKS, PILOT, F/O JONES, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. MOORE, BOMB. Sgt. FILTRANTE, ENGINEER, Sgt. IVEY, RADIO, S/Sgt. KOCH, GUNNER, Sgt. RHODES, X, Capt.	444th	84 took off 1230 landed 1607
RITCHEY, PILOT, 1st Lt. GOODWIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. PIDWELL, BOMB. 1st Lt. CAFARELLA, NAV. Capt. JONES, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. TURATTI, RADIO S/Sgt. TESTERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	443rd	66 took off 1213 landed 1605
HRIBAL, PILOT, 2nd Lt. BEAUDRO, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. TYSON, BOMB. S/Sgt. STONE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. MAIER, RADIO, S/Sgt. BROWN, GUNNER, Pvt. FRASIER, OBS. Lt. CLITES, PHOTO,	443rd	57 took off 1213 landed 1605
PALMER, PILOT, 1st Lt. CLARK, COPILOT, 2nd Lt. STRAKA, BOMB. S/Sgt.	443rd BARRY, ENGINEER, Sgt. MARSTELLER, RADIO, Cpl. GRIEWANK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	64 took off 1213 landed 1605

SHEARD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	71
TELM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1214
ADAMS, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed 1606
LONG, NAV. 2nd Lt.		
TERRELL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
FEZWER, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
YIM, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
ACKERMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	61
COOKE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1214
MC CARTKEY, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed 1606
TARANTO, NAV. 2nd Lt.		
JUST, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
CALLAHAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
MENSCH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
LYDAY, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	60
WEST, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1214
SZAFIR, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1606
MOLOSKY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
LAFFERTY, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
FLAJNIK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
FIELDS, OBS. 1st Lt.		
ARMSTRONG, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	32
BARNARD, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1215
HARLAN, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1609
KING, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
ZEHNER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
WEISS, GUNNER, Sgt.		
FREEMAN, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	43
MC KAY, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1215
HARMON, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1608
ELIAS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
JOHNSON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
FLYNN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
WEADLING, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	33
WILLIAMS, R.F., Lt.		took off 1215
SCAFIDI, BOMB. Lt.		landed 1605
BILLSWORTH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
HUGHES, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
FIELD, GUNNER, Sgt.		
LARRABEE, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	27
CASTOR, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1216
MC CRAY, BOMB. Pvt.		landed 1605
BLY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
BELLS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
ROSS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
MIDDLETON, PHOTO, Pvt.		
MILLIMAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
KADEN, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	38
GREGG, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1216
FRIEND, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1605
O'NEAL, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
COONEY, RADIO, Sgt.		
KIMMECH, GUNNER, Sgt.		

	HATERING, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	29
	ROBERTSON, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1261
E	FULLER, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1606
	ROCHESTER, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	MALBURNE, RADIO, Sgt.		
	LOCKWOOD, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	URGERON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		

SPARES

	ST. ARNO, PILOT, F/O	441st	18
	MOLD, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1217
	GOLDIN, BOMB. 2nd Lt.	(EARLY NO MISSION CREDIT)	landed 1318
	ACERRO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	DORAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	GUST, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

H.D.	TURNER, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	444th	89
	DRISCOLL, CO pilot, 2nd Lt.		took off 1217
E	ROBERTS, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1609
	MONTARULI, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	CRONIN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MALONE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

	MAC KINNON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	53
W	DUGAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1218
	WAGAR, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed 1614
	ELLS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	GILES, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FUTNAG, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

	ROWAN, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	25
	ROOD, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1218
	JACOBSON, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1619
	MANNING, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	KRAUSE, RADIO, Sgt.		
	BOTH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

WEATHER SHIP

	O'STEEN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	12
	MALCOLM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off
	HILL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		landed
	MC DOROUGH, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MOORE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	GARDNER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		