

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 850

Intelligence Narrative No 191, Day Operation, 24 April 1944

Flight Commander: Lt. Col. Fletcher.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 0910 hours, 27 B-26's of this Group took off to bomb Incisa RR Bridge, Italy. They were escorted by Spitfires from Corsica. 3 Spares returned early. 24 a/c were over the target and 23 a/c dropped 181 x 500 lb. demolition bombs (.1 - .025 second delay fuses) on the target at 1132 hours from 8,700'. 11 x 500 lb. demolition bombs, having hung were salvaged, 8 in the target area and 3 in the water. No bombs were returned to base. 24 a/c returned at 1337 hours.

C. Results: The main concentration of bombs bracketed the south end of the bridge scoring a possible hit and several near misses and cutting the south approach. Bombs of 1 flight cut the north approach and bombs of 2 flights landed about 500 yards east of the target.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: None.

b. Situation: Evidence of L/G construction at 43005'N-11030'E, 2 parallel runways Northeast-Southwest and a dispersal area among the trees northwest of field was seen at 1150 hours from 8,500'.

2. Ground:

a. General:

(1) A white column of smoke rising to 1,000' was observed at V-7087 at 1120 hours from 9,000'.

(2) Supply dumps at Rapolano RR Station were seen at 1120 hours from 9,000'.

b. Communications:

(1) 40 RR cars at Arezzo M/Y and the craters thereat seemed filled, were seen at 1140 hours from 8,500'.

(2) 70 RR cars in 2 strings with engines on north end at R-2128, were seen at 1240 hours from 8,500'.

(3) 70 tank cars in M/Y at Fulciano were seen at 1240 hours from 8,500'.

(4) 40/50 RR cars at Castiglion Fiorentino were seen at 1225 hours from 9,000'.

(5) 20 RR cars at Cortona were seen at 1140 hours from 8,500'.

(6) 35/40 tank cars at Asciano M/Y were seen at 1145 hours from 8,500'.

(7) 30 RR cars at San Casciano were seen at 1120 hours from 9,000'.

(8) 130 RR cars at Incisa M/Y and at a tunnel south of the target 4 cars at the north end and 1 car at the south end were seen at 1132 hours from 8,700'.

(9) 30 RR cars at Castiglioncello were seen at 1120 hours from 9,000'.

(10) 6/8 hospital cars at Subbiano were seen at 1125 hours from 9,000'.

(11) 40 tank cars at Sinalunga were seen at 1125 hours from 9,000'.

(12) 30 RR cars at Monte San Savino were seen at 1125 hours from 9,000'.

(13) 40 RR cars at S. Pietra in Palazzi were seen at 1125 hours from 9,000'.

- (14) 55 RR cars at Castelfiorentino were seen at 1124 hours from 9,000'.
- (15) 25 M/T, 5 miles southeast of Siena, not moving, were seen at 1145 hours from 9,000'.
- (16) 15/20 M/T heading north on road just north of Montieri were seen at 1125 hours from 9,000'.
- (17) 150/200 RR cars at Siena M/Y was reported by 1 crew member at 1145 hours from 85,00'.

c. Flak:

- (1) From Rignano, meager, heavy, accurate for altitude and inaccurate for deflection, CP flak from 1 or 2 batteries in north slopes of hills east of Rignano in bursts of 4.
- (2) From Leghorn, meager, heavy, very inaccurate flak.
- (3) Moderate, heavy barrage flak was observed directed at the 17th Group near Arezzo A/D.

d. Shipping:

- (1) 1 large M/V and 10/12 small boats at Porto Ferraro at 1100 hours from 9,000'.
- (2) 1 large M/V and 2 destroyer like vessels off Leghorn, were seen at 1100 hours from 9,000'.
- (3) 4/5 medium M/V at Piombino were seen at 1100 hours from 9,000'.

3. Losses: None.

4. Weather: Enroute: High overcast over Sardinia, clear rest of route; haze limited visibility to 8/10 miles.

Target: CAVU.

Return: Over Sardinia high overcast with lower stratus forming at 4,000'; visibility 10 miles.

E. Routes and Altitudes: From this base 321° T for 55 statute miles to Mal di Ventre, 4° T for 59 statute miles to Porto Torres, 43° T for 72 statute miles to Porto Vecchio, 14° T for 30 statute miles to east of Ghisonaccia, 3° T for 31 statute miles to Alto, 32° T for 79 statute miles to Castiglione, 52° T for 23 statute miles to Palaia, 80° T for 21 statute miles to San Casciano, IP; 94° M for 13½ statute miles to Incisa RR Bridge at 8,700'; break slight left then right to south of Arezzo, to San Vincenzo, to base.

F. Comments: None.

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

MISSION # 215 Flight Commander: Lt. Col. FITCHER 24 April 1944

LINE UP FOR

TAKE OFF :

70 CAUDILL
60 LYDAY
63 PALMER
64 FITCHER

PALMER

70 CAUDILL

HOBEL

LYDAY

63

64 FITCHER

60

TIDWELL

"B"

62 ACKERMAN

LUDLIN

MC CARTNEY

52

SMITHWICK

26

CLAYBOUGH

CARTOIL

35

"C"

28 DEATLEY

BROWN

SCHEIDI

ROD

48

RATERING

25

41

"D"

21 BODIE

FELTON

FLOCK

BODIE

RADIO:

14

2 ROBBINS

5

17th - BIGSAM

TAPP

319th - HEATBALL

"E"

320th - TOPNOTCH

23 MC CONNELL

MC BAIDE

BARDON

4

SMITH

ESCORT:

90

PLACKTER

VES' SELLS

"TOPNOTCH FIGHTERS"

93

SPARES

NELSON

FLAKE

53

46 KING

12

83 SINGER

MC GRAY

GLEDSON

COLORS OF THE DAY

FLARE COLORS

0100-0700 GR 27

RED & RED RED

0700-1300

RED & GREEN

1300-1900

RED & RED

1900-0100

GR 27

RED & RED RED

* * * * *

ALDIS LAMP SIGNALS

GROUND SPARES:

65

0100-0700

CHALLENGE

REPLY

COLOR OF LENSE TO BE USED

40

0700-1300

O

G

RED

20

1300-1900

N

H

GREEN

89

1900-0100

G

W

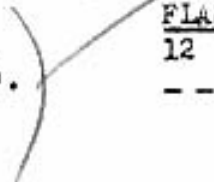
RED

V

Y

WHITE

23 MC CONNELL
4 SMITH
90 MC BAIDE
93 PLACKTER
53 BIRLINGHAM
91 TURNER, H.D.
76 MARSCH
87 MATTESON



THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON

CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
CAUDILL, PILOT, 1st Lt. HRIBEL, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. HOBEL, BOMB. 1st Lt. G UNDERWOOD, NAV. 2nd Lt. Tadrell, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. HILDENBRAND, RADIO, f/Sgt. GALISANSKI, GUNNER, S/Sgt. FLETCHER, FLIGHT COMMANDER, Lt. Col.	443rd	70 took off 0910 landed / 337
LYDAY, PILOT, 1st Lt. WEST, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	60 took off 0910 did not take off
RAISED, PILOT, 1st Lt. GOODWIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ILDWELL, BOMB. 1st Lt. W SCHWARTZ, NAV. 2nd Lt. JONES, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. TURATTI, RADIO, S/Sgt. TEETERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	443rd	64 took off 0910 landed / 337
ACKERMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. WOODHURST, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. MC CARTNEY, BOMB. 2nd Lt. JUST, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. CALLAHAN, RADIO, S/Sgt. MENSCH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	443rd	62 took off 0912 landed / 338
SMITHWICK, PILOT, 1st Lt. HARRIS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. V CARROLL, BOMB. 1st Lt. COONS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. WALKER, RADIO, S/Sgt. GRIFFIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	443rd	52-65 took off 0823 landed / 338
ROEBLIN, PILOT, Lt. THORNTON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. W WESTBROOK, BOMB. Cpl. HOWARD, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. MILLMAN, RADIO, S/Sgt. EARL, GUNNER, Sgt.	442nd	26 took off 0912 landed / 339
CLAYBAUGH, PILOT, Lt. CASTOR, CO PILOT, Lt. HAYES, BOMB. Cpl. MILLEN, ENGINEER, Sgt. MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt. HOYLE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	35 took off 0912 landed / 339
DEATLY, PILOT, Lt. BARRACLOUGH, CO PILOT, Lt. SCAFIDI, BOMB. Lt. PANTON, ENGINEER, Sgt. HANKS, RADIO, S/Sgt. JOHNSON, GUNNER, Sgt.	442nd	28 took off 0913 landed / 340

	ROOD, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	25
	WILLIAMS, R.F., Lt.		took off 0913
W	JACOBSON, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 0913
	MANNING, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		1340
	MCCOY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	JOHNSON, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	Middletown, G.R. Cpl. Photographer		
	BROWN, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	48
	HODGES, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0913
W	CHAMBERLIN, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1340
	FLOTO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	KRAUSE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	KIMMICH, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	KATERING, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	41
	KANSCHER, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 0913
F	KARWANO, BOMB. Lt.		landed 1340
	PEARCE, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	WASACZ, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	RODGERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	ORRICK, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	21
F	PAULANTIS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 0914
F	RELUCK, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed 1341
	FRURSTON, NAV. 1st Lt.		
	BRUSH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	BRZNAK, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FATA, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	BOYLE, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	5
	BIRNIDDE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0914
W	COCKER, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1324
	WILKINSON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	WESTBROOK, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
	MEDINA, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	MADDOCK, PHOTO, Sgt.		
	PAVNA, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	14
W	TURKEL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0914
	HANNINS, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1341
	REBEANDA, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	MC DONOUGH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	HAYS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	ROBBINS, PILOT, Capt.	441st	2
F	BECKHARTZ, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0914
F	TAPP, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed 1341
	GABSON, NAV. 1st Lt.		
	HUPPE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	SPENCE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	TOMPKIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	MC CONNELL, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	23
P	HAPPEL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0915
P	BARDEN, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed 1341
	GOODMAN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	STANLEY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	CLARK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

	SMITH, PILOT, 1st Lt. MAGNIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ VES'CELLS, BOMB. 1st Lt. SMITH, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. FURNESS, RADIO, S/Sgt. STANLEY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	441st	4 took off 0915 landed 1342
M	MC BRIDE, PILOT, DEMBRE, CO PILOT, CARPIS, BOMB. S/Sgt. KUHNS, ENGINEER, SHAFFER, RADIO, HANEY, GUNNER,	444th	90 took off 0915 landed 1342
F	FLACKER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. CHURIS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. JANCO, BOMB. S/Sgt. GOLDIE, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. SPRANS, RADIO, S/Sgt. GEORGE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	444th	93 took off 0915 landed 1342
F	BIRMINGHAM, PILOT, SINN, CO PILOT LINDSTRUM, NAV. STANTON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. CAMPBELL, RADIO, Sgt. LEWSON, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	85 took off 0916 landed 1343
M	TURNER, H.O., 2nd Lt. NOWAK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ROBERTS, BOMB. S/Sgt. MONTARULI, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. CRONIN, RADIO, S/Sgt. MELONE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. JOHNSON, PHOTO, Sgt.	444th	91 took off 0916 landed 1343
M	MARZICH, PILOT, 1st Lt. MARSHALL, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. DREWS, BOMB. Pvt. WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. PERRY, RADIO, T/Sgt. MASON, GUNNER, S/Sgt. VISCONE, S, S/Sgt.	444th	76 took off 0910 landed 1343
F	MATHESON, PILOT, 1st Lt. ANDER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. WILLIAMS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. GURFRE, ENGINEER, Sgt. STEEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. ROBINSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt. MC MURRAY, RADIO, S/Sgt.	444th	87 took off 0916 landed 1343

SPARES

NELSON, PILOT, 3rd Lt.
STINSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.
SZAFIR, BOMB. S/Sgt.
LARKIN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
THAWEEK, RADIO, S/Sgt.
AUSTAD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

443rd
SPARE
no credit

53
took off 0912
landed 1156

KING, PILOT, Lt.
KLARK, CO PILOT, Lt.
MC CRAY, BOMB. Pvt.
GILBERG, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
ORRINGTON, RADIO, S/Sgt.
HALL, GUNNER, Sgt.

442nd
no credit

46 took off 0917
landed 1044

FLAKE, PILOT, 2nd Lt.
BORDEN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.
MC FARLAND, BOMB. T/Sgt.
LEAS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
HOFFMAN, RADIO, S/Sgt.
LANOTTA, GUNNER, Sgt.

441st
no credit

12
took off 0917
landed 1135

CONNOR, PILOT,
SINGER, CO PILOT,
GIBSON, BOMB
HENDRICK, ENGINEER,
ROSS, RADIO,
MOSKOWITZ, GUNNER,

444th
filled in
possibly #2.

83
TOOK OFF 0917
landed 1337

W