

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 204, Day Operation, 11 May 1944.

Flight Commander: Captain Probasco.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 13:30 hours, 28 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Railroad Bridges $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles West of Arezzo, Italy. The Primary target was obscured by clouds and Certaldo Railroad Bridge was bombed as alternate. 4 B-26's returned early: 1 with propeller governors out; 3 spares. 1 B-26 crashed and was destroyed on take-off; the crew is safe. 23 B-26's were over the target and dropped 183 x 500# Demolition Bombs (1/10 & .025) on the target. 1 x 500# Demolition Bomb (1/10 & .025) was returned to base, having hung up over the target. Bombs on the target at 16:06 hours from 9,500' to 8,900' on an axis of 82°T. 21 B-26's returned to base at 17:50 hours and 2 B-26's returned late at 19:14 hours and 19:28 hours after landing at Ghisonaccia, Corsica, for gas.

C. Results: The target area was covered with a good pattern of bombs. The majority of the bombs landed just South of the target, but the bombs of at least one flight covered the bridge, scoring probable direct hits.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity:

- (1) Spitfires from Corsica provided escort.
- (2) 1 S/E a/c, unidentified, flying at 5,000' West towards Elba was observed at 16:25 hours from 8,000'.

b. Situation:

- (1) 3 S/E a/c at Cecina L/U were seen at 16:24 hours from 8,000'.
- (2) Grosseto A/D appears to have been repaired at 15:37 hours from 10,000'.

2. Ground:

a. General:

- (1) Factory activity in Castelnuovo, Q-4806, was seen at 15:42 hours from 10,000'.
- (2) Supply dump at Q-1914 was seen at 16:24 hours from 8,000'.

b. Communications:

- (1) 25/30 RR cars at Poggibonsi were seen at 16:06 hours from 9,500'.
- (2) 15/18 RR cars at A-4064 were seen at 15:43 hours from 10,000'.
- (3) 30 RR cars at Siena were observed at 16:04 hours from 10,500'.
- (4) 1 train of 2/3 cars with locomotive moving South at W-3899 was seen at 14:43 hours from 10,000'.
- (5) 25/30 RR cars with locomotive on North end at Q-8313, stationary, were seen at 16:05 hours from 10,500'.
- (6) 20 RR cars stationary with locomotive on South end at E-6938 were seen at 15:37 hours from 10,000'.
- (7) 40 RR cars at A-4660 were seen at 15:44 hours from 10,000'.
- (8) 50 RR cars at Q-6836 were seen at 16:04 hours from 10,500'.
- (9) 6 RR cars at E-9088 were seen at 15:47 hours from 10,000'.
- (10) 75/80 RR cars at R-3804 were seen at 15:43 hours from 10,000'.
- (11) 20/25 M/T, 2 moving NE, at Q-4225 were seen at 16:03 hours from 10,000'.

- (12) 8/10 M/T headed North on small road at Q-1324 were seen at 16:25 hours from 8,000'.
- (13) 15 M/T headed South, scattered between Certaldo and Siena were seen at 16:03 hours from 10,500'.
- (14) 50 M/T moving East at Q-6831 were seen at 16:02 hours from 10,500'.
- (15) 25/30 M/T headed South at Q-4432 were seen at 16:10 hours from 9,000'.
- (16) 2 M/T headed East across South end of Piandel Lago, A/D were seen at 16:04 hours from 10,500'.
- (17) Cecina RR Bridge was out at 16:25 hours from 10,500'.
- (18) Foggibonsi RR Bridge was out at 16:05 hours from 10,500'.

c. Flak: None.

d. Shipping:

- (1) Dock with derrick at Q-1714, and 5/6 barges beached nearby were observed at 16:25 hours from 8,000'.
- (2) 2 barges in Talamone, E-6443, were seen at 15:37 hours from 10,000'.
- (3) 15/20 F-boats in mouth of Ombrone River were seen at 15:37 hours from 10,000'.

3. Losses: 1 a/c destroyed in crash on take-off; damaged, none.

4. Weather:

a. Enroute: Clear over water at coast; 8-9/10ths cumulus at 8-9,000'. East of Siena; clear to South.

Target (Certaldo): Open.

Return: As enroute.

E. Routes and Altitudes: From base at 2500', 120°T for 40 SM to C. Carbonara; 6° T for 100 SM to C. Comino; 353° T for 134 SM to rendezvous with escort at Alto; 78° T for 75 SM to mouth of Ombrone River; 52° T to Montepulciano; to Foianis 'd Chiana; to Colle 'd Val 'd Elso; to Montecatini; to I.P. Laistico, climbing gradually to 10,500'; bomb run, 82° T to target; breakaway right to Cecina; reciprocal course to base.

F. Comments: None.

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

11 MAY 1944

RUNWAY LINE UP

38
28
48
37
50
40
47
62
68
61
67
55
81
90
85
82
5
78
76
8
2
14
23
21
spare s
43
58
91
4

"A"		
	<u>CONRAD</u> 1	
<u>HENSELL</u> 3	28 Freestone	<u>BERNARD</u> 2
38	<u>WENDLING</u> 14	48
	34 <u>Lyman</u>	

"B"		
	<u>BOTTOMLEY</u> 5	
<u>HILL</u> 7	40 Maggio	<u>BROWN</u> 6
50	<u>SMITHWICK</u> 8	47
	62	

"C"		
	<u>MACKINNON</u> 9	
<u>HALE</u> 11	64 Wagar	<u>STINSON</u> 10
68	<u>WEEKS</u> 12	67 No To
	52	

"D"		
	<u>DILLING</u> 13	
<u>MARSCH</u> 15	85 White	<u>TURNER H.D.</u> 14
82	<u>JOHNSON</u> 16	90
	81 Pokan	

"E"		
	<u>BIRMINGHAM</u> 17	
<u>HUBBARD</u> 19	76	<u>DEMETREE</u> 18
8	01	78
	5	

"F"		
	<u>CORNELIUS</u> 21	
<u>REEVES</u> 23	14 Goldin	<u>WACHTER</u> 22
21	<u>GOODENOUGH</u> 24	23
	2	

SPARES		
	<u>HARPSI...</u> <i>spare</i>	
	43 Evans	
	<u>MATTESON</u>	<u>KOLAR</u>
	91 Glaubitz	58
	<u>MINWIDDIE</u>	
	4	

GROUND SPARES		
(39) (71) (83) (20)		

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR MAY 11 1944

RADIO CALL SIGNS
320th "TOPNOTCH"
FIGHTERS:
"TOPNOTCH FIGHTERS"
CHANNEL A.

TIME	FLARE COLORS
0200-0800	GREEN & GREEN
0800-1400	YELLOW & YELLOW
1400-2000	GREEN & YELLOW
2000-0200	GREEN & GREEN

ALDIS LAMP SIGNALS		
TIME	CHALLENGE	REPLY
0200-0800	F	P
0800-1400	M	G
1400-2000	W	D
2000-0200	N	C

DUGAN, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	64
MAC KINNON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1332
F WAGAR, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed
GILES, RADIO, S/S ^{ut} .		1753
PUTNAM, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
NELSON, ENGINEER, S/S ^{ut} .		
STINSON, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	67
CRASHED ON TAKE OFF		
HALE, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	68
V SPEED, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1332
SZAFIR, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
COONS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		1753
BROWN, GUNNER, Pvt.		
COFFEY, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
WEEKS, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	55
F VAN KEUREN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1332
COX, BOMB. Sgt.		landed
CALARUW, RADIO, T/Sgt.		1744
AVERY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
PARK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
DILLING, PILOT, Capt.	444th	85
DICKERSON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1337
WHITE, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed
S BANG, NAV. 2nd Lt.		1753
COOK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
VISCOSE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
HUMPHREY, GUNNER, S/S t.		
H.D. TURNER, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	90
VIEBROCK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1337
HEFHNER, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
V MONTARDOLI, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		1745
CROWIN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
MALONE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
MADDOCKS, PHOTO, Sgt.		
KARSCH, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	82
V DRISCOLL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1338
SHINGLE, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, T/S ^{ut} .		1753
PERRY, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
MASON, GUNNER, S/S t.		
JOHNSON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	81
F GASSEN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1338
POCAN, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed
MICHEALS, NAV. 1st Lt.		1753
FILTRANTE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
MC ELKERRY, RADIO, S/S t.		
CLARK, GUNNER, Sgt.		
BIRMINGHAM, PILOT,	444th	76
F CONNOR, CO PILOT,		took off 1339
DELOSIER, BOMB.	STATON, ENGINEER,	CAMPBELL, RADIO,
PIGGOTT, GUNNER,		1753

W	NAMELESS, PILOT, 2nd Lt. SINN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. HATCHEL, BOMB. S/Sgt. WYMER, ENGINEER, Sgt. CLARK, RADIO, S/Sgt. RABAL, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	78 took off 1339 landed 1754
W	HUBBARD, PILOT, 1st Lt. KLUG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SUMNER, BOMB. Sgt. HARRISON, ENGINEER, Sgt. LARGENT, RADIO, T/Sgt. HAYS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	441st <i>Early Return</i>	8 took off 1340 landed 1633
E	O'STEEN, PILOT, 1st Lt. ARNSDORFF, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. CHELUCCI, BOMB. Cpl. HILL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. FORBES, RADIO, S/Sgt. MOORE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	441st	5 took off 1340 landed <i>Chis.</i> L 1928
F	CORNELIUS, PILOT, 1st Lt. BORDEN, COPILOT, 2nd Lt. GOLDEN, BOMB. 2nd Lt. LIGGETT, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. RENCEHAUSEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. FULK, GUNNER, S/Sgt. HEIBORNE, X, Capt.	441st	14 took off 1341 landed 1754
W	WACHTER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. SULLIVAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. VICHA, BOMB. Sgt. CAPPLET, ENGINEER, Sgt. MICHAELSON, RADIO, S/Sgt. LANAOTTA, GUNNER, Sgt. FRANK, PHOTO, PFC	441st	23 took off 1341 landed 1754
W	KEAVES, PILOT, 1st Lt. WILLIAMS, D.L., CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. TRAYNOR, BOMB. 2nd Lt. BOOTH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. JUVE, RADIO, S/Sgt. MARINELLI, GUNNER, Sgt. KIRKLAND, RADIO, S/Sgt.	441st	21 took off 1342 landed 1754
E	RODEROUGH, PILOT, 2nd Lt. MYERS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. CALLAGHER, BOMB. Cpl. BARTON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. GAUNT, RADIO, T/Sgt. JACIGUS, GUNNER, S/Sgt. GULLAVEN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	441st	2 took off 1342 landed <i>Chis.</i> L 1914.
	<u>SPARES</u> HARFSTER, PILOT, Lt. STERN, CO PILOT, Lt. EVANS, BOMB. Lt. PEARL, ENGINEER, Sgt. KNAUER, RADIO, S/Sgt.	442nd	43 took off 1344 landed 1632
	FIELD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	<i>spare no sortie</i>	

SPARES (CONT)

ROLAR, PILOT, 2nd Lt.
WEST, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.
SHERMAN, BOMB. Sgt.
LAFERTY, ENGINEER, RADIO, T/S t.
FLAJNIA, RADIO, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
VOLOSKY, ENGINEER, S/S t.

443rd

spare
no sortie

58
took off 1343
landed 1540

MATISON, PILOT, ~~2nd Lt~~
SINGER, CO PILOT,
GLAUBITZ, BOMB.
KUCZKA, ENGINEER,
EVERSOL, RADIO
ROBINSON, GUNNER,

444th

filled in
Position #9 - sortie credit

91
took off 1343
landed 1752

DINWIDDIE, PILOT, 2nd Lt.
HIPPLE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.
BURG, BOMB. 2nd Lt.
BARTON, ENGINEER, 3 gt.
PYSZ, RADIO, S/Sgt.
MAUSER, GUNNER, 3 gt.

441st

spare -
no sortie

4
took off 1344
landed 1559