

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 218, Day Operation, 25 May 1944

Flight Commander: Col. Fletcher.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 16:08 hours, 20 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Ferentino Road Junction, Italy. 2 B-26's returned early: 1 spare; 1 engine cutting out. 18 B-26's were over the target and dropped 123 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) and 18 x 500# Demolition bombs (1 hour delay fuses) on the target on two runs at 17:56 hours and 18:02 hours at 10,400' to 9,600' and 10,500' to 9,700' on axes of 140°T and 220°T. 3 bombs fell from a/c just as doors opened. 17 B-26's returned at 19:28 hours. 1 B-26 crash landed at Naples due to flak damage; all of the crew are safe.

C. Results: The road junction was covered by an excellent pattern of bombs by both Squadrons, scoring direct hits and block the roads.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: None.

b. Situation: None.

2. Ground:

a. General:

(1) Hospital at G-3848.

b. Communications:

(1) 75 M/T headed Northwest at G-3545 at 17:55 hours from 11,000'.

(2) 20 M/T headed Southeast at G-3536 at 17:54 hours from 11,000'.

c. Flak: Between Priverno and target on the first run, moderate heavy accurate for altitude, inaccurate for deflection was encountered. Bursts were very large. Same encountered on reciprocal course after bombing.

Scant light inaccurate for both altitude and deflection from North of Ferentino.

d. Shipping: None.

3. Losses: 1 crash landed at Naples and lost due to flak damage (Lead a/c); crew all safe. Damaged, 5 a/c; Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8, first Squadron; injured crew members, 4.

4. Weather:

a. Enroute: Scattered cumulus.

b. Target: 4/10ths cumulus at 8,000'.

c. Return: As enroute.

E. Routes and Altitudes: From 2,500' at base; to C. Carbonera; to landfall at Terracina; to Priverno, climbing gradually to 11,500'; first run, to target at 10,500'; breakaway left to Finggi; 180° curve to right; second bomb run to target; to Terracina; reciprocal course to base.

F. Comments: None.

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

MISSION # 239 FLIGHT COMMANDER:

25 May 1944

RUNWAY LINE-UP

64
69
59
52
65
60
50
61
56
33
29
40
43
39
38
28
46
41
2
4
8
7
17
19
14
12
23
85
98
95
87
99
86
76
83
93
57
32
1
84

RADIO: 320th TOPNOTCH
319th MEATBALL
17th BICSAM
CHANNEL "A"
Escort: TOPNOTCH
FIGHTERS

	64	"A"		
	<u>WIGGALLA</u>	GARDILL	69	FELT
	29	SUNSTEIN		ALIEN
		"B"		
	<u>KOLAR</u>	BARKER		WEEKLY
	60	52		65
		"C"		
	<u>MORAN</u>	WEEKS		LYDAY
	56	50		61
		"D"		
	<u>BATEACLOUGH</u>	33 WENDELING		DEATLEY
	40	LYMAN		28
		"E"		
	<u>ARMSTRONG</u>	HARPER		FREEMAN
	38	43		39
		"F"		
	<u>THORNTON</u>	GREGG		KING
	41	28		46
		"G"		
	<u>WEST</u>	2 ROBBINS		SMITH
	8	TAPP	4	SMITH
		"H"		VESSELLS
		"I"		
	<u>MALCOM</u>	REEVSS		DILLON
	19	7		17
		"J"		
	<u>DIMMIDDLE</u>	CORNELIUS		HUNSBERGER
	23	14		12
		"K"		
	<u>RENDER</u>	85 BIRMINGHAM		PETERS
	91	WHITE	98	ROGERS
		"L"		
	<u>DICKERSON</u>	MATLSON		RAMAGE
	86	87		99
		"M"		
	<u>GASSER</u>	FOWLER		SINGER
	93	76		83
	SPARES: 57	SMITHWICK	HART	GOODENOUGH
		ADAMS	32	1
				84

COLORS OF THE DAY

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

AIDIS LAMP SIGNALS
CHALLENGE REPLY