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

Intelligence Narrative No. 231, Day Operation, 17 July 1944

Flight Commander: Captain Robbins.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 08:20 hours, 24 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Asti Road and Railroad Bridge, (M/R: J-43049, sheet 69), Italy. 2 B-26's returned early because they were spares. 22 B-26's were over the target and dropped 88 x 1,000; demolition bombs (1/10 & .01 second delay fuses) were dropped on the target at 10:47 hours from 9,000' to 8,500' on an axis of 263 T. 22 B-26's returned to base at 12:50 hours.

C. Results: An excellent concentration of bombs covered the entire bridge and approached, scoring several direct hits. The bridge is believed destroyed.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: Spitfires from Corsica provided escort.

b. Situation:

- (1) Alessandria A/D empty.
- (2) Novi Ligure A/D empty.

2. Ground:

a. General:

- (1) Supply dump at road fork just north of Varazze.
- (2) Tents and temporary buildings on north side of RR tracks at J-8782 (just west of Tortona).
- (3) RR bridge just west of target still intact at 10:48 hours.
- (4) RR bridge up, road bridge out at Tortona at 10:43 hours.
- (5) RR bridge at Alba out.

b. Communications:

- (1) 1 RR train of 20 cars moving west out of Invaia at 10:21 hours.
- (2) 150 RR cars at Ovada M/Y's on 6 tracks.
- (3) 650 RR cars at Novi Ligure.
- (4) 70 RR cars at Villalvernia, O-9392.
- (5) 150 RR cars at Tortona.
- (6) 15 RR cars at J-8782 (just west of Tortona).
- (7) 200 RR cars at O-9098.
- (8) 2000 RR cars and 20 tanks, apparently ready for loading, in M/Y's at Alessandria at 10:44 hours.
- (9) 40/50 RR cars at Asti.
- (10) 2 locomotives and 10 cars, stationary, at J-6506, at 10:56 hours.
- (11) 50/75 RR cars at Valenza.
- (12) 12 RR cars at J-5503.
- (13) 20 RR cars at J-5904.

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- (14) 80 RR cars at Fellizzano, J-6205.
- (15) 50 RR cars at Serravalle, O-9382.
- (16) 5 M/T moving South 2 miles South of Novi Ligure, O-9086, at

10:31 hours.

- (17) 6 M/T, stationary, in Novi Ligure at 10:31 hours.
- (18) 2 large M/T with trailers just North of Novi Ligure A/D at

10:31 hours.

(19) 25/30 M/T moving South on main road leading South-West from Alexandria at 10:39 hours.

(20) 1 large M/T, 6 small vehicles, stationary, 2 miles West of Alexandria at 10:39 hours.

(21) 2 M/T moving South at Fubine, J-6112, at 10:39 hours.

(22) 20 RR cars at Salere, J-6707.

(23) 50 M/T moving North-West out of S. Dalmiano D'Asti at 10:49 hours.

(24) 50 M/T, stationary, on road leading South from Alba at 10:53 hours.

e. Flak:

AREA	Inf	Type Flak	Accuracy Alt. Def.	Type Flak	Positions - Comments
Savona	S	H & L	I I	10/15 bursts	4 M on shore line, East of town.

Encountered (coming out only) at 11:16 hours.

d. Shipping:

(1) At Savona, 2 block-boats at harbor entrance, 3 medium M/T, one with steam up, 1 large M/T, at 10:19 hours.

(2) At Genoa, 1 cruiser, 4/5 medium M/T, 1 medium M/T just out of harbor moving west, at 10:18 hours.

3. Losses: None. Damaged: None.

4. Weather:

a. Enroute: Few scattered cumulus at coast of Italy, tops 7,000'.

b. Return: Clear, visibility 12 miles in haze; towering cumulus over mountain island.

c. Return: As enroute.

5. Routes and Altitudes: Base to rendezvous at I'lle Rousse; to landfall at Varazze; to Novi Ligure; curve North of Oviglio; to target; breakway left to Alba; 360° circle over Alba on photo reconnaissance; to Varazze; to base.

7. Comments: None.

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

MISSION # 301 FLIGHT COMMANDER: CAPT. ROBBINS

17 JULY 1944

RUNWAY LINE UP

11
23
22

04
10
21
18

14
02
16
08

80
88
81

89
79
87
94

93
78
83
77

24
76

		23	BERGE TAPP		11	WELD POLAKOV
22	BODIE Murray					
		21	REEVES O'Donnell		10	WIGGINS Elmer
18	WILSON Bader	04	HILLMAN Mac Illivenna			
		16	MERRILL Vollmer		02	MALCOLM Gallagher
08	MUELLER Mac Goldrick	14	HOLD Stone			
		88	DELLING Wright		80	NEEDER NEPPER
81	TURNER Robert					
		87	CASSER Kerrins		79	MAC BRIDE Betanjary
94	HAMMONS Ryan	89	MURKALLEE Gleason			
		83	BRONCH Shingle		78	RUDGE Weyenberg
77	MC GUGAN Deeby	93	SINN D'edic			

SPARES: 24 NIPPLE Burg 76 WIER Drevas

COLORS OF THE DAY

0800-0800
0800-1100
1100-2000
2000-0200

FLARE COLORS
GREEN & GREEN
RED & RED
YELLOW & YELLOW
RED & YELLOW

ALDIS LAMP SIGNALS
CHALLENGE REPLY

0200-0800	C	F
0800-1100	B	P
1100-2000	X	Y
2000-0200	V	J

RADIO:
320th TOPNOTCH
Escort: TOPNOTCH FIGHTERS

Channel "A"

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE OPERATIONS OF 17 JULY 1944

	CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
	BERGE, PILOT, Capt. 5939	441st	23
	BORDEN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 36		took off 0820
G	TAPP, BOMB. CAPT. 62		landed 1348
	THURSTON, NAV. 1st Lt. 59		
	ERUSH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	BREZNAK, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	EATA, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	ROBBINS, FLIGHT COMMANDER, CAPT. 59		
	HELD, PILOT, 1st Lt. 58	441st	11
	ROBINSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 5		took off 0820
B	POLAKOV, BOMB. 1st Lt. 42		landed 1348
	ERFETTO, NAV. 2nd Lt. 19		
	O'BELL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	JENSEN, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	BODIE, PILOT, 1st Lt. 54	441st	22
	STEIER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1		took off 0820
W	MURRAY, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 3		landed 1348
	GULLIVER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	WESTBROCK, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
	PROFOS, GUNNER, Cpl.		
	KING, PHOTO, PVT.		
	REAVES, PILOT, 1st Lt. 53	441st	21
F	CINNAMOND, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1		took off 0821
	O'CONNELL, BOMB. F/O 4		landed 1349
	BOOTH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	PYSZ, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	BUSH, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	WIGGINS, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 30	441st	10
W	TORONGO, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 4		took off 0821
	ELMAN, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 1		landed 1349
	GOODMAN, ENGINEER, T/Sgt.		
	TRAPP, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	VASLER, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	WILSON, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 61	441st	18
W	BOYCE, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 50		took off 0821
	BADER, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 1		landed 1349
	TESSUM, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	CARLISLE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FRANK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	MADDOCK, PHOTO, S/Sgt.		
	WILLIAMS, PILOT, 1st Lt. 56	441st	4
W	WALDEN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1		took off 0821
	MC ILLVENNA, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 1349
	HILL, ENGINEER, T/Sgt.		
	FORBES, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	TANKERSLEY, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	MERRILL, PILOT, 1st Lt. 24	441st	16
F	GRALA, CO PILOT, F/O 5		took off 0822
	VOLLMER, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 5		landed 1350
	SOLDATI, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	THANNHAUSER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	TOMPKIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

	<p> MALCALM, PILOT, 1st Lt. 63 MC CURDY, CO PILOT, F/O 5 GALLAGHER, BOMB. Sgt. MILLER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. A LTON, RADIO, S/Sgt. MOORE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. RANCOLPH, SURGEON, Capt. ZUPANC, PHOTO, S/Sgt. </p>	441st	2 took off 0822 landed 1350
	<p> MUELLER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 28 TOFFER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 29 MC GOLDRICK, BOMB. S/Sgt. LICKEY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. DUNN, RADIO, S/Sgt. METCALF, GUNNER, Sgt. </p>	441st	8 took off 0822 landed 1350
	<p> NOLD, PILOT, 1st Lt. 52 GUDWORTH, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1 STONE, BOMB. S/Sgt. ACERRO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. DORAN, RADIC, S/Sgt. GUST, GUNNER, S/Sgt. </p>	441st	14 took off 0822 landed 1350
	<p> BILLING, PILOT, Capt. 45 MORGANSTERN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 63 WHITE, BOMB. 1st Lt. 52 DEACY, NAV. 1st Lt. 48 COOK, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. BURTO, RADIO, T/Sgt. KOCH, GUNNER, S/Sgt. </p>	444th	88 took off 0823 landed 1350
	<p> REEDER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 45 WALDROP, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 25 HEPNER, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 17 DAY, NAV. 2nd Lt. 16 TUNIS, ENGINEER, 2/Sgt. FAUCHIER, RADIO, T/Sgt. BROWN, GUNNER, S/Sgt. </p>	444th	80 took off 0823 landed 1350
	<p> H.D. TURNER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 54 SHERMAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 4 ROBERT, BOMB. S/Sgt. MONTARULI, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. CRONIN, RADIC, S/Sgt. MALONE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. LINDQUIST, PHOTO, Sgt. </p>	444th	81 took off 0823 landed 1350
	<p> GASSER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 61 JONES, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1 CAIRNS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 6 BAUER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. SPEARS, RADIO, S/Sgt. ESTRADA, GUNNER, S/Sgt. </p>	444th	87 took off 0824 landed 1351
	<p> MC BRIDE, PILOT, 1st Lt. 59 WELLS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 4 BETENJANY, BOMB. Sgt. MC QUARIE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. RUMBLELL, RADIO, Cpl. JOHNSON, GUNNER, Sgt. </p>	444th	79 took off 0824 landed 1351

9	HAMMOND, PILOT, Capt.	444th	94
2	PERRINE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0824
	RYAN, BOMB. Pvt.		landed.
W	DYRCZ, ENGINEER, Sgt.		1351
	FERGUSON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	ALEXANDER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	YAVOROSKY, PHOTO, S/Sgt.		
	NURMALLEE, PILOT, Capt. 33	444th	89
	WADDELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 4		took off 0824
W	GLEASON, BOMB. Sgt.		landed
	HENDERICK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		1352
	ROSS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	PAUL, GUNNER,		
	DUNCAN, OBS, Capt.		
	MARSCH, PILOT, 1st Lt. 56	444th	83
	VIERROCK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 14		took off 0825
F	WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, T/Sgt.		landed
	SHINGLE, NOXX BOMB. T/Sgt.		1352
	PERRY, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
	MASON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	RAMAGE, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 34	444th	99
	KRAMANSKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1		took off 0825
W	WESTENBERG, BOMB. Sgt.		landed
	CARNEY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		1352
	SHAFFER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	POLAND, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	MC GUGAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. 65	444th	77
W	POLING, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 3		took off 0825
	BEEBY, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 1		landed
	HIGHTOWER, ENGINEER, Sgt.		1352
	ENGELHARDT, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	BUCHANAN, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	SMITH, GUNNER, Cpl.		
	SIENN, PILOT, 1st Lt. 57	444th	78
W	CATALANO, CO PILOT, F/O 5		took off 0825
	DELEDZIC, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	FILTRANTE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		1352
	WOOD, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FIELD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	STALECUP, PHOTO, S/Sgt.		
	SPARES	SPARES	SPARES
	HIFFLE, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	24
	LOUIS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 0826
	BURG, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed
	WYATE, ENGINEER, Sgt.		1054
	ROCKABAND, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	WILSON, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	WEIER, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	76
	SMITH, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 0826
	DREVAS, BOMB. Sgt.		landed
	KUCZMA, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		1104
	FRIELD, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	ROBINSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		