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HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer.
AFO 639

Intelligence Narrative No. 254, Day Operation, 17 July 1944

Flight Commander: Captain Johannes

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 16:21 hours, 18 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Asti Railroad Bridge (M/R: J-446051, sheet 69), Italy. No B-26's returned early. 18 B-26's were over the target and 69 x 1,000# Demolition bombs (2/10 & .01 second delay fuses) were dropped on the target. 3 x 1,000# Demolition bombs (2/10 & .01 second delay fuses) were salvaged in the target area, having hung up over the target. 18 B-26's returned to base at 20:46 hours.

C. Results: An excellent pattern of bombs covered the bridge scoring several direct hits and probably destroying the bridge.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

- a. Air Activity: Spitfires provided escort from Corsica.
- b. Observations:
 - (1) 4 - engine d/s at L/O at Aegui.
 - (2) 2 engine d/s on L/O at Sufficiento.
 - (3) 1/2" just north of river north of Valenza.

2. Ground:

- a. General:
 - (1) 20 span RR bridge undamaged at Cova, O-2651.
 - (2) RR bridge at alba out but being repaired at 19:16 hours.
 - (3) 13 span RR trestle near Argenta, one span out.
 - (4) RR bridge at Ovada appeared temporarily repaired to one crew.

b. Communications:

- (1) 50/75 RR cars at Cova, O-2651.
- (2) 15 RR cars at Alba.
- (3) 15/20 RR cars at Castagnole Lanzo, O-3890.
- (4) 1 train of 20 RR cars headed south 4 miles north of Asti at

18:51 hours.

- (5) 400 RR cars at Asti.
- (6) 20 RR cars at Valenza.
- (7) 25 RR cars at Voghera.
- (8) Train of 10 cars headed south out of Voghera at 18:38 hours.
- (9) Alessandria N/Y's, 60 percent full.
- (10) 100 RR cars at Tortona and 2 locomotives with steam up, at

Tortona, not moving, at Tortona at 18:37 hours.

- (11) Train of 30 RR cars moving north out of Novi Ligure at 18:37 hours.
- (12) Train of 10 RR cars headed north-west out of Novi Ligure at

18:37 hours.

- (13) 30 RR cars at Novi Ligure, N/Y damaged.

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- (14) 100 M² cars at Serravalle.
- (15) Train of 10 M² cars moving North at Busalla at 18:26 hours.
- (16) 100 M² cars at Ovada.
- (17) 15 M/T headed North 10 miles South of Asti at 18:51 hours.
- (18) 4 M/T headed South at Borgomanero, at 0-6298, at 18:48 hours.
- (19) 10 M/T headed West just North of Carpenate at 18:29 hours.
- (20) 12 scattered M/T moving in both directions in vicinity of Serravalle at 18:28 hours.
- (21) 30 M/T, stationary, reported by one crew, 4 miles South of Alba at 19:11 hours.

c. Flak:

Area	Int.	Type	Accuracy		Type	Positions - Comments.
		Flak	Alt. Def.	Flak	Flak	
Voltri	S	H	I	I		Long deflection shots.
COAGLITO	S	L	I	I		7 flashes from hills North of town.

d. Shipping:

4 medium M/V (one against East mole had 2 stacks and single deck) at Savona at 18:19 hours.

3. Losses: None.

Damaged: None.

4. Weather:

- a. **Stratus:** Layer of cumulus at 5,000 ft 5 miles off coast of Italy.
- b. **Tenets:** CAFU.
- c. **Other:** In stratus.

E. Routes and Altitudes: Base to rendezvous at I'lle Rousse; to landfall at Vranico; to Novi Ligure; to target; breakaway left to Alba; to Ceva; to Lanzo; to Mass.

F. Comments: None.

WILLIAM COOK,
Major, Air Corps
Group Intelligence Officer.

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MISSION # 302: FLIGHT COMMANDER: CAPTAIN PROBASCO

17 July 1944.

RUNWAY LINE UP		"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"	"E"	"F"
		<u>HAKOMAKI</u>	<u>HENDRICK</u>				
	<u>CASTOR</u>			<u>HARPSTER</u>			
40	40 English			43 <u>OLMSTED</u>			
28							
43							
		<u>BARNARD</u>					
	<u>BAKER</u>	45 Germano		<u>MCKAY</u>			
32	32 Westbrook			47 Harmon			
45							
47							
		<u>KAREN</u>					
	<u>GREGG</u>	33 Stough		<u>KLARK</u>			
26	26 Friend			38 Cohen			
33							
38							
		<u>HITCHIE</u>					
	<u>HAYWARD</u>	64 SWINDLER		<u>MACKINNON</u>			
52	52 Bulow			51 WAGAR			
64							
51							
		<u>WEEKS</u>					
	<u>CARTER</u>	55 Brown		<u>WIRKKALA</u>			
66	66 Henry			61 Schneider			
55							
61							
		<u>LAMB</u>					
	<u>WASKLY</u>	63 Davie		<u>OLAR</u>			
65	65 Straka			59 Sherman			
63							
59							
		<u>SPARES</u>					
	<u>BARRACLOUGH</u>			<u>VAN KEUREN</u>			
30	30 Harlan			68 Avery			
68							

GROUND SPARES

(29) (60)

radio call signs	* COLOR	OF THE DAY	FDR 17 JULY 1944.
* 320th Group	* TIME	FLARE	COLORS
* "TOPNOTCH"	* 0200-0800	GREEN &	GREEN
* FIGHTERS	* 0800-1400	RED &	RED
* "TOPNOTCH"	* 1400-2000-	YELLOW &	YELLOW
* FIGHTERS "	* 2000-0200	RED &	YELLOW
* CHANNEL "A"			

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON 17 JULY 1944.

57	HAKOMAKI, PILOT, Capt.	442nd	28
	CARRAHER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1621
	HENDREX, BOMB. 1st Lt. 43		landed
	MENAUGH, NAV. 1st Lt. 39		
G	FRIBASCO, FLIGHT COMMANDER, CAPT. 55		
	UNDERWOOD, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	EARL, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	HARPSTER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 49	442nd	43
	METSCHAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 3		took off 1621
	OLMSTEEB, BOMB. 1st Lt. 40		landed
B	KING, NAV. 1st Lt. 45		
	PEARL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	KNAUER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	KANE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	CASTOR, PILOT, 1st Lt. 61	442nd	40
	ALLEN, CO PILOT, S/Sgt. 2nd Lt. 1		took off 1621
W	ENGLISH, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 3		landed
	SALVESON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	TRIMBOLI, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	RODGERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	FRANK, PHOTO, Sgt.		
	BARNARD, PILOT, 1st Lt. 49	442nd	45
	WELLS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 12		took off 1621
F	GERMANO, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 31		landed
	ROCHESTER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	WASACZ, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	WEISE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	MC KAY, PILOT, 1st Lt. 50	442nd	47
	LA CHASSE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 6		took off 1622
W	HARMON, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	CRAMER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	CHASSE, RADIO, SGT.		
	MCKELSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	KADEN, PILOT, 1st Lt. 54	442nd	33
	SPRADLING, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1		took off 1622
F	STOUGH, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 9		landed
	O'NEAL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	COONEY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	JOHNSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
J.J.	BAKER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 27	442nd	32
	MCONEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 5		took off 1621
W	WESTBROOK, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	FITZGERALD, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	PESTORAK, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	SAVENETTI, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	LA FORREST, PHOTO, CPL.		
	KLARK, PILOT, 1st Lt. 56	442nd	38
	STEINBACH, CO PILOT, Capt. 9		took off 1622
W	COHEN, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 4		landed
	BLY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	BLUM, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	ROSS, GUNNER, T/Sgt.		
	MIDDLETON, PHOTO, Sgt.		

49	GREGG, PILOT, 1st Lt.	442nd	26
6	MC LAUGHLIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1622
	FRIEND, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
W	ELIAS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	ABERNATHY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	BENTLY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	RITCHEY, PILOT, 1st Lt. 50	443rd	64
	SHERWOOD, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 5		took off 1622
	SWINDLER, BOMB. Capt. 49		landed
G	SCHWARTZ, NAV. 1st Lt. 43		
	JONES, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	WATHEN, RADIO, Sgt.		
	TEETERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	MAC KINNON, PILOT, Capt. 48	443rd	51
	BRAINERD, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 5		took off 1622
B	WAGAR, BOMB. 1st Lt. 46		landed
	HOBEL, NAV. 1st Lt. 53		
	BLACKWELL, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	GILES, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
	ZACHAR, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	HAYWARD, PILOT, Capt. 3	443rd	52
	NICOUD, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 28		took off 1622
W	BULOW, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 13		landed
	BUJEL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	CONSTABLE, RADIO, Cpl.		
	SUGGS, GUNNER, Cpl.		
	MC GOWAN, PHOTO, Pvt.		
	MC KEE, OBS. T/Sgt.		
	WEEKS, PILOT, 1st Lt. 47	443rd	55
F	STRATTON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 2		took off 1623
	BROWN, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	BARK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	WAYMIRE, RADIO, Cpl.		
	WARD, GUNNER, Sgt.		
	WIRKKALA, PILOT, 1st Lt. 32	443rd	61
	PETROSKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 4		took off 1623
W	SNIDER, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	ELLIS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	ROMIG, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	HOOD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	HECKLER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 29	443rd	66
W	PHILLIPS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 3		took off 1623
	HENRY, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, Pvt.		
	GOOCH, RADIO, Cpl.		
	WONG, GUNNER, Cpl.		
	COLLINS, PHOTO, Cpl.		
	WEEKLEY, PILOT, 1st Lt. 60	443rd	65
W	UHLIG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 2		took off 1624
	STRAKA, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed
	ADAMS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	PEAVER, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
	ROLFE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	COONS, X, S/Sgt.		

SPARES

VAN KEUREN, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 43rd
WATSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.
AVERY, BOMB. S/Sgt.
CHANDLER, ENGINEER, Sgt.
WAGNER, RADIO, S/Sgt.
LUTHER, GUNNER, Sgt.

SPARES

68
took off 1625
landed

HAR-ACLOUGH, PILOT, 1st Lt. 42nd
ROSS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.
HARLAN, BOMB. S/Sgt.
MC CURLEY, ENGINEER, Sgt.
BETTS, RADIO, Sgt.
turner, gunner, s/Sgt.

30
took off 1625
landed

Kolar (P) 443
NO T.O.

59

Lamb (P) 443
NO T.O.

63