

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 630

Intelligence Narrative No. 250, Day Operation, 26 July 1944

Flight Commander: Captain Taylor.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 16:00 hours, 24 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb Ovada Railroad Bridge (M/R: O-76472, sheet 82), Italy. 2 B-26's returned early because they were sparse. 22 B-26's were over the target. 11 B-26's dropped 43 x 1,000# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) on the first bomb run and 11 B-26's dropped 43 x 1,000# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) on the second bomb run, on the target at 18:29 hours and 18:42 hours from 8,800' to 9,500' on Azim of 240°T and 240°T. 1 x 1,000# Demolition bomb (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) was salvaged in the target area, having hung up over the target. 1 x 1,000# Demolition bomb (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) was dropped in an open field at 20:05 hours due west of Orbas, Sardinia. Reasons: Bomb hung up over the target, but the light had gone off over Sardinia, when the bomb dropped to the runway area, and the tail swing was spinning; plane was unable to make the run to drop it. 21 B-26's returned to base at 20:17 hours; 1 B-26 returned to base at 21:04 hours after landing in Corsica for gas.

C. Results: The target was covered with an excellent pattern of bombs by both Squadrons; both approaches and the center of the bridge were covered, scoring several probable hits.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

- a. Air Activity: Spitfires and P-47's provided escort.
- b. Missions: None.

2. Ground:

a. General:

- (1) Hospital at Vercosa.
- (2) Factory with revetments and newly-worked earthworks 1/2 miles south-west of Tortona.

b. Communications:

- (1) 200 HI cars at Tortona.
- (2) 7 M/T headed North out of Silvano.
- (3) Repair trail of 10 cars at bridge down 2 1/2 miles South-East of Alexandria at 18:14 hours.
- (4) 7 M/T moving North, of Silvano D'Orta at 18:11 hours.
- (5) 10 M/T moving South of Sarravalle at 18:25 hours.

c. Risk:

Area	Int.	Type		Accuracy		Type	Positions & Comments
		Miss	Hit	Alt.	Def.		
Castellote	S	L	I	I		4/10	bursts.
Savona	S	H	A	I		50/60	bursts. 2 H at North-East part of town. 1 H in center of the waterfront. 1 South-West of edge of town.

d. Shipping:

3 medium H/V at Savona at 18:01 hours.

3. **Losses:** None. Damaged: None.

4. Weather:

- Visibility:** Scattered cumulus at 3,000'.
- Clouds:** Clear with haze.
- Wind:** As enroute.

5. **Routing:** Base to rendezvous at I'llio House; to landfall Verona; to Ovada; turn right inside Alexandria; to Turin; to IP, Scrivelle (one Squadron, breakaway left to Verona to base) 90° curve to left to IP, Scrivelle; second run on target; breakaway left to Verona; to base.

7. **Comments:** Add the following to general: Pillar of black smoke reaching 10,000' from Vado Ligure.

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

MISSION # 308

FLIGHT COMMANDER:

26 July 1944.

RUNWAY LINE UP

51
64
70

"A"
RITCHIEY
STINSON 64 SWINDLER WEEKS
51 Snider 70 LOKAN

65
50
66
61

"B"
HILL
REYNOLDS 50 Prigmore SPRANG
65 Ptunam SPEED 66 Gorman
61 Avery

68
54
56
52

"C"
NELSON
WIRKKALA 54 Hobel MORAN
68 Holland HECKLER 56 Henry
52 Cox

25
31
37

"D"
BOTTOMLEY
ZELLERBACH 31 PHILLIPS CLAYBAUGH
25 Fuller 37 MONTEZ

46
33
29
39

"E"
BROWN
MCDUGAL 33 Youenes ARMSTRONG
46 Maggio GREGG 29 Harlan
39 Wernich

26
30
38
40

"F"
ABERNATHY
WILLIAMS R. A. 30 Stough ESTES
26 Harrington 38 Maund
CASTOR
40 Villa

63
48

SPARES
CLARK THORNTON
63 Howe 48 Harmon

* RADIO CALL SIGNS*

* 320th GROUP *
* "TOPNOTCH" *
* FIGHTERS *
* " TOPNOTCH -- *
* FIGHTERS " *
* CHANNEL "A" *

(69) (45)

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 26 July 1944.
TIME FLARE COLORS
0200-0800 RED & RED RED
0800-1400 RED & RED
1400-2000 RED & YELLOW
2000-0200 YELLOW & YELLOW

AIDIS LAMP SIGNALS
TIME CHALLENGE REPLY

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE OPERATIONS OF 26 July 1944

CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
RITCHEY, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>51</i> GOODWIN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>61</i> SWINDELLER, BOMB. Capt. <i>50</i> <i>G</i> SCHWARTZ, NAV. 1st Lt. <i>45</i> JONES, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. TURATTI, RADIO, T/Sgt. TEETERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt. SAYLOR, FLIGHT COMMANDER, Capt.	443rd	64 took off 1600 landed 2031
<i>B</i> WEEKS, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>51</i> KOTAS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. <i>5</i> LOKAN, BOMB. 2nd Lt. <i>20</i> CAFARELLA, NAV. Capt. PARK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. KOTSENBACHER, RADIO, S/Sgt. WARD, GUNNER, Sgt.	443rd	70 took off 1600 landed 2031
<i>W</i> STINSON, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>60</i> LEVSEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. <i>3</i> SWIDER, BOMB. S/Sgt. LALLY, ENGINEER, Sgt. WAINWIRE, RADIO, Cpl. MC DONALD, GUNNER, S/Sgt. MC GOWAN, PHOTO,	443rd	51 took off 1600 landed 2031
<i>F</i> HILL, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>34</i> CARTER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>62</i> FRICMORE, BOMB. 2nd Lt. <i>2</i> LUPER, ENGINEER, Sgt. SALVATI, RADIO, S/Sgt. HANSEN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	443rd	50 took off 1601 landed 2032
<i>W</i> SPRANG, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>62</i> PHILLIPS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>5</i> GORMAN, BOMB. Sgt. GOOCH, ENGINEER, Cpl. PRICE, RADIO, S/Sgt. GRIFFIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	443rd	69 took off 1601 landed 2032
<i>W</i> REMNOLDS, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>60</i> PETROSKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. <i>7</i> PUTNAM, BOMB. S/Sgt. WATSON, ENGINEER, Sgt. GREENWALK, RADIO, S/Sgt. WILLIAMS, GUNNER, S/Sgt. MEYERMAN COLLINS, PHOTO,	443rd	65 took off 1601 landed 2132
<i>W</i> SPEED, PILOT, 1st Lt. <i>22</i> CONNELLY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. <i>2</i> <i>yyend</i> AVERY, BOMB. S/Sgt. WAGNER, RADIO, S/Sgt. CHANDLER, ENGINEER, Sgt. LUTHER, GUNNER, Sgt. HAYES, PHOTO,	443rd	61 took off 1601 landed 2033

	NELSON, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁴²	443rd	54
	WEEKLEY, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁶²		took off 1602
	HOBEL, BOMB. 1st Lt. ⁵⁹		landed
F	LARKIN, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	CAIN, RADIO, Cpl.		
	AUSTAD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	FARBROW, X, Capt.		
	MORAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. ³⁸	443rd	56
	WATSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ³		took off 1602
W	HENRY, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 2033
	WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, Pvt.		
	DE VERMA, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	WONG, GUNNER, Cpl.		
	WIRKKALA, PILOT, 1st Lt. ³³	443rd	68
	ZOELLER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ⁵		took off 1602
W	HOLLAND, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ² vs		landed 2033
	ELLIS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	ROMIG, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	HOOD, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	HECKLER, PILOT, 1st Lt. ³¹	443rd	52
	UHLIG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ⁴		took off 1602
W	COX, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 2033
	TROUTMAN, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	TALSKY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FURTZ, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	BOTTOMLEY, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁵¹	442nd	31
	CARRAHER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. ³		took off 1603
G	PHILLIPS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ⁴²		landed 2018
	MENNAUGH, NAV. 1st Lt. ⁴⁰		
	SALVESON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	ABERNATHY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	PROBASCO, DFC, Capt.		
	CLAYBOUGH, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁴⁸	442nd	37
	WELLS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹³		took off 1603
B	MONTEZ, BOMB. 1st Lt. ³⁷		landed 2018
	TEICH, NAV. 2nd Lt. ¹⁴		
	FITZGERALD, ENGINEER, 1/Sgt.		
	MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	WEISS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
	ZELLERBACH, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ³⁹	442nd	25
	ALLEN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ³		took off 1603
W	FULLER, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 2018
	MC GURLEY, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
	OLENDENSEN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	FURDY, GUNNER, PFC.		
	FRANK, PHOTO, Sgt.		
	ARMSTRONG, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁵⁵	442nd	29
	HENSELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ⁵⁷		took off 1604
W	HARLAN, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed 2019
	UNDERWOOD, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
	COONEY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
	MIKELSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

25 MC DOUGAL, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 442nd 46
 27 VANDERBURG, CO PILOT, F/O took off 1604
 49 MAGGIO, BOMB. 1st Lt. landed 2019
 MOORE, ENGINEER, Sgt.
 MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt.
 W WELMER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
 WIDDLETON, PHOTO, S/Sgt.

GREGG, PILOT, 1st Lt. 51 442nd 39
 MAYFIELD, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 6 took off 1604
 WERNICH, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 5 landed 2019
 ELLIAS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
 HUGHES, RADIO, S/Sgt.
 PASTORAK, GUNNER, Sgt.

ABERNATHY, PILOT, 1st Lt. 31 442nd 30
 MC LAUGHLIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 7 took off 1605
 STOUGH, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 10 landed 2020
 F MC CULLY, ENGINEER, Sgt.
 RATTS, RADIO, Sgt.
 EARL, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
 HORNEL, OBS. COL.

ESTES, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 17 442nd 38
 LA CHASSE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 7 took off 1605
 MAUND, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 2 landed 2020
 W MANNING, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
 BLUM, RADIO, S/Sgt.
 BUTH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
 CINIELLO, PHOTO, Sgt.

SPARE W WILLIAMS, E. A., PILOT, 2nd Lt. 442nd LANDED 45 NO CREDIT
 MC KAY, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 442nd 1750 took off 1615
 HARRINGTON, BOMB. S/Sgt. ELLSWORTH, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. KRAUSE, S/Sgt. TURNER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

GASTOR, PILOT, 1st Lt. 63 442nd 40
 SEATLER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 2 took off 1605
 VILA, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 7 landed 2015
 W FUTNAM, ENGINEER, Sgt.
 TRIBOLI, RADIO, S/Sgt.
 RODGERS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

SPARES 5A RES SPARES
 THORNTON, PILOT, 1st Lt. 54 442nd 48
 TAYLOR, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 57 FLEW IN POS. #21 took off 1606
 W HARRISON, BOMB. S/Sgt. landed 2020
 CRAMER, ENGINEER, Sgt.
 NEWTON, RADIO, Pvt.
 MARVICK, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

CLARK, PILOT, 1st Lt. 443rd 63
 STRATTON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. took off 1606
 HOWE, BOMB. 2nd Lt. landed 1843
 BARRY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
 MARSTELLAR, RADIO, S/Sgt.
 KILMECH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

33

P BROWN (46) M Kenney
 P CP ROS ANDSKY (4) G Lyle
 B YOUNES (18) G Spangle
 G Kneer

Completed mission
 portion #15