

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 356, Day Operation, 23 Sept., 1944

Flight Commander: Lt. Weeks.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 09:15 hours, 12 B-26's took off to bomb Collecchio Storage Dump (M/R: (V) P-993788, GSOS 4164, Sheet 73), Italy. No early returns. 12 B-26's were over the target and 12 B-26's dropped 96 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) on the target at 10:31 hours from 9,600' to 9,100' on an Axis of 63°T. Two runs were made on the target. No bombs were dropped on the first run due to bombardiers check point having been bombed out, and all bombs were dropped on the second run. 12 B-26's returned to base at 11:34 hours.

C. Results: An excellent bomb pattern almost completely covered the target area, seeing direct hits on at least 4 storage tanks. The target area was in flames as the formation broke from the target.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

- a. Air Activity: None.
- b. Situation: See Narrative No. 355.

2. Ground:

a. General:

- (1) Flashes 3 miles North of Fornova.
- (2) RR bridges and tunnel mouths, Sestri Levante and to North-West appear passable.
- (3) Barracks area at Soncino.
- (4) Barracks at Castiglione Di Adda.
- (5) Supply dump at Casalpusterlengo.

b. Communications:

- (1) 50 RR cars at Collecchio.
- (2) 40/50 RR cars at Chiari.
- (3) 20/25 RR cars at Salsomaggiore.
- (4) 40 RR cars at Codogno.
- (5) 15 M/T parked in town of Bardi at 10:11 hours.
- (6) 3 long trailer-trucks moving South, North of Varai at 10:13 hours.
- (7) 6 M/T with trailers, headed East, just East of Campiano at 10:14 hours.

c. Flak: None.

d. Shipping: None.

3. Losses: None. Damaged: None.

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4. Weather

a. Enroute: See Narrative No. 355.

b. Target Vicinity:

&) Colleschie: Few scattered cumulus, tops 4-5,000'.

c. Target Area : Alto-stratus overcast at 12,000'. Visibility excellent, haze forming. Target area open.

d. Return: See Narrative No. 355.

E. Route: Base to landfall at Moneglia; to 5 miles North of Bedonia; to South-West of Solignano; to target on first run; breakaway left to target, on second run; breakaway left to Lake South of Barnaseo; to Moneglia; to base.

F. Comments: None.

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

GROUP MISSION NUMBER: 369

23 September 1944

RUNWAY
LINE-UP
70
51
56
58
65
52
66
60
59
64
61
51
18

No To

HERT
51 Sherman

LIVSEY
65 Lowery

PHILLIPS
60 Mlanga

O'HARA
61 Henry

"A"
HAYWARD
70 PICKETT

"B"
MURKIN
58 Selzer

"C"
VAN KURUM
66

"D"
HANSEL
64 LOKAN

SPARIS
BOGHEMUT
18 Sherman

STRACHAN
56 STRICKLAND

TORRISON
52 Storick

ZOLLER
59 Davis

CLARK
51 GREENE

12 off 0915
8 min.

COLORS OF THE DAY

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

ALDIS LAMP SIGNALS

TIME	CHALLENGE	REPLY
0200-0800	C	4
0800-1400	B	L
1400-2000	J	Z
2000-0200	S	D

RADIO CALL SIGN
TOPNOTCH

II

HAYWARD, PILOT, CAPT.	443rd	70	0915
YOUNG, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off	
FICKETT, BOMB. CAPT.		landed	1134
TARANTO, NAV. 1st Lt.			
WENDT, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.			
COX, GUNNER, S/Sgt.			
WEEKS, FLIGHT COMMANDER, 1st Lt.			
STRACHAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	56	0915+
SPEED, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off	
STRICKLAND, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed	1134+
MURRAY, NAV. 2nd Lt.			
WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, Sgt.			
LA FRENNE, GUNNER, Sgt.			
WOODHURST, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	18	0916
CONNELLY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
GORMAN, BOMB. S/Sgt.		landed	1135
OEHLKE, ENGINEER, Cpl.			
SMOLLENBERGER, GUNNER, Sgt.			
SHERWOOD, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	58	0916+
BENNETT, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off	
SELZER, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed	1135+
LALLY, ENGINEER, Sgt.			
CHARLTON, GUNNER, Cpl.			
TOWNSEND, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	52	0917
STRATTON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
STORICK, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed	1136
FIELDS, ENGINEER, Sgt.			
SZCZECH, GUNNER, Sgt.			
LIVSEY, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	65	0917+
UHLIG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
LOWERY, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed	1136+
HAZEL, ENGINEER, Sgt.			
BOLL, GUNNER, Cpl.			
KRAMER, PHOTO, Sgt.			
VAN KEUREN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	66	0918+
KOMOROWSKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
PURVIS, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed	1137
PROPST, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.			
HAFER, GUNNER, Sgt.			
ZOEDLER, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	59	0918+
WEINHART, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
DAVIS, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed	1137+
CHANDLER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.			
IDUCETTE, GUNNER, Sgt.			
PHILLIPS, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	60	0919
SWIFT, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
GREENE, BOMB. 1st Lt.		landed	1138
HANSHAW, ENGINEER, Sgt.			
KEES, GUNNER, S/Sgt.			

HAMEL, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	64	
MILLER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	0920
LOKAN, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		landed	1138+
FRIGMORE, NAV, 2nd Lt.			
COFFEY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.			
PURTZ, GUNNER, S/Sgt.			
CLARK, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	57	
HETRUSKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	
NIAZGA, BOMB. 2nd Lt.		took off	landed 0921
BARRY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.			1139
ALLEN, RADIO, S/Sgt.			
KIMMICH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.			
O'HARA, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	61	
BIRDWELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off	0922
PETERSON, BOMBARDIER, 1st Lt.		landed	1140
BUJEL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.			
JOHNSON, RADIO, Sgt.			
ZEIGLER, GUNNER, Sgt.			
COLLINS, PHOTO, S/Sgt.			