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HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 374

19 November 1944.

Final Mission Report No. 420

Flight Commander: Major Berge.
Lead Pilot: Captain Flackter.

320th Bombardment Group (M).

SAN AMBROGIO RAILROAD FILL (M/R; (R) F-518642, GSGS 4164, Sheet 48);
(-Alternate: CRMAA RAILROAD BRIDGE (M/R; (Q) K-634508, GSGS 4164, Sheet 46), Italy.

At 12:19 hours, 20 B-26's took off. 4 B-26's returned early: 1 engine cutting out; 1 electrical system smoking; 2 escort, (3 entitled to sorties). No B-26's lost prior to the target. 16 B-26's were over the target. 9 B-26's dropped 67 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) and 3 x 500# Demolition bombs (6-hour delay fuses) on the target of opportunity, RAILROAD TRACKS South of Ala (M/R; (R) F-674900), at 14:10 hours from 11,600' to 11,400' on an axis of 116°T. Both the Primary and the Alternate targets were cloud obscured. 8 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) were salvaged by A/C with engine cutting out; and 2 x 500# Demolition bombs (6-hour delay fuses) were salvaged, and 6 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) and 1 x 500# Demolition bomb (6-hour delay fuses) were salvaged by early returns. 48 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) were returned to base by the second Squadron. Radio contact with the lead Squadron failed and second Squadron did not know of the plan to bomb a target of opportunity. 16 B-26's returned to base at 15:27 hours. No B-26's were lost, or missing. 10 B-26's slightly damaged by flak. No B-26's seriously damaged.

RESULTS: The RR tracks were missed. The bombs landed in a good pattern just east of the tracks on a road, cratering it.

ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION: None.

FLAK: M. H. A. A. -GP type flak encountered from Ala, F-6690. Encountered 10 seconds before bombs away and for 1 minute into the breakaway.

ROUTE: Base to Moneglia, F-4028; to Castel San Giovanni, K-4118; to San Columbo al Lam, K-4731; to Garnica, K-8583; to North tip of island, K-9689; to IF, Salo, F-2973; to 5 miles short of Primary target; to F-5575; to target of opportunity on an axis of 116°T; breakaway right to Montechiari, F-1853; to Fiorenzuola, K-7801; to Moneglia, F-4028; to base.

WEATHER:

- a. Enroute: Scattered cumulus, increasing to broken in the Po Valley.
- b. Vicinity of Target: Overcast at Primary and Alternate.
- c. Target Area: Broken cumulus, tops 8,000'; bomb run open.
- d. Return: As enroute.

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AIR OBSERVATIONS: None.

NAVAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS:

- a. General: Hospital at Salo, F-2974, at 14:02 hours.
- b. Communications: None.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: None.

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

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RADIO CALL SIGNS