

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 276, Day Operation, 12 July 1944

Flight Commander: Captain Nunnallee.

A. 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 06:40 hours, 23 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb the Casalmaggiore Rail and Road Bridge (M/R: P=175949, sheet 79), Italy. 1 B-26 returned early, because the pilot was ill. Two runs were made on the target by the second Squadron which was not in position to drop on the first run. 22 B-26's were over the target. 10 B-26's dropped 39 x 1,000# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .01 second delay fuses) on the first run, and 11 B-26's dropped 44 x 1,000# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .01 second delay fuses) on the second run, on the target at 09:15 hours and 09:31 hours from 9,000' to 8,500' on an Axis of 390° T and 322° T. 5 x 1,000# Demolition bombs were returned to base; one hung up over the target, and 4 were not dropped because of slow-operating bombay doors. 22 B-26's returned to base at 11:14 hours.

C. Results: The South end of the bridge received two excellent patterns of bombs. The first cut the pontoon bridge and scored damaging near misses on the structure. The second scored probable direct hits.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity:

- (1) Spitfires provided escort.
- (2) Unidentified S/Z A/C low over Riggio Emilio, flying Northwest.

b. Situation:

- (1) 2/4 T/B A/C over southwest corner of Reggio Emilia A/D at 09:10 hours.
- (2) 1 4-engined aircraft at Parma A/D at 09:07 hours.

2. Ground:

a. General:

- (1) Pile of wooden boxed and white objects at L-0417.
- (2) RR bridges cut at D-9693, L-4567, and L-0288.
- (3) At Borgo Val Di Torro, P-6553, RR bridge intact.
- (4) At L-4567, road bridge damaged.

b. Communications:

- (1) At L-3862 to L-5059, 50 RR cars.
- (2) At Reggio to L-4567, 10 RR cars.
- (3) At Modena, 40 RR cars.
- (4) Small M/Y's in area North of line Parma-Modena, appeared not in use.
- (5) At L-3780, 20 RR cars.
- (6) At P-1806, 25 RR cars.
- (7) At Parma, 50 RR cars.

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- (8) At P-8994 to P-8389, 63 RR cars.
 - (9) At P-9830, 75 loaded cars.
 - (10) At P-9174 to L-0081, 75 RR cars.
 - (11) At P-9181, 35 M/T moving North-East at 08:58 hours.
 - (12) At L-4581, 30 M/T moving West (one report only) at 08:58 hours.
 - (13) At P-8255, 6 M/T moving North at 08:58 hours.

c. Flak: None.

d. Shipping:

- (1) Cruisers at La Spezia not observed at P-6907 at 09:41 hours.
- (2) At L-3197, 3 river boats, one barge at 09:15 hours.

e. Losses: None. Damaged: None.

f. Weather:

- a. Enroute: Scattered cumulus at 5,000'.
- b. Target: 3/10ths high cumulus, base 12,000'; scattered cumulus below.
- c. Return: As enroute.

g. Routes and Altitudes: Base to rendezvous at Alto; to landfall at Marina Di Massa; to Rubiera; to North of Bagnola; first bomb run on target; breakaway left; (second Squadron to South of Parma to target on second run); to Bedoui; to Moneglia; to base.

h. Comments: (1) German conversation heard on 6446 at 09:00 hours: "Imperitive Aircraft Attention", and also referred to "8th Group" and "25th Group" in German.

(2) On mission of 11 July 1944, first two Squadrons of 18 A/C made two runs on Primary target and third Squadron of 9 A/C made three runs.

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

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MISSION # 24 FLIGHT COMMANDER: CAPTAIN NUNNALLEE. 12 July 1944.

RUNWAY LINE UP

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|---|
| | | RA | |
| | | JOHNSON | |
| 87 | HOLMOND | 88 POCOH. | POWER 87 INGERS 80 POWERS |
| 88 | 76 Cairns | | |
| 76 | | NPW | |
| 82 | | PLACKER | |
| 91 | DEMETREE | 99 Jenko | TURNER |
| 99 | 94 Crapse | SINN | 91 Dziedic |
| 94 | | 82 Betenjony. | |
| | | WGN | |
| | | BUKOS | |
| 78 | PRESSETTE | 67 Williams | STERNS |
| 82 | 81 Drevas | MORGANSON | 95 Weynberg |
| 95 | | 77 Ryan | |
| 87 | | RAN | |
| 81 | | ROBBINS | |
| 11 | HUBBARD | 23 TAPP | HELD |
| 23 | 8 Hawkins | | 11 POLAKOV |
| 8 | | WPN | |
| | | WILHELM | WILSON |
| | NOLD | 10 Ves'sells | WILLIAMS |
| | 2 MacIlvenna | | 22 MacFarland |
| 12 | | DINHIDIE | |
| 22 | | 12 MacGoldric | |
| 10 | | WPN | |
| 2 | | HIPPLE | |
| | | WEST | WIGINS |
| | | 18 X Garroy | |
| | 21 Berdaus | 21 Berdaus | 4 Gallagher |
| 3 | | SULLIVAN | |
| 4 | | 3 Vicha | |
| 21 | | SPARES | |
| | | MARSH | ROOIE |
| 79 | | 79 Shingle | 16 S Ferrandino |
| 816 | | GROUND SPARES | |

(15)

***** * RADIO CALL SIGNS *

| | | | |
|---------------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| * 320th Group | * | COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 12 JULY 1944. | |
| * | * | TIME | FLARE COLORS |
| * "TOPNOTCH" | * | 0200-0800 | YELLOW & YELLOW RED |
| * - FIGHTERS | * | 0800-1400 | GREEN & YELLOW |
| * "TOPNOTCH" | * | 1400-2000 | RED & YELLOW |
| * - FIGHTERS" | * | 2000-0200 | YELLOW & YELLOW |
| * CHANNEL "A" | * | | |
| ** | * | | ALLIS LAMP SIGNALS |
| ** | * | TIME | CHALLENGE REPLY |
| ***** | | 0200-0800 | C Y |
| | | 0800-1400 | Z N |
| | | 1400-2000 | V O |
| | | 2000-0200 | Q I |

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE OPERATIONS OF

CREWS SQUADRON
JOHNSON, PILOT, CAPT. 52 444th
SMITH, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 13
POGAN, BOMB. 1st Lt. 79
WARD-SMITH, NAV. 1st Lt. 67 HUNNVALLE Capt. 31
JOHNSON, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. Flight Commander
MC ELMURRY, RADIO, S/Sgt.
JOHNSON, GUNNER, Sgt.

2 JULY 1944.

PLANE NO.

88

took off 0640

landed 1115

G WARD-SMITH, NAV. 1st Lt. 67 HUNNVALLE Capt. 31
JOHNSON, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. Flight Commander
MC ELMURRY, RADIO, S/Sgt.
JOHNSON, GUNNER, Sgt.

PETERS, PILOT, 1st Lt. 57 444th
SCHNEIDER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 64 444th
KENNELLY, BOMB. 1st Lt. 66
POWERS, BOMB. 1st Lt. 47
MICHELS, NAV. 1st Lt. 60
WYMER, ENGINEER, T/Sgt.
CAMPBELL, RADIO, S/Sgt.
ESTRADA, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

80
took off 0640
landed 1115

C B KENNEDY, BOMB. 1st Lt. 66

HANMOND, CAPT. PILOT, 6 444th
WALDROP, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 13
CAIRNS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 1
CARNEY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
SHAFFER, RADIO, S/Sgt.
BUCHANAN, GUNNER, Sgt.

76
took off 0640
landed 1115

W CAIRNS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 1

PLACKTER, PILOT, 1st Lt. 50 444th
KISEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 43
JEMCO, BOMB. T/Sgt.
CLARK, ENGINEER, Sgt.
SPEARS, RADIO, S/Sgt.
GEORGE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

99
took off 0641
landed 1116

DEMETEREE, PILOT, 1st Lt. 52 444th
WEILER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 56
CRAPSE, BOMB. T/Sgt.
KUCZMA, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
FEINBERG, RADIO, T/Sgt.
HYMPHREY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
YOVOROSKY, PHOTO, S/Sgt.

94
took off 0640
landed 1116

W SIMM, PILOT, 1st Lt. 55 444th
MEILBORN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1
BETENJANY, BOMB. Sgt.
MC QUARRIE, ENGINEER, M/Sgt.
CHAMBERLIN, RADIO, S/Sgt.
RABAL, GUNNER, S/Sgt.

82
took off 0640
landed 1116

BURKE, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 57 444th
WADDELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1
WADDELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 1
WILLIAMS, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 19
DIRCZ, ENGINEER, Sgt.
EVEY, RADIO, S/Sgt.
KOCH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
BOSS, PHOTO, S/Sgt.

87
took off 0643
landed 1117

W STEARNS, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 19 444th
VIEBROCK, CO PILOT, 10
WEYENBERG, BOMB. Sgt.
BAUER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.
EUGLEHART, RADIO, S/Sgt.
POLAND, GUNNER, Sgt.
ZUPANC, X, S/Sgt.

95
took off 0643
landed 1117

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|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| BRESSETTE, PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>26</u> | 444th | 81 took off 0643 landed 1117 |
| CATALANO, CO PILOT, F/O | <u>2</u> | | |
| DREVAS, BOMB. Sgt. | | | |
| J LEONARD, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| SPAFFER, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | | |
| FIELD, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| MORGANSTERN, PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>61</u> | 444th | 77 took off 0643 landed 1117 |
| V RAMAGE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | <u>31</u> | | |
| RYAN, BOMB. Pvt. | | | |
| MONTGOMERY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| FAUCHIER, RADAR, T/Sgt. | | | |
| POLAND, GUNNER, Sgt. | | | |
| ROBBINS, PILOT, Capt. | <u>56</u> | 441st | 23 took off 0644 landed 1126 |
| MERRILL, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>28</u> | | |
| G TAPP, BOMB. 1st Lt. | <u>49</u> | | |
| THURSTON, NAV. 1st Lt. | <u>61</u> | | |
| HUPPE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| SCHIESS, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | | |
| TOMPKIN, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| HELD, PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>56</u> | 441st | 11 took off 0644 landed 1120 |
| MC GREGOR, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | <u>4</u> | | |
| C B POLAKOV, BOMB. 1st Lt. | <u>40</u> | | |
| GIBSON, NAV. Capt. | <u>28</u> | | |
| O'NEILL, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| TIPTON, RADIO, Sgt. | | | |
| JENSEN, GUNNER, Sgt. | | | |
| HUBBARD, PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>63</u> | 441st | 8 took off 0644 landed 1118 |
| HUNSBERGER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>44</u> | | |
| HAWKINS, BOMB. T/Sgt. | | | |
| HARRISON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| WESTERBOOK, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | | |
| HAYS, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| BLUE, PHOTO, Pvt. | | | |
| WILHELM, PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>40</u> | 441st | 10 took off 0645 landed 1127 |
| ROBINSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | <u>3</u> | | |
| VESSELLS, BOMB. 1st Lt. | <u>57</u> | | |
| EARTON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| MICHAELSEN, RADIO, T/Sgt. | | | |
| BRATTON, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| ANDERSON, PHOTO, T/Sgt. | | | |
| WILSON, PILOT, 2nd Lt. | <u>59</u> | 441st | 22 took off 0645 landed 1127 |
| EVANS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | <u>48</u> | 442nd co pilot | |
| MC FARLAND, BOMB. T/Sgt. | | | |
| HILL, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. | | | |
| FORBES, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | | |
| MOORE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| RANDOLPH, FLT. SURGEON, CAPT. | | | |
| MARCO, PHOTO, M/Sgt. | | | |
| NOLD, PILOT, 1st Lt. | <u>49</u> | 441st | 2 took off 0645 landed 1126 |
| LAZO, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. | <u>25</u> | | |
| MC ILLVEMNA, BOMB. S/Sgt | | | |
| ACERRO, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. | | | |
| DRAN, RADIO, S/Sgt. | | | |
| GUST, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | | | |

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| W | DJINWIDDIE, PILOT, 1st Lt. 36 OBMAHONY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 2 MC GOLDRICK, BOMB. S/Sgt. TESSUM, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. THAMNHAUSER, RADIO, S/Sgt. LEUTHOLT, GUNNER, T/Sgt. SAUTER, PHOTO, S/Sgt. | 441st | 12 took off 0645 landed 1130 |
| f | HIPPLE, PILOT, 1st Lt. 24 GRALA, CO PILOT, F/O 2 GARVEY, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 11 MAUSER, ENGINEER, Sgt. SNOW, RADIO, S/Sgt. VOSLER, GUNNER, Sgt. | 441st | 18 took off 0646 landed 1127 |
| W | WIGGINS, PILOT, 2nd Lt. 27 EVANS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 2 GALLAGHER, BOMB. Sgt. CHRISTIANSON, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. TRAPP, RADIO, S/Sgt. METCALF, GUNNER, Sgt. | 441st | 4 took off 0646 landed 1126 |
| f | WEST, PILOT, 2nd Lt. SCOTT, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. BERDAUS, BOMB. T/Sgt. MEARS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. CARLISLE, RADIO, S/Sgt. ROCKABRAND, GUNNER, S/Sgt. MARINELLI, X, S/Sgt. | 441st <i>Wednesday</i> | 21 took off 0646 landed 0753 |
| W | SULLIVAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. 44 TOFTER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 24 VICHA, BOMB. Sgt. COPPLER, ENGINEER, Sgt. RENCEHAUSEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. STIPE, GUNNER, S/Sgt. HUGHES, X. Sgt. | 441st | 3 took off 0646 landed 1119 |
| W | SPARES MARSCH, PILOT, 1st Lt. 59 ROUND, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. 63 SHINGLE, BOMB. T/Sgt. WILLIAMS, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. PERRY, RADIO, T/Sgt. MASON, GUNNER, S/Sgt. | 441st SPARES | SPARES 79 took off 0647 landed 1127 |
| W | BODIE, PILOT, 1st Lt. 53 HEEREN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. 4 FERRANDINO, BOMB. 2nd Lt. 4 SOLDATI, ENGINEER, Sgt. FRASER, RADIO, T/Sgt. TUFTE, GUNNER, Sgt. | 441st | 16 took off 0647 landed 1116 |