

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

Intelligence Narrative No. 929, Day Operation, 23 August 1944.

Flight Commander: Lt. Deatly.

To: 320th Bombardment Group (M).

B. At 08:10 hours, 19 B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off to bomb the Road Block at Covigliano, between (N/R: (W) L-841076 and (E) L-843081, GGS 4164, sheet 98), Italy. 1 B-26 returned early: Spare. 18 B-26's were over the target at 10:06 hours from 11,500' to 10,500' on an Axis of 311° T. No bombs were dropped, because the target was not identified. 16 x 500# Demolition bombs were salvoed due to emergencies caused by flak; 8 in the target area and 8 in the water. Remainder of the bombs were returned to base. 16 B-26's returned to base at 11:57 hours. 2 B-26's lost: 1 B-26 a/c, Battle No. 94 destroyed on landing at base, due to flak damage; crew is safe.

1 B-26 a/c, Battle No. 97 lost due to flak over the target. It was last seen at 10:05 hours at 44° 05' North/ 11° 22' East, with fire enveloping the right engine and bombay. 3/4 chutes were seen to emerge, and the a/c exploded in mid-air at about 1,000'.

1 B-26 a/c, Battle No. 79 was last seen at 10:13 hours at 44° 07' North/ 11° 34' East. It sustained flak damage, and was heading south on one engine on an approximate axis of 150°, at about 5,000' and apparently under control.

C. Results: None.

D. Observations:

1. Air:

a. Air Activity: Tactical Air Force provided escort of Spitfires and P-47's, in the area.

b. Situation: None.

2. Ground:

a. General: None.

b. Communications: 6 M/T's headed North, a few miles South-West of Portico Di Romagna.

c. Flak:

Area	Int.	Type	Accuracy		Type	Comments
			Flak	Alt.		
Between Pirennuola and target	S-M	H	V.A.	V.A.	OP	and lasted for several minutes, in bursts of 2-6
Hills north of target	I	L	IA	A		on breakaway.
	d. Shipping:	None.				

3. Losses: 2 due to flak. Damaged: 5 due to flak; 1 missing due to flak.

4. Weather: Clear and Hazy in all cases.

E. Route: From base to mouth of Ombrone River; to Montegarchi; to Stia; left to S. Godenza, IP; to target; breakaway right; reciprocal course to base.

F. Comments: Crew members missing in action, together with rank, serial number, and position, are as follows:

A/C: B-26 C5, Battle No. 97, Regular No. 43-34240,

<u>Crew Position:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>
Pilot	Wilbert L. Weier	1st Lt.	0-688882
Co-Pilot	William H. Hallenbeck	2/0	T-62069
Bombardier	Joseph B. Betenjany	Sgt.	32397357
Radio Operator	Ray T. Ivey	S/Sgt.	34447308
Engineer Gunner	Albert A. Giuffre	S/Sgt.	32145242
Tail Gunner	Walter E. Kadel	Sgt.	32741967
Photographer	Hilary R. Vavorecny	S/Sgt.	33186876

A/C: B-26 P50, Battle No. 79, regular no. 42-95946,

Pilot	Richard N. Driscoll	1st Lt.	0-691090
Co-Pilot	John J. Maher	2nd Lt.	0-705987
Bombardier	James T. Ryan	Cpl.	12225534
Radio Gunner	Russell L. Fleeting	S/Sgt.	35633471
Radio Operator	Robert E. Clark	S/Sgt.	15115003
Engineer Gunner	Alfred A. Smith	Cpl.	12054483
Tail Gunner	Charles H. De Witt	S/Sgt.	13044481
Photographer	Michael J. Cinicillo	Sgt.	32468438

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

MISSION #338 FLIGHT COMMANDER: LT. DEATLY 23 August 1944

"A" 28 WHITE
RUNWAY LINE UP 38 CARRIHER TESTED 31 ABERNATHY
36 Friend SPANN
28 - - - -
31 27 ESTES
48 SPRADLING Lyman 44 PORCYNALUK
Haun Hood
27 - - - -
44 33 BARNARD
30 ALLEN Burns 40 MOONEY
Roberts - - - -
33 - - - -
40 EXPLODED 80 BIRMINGHAM
97 WEIER HELLEN 85 RALLAGE
Betenjeny - - - -
60 - - - -
94 83 HISEY 93 HALJOND
Goldman Dziedzic 91 CHUNIS
91 - - - - Gleason
93 - - - -
83 77 STERNS *WENT INTO CECINA*
81 KREUZER Neilson 79 DRISCOLL *DAMAGED*
Drevas Ryan
79 - - - -
77 SPARES: - - - -
81 37 WELSCH 89 TRILL
Hard Hoople
37 - - - -
89 - - - -
COLORS OF THE DAY - - - -
FLARE COLORS

RADIO: 0200-0800 YELLOW & YELLOW
320th TOPNOTCH 0800-1400 YELLOW & YELLOW RED
Escort TOPNOTCH 1400-2000 YELLOW & YELLOW
FIGHTERS 2000-0200 GREEN & YELLOW

ALDIS LAMP SIGNALS

FIGHTER-BOMBER CALLS	CHALLENGE	REPLY
Channel "A"	0200-0800 O	B
	0800-1400 P	C
	1400-2000 Q	I
	2000-0200 U	J

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE OPERATIONS OF 23 August 1944

CREWS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.
HARTE, PILOT, 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd MC KAY, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] OLMSTED, BOMB. 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] MENAUGH, NAV. 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] DEATLY, FLIGHT COMMANDER, Lt. ✓ [✓]		28 ✓ [✓] 1157 took off 0810 landed
KING, ENGINEER, Pvt. DELAIRE, RADIO, S/Sgt. BENTLEY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
ABERNATHY, PILOT, 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd WELLS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] 18 SPANN, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] 28 KING, NAV. 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] ELIAS, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. MOORE, RADIO, S/Sgt. DURAN, GUNNER, Pvt.		31 took off 0810 landed 1157
CARRAHER, PILOT, 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd OBER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] 37 FRIEND, BOMB. T/Sgt. PENTON, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. BESSIRE, RADIO, T/Sgt. RODGERS, GUNNER, ✓ T/Sgt. LA FORREST, ✓ PHOTO, Cpl.		38 took off 0810 landed 1157
ESTES, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd SCHANE, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] LYMAN, BOMB. 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] MANNING, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. DANKO, RADIO, T/Sgt. RYE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		27 took off 0811 landed 1157 ✓
PORCINALUK, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd INGHAM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] HOOD, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] ELSWORTH, ENGINEER, T/Sgt. FORREST, RADIO, S/Sgt. EARL, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		44 took off 0811 landed 1157 ✓
SPRADLING, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd MC LAUGHLIN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] HAUN, NAV. 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] FEARD, RADIO, S/Sgt. GLENDENEN, GUNNER, S/Sgt. NEMIER, GUNNER, S/Sgt. FRANK, PHOTO, Sgt.		48 took off 0811 landed 1157 ✓
BARANRD, PILOT, 1st Lt. ✓ [✓] 442nd ROSS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] BURNS, BOMB 2nd Lt. ✓ [✓] ROCHESTER, ENGINEER, S/Sgt. WASACZ, RADIO, S/Sgt WEISE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		33 took off 0811 landed 1157 ✓

MOONEY, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹⁷	442nd	25
ROBERTSON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁵⁷		took off 0811
MILITSCHER, BOMB. Sgt.		landed 1155
M RGOLIS, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
NEWTON, RADIO, Pvt.		
DEMSKI, GUNNER, Pvt.		
 TRIMM, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ⁸	444th	89
LIEBENDORFER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹		took off 0811
HOOPER, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ³		landed 1155
GRECO, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
HARRINGTON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
ROSS, GUNNER, Cpl.		
XXXX		
BIRMINGHAM, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁵¹	444th	80
DAWKINS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹⁵		took off 0812
HELLER, BOMB. 1st Lt. ³⁹		landed 1210
WEBB, NAV. 2nd Lt. ²²		
HENDRICK, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
PERRY, RADIO, T Sgt.		
MOSKOWITZ, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
 RAMAGE, PILOT, 1st Lt. ¹²	444th	85
FOWLER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ⁶		took off 0812
DRAKE, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ¹⁹		landed 1200
MICHELS, NAV. 1st Lt. ⁶¹		
COCOLO, ENGINEER, T/Sgt.		
ENGLEHARDT, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
ROBINSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
 WEIER, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁶⁵	444th	97
HALLENBECK, CO PILOT, F/O ³		took off 0812
BETENJANY, BOMB. SGT.		landed
GUUFFRE, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
IVEY, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
KADEL, GUNNER, Sgt.		
YAVOROSKY, PHOTO, S/Sgt.		
 HAMMOND, PILOT, Capt. ¹⁸	444th	93
WELLS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹⁴		took off 0812
DET EDZIC, BOMB. T/Sgt.		landed 1214
MONTGOMERY, ENGINEER, S/Sgt.		
SHAFFER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
WELLS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
BOSS, PHOTO, S/Sgt.		
 CHINNIS, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁴¹	444th	91
TRAVELL, CO PILOT, ²		took off 0812
GLEASON, BOMB.		landed 1219
KELLEY, ENGINEER,		
SHROLL, RADIO,		
BROWN, GUNNER,		
 HISEY, PILOT, 1st Lt. ³¹	444th	83
SULLIVAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ⁹		took off 0812
GOLDMAN, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ⁷		landed 1219
CLARK, ENGINEER, Sgt.		
FERGUSON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
MUSA, GUNNER, Pvt.		
CLITES, PHOTO, S/Sgt.		

*down over
target*

STEARNS, PILOT, 1st Lt. ³¹
WELBORN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹⁰
NELSON, BOMB. 2nd Lt. ⁷
DYRCZ, ENGINEER, Sgt.
LAUTH, RADIO, S/Sgt.
RAMIREZ, GUNNER,

444th 94
took off 0813
landed 1200
crashed on landing

DRESCOLL, PILOT, 1st Lt. ⁵
HARER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹
RYAN, BOMB. Cpl.
CINIELLO, PHOTO, Sgt.
SMITH, ENGINEER, Cpl.
FLEMING, RADIO, S/Sgt.
DEVITT, GUNNER, S/Sgt.
CLARK, RADIO, S/Sgt.

444th 79
took off 0813
landed

MISSING } later turned
BUT *DOWN* } up at Decima

KREUZER, PILOT, 2nd Lt. ³⁶
WALDROP, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ³⁰
DREVAS, BOMB. Sgt.
RANKIN, ENGINEER, Cpl.
TKACH, GUNNER, Cpl.
WOLCOTT, GUNNER, Cpl.
SHAFFER, RADIO, S/Sgt.

444th 81
took off 0813
landed 1200

WELCH, PILOT, 1st Lt. ¹¹
GEIS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ¹¹

442nd 37
~~NO TAKE OFF~~ landed - 0957
Took off - 0813 +