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

Intelligence Narrative No. 353, Day Operation, 18 Sept. 1944
MISSION NO. 2

Flight Commander: Capt. Hayward.

A. 320th Bomb Group (m)

B. At 08:40 hours 19 B-26's of the 320th Bomb Group (M) took off to bomb Sesto Calende Rail and Road Bridge (M/R: (Q) J-825955, GSOS 4164, Sheet 31). No B-26's returned early. 19 B-26's were in the vicinity of the target, and 3 dropped 12 X 1,000 lb demolition bombs (1/10 X 10¹⁵ second delay fuses) on the target at 11:48 hours from 9,000 feet on an axis of 98 degrees. 4 X 1,000 lb. demolition bombs were salvoed off the Italian coast on return. All other bombs were returned to base in Corsica or Sardinia. 6 B-26's returned to base at 14:04 hours. 10 B-26's returned late by 16:35 hours after landing in Corsica due to weather. 1 B-25 landed at Elmas due to weather. 2 B-26's are missing; 1 is believed to be at Algher and 1 was last reported over Alto unable to lower landing gears.

C. Results: Bombs hit the N. approach and possibly hit the N. end of the bridge.

D. Observations: 1. Air:

a. Activity: Fighter bombers were dive-bombing ship at Porto Maurizio.

b. Situation: None.

2. Ground:

a. General: None.

b. Communications:

(1) 50 RR cars at Albenga.

(2) 150 RR cars at Asti.

(3) Train of 30 RR cars headed NE from Vercelli at 11:28 Hours.

(4) 75 RR cars at Felizzano.

(5) 15 M/T headed E. from Villanova d' Albenga at 11:05 hours.

c. Flak:

Island S. of Albenga: S, L, I, I, reported by one crew member.

d. Shipping: 2,000 ton vessel at Imperia

3. Losses: None. Damaged: 2 Missing.

4. Weather:

a. Route: The formation was in several decks of clouds, 8-10/10 coverage, lowest deck at 4,000 feet, everywhere west of a north-south line through central Corsica and north. Occasional light rain. Weather improved east of Corsica.

b. Target Vicinity: Same as on the route.

c. Target Area: Small hole immediately over target for a few seconds.

d. Return: Heavy rain showers over Sardinia.

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E. Routes and Altitudes: Base to landfall at Albenga; to Asti; to Biella; to Varallo; to target; (flight bombing curved left to Varallo; to target) curve right to Asti; to Albenga; to base.

F. Comments: 1 of A/6 which was reported to have landed at Algher returned to base at 18:35 hours. 4 additional 1,000 lb. pounds were salvoed in water.

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

MISSION # 366, FLIGHT COMMANDER:

WAYWARD

18 SEPTEMBER 1944.

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37

42

61

09

87

367

"A"

MORAN

51 Peterson

"B"

HECKLER

56 Gooch

"C"

NICOLUD

60 Adams

"D"

SALMONSON

89 Goldman

"E"

POLING

91 Beckler

"F"

WALDRUP

97 Larrabee

"G"

SHERWOOD

02 Liever

"H"

SCHWANTZ

01 Sacco

"I"

WILSON

18 Rojas

"J"

SCHANE

33 Milischer

"K"

STERN

39 Hathaway

"L"

METSCHAN

44 Farwell

"M"

PESEK

09 O'Connell

09 O'Connell

48

87

48

87

87

87

"M"

MORAN

51 Peterson

"N"

NICOLUD

60 Adams

"O"

SALMONSON

89 Goldman

"P"

POLING

91 Beckler

"Q"

WALDRUP

97 Larrabee

"R"

SHERWOOD

02 Liever

"S"

SCHWANTZ

01 Sacco

"T"

WILSON

18 Rojas

"U"

SCHANE

33 Milischer

"V"

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39 Hathaway

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METSCHAN

44 Farwell

"X"

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"Y"

MORAN

51 Peterson

"Z"

NICOLUD

60 Adams

"AA"

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89 Goldman

"AB"

POLING

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"AC"

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51 Peterson

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60 Adams

"AM"

SALMONSON

89 Goldman

"AN"

POLING

91 Beckler

"AO"

WALDRUP

97 Larrabee

"AP"

SHERWOOD

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51 Peterson

"AX"

NICOLUD

60 Adams

"AY"

SALMONSON

89 Goldman

"AZ"

POLING

91 Beckler

"BA"

WALDRUP

97 Larrabee

"BB"

SHERWOOD

02 Liever

"BC"

SCHWANTZ

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"BD"

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18 Rojas

"BE"

SCHANE

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60 Adams

"BK"

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89 Goldman

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91 Beckler

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60 Adams

"BW"

SALMONSON

89 Goldman

"BX"

POLING

91 Beckler

"BY"

WALDRUP

97 Larrabee

"BZ"

SHERWOOD

02 Liever

"C"

SCHWANTZ

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60 Adams

"CH"

SALMONSON

89 Goldman

"CI"

POLING

91 Beckler

"CJ"

WALDRUP

97 Larrabee

"CK"

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