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

5 November 1944.

Final Mission Report No. 396

Flight Commander: Captain Smith
Lead Pilot: Captain Wilhelm

320th Bombardment Group (M).

ROVERETO RAILROAD FILL (N/R: (R) A-703055, GCS 4164, Sheet 36), Italy.

At 09:55 hours, 18 B-26's took off. 10 B-26's returned early. 1 B-26 lost prior to target. A/C Battle No. 01 was hit by enemy aircraft fire at Garda, F-4470, at 11:28 hours. It slid out of the formation, pilot evidently fighting for control. 3 chutes emerged, and one minute later the right wing came off, aircraft then turned over on its back, and crashed into a mountain, exploding at F-6091. 17 B-26's were over the target. 15 B-26's dropped 111 x 300# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) and 5 x 500# Demolition bombs (6-hour delay fuses) on the Primary target at 11:33 hours, from 10,600' to 9,600' on an Axis of 06°T. 20 x 300# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) were salvaged over land, 12 having hung up over the target and 8 due to bombardiers error. No bombs were returned to base. 12 B-26's returned to base at 12:49 hours; 3 B-26's returned at 15:37 hours, after escorting a/c damaged by flak and circling it after crew bailed out. 2 B-26's lost in addition to above. A/C Battle No. 86 was hit by enemy aircraft attack on the breakaway from the target. It dropped out of the formation, wheels were seen to go down, it nosed up sharply and then spun to the ground, crashing at F-6909 at 11:34 hours. No fire, explosion, or chutes were seen. A/C Battle No. 84 was hit by enemy aircraft fire on the bomb run, continued in formation until bombs were dropped, feathered engine, fell out of formation with 3 aircraft for escort, crew bailed out at 43° 18' North/ 09° 10' East at 13:15 hours. The crew is reported safe. No B-26's are missing. 4 B-26's were slightly damaged by enemy aircraft, and 2 B-26's seriously damaged by enemy aircraft.

RESULTS: A good pattern of bombs covered the target, scoring probable hits. Some bombs landed over to the North.

ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION: 12/15 enemy aircraft, consisting of 8 Me-109's, 2 Me-262's, and 2 Fw-190's attacked the formation at Desenzano, F-3059, prior to bombing and continued attacks from 22 minutes, until formation returned to Desenzano, F-3059, after bombing. The initial attacks by all E/A was made from 12 o'clock high, 4/A going through the formation. Subsequent attacks were made by groups of 2, 3, and 4 from the rear, level at 5, 6, and 7 o'clock. The attacks were aggressive and well executed. Attacks were pressed to 150 yards, some as close as 250 feet, some A/C hung directly behind the formation, at 1,000 yards, lobbing 20mm. cannon shells, with most of the shells falling short, after attacks A/C broke off by diving to the right or left. Damaged A/C falling out of formation were concentrated on. Markings were black crosses on the wings and white crosses with black outlines on the fuselages. Some A/C had white spinners.

FLAK: 3, 4, 1, 1, 10 bursts type flak encountered from Canoa, G-9548, by escorting a/c. Flak was far out of range.

ROUTE: Base to Moneglia, F-4028; to Fidenza, F-9593; to Desenzano, F-3059; to LF, Ala, F-6891; to target on an Axis of 08 deg. true; breakaway left to Desenzano, F-3059; reciprocal course to base.

WEATHER: a. Report: Generally clear.
b. Vicinity of Target: CAVU.
c. Target Area: CAVU.
d. Return: As enroute.

AIR OBSERVATIONS:

a. Air Activity: 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ a/c unidentified, believed to be P-47's, followed the formation, low, from Monaglia, P-4028, to Fidenza, P-9393, at 11:02 hours to 11:13 hours.
b. Situation: Chedi A/D, F-0958, appeared empty at 11:24 hours.

NAVAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS:

a. General:
(1) Smoke pots were seen just North of the target, A-7308, at 11:33 hours.
(2) Smoke at La Spezia, P-6705, at 11:01 hours.
(3) Smoke at Massa, P-9101, at 10:59 hours.
b. Communications:
(1) 50 scattered M/T moving both directions, were seen in the vicinity of Ala, P-6891, at 11:30 hours.
(2) 8 M/T headed South at A-7714 at 11:34 hours.
(3) Train of 15 cars moving North at P-6997 at 11:33 hours.
(4) 150 RM cars at Ala, P-6891, at 11:31 hours.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: The crew of Aircraft Battle No. 84, Regular serial No. 43-34261, are now all back safely.

Following is the list of the Names, Rank, Serial Number, and Position, of the crew members missing from the two Aircraft, which went down over the target:

SHIP: No. 86 Battle Number, Regular No. 42-101532.

Name:	Rank:	Serial Number:	Position:
Logsdon, James H.	1st Lt.	0-759629	Pilot
Smith, Gerald L.	2nd Lt.	0-822127	Co-pilot
Drevas, George F.	S/Sgt.	12180058	Bombardier
Kelly, Edward H.	Sgt.	17159851	Engineer/Gunner
De Luca, Vincent T.	S/Sgt.	12084075	Radio/Gunner
Kaufman, Gene U.	Cpl.	18179194	Aerial Gunner

SHIP: No. 01 Battle Number, Regular No. 43-54396.

Name:	Rank:	Serial Number:	Position:
Cole, Truman C.	2nd Lt.	0-809928	Pilot
Lewis, Paul A.	2nd Lt.	0-617057	Co-pilot
Pidecock, John W.	2nd Lt.	0-722673	Bombardier
Brush, Samuel W., Jr.	T/Sgt.	33294831	Engineer/Gunner
Moore, Wyatt B.	S/Sgt.	38368977	Radio/Gunner
McMahan, Henry T.	Cpl.	33393870	Aerial Gunner
Kramer, John A.	S/Sgt.	18187315	Photographer/Gunner

VICTORY CLAIMS: Destroyed: 3 Me-109's, 1 Fw-190, and 1 Me-202.
Probably Destroyed: 2 Me-109's.

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

MISSION # 409 JACUP # 2 : FLIGHT COLLECTOR: CAPT SMITH.

5 November 44

TAKE OFF LINE UP	<u>DOCKE</u> 20 Martenson	<u>WELM</u> 1 POLAKOV	<u>QUANOREY</u> 04 FLINDINO
11			
20		<u>WADDIE</u>	
04	<u>COLE</u> 01 Paddock	<u>LURAY</u>	<u>AGSDORF</u> 17 Streeby
15			
01		<u>PLSEK</u>	
17	<u>EVANS</u> 14 Rojas	09 Mirabella	<u>ASHER</u> 05 Stone
09			
16		<u>ELER</u>	
06	<u>WALDEN</u> 08 Allen	<u>ENKAVA</u>	<u>SCHWARTZ</u> 21 LIEVER
23			
08		<u>SCOTT</u>	
21	<u>ADAM</u> 07 Smith	19 Gacker	<u>LAMPKE</u> 22 Norden
19			
07		<u>HIS</u>	
22	<u>BOGSDON</u> 86 prevas	07 Schmidt	<u>SULLIVAN</u> 81 Rinden
87			
86		<u>RES</u>	
81		<u>ROSENFELD</u>	
		04 Boudier	
84			
	COLORS OF THE LINE - 5 NOVEMBER 1944.		
	TIME	COLORS	
	0200-0800	B & RED RED	
	0800-1400	RED & BLACK	
	1400-2000	RED & WHITE	
	2000-0200	GREEN & RED RED	
	ALDIS Light	CHALLENGE	REPLY
	0200-0800	F	P
	0800-1400	F	X
	1400-2000	F	N
	2000-0200	F	J

*Rover
Rail
fill*

RADIO CALL SIGNS

"TOPNOTCH # 2 "

FIGHTER BOSSER
CHANNEL "A"

FOLLOWING PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN OPERATIONS ON 5 NOVEMBER 1944:

Wilhelm, Pilot, Capt.	441	11
Lazo, CP, Lt.		Took off: 0955
Polakov, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1249
Gibson, Nav, Capt.		
Barton, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Rencehausen, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Steeves, Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Smith, Capt. FLIGHT COMMANDER		
O'Mahoney, Pilot, Lt.	441	04
Boblitt, CP, Lt.		Took off: 0956
Ferrandino, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1250
Bader, Nav, Lt.		
Liggett, Eng, T/Sgt.		
Rockabram, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Vosler, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Donke, Pilot, Lt.	441	05
Wilson, CP, Lt.		Took off: 0957
Murray, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1251
Lewis, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Dalton, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Thompson, Gunner, Cpl.		
Donke, Pilot, Lt.	441	05 20
O'Brien, CP, Lt.		Took off: 0957
Martinsen, Bomb, Sgt.		Landed: 1251
Purcell, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Cook, Radio, Sgt.		
Dunn, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Messenger, Obs, Capt.		
Blue, Photo, Sgt.		
Dinwidie, Pilot, Lt.	441	05
Wilson, CP, Lt.		Took off: 0958
Murray, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1252
Lewis, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Thompson, Gunner, Cpl.		
Arnsdorff, Pilot, Lt.	441	17
Kuentz, CP, Lt.		Took off: 0959
Stearny, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1253
Coppler, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Hedger, Radio, Sgt.		
Lofton, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Cole, Pilot, Lt.	441	01
Louis, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1000
Pidcock, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1254
Brush, Eng, T/Sgt.		
Moore, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Mackanon, Gunner, Cpl.		
Kramer, Photo, S/Sgt.		
Pesak, Pilot, Lt.	441	09
Kaiser, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1001
Mirabella, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1255
Fulk, Eng, T/Sgt.		
Witten, Radio, Sgt. Profos, Gunner, S/Sgt.		

Asher, Pilot, Lt.	441	06
Peterson, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1002
Stone, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1256
Gibson, Eng, Cpl.		
Breznak, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Rasckke, Gunner, Sgt.		
Evans, Pilot, Lt.	441	14
Heeren, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1003
Rojas, Bomb, F/O		Landed: 1257
Bentas, Eng, Sgt.		
Mellas, Radio, Cpl.		
Lady, Gunner, Cpl.		
Mueller, Pilot, Vapt.	441	23
Levering, Cr, Lt.		TOOK OFF: 1004
Penkava, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1258
Siporen, Nav, Lt.		
Metcalf, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Zapeda, Radio, Sgt.		
Hill, Gunner, Sgt.		
Schrantz, Pilot, Lt.	441	21
Schaum, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1005
Liever, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1259
Elman, Nav, Lt.		
Connell, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Snow, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Marinella, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Walden, Pilot, Lt.	441	08
Pratt, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1006
Allen, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1300
Mausser, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Hiler, Radio, Cpl.		
Strand, Gunner, Sgt.		
Potts, Photo, Cpl.		
Scott, Pilot, Lt.	441	19
Forsythe, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1007
Cocker, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1301
Fernandez, Eng, T/Sgt.		
Fraser, Radio, T/Sgt.		
Tankersley, Gunner, Sgt.		
Lampke, Pilot, Lt.	441	22
Black, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1008
Norden, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1302
Booth, Eng, T/Sgt.		
Weber, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Hughes, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Zierk, Pilot, Lt.	441	07
Dickey, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1009
Biddle, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1303
Mullis, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Melson, Radio, Sgt.		
Knight, Gunner, Cpl.		
Bostic, Photo, Sgt.		

Sullivan, Pilot, Lt.	444	81
Travell, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1010
Winden, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1304
Thain, Eng, Sgt.		
Mummeil, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Wells, Gunner, Sgt.		

Birmingham, Pilot, Capt.	444	85
Viebrock, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1011
Heller, Bomb, Capt.		Landed: 1305
Westbrook, Nav, Lt.		
Warrett, Eng, Sgt.		
Pozniack, Radio, S/Sgt.		

Logsdon, Pilot, Lt.	444	86
Smith, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1012
Drevas, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1306
Kelley, Eng, Sgt.		
DeLuca, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Kaufman, Gunner, Cpl.		

Kamanski, Pilot, Lt.	444	84
Ford, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1013
Beebe, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1307
Greco, Eng, Sgt.		
Friel, Radio, S/Sgt.		

F I N I (~~137X138X139~~) 2ND MISSION