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

10 November 1944.

Final Mission Report No. 409

Flight Commander: Captain Cohen.
Lead Pilot: Captain Merrill.

320th Bombardment Group (M).

ALA RAILROAD BRIDGE (M/R) (M) F-668900, G303 4164, Sheet 36, Italy.

At 10:55 hours, 20 B-26's took off. 2 B-26's returned early: 1 spare; 1 late take-off due to last minute change of A/C and was unable to catch the formation. No B-26's were lost prior to the target. 18 B-26's were over the target. 18 B-26's dropped 131 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) and 6 x 500# Demolition bombs (6-hour delay fuses) on the Primary target at 12:46 hours from 11,600' to 10,600' on an axis of 310°T. 7 x 500# Demolition bombs (1/10 & .025 second delay fuses) were salvaged in the water, having hung up over the target. No bombs were returned to base. 18 B-26's returned to base at 13:57 hours. No B-26's lost or missing. 12 B-26's slightly damaged: 7 by flak alone; 3 by A/A alone; 2 by flak and A/A. 2 B-26's seriously damaged: 1 by flak alone; 1 by A/A.

RESULTS: An excellent pattern covered the target scoring several direct hits.

ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION: 25 to 30 Me-109's, G-55's, Me-202's, and Fw-190's (majority were Me-109's) commenced attacking the formation at Desenzano, and continued attacks until the formation reached the Po River on the return. Markings of Me-109's were dark gray-green with white stripes on fuselage, from the cockpit back, black crosses with white outlines on the wings. G-55's and Me-202's were speckled brown and gray fuselages, light bellies, with German insignia. 2 Me-109's had white spinners and clipped wings. Fw-190's were black with German markings.

Attacks were from all around the clock, but the majority were at 5 and 7 o'clock. The first pass was made at 11 o'clock level, in groups of 5, 4, and 2 in line abreast. Most others came in at 3 and 9 o'clock level, swinging around to the tail. The attacks were not aggressive and were poorly co-ordinated. On the rear attacks, some were low, but most were from level or above. Most of the A/A broke off at 300 to 400 yards, or farther away. Most went down after attack, but a few pulled up, exposing bellies. 6 A/A started to come between two Squadrons at 3 o'clock, but only 2 A/A went through to 9 o'clock.

A/A stayed out of flak, but remained in the area, resuming attacks after the flak stopped.

FLAK: M, H, A, FA. - GP type flak was encountered from the target area, and South-West of the target. Encountered from 1 minute before bombs-away and for 8 minutes into the breakaway, but accuracy decreased on breakaway.

S, L, I, I. type flak encountered from target and East of Cremona at F-1222.

Route: Base to Monaglia, F-4026; to Fidenza, F-3094; to Desenzano, F-3059; to Veri, F-5978; to San Giovanni Marone, F-8563; to Lt. Valdagno, F-9077; to target on an axis of 310°T; breakaway left to Desenzano, F-3059; reciprocal course to base.

Weather:

- a. Enroute: CAVU.
- b. Vicinity of Target: Cloud and storm, 5,000' to 13,000', East of Lake Garda.
- c. Target Area: Open.
- d. Return: As enroute.

Air Observations:

- a. Air Activity: See ARMY OPPOSITION on first page of this report.
- b. Situation: 2 4/3 A/C on East end of runway at Ghedi A/D, F-0357, at 12:36 hours.

Naval Observations: None.

Ground Observations:

- a. General:
 - (1) Battle smoke at F-9201 at 12:05 hours.
 - (2) Bridge at Fiorenzuola, E-7802, being repaired at 12:28 hours.
- b. Communications:
 - (1) 25/30 M/T moving South out of Monaglia at F-5028, at 12:16 hours.
 - (2) 6 M/T moving North at F-7883 at 12:26 hours.
 - (3) 250 AM cars between Fiorenzuola, E-7802, and Fidenza, F-9094, at 12:28 hours.
 - (4) Scattered M/T traffic moving East out of Cremona, E-8825, at 12:32 hours.
 - (5) 60/70 AM cars at Desenzano, F-3059, at 12:39 hours.

Special Comments: Victory claims are: 1 Fw-190 and 1 Me-109, destroyed; 5 Me-109's, damaged.

William Cook,
Major, Air Corps,
Group Intelligence Officer.

MISSION #420

FLIGHT COMMANDER: Capt Gahan
"A"

10 November 1944

RUNWAY LINE UP

23
16
21

09
03
18

05
08
14

70
57
22

55
72
64

50
54
69

63

REMARKS: ---
320th TFPNOMCH 1
W/T call sign
--- OMK ---

16 KUC	53 HERRICK	22 BYERS
WATER	WATER	POSEY
---	---	---
02 TORRES	04 HARRISON	19 CUMMORTH
WATER	WATER	WATER
---	---	---
08 SHEPHERD	05 WIGGINS	14 WILSON
WATER	WATER	WATER
---	---	---
57 OPPERMAN	70 HAYWARD	62 CLARK
POWERS	PICKETT	WATER
---	---	---
71 DAILEY	55 FELT	64 ROSE
WATER	LOWERY	WATER
---	---	---
54 UHLIG	50 MONTAG	59 PARSONS
WATER	WATER	WATER
---	---	---
53 WILSON	63 WILSON	---
WATER	WATER	---
---	---	---

--- COPIES OF THIS ---
LIDIS LAMP SIGNALS
FLAME COLORS CHALLENGE REPLY
0200-0800 RED & RED V G
0800-1400 RED GREEN GREEN X S
1400-2000 RED & GREEN W L
2000-0200 RED & YELLOW H M

FOLLOWING PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN OPERATIONS OF 10 NOVEMBER 1944:

Merrill, Pilot, Capt.	441	23
Lazo, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1055
Traynor, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1359
Gibson, Nav, Capt.		
Cahan, Capt, FLIGHT COMMANDER.		
Hall, Eng, Sgt.		
Henschhausen, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Purte, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Myers, Pilot, Capt.	441	21
Kaiser, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1055½
Posey, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1357+
Mirabella, Nav, Lt.		
Gulliver, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Kirkland, Radio, T/Sgt.		
Liggett, Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Klug, Pilot, Lt.	441	16
Schaum, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1056
Norden, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1352
Williams, Eng, T/Sgt.		
Breznak, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Stipac, Gunner, T/Sgt.		
Cirno, Photo, Sgt.		
Lyons, Pilot, Lt.	441	09
Levering, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1056½
Allen, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1352+
Bernstein, Eng, Sgt.		
Pysz, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Tankersley, Gunner, Sgt.		
Cutworth, Pilot, Lt.	441	18
Grala, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1057
Kingsbury, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1359
Gibson, Eng, Cpl.		
Wickens, Radio, Cpl.		
Hughes, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Forongo, Pilot, Lt.	441	19
Robinson, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1057½
		Landed: 1213 EARLY RETURN
Wiggins, Pilot, Lt.	441	05
Whiteman, CP, F/O		Took off: 1058
Stadwickie, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1359+
Hart, Eng, Sgt.		
Cook, Radio, Sgt.		
Marinelli, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Wilson, Pilot, Lt.	441	14
Cockriel, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1058½
Bindle, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1400
Balinski, Eng, Cpl.		
Snow, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Dunn, Gunner, S/Sgt.		

Sherwood, Pilot, Lt.	441	08
Forsythe, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1059
Vicha, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1410+
Tamosiunas, Eng, Sgt.		
Coppler, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Fata, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
 Opperman, Pilot, Lt.	 443	 57
Roberts, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1059½
Furvis, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1411
Motsenbocker, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Allen, Gunner, Sgt.		
Deiensz, Eng, Cpl.		
DeVaughn, Photo, Cpl.		
 Hayward, Pilot, Major.	 443	 70
Young, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1100
Pickett, Bomb, Capt.		Landed: 1411+
Murray, Nav, Lt.		
Traweck, Radio, T/Sgt.		
Luther, Eng, S/Sgt.		
 Clark, Pilot, Lt.	 443	 62
Jones, RC, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1101
Miazga, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1412
Newell, Nav, Lt.		
Waymire, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Auby, Gunner, Cpl.		
Wendt, Eng, S/Sgt.		
 Dailey, Pilot, Lt.	 443	 71
Blasko, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1101½
Mele, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1412+
Constable, Radio, Sgt.		
Hafer, Gunner, Sgt.		
Fields, Eng, Sgt.		
Collins, Photo, S/Sgt.		
 Felt, Pilot, Capt.	 443	 55
Zoeller, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1102
Lowrey, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1413
Shollenberger, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Coffey, Gunner, T/Sgt.		
 Mosby, Pilot, Lt.	 443	 51
Halbert, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1102½
Storick, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1413+
Johnson, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Perkins, Gunner, Sgt.		
Luper, Eng, S/Sgt.		
 Brainerd, Pilot, Lt.	 443	 50
Hoover, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1103
Prigmore, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1414
Wong, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Cummins, Eng, S/Sgt.		

Parsons, Pilot, Lt.	443	69
Shadle, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1103 $\frac{1}{2}$
Orr, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1404+
Kendricks, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Partz, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Propst, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Unlig, Pilot, Lt.	443	64
Livsey, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1104
Cox, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1405
Cain, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Szzech, Gunner, S/Sgt.		
Lally, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Watson, Pilot, Lt.	443	63
McHugh, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1104 $\frac{1}{2}$
Otto, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1405+
Allen, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Lenkiewicz, Cpl. Gunner		
Blackwell, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Bowles, Pilot, Lt.	441	15
Boollitt, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1105
Anderson, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1224 EARLY RETURN

F I N I (1ST MISSION)

Abernathy, Pilot, Lt.	442	28
Woolf, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1117
Montez, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1322
Pincomb, Nav, Capt.		
Carragher, Capt. FLIGHT COMMANDER		
Putnam, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Danke, Radio, T/Sgt.		
Chapman, Gunner, Sgt.		
McDougal, Pilot, Lt.	442	30
McNamara, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1117 $\frac{1}{2}$
Burns, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1410+
Wernick, Nav, Lt.		
Rochester, Eng, S/Sgt.		
Abernathy, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Purdy, Gunner, Sgt.		
McOmber, Pilot, Lt.	442	46
Connelly, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1118
Westbrook, Bomb, Sgt.		Landed: 1324
Shearer, Eng, Sgt.		
Pastorak, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Grenshaw, Gunner, Pvt.		
Cinielle, Photo, S/Sgt.		
Goake, Pilot, Lt.	25 442	25
Tebbetts, CP, Lt. Haun, Bomb, Lt.		Took off: 1138 $\frac{1}{2}$
Simec, Eng, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1356
Ortega, Gunner, Sgt.		

Zellerbach, Pilot, Lt.	442	47
Kithcart, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1119
Woodward, Bomb, Cpl.		Landed: 1416
Morrow, Eng, Sgt.		
House, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Nye, Gunner, Sgt.		
 Stern, Pilot, Lt.	 442	 38
Chilas, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1119½
Youell, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1412
Sheehy, Eng, Sgt.		
Mooney, Radio, Sgt.		
Craig, Gunner, Sgt.		
Meserole, Photo, Sgt.		
 Mooney, Pilot, Lt.	 442	 45
Villelli, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1120
Ward, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1413+
Walker, Eng S/Sgt.		
Dubeau, Gunner, T/Sgt.		
 Kent, Pilot, Lt.	 442	 42
Brenan, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1120½
Savoca, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1411
Williams, Eng, Cpl.		
Harris, Radio, Cpl.		
Marshall, Gunner, Sgt.		
 Stutler, Pilot, Lt.	 442	 32
Pearson, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1121
Moush, Bomb, Cpl.		Landed: 1427
Chase, Eng, Sgt.		
Carroll, Radio, T/Sgt.		
Hurbace, Gunner, Sgt.		
 Plackter, Pilot, Capt.	 444	 85
Smith, C, Lt.		Took off: 1121½
Froelich, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1417+
Westbrook, Nav, Lt.		
Takala, Eng, Sgt.		
Reach, Radio, S/Sgt.		
 Sullivan, Pilot, Lt.	 444	 91
Sutherland, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1122
Sheehan, Bomb, S/Sgt.		Landed: 1418
DeLeo, Eng, Sgt.		
Harrington, Radio, S/Sgt.		
Johnson, Gunne, Sgt.		
Witt, Photo, Sgt.		
 Primm, Pilot, Lt.	 444	 83
Johnson, CP, Lt.		Took off: 1122½
Cairns, Bomb, Lt.		Landed: 1419+
DeLoxser, Nav, Lt.		
Dowlen, Eng, Sgt.		
Shroll, Radio, Sgt.		
Mullaney, Gunner, Cpl.		

Jones RW, Pilot, Lt. 444
Strekowski, CP, Lt.
Hooper, Bomb, Lt.
Gould, Eng, Sgt.
Dinniny, Gunner, Pvt.

90
Took off: 1123
Landed: 1420

Salmonson, Pilot, Lt. 444
Day, CP, Lt.
Ryan, Bomb, Sgt.
Rankin, Eng, Sgt.
Ramirez, Gunner, Sgt.
Villines, Gunner, Sgt.
Lindquist, Photo, Sgt.

88
Took off: 1123½
Landed: 1204 E.R.

Wells, Pilot, Lt. 444
Waddell, CP, Lt.
Adams, Bomb, Lt.
Hightower, Eng, Sgt.
Ross, Radio, Sgt.
Walchli, Gunner, Sgt.

94
Took off: 1124
Landed: 1421

Poling, Pilot, Lt. 444
Harkness, CP, F/O
Bernardi, Bomb, Lt.
Kuczna, Eng, S/Sgt.
McDaniels, Radio, Cpl.

80
Took off: 1124½
Landed: 1422

Baier, Pilot, Lt. 444
Channel, CP, Lt.
Weyenberg, Bomb, S/Sgt.
Hammontree, Eng, Cpl.
Fleming, Radio, S/Sgt.
Day, Gunner, Sgt.

77
Took off: 1125
Landed: 1423

Lampman, Pilot, Lt. 444
Catalano, CP, Lt.
Goldman, Bomb, Lt.
Hardy, Eng, Sgt.
Zoelle, Radio, S/Sgt.
Hess, Gunner, Cpl.

75
Took off: 1125½
Landed: 1423+

Kreuzer, Pilot, Lt. 444
Michaelson, CP, Lt.
Jarman, Bomb, Lt.
Smith, Eng, Sgt.
Ryan, Radio, Cpl.
Wells, Gunner, Sgt.

93
Took off: 1126
Landed: 1421

LaChasse, Pilot, Lt. 442
McLaughlin, CP, Lt.
Fisher, Bomb, Cpl.
McCully, Eng, S/Sgt.
Newton, Radio, Cpl.
Spencer, Gunner, Cpl.

26
Took off: 1126½
Landed: 1255 E.R.