

HISTORY

of the

484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY)

1 August 1944 to 31 August 1944

In summing up the activities of August of the 484th Bombardment Group, twenty missions were accomplished, dealing destruction and devastating doom to the enemy territory and countries within our range. Factories, airdromes, marshalling yards, oil storages, beachheads, bridges, railroad viaducts, each in turn felt the effectiveness of our attacks. From the southern coast of France to southern Germany, from northern Italy through Austria and Hungary - our aircraft dealt severe blows to the various targets within that area.

Although we have suffered a minimum amount of losses, our crews deserve recognition for their unusual initiative, ingenious acumen in staving off enemy aircraft and fire, and above all the valor and courage displayed in critical moments. We must not underestimate the cooperation of the ground personnel. With their combined efforts, these men have made the month of August one to be remembered in the annals of aerial combat history.

Of noteworthy attention is the mission to the Gun Positions near the St. Tropez area, France on the 14th of August. Although the invasion of southern France had its impetus early that morning, our unit at 1600 in the afternoon made direct hits on the beachhead.

Previous waves of our invasion forces had occupied a strip of the beach on both sides of the area designated as our target. Due to the extreme navigational accuracy by the navigators and pinpoint bombing by the bombardiers we avoided endangering the lives of those who had already landed. In addition a fresh invasion was timed to hit the beach a few moments after our attack. Any error in the judgment of our crews would have wrecked havoc with our ground force. We can readily claim that we were instrumental in forging a path in the invasion of southern France.

Of equally meritorious attention is the mission of south Blechhammer Oil Refineries, Germany, on the 7th of August. In spite of the fact that 16 aircraft were hit by flak in an area highly concentrated with guns, considerable damage was done and the flow of production of the synthetic oil refineries was greatly impeded.

MISSIONS FOR AUGUST

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>OBJECTIVE</u>
2	Avignon, France	Railroad Bridge
3	Friedrichshafen/ Zahnradfabrik	Factory
6	Miramas, France	Marshalling Yards
7	Blechhammer, Germany	Refinery
9	Almafuzito, Hungary	Oil Refinery
10	Ploesti, Roumania	Xenia Oil Refinery
12	Genoa Area, Italy	Gun Positions
13	Genoa Area, Italy	Gun Positions
14	St. Tropez Area,	Beach Area
15	Beach 264A Area, France	Beach Area
17	Ploesti, Roumania	Refineries
18	Albunar, Yugoslavia	Airdrome
20	Szolnok/Rakocziralva Hungary	Airdrome
22	Vienna, Austria	Lobau Oil Storage
23	St. Polten, Austria	Markersdorf A/D
24	Ferrara, Italy	Railroad Bridge
26	Otepeni, Roumania	Airdrome
27	Borovnica. Yugoslavia	Railroad Viaduct
28	Szolnok/Szajol, Hungary	Railroad Bridge
29	Szeged, Hungary	Railroad Bridge

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

2 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number : 60 Target: Avignon RR Bridge

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

A. Fighters: None

B. Flak: S-I-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

A. Cavaillon - 1313, 22000', large M/Y with 4 to 500 cars.

B. Orange - 1322, 22000', several A/C on A/D

C. Toulon - Smoke screen beginning at 1240. Complete at 1330 from 21,000.

D. Avignon - Smoke Screen over M/Y at 1317, 22,000'.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

A. Total Losses: 10 men missing

B. Damage: None.

C. Victories: None.

D. Correction of Telephone Report: None.

4. REMARKS:

A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

3 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number : 61 Target: Friedrichshafen/Zahnradfabrik
Works

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: None
- B. Flak: M-I-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: At 1150 from 1700 feet in Udine Area around lake west of Farra Area bounded as follows (4600 to 4608N, and 1217 to 1220 E). Newly dug slit trenches (unreadable)
- B. Flak Positions: Innsbruck and Bolzano: M-I-H.
Flak observed, but not encountered
- C. Naval: None
- D. Ground: at 1000 from 25000 feet at Aviano 30 A/C seen on A/D SE of town. Parked around edges of the field.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: 1 A/C missing. Last seen peeling off at IP and heading for Switzerland
- B. Damage: 1 plane: small hole in rudder
- C. Victories: None.
- D. Corrections: None

4. REMARKS:

- A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

7 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION NUMBER: 63

TARGET: BLECHHAMMER SOUTH

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: Previously unbriefed flak at (43° 27' N-17° 33' E) running along mountain top to (43° 20' N-17° 35' E) S-I-H. At target S-A-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: M/Ys at OLOMCUC had 1,000 goods wagons at 1120. (49° 36' N-17° 35' N)
- B. Flak Positions: TANDO, Yugo M-I-H (6 guns)
- C. Naval: Nil
- D. Ground: At (47° 50' N-17° 00' E) six rows of 12 barracks each were seen at 1150 from 18,000 ft.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: 0
- B. Damage: 16 aircraft hit by flak
- C. Victories: Nil
- D. Corrections to Telephone Report:
 - 26 A/C dropped 57 tons on target.
 - 3 A/C jettisoned 6 tons.
 - 3 A/C returned 6.75 tons to base.
 - 1 A/C missing - last seen over Yugoslavia Coast heading for VIS.

4. REMARKS: Synchronous bombing through smoke screen. Photos indicate good results.

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

10 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 65 Target: Xenia Oil Refinery Ploesti

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

A. Fighters: None

B. Flak: I-A-E

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

A. Corabria: 1040, 22,800' - 26 barges, 2 tugs

B. Turnul-Severin: 0914, 21,000 - 70 plus barges in river

3. CONCLUSIONS:

A. Total Losses: None

B. Damage: 20 by flak

C. Victories: None

D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

10 August 1944

MISSION: Number: 66

Target: Gun Positions in Genoa Area

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: M-I-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Ground - Reflections or flashes from (unreadable) or other large mirrored surface seen entire route from coast to IP and eleven (unreadable) flashes from (unreadable).
- B. Flak positions other than at target - Nil
- C. Smoke Screens
 - 1. (unreadable) - 1000 - 21,000 - ineffective smoke screen.
 - 2. (unreadable) - 1031 - 20,000 - ten smoke pots - ineffective
 - 3. (unreadable) - 1002 - 19,000 - 20 bldgs, factory - ineffective
 - 4. (unreadable) - 1001 - 21,000 - one half of the smoke screen ineffective.
- D. Naval:
 - SAVONA - 1038 - 20,800 ft - Five large and ten small M/Vs.
 - GENOA - 1038 - 20,800 ft - Fifteen large M/Vs.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: Nil
- B. Eight caused by flak, two serious
- C. Victories: Nil
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: Nil

4. REMARKS:

- A. Nil

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

13 August 1944

MISSION: Number: 67

Target: Gun Positions in Genoa Area (64 deg 34 min N-34 deg 21 min E)

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: Six bursts seen. S-I-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: Nil
- B. Flak positions: Nil
- C. Naval: Two MV in GENOA, Italy harbor at 1331.
- D. Ground: Nil

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: Nil
- B. Damage: Nil
- C. Victories: Nil
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: Nil

4. REMARKS:

It appears that a wrong heading was taken from the initial point, resulting in bombing several miles East of target. Also, place bombed was not identified as wrong target.

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

14 August 1944

MISSION: Number: 68

Target: Gun Positions in Toulon - St Tropez Area

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: Nil

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: Nil
- B. Flak positions: Nil
- C. Naval: Gulf of St. Tropez at 1608 from 17,000 ft. B M V and up to 50 small ships. Small explosions, like small puffs, seen in water and on beach near target as planes left. Possible mines.
- D. Ground: Nil

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: Nil
- B. Damage: Nil
- C. Victories: Nil
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: Nil

4. REMARKS:

Small explosions, like small puffs, seen in water and on beach near target as planes left.

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

15 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 69 Target: Beach 264A

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: Nil

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications:
Road North from (unreadable) to (unreadable) at 1216 from 16,000 feet.
Large truck convoy.
At San Martin (4340N-0712W) at 1220 from 15,500 feet. 9 large tanks parked.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: None
- B. Damage: None
- C. Victories: None
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

- A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

17 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 70 Target: Ploesti Refineries

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: None
- B. Flak: I-I-H to I-A-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Effective Smoke Screen along South edge of city.
- B. 225 to 250 smoke pots at Ploesti
- C. Smoke Screen at Bucharest SW to NE along stream into Ploesti.
- D. Buildings and Oil Tanks camouflaged.
- E. 2 min after target, 100 tanks appeared to be dummies.
- F. Rosario de Vade - 1100 - 18000' - 15 A/C in revetments - 6 buildings with blast shelters.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: 1 missing (reason unknown)
- B. Damage: 2 heavily damaged by flak.
- C. Victories: None
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

- A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

18 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 71 Target: Albunar A/D

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: None
- B. Flak: None

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Vk Prana at 0853 at 18,000 feet - 700 cars in M/Y
- B. Pezarevak at 0900 at 18,000 feet - 12 oil tanks well dispersed.
- C. Tivat at 1020 at 1200 - 1 MV.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: None
- B. Damage: None
- C. Victories: None
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

- A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

MISSION: Number: 72 Target: Szolnok/Rakocziralva A/D

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

A. Fighters: None

B. Flak: S-I-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

A. Szentes, Hungary at 1015 at 16,000 feet: 6 multiple engine A/C on ground at A/D.
Flak Positions seen at Pecs.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

A. Total Losses: 1 A/C lost at Szolnok A/C at 0958. 6 chutes seen. A/C crashed.

B. Damage: None

C. Victories: None

D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

A. None

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

22 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 73

TARGET: LOBAU Oil Storage, Vienna

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

A. Fighters: Fifty to sixty a/c - ME10 9s and FW 190s - two waves of about 14 e/a came from about 5 o'clock low - attacked our formation. Went under our formation after one pass, attacked the group ahead.

B. Flak: I-A-H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

A. Enemy Air Installations: A/D four twin engined a/c on field at (unreadable)

B. Flak Positions other than at target: Bratislava

C. Smoke Screens: LAKE (unreadable) at 1050 at 21,000 well developed.
BRUCK at 1125 at 15,000 feet.
VIENNA A/D at 1033 at 13,000 feet.

D. Naval: at (41 deg 50 min N-16 deg 40 min E) at 1230 at 10,000, six DOs and six PTs in running battle towards YUGOSLAVIA.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

A. Total Losses: Two missing, one seen to go down between IP and target.

B. Damaged: Nil

C. Victories: Four destroyed, two probable, and four damaged.

D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: Mild

4. REMARKS: Two a/c at VIS

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (PATHFINDER)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 520, US Army
23 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 74

TARGET: Markersdorf A/D, ST POLTEN, AUSTRIA

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Of forth e/a seen four attack our formation in trail low from
 5-7 o'clock firing 20mm HE. Rest of fighters attack following
 group.
- B. Flak: None at target.

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: Nil
- B. Enemy Air Installations: Nil
- C. Flak Positions other than at target:
 BRUX - M I H
 GRAZ -M I H
 (47 deg 22 min N-15 deg 42 min E) - M A H
- D. Smoke Screens:
 LINZ, AUSTRIA - 1235 at 18,000 ft. Well developed smoke screens.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: One crash landed at base - lost
- B. Damaged: Four damaged with 2 - 3 small flak holes.
- C. Victories: Three destroyed in air.
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: Nil

4. REMARKS: Nil

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

24 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 75 TARGET: Ferrara Bridge.

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: None
- B. Flak: M to I-A-H at target

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Road bridge west of target has been out.
- B. Flak positions at (unreadable)

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: 1 plane, cause unknown.
- B. Damaged: 8 slightly from flak
- C. Victories: None
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

- A. Additional unreported flak seems to have been moved into some of the smaller towns along the Po River.

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (P)
APO 520 US ARMY

26 August 1944

MISSION: Number: 76 Target: Otepeni A/D, Roumania

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: No enemy fighters were seen
- B. Flak: No flak was encountered at the target, but moderate, accurate, heavy flak was encountered at Mitrovica, Yugoslavia.

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. No aircraft were reported at the target on the ground.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: None
- B. Damage: None
- C. Victories: None
- D. Corrections to Telephone Mission Report: None

4. REMARKS:

- A. Four direct hits were made on the South end of the runway and a few more hits on the airdrome, but most of the bombs fell Southwest of the target.

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (PATHFINDER)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

27 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 77

TARGET: Railroad Viaduct at BOROVNICA

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: Nil (None at target)

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: Nil
- B. Enemy Air Installations:
 - ROVENDRIC 1002 at 17,700 ft 7 a/c in revetments.
 - (46 18 N-13 05 E) 1015 at 18,000 ft 7 a/c at A/D.
- C. Flak:
 - S-I-H at Trieste
- D. Naval: TRIESTE 1055 at 18,000 ft approximately ten large m/v, plus one hospital ship.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Victories: Nil
- B. Casualties: Nil
- C. Corrections to telephone report: Nil

4. REMARKS:

Nil

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (PATHFINDER)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

28 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 78

TARGET: SZOLNOK/SZAJOL RR BRIDGE

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: S I H

2. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Communications: At (45 30 N-19 05 E) at 1135 at 15,400 and at (45 20 N-19 00 E) at 1139 at 15,400 attempting to bridge river by barges. Barges transshipping goods from RR cars. Direction of traffic undetermined from this altitude. At NOVI SAD at 1005 at 21,000 barge activity - 25 large barges seen.
- B. Enemy Air Installations and Activities:
 - 1. (unreadable), Hun (46 45 N-19 30 E) at 1107 at 18,000. 5 or 6 Me 363's, 2 Me 210's, and 5 s/e fighters on A/D.
 - 2. SZOLNOK, Hun at 1055 at 21,000 12-13 s/e a/c and 2 Ju 88's on A/D.
 - 3. SOMBOR, Yugo at 1129 at 16,000 a few unidentified a/c on A/D and large barrack area.
 - 4. XIS-KUM-HALOS (46 25 N-19 29 E) at 1115 at 18,000 ft 6 large transport planes on A/D.
 - 5. CZEGLLED at 1106 at 18,000 eight Me 363's.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Victories: Nil
- B, Casualties: One plane missing reason for loss unknown.
- C, Corrections to telephone mission report: Nil

4. REMARKS: Missing a/c lost one engine over target and developed trouble with another engine over Yugoslavia. A B-24 of this group remained with disabled a/c and observed 10 chutes open 6 miles SE of SOKOLAC, Yugoslavia.

HEADQUARTERS
484TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (PATHFINDER)
Office of the Intelligence Officer

29 August 1944

SPECIAL NARRATIVE REPORT

MISSION: Number: 79

TARGET: SZEGED, RR BRIDGE

1. ENEMY RESISTANCE:

- A. Fighters: Nil
- B. Flak: (44 53 N-16 49 E) at 1048 at 5,500 M A I
 (43 25 N-17 05 E) at 1137 at 7,060 I A H

2. OBSERVATIONS:

- A. Trains at (45 15 N-16 42 E) at 0946 at 12,500 ft
 " " (45 55 N-19 40 E)
 " " (45 42 N-19 50 E)
- B. Enemy Air Installations:
 (unreadable) Six black Me 323s on camouflaged runway N of SZEGED. Motor
 convoy, close packed, 25 motor vehicles.
 (unreadable), 1048 5 twin beamed a/c (45 32 N-19 05 E) Pontoon bridge
 rapidly being completed at the above coordinates.
- C. Naval: at (45 21 N-19 02 E) 7 transport barges (unreadable)
- D. Ground: (45 53 N-19 02 E) 1048 at 3500 Large troop concentration.

3. CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Total Losses: Nil
- B. Victories: Nil
- C. Damage: Twenty small flak holes in one
- C. Corrections to telephone mission report: Nil

4. REMARKS: