

PERCENT WITHIN 1000' OF MPI

451ST BG - 53.1% (SACHSENBERG M/Y)
461ST BG - 66.1% (LIENZ M/Y)
484TH BG - 94.3% (SPITTAL M/Y)

Bombing-Nav-PFF Analysis for 26 April 45 dated 28 April 45 Cont'd

2. Navigation Analysis.

a. Departure Point - BOVINO

BRIEFED	ACTUAL
451 - 0906B- 10,000 ft	0906B - 9,000 ft
484 - 0938B- 10,000 ft	0938B - 10,000 ft
461 - 1006B- 10,000 ft	1009B - 11,200 ft

b. The 451st BG followed the briefed route to TP#3. From here course was corrected twenty-five (25) miles right of TP#4 to IP to primary target. Bombs were not dropped due to complete undercast. A 180 degree turn was made back to the IT (LUGGAU); which was used to bomb Alternate #9 SACHSENBERG M/Y (46-50, 13-22). Bombs were dropped at 1153B from 20,000 ft. The axis of attack flown was 70 degrees. No rally was made. The briefed route was then flown back to base.

The 484th BG followed the briefed route to IP to primary target. The target was abandoned due to complete undercast. Attempts were made to bomb BRUNICO M/Y (46-48, 11-56) without success. Able and Baker boxes bombed SPITTAL M/Y (46-48, 13-30). DELLACH (46-44, 13-05) was used as the IP. Bombs were dropped at 1259B from 19,700 ft on a heading of 80 degrees. The rally was right and course altered for base. After the primary target was abandoned Dog and Easy boxes became separated from the rest of the group. An attempt was made to bomb BRUNICO M/Y (46-48, 11-56), however, clouds obscured the target. Course was then altered to base.

The 461st BG followed the briefed route to the IP. Here it became apparent it would be impossible to bomb the primary target, LIENZ M/Y (46-50, 12-46) was then chosen as a target of opportunity. Bombs were dropped at 1321B from 12,000 ft. The axis of attack flown was 280 degrees. The rally was right and the reciprocal of the route out was flown to base.

c. 12 P-38s intercepted each group near TP#3 and provided escort on PTW.

d. RATINGS

451st BG- Lead Navigator Lt. Reisch.
Navigation Good. Log Excellent.
484th BG- Lead Navigator Capt. Adair.
Navigation Good. Log Excellent.
461st BG- Lead Navigator Lt. Williams
Navigation Good. Log Excellent.

e. WEATHER:

Bases: TORRETTO - CAVU.
CASTELLUCCIO - CAVU.
ROUTE; ADRIATIC - CAVU.

ALPS - 6/10 Stratus tops 10,000 ft to 18,000 ft. Cirrus 6/10 to 8/10th bases 21,000 ft. Layers of haze.

PRIMARY TARGET;
10/L0 Stratus tops 13,000 ft.

TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY:
451st BG and 484th BG - Hazy.
461st BG- 10/10 stratus bases 13,500 ft.

f. COMMENTS: Navigation on this mission was extremely difficult due to weather. Lead navigators did a good job of avoiding all flak areas. All group leaders did well to get through the weather and find a target to bomb.

Bombing-Nav-PFF Analysis for 26 April 45 dtd 28 April 45 Cont'd

3. Pathfinder Analysis.

a. 451st BG.

(1) Pathfinder Officers:
Able 11- Lt. Igiolski.
Able 12- Lt. Young.

(2) PFF was used for navigation aid only; 25 fixes were given to the DR navigator and 30 fixes were given to the deputy lead DR navigator.

(3) Able 11 set was reported in excellent operating condition; with maximum range sixty-five (65 miles, sensitivity and definition very good. Able 12 set was reported in very good operation; maximum range sixty (60) miles sensitivity and definition good.

b. 484th BG.

(1) Pathfinder Officers:
Able 11 - Lt. Nostdal.
Baker 11 - F/O Gilbert.
Dog 11 - Lt. Vinther.
Easy 11 - Lt. Tynan.

(2) All PFF operators assisted in navigation over the partially undercast route.

(3) Dog 11 and Easy 11 had excellent returns. Baker 11 set went out in target area and could not be restored to use. Able 11 set was reported as good except that the operator experienced trouble with a wandering PPI picture.

c. 461st BG.

(1) Pathfinder Officers:
Able 11 - Lt. Panagiotopoulos.
Able 12 - Lt. Wilson.
Dog 11 - Lt. Thalen.

(2) PFF was used as aid to navigation with approximately 30 fixes given to lead DR navigator. PFF was also used around target area obscured by undercast.

(3) There were no malfunctions reported and ranges of sets averaged sixty (60) miles.

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End of report