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bombing was accomplished. 28 aircraft were dispatched, with 9 returning early. 45.5 tons of bombs were dropped.

Mission No 199, 15 April 1945, Nervesa RR Bridge, Italy

The blue force of the group bombed this target visually with three boxes. This attack was made while another force went out to bomb troop concentrations at the front. Results were varied. Poor target coverage and bad weather contributed greatly to the trouble encountered on this mission. Most of the bombs fell short and to the right of the briefed aiming point. 19 B-24's were sent out in the blue force, with 4 returning early. 33.5 tons of bombs were dropped.

Mission No 199, 15 April 1945, Troop concentrations on the Fifth Army Front, Italy

This was another important mission for the 15th Air Force. The area before the Fifth Army was to be bombed by the greatest number of bombers that the Air Force could muster. Again the target area was well marked by the artificial aides. The area was well hit and the Fifth Army was able to move out the next day. The raid represented the largest number of bomber aircraft the 15th Air Force had ever put up for one mission. The 484th Bomb Group dispatched 40 aircraft, with one early return. 79.5 tons of bombs were dropped.

Mission No. 200, 16 April 1945, Troop Concentrations on the Fifth Army Front, Italy

The 15th Air Force continued its offensive against the Germans occupying the area opposing the Fifth Army. This time the weather proved a hazard, but it was possible to identify the target and to drop 40 tons on the area.

Mission No. 201, 17 April 1945, Troop Concentrations on the Fifth Army Front, Italy.

For the third time the 15th Air Force went to the Italian front. Again results were good, enabling our ground force to move forward. 40 aircraft were dispatched with 2 early returns. 74.5 tons of bombs were dropped.

Mission No 202, 19 April 1945, Vipiteno RR Bridge, Italy.

The group went over the primary target, the Aviso RR Viaduct, but smoke from the preceding groups made it impossible for the bombardier to pick up the aiming point. The alternate was picked up, but due to a freak accident the bombs fell short and to the left. A burst of flak between the lead ship and the deputy lead the vertical gyros to tumble on both ships. The 484th Bomb Group sent out 25 B-24's dropping 55.5 tons of bombs. There were no early returns.

Mission No. 203, 20 April 1945, Lusina RR Bridge, Italy

The 484th Bomb Group hit the primary employing a formation of six bombing boxes in trail. All boxes used the auto-pilot and sighted visually. The target was easily picked up and all hit with compact patterns. The center span of the bridge was knocked out. This was a highly successful mission. 40 aircraft were sent out, 2 returned early. 92 tons of bombs were dropped.

Mission No. 204, 21 April 1945, Attnang Puchiem M/Y's, Austria

The group bombed the second alternate on this date with good results. The weight of the highly concentrated attack fell on the center of the yards. All stock within a belt of 600 feet wide, stretching across the yard was totally destroyed. A little difficulty was experienced with cloud cover. 79 tons of bombs were dropped. 36 bombers were sent out, with 2 early returns.

Mission No 205, 23 April 1945, Badia Road Bridge, Italy

Because of the rapid advance of the Allies in Italy, the Germans were in a state of disorganization. The 15th Air force was endeavoring to disrupt supply lines in order to further that disorganization. The approaches to the bridge destroyed, and one box destroyed a span. 81 tons of bombs were dropped. 36 aircraft were dispatched with 4 early returns.

Mission No. 206, 24 April 1945, Roverto M/Y's, Italy

The Roverto M/Y's is located on the main Brenner Pass route. 28 planes were sent to the target. The target was smoke covered but hits were believed to have fallen into the target after first falling short.

Mission No. 207, 25 April 1945, Linz M/Y's, Austria

With the Russians in Vienna, Linz became the hinge of the German defense in this area. 28 planes were dispatched to the target. On the bomb run heavy and accurate flak was experienced. The lead ship was hit as was the deputy, and as a result bombs were dropped short. Two aircraft were lost over the target.

Mission No 208, 26 April 1945, Spital M/Y's, Austria

The 484th Bomb Group was briefed to hit ammunition stores in northern Italy, but due to bad weather the primary target was abandoned. Two boxes bombed Spital M/Y's and two boxes returned to base. 13 aircraft bombed and most of their bombs burst in the target area. This was the last mission for April, and the last mission flown by the group

Special Narrative April 1945

The last month of operation in combat for the group in the Mediterranean Theater was outstanding in several respects and they are mentioned with pride.

The 484th Bombardment Group was cited again for exceptional achievement in air combat and General Twining made the presentation to the group of its second Distinguished Unit Citation on 11 April on the parade ground near the Headquarters. With the 15th Air Force providing the music, officers and enlisted men passed in review before a reviewing party composed of General Twining, Colonel Keese, Lt. Col. Busch, and Lt. Col. DuFour, just as the blue streamer was being attached to our colors by General Twining, a fortunate coincidence occurred. The planes returning