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HEADQUARTERS 47TH WING  
APO 520

E: MEF/ML/GR/11s

29 December 1944.

SUBJECT: Tactical Analysis of the Mission of 21 December 1944.  
(Target - ROSENHEIM MARSHALLING YARDS).

TO : Commanding Officer, 98th Bomb Group, APO 520.  
Commanding Officer, 376th Bomb Group, APO 520.  
Commanding Officer, 449th Bomb Group, APO 520.  
Commanding Officer, 450th Bomb Group, APO 520.

1. Bombing Analysis:

a. The 47th Wing attacked the ROSENHEIM MARSHALLING YARDS by PFF-Synchronous methods with unobserved results.

b. The 98th overshot the I.P. before turning onto the target. Although their heading was about 40 degrees off the briefed axis of attack, the units were in trail and squared away at the target in time for a good PFF run. The bombing was accomplished by two attack units of two boxes each, and both bombardier-mickey teams reported excellent coordination. The 376th also flew two attack units of two boxes each. Units hit the I.P., were in trail, squared away at the target, and completed normal PFF-Synchronous runs. The 450th formation was made up of four boxes with a Mickey in the lead of the first three boxes. When the Mickey equipment in the lead of the third box became inoperative, the second and third boxes exchanged positions in the group formation, so that the picture as they went over the target showed the third box forming the second half of an attack unit led by the first box, while the original second box led the second attack unit, the second half of this unit being the fourth box. The excellent coordination exhibited in the lead ships leads to the belief that results were very satisfactory. Several ships in the 449th became separated from their original formation because of weather, so that the second attack unit, as it went over the target, was composed mostly of these strays. The lead attack unit turned slightly inside the I.P., experiencing a longer than briefed run. Excellent bombardier-mickey coordination was exhibited in the lead ship and bombs went away in the usual manner. Whether or not the second attack unit passed over the I.P. is unknown for sure, but the PFF ship leading the congregation reported a normal run.

GROUP  
98th  
376th  
449th  
450th

00013

REPORTS  
Excellent  
Excellent  
Satisfactory  
Superior

LEAD PRACTICE  
None  
None  
None  
three of four

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. Navigation Analysis:

a. Rendezvous: The 98th, which was 32 minutes late to the rendezvous because of an accident on the runway, gave up the wing lead to the 376th, while the 449th encountering weather and finding the 376th and 450th slightly late was forced into second position in the wing. The briefed rendez times compared with the actual ones are as follows:

- (1) SAN PAN - 98 at 5000 feet at 0854 - 0926 at 9000 feet.
- " " 376 at 6000 feet at 0856 - 0857 at 8500 feet.
- (2) MANDURIA-450 at 6000 feet at 0858 - 0903 at 12000 feet.
- " " -449 at 7000 feet at 0900 - 0900 at 8000 feet.

b. Route out: SAN VITO to keypoint coast 4533 N, 1244 E at 20,000 Feet at 1109 to SCHWAZ to BICHL to I.P. HOLZKIRCHEN. Numerous small dog legs because of the Weather completed the disruption of the wing formation by keypoint time. The actual times and altitudes at the keypoint were:

- (1) 376 at 1126 at 24,000 feet.
- (2) 449 at 1138 at 21,000 feet.
- (3) 450 at 1141 at 21,000 feet.
- (4) 98 at 1152 at 20,000 feet.

c. The target area:

The 376th went in for a normal PFF run on the overcast target at 1221 on an axis of 94 degrees after climbing 1500 feet above the briefed altitude of 23,500 to clear the tops of interfering clouds. The 450th pulling ahead of the 449th after the keypoint followed the 376th for a normal run at 1237 on an axis of 75 degrees and at an altitude of 22,000 feet. The second box of the 450th, exchanging position with the third box, took over the lead of the second unit when the third box had a PFF failure.

The 449th which encountered a cloud bank over its I.P., cut short of the I.P. for a PFF run at 1238 on an axis of 71 degrees at an altitude of 24,000 feet.

The last group over, the 98th, in swinging too far north of the I.P. to get a better run picked up flak from MUNICH at the start of the run but came on in for a good PFF run at 1254 at 23,000 feet and on an axis of 135 degrees.

The briefed axis for all groups was 92 degrees while target time was scheduled for 1200.

All groups rallied as briefed.

- d. The briefed route back was closely followed by all groups.
- e. An efficient escort was contacted by all groups.
- f. All communications worked satisfactorily

C O N F I D E N T I A L



C O N F I D E N T I A L

g. Ratings:

- (1) 98th - navigation excellent - logs excellent.
- (2) 376th - navigation superior - logs excellent.
- (3) 450th - navigation excellent - logs excellent.
- (4) 449th - navigation excellent - logs superior.

h. Commendations: The lead navigators: Lt. CERELLI - 376th; Lt. HALTON - 450th; Lt. BLACK - 449th; Lt. CANNON - 98th; are to be commended for superior performance of their duties on this mission.

3. PFP Analysis:

a. Ten pathfinder aircraft were dispatched from the 98th, 376th, 449th and 450th Bomb Groups to aid navigation and bombing.

b. The radar effort was 90% effective. The set in the lead of the 450th had a Wickey failure, believe the trouble was the 715 tube. The rest of the sets stayed in during the entire flight and some good bomb runs were reported. Fixes, bearings and distances off the briefed course were obtained by nine of the operators. Complete D.R. Radar logs were kept by all Wickeys.

c. Rating of operator logs:

- (1) 98th - excellent.
- (2) 376th - excellent.
- (3) 449th - excellent.
- (4) 450th - excellent.

By command of Brigadier General RUSH:

*Robert H. Warren*  
ROBERT H. WARREN,  
Colonel, Air Corps,  
1-3.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 5 - C.G. 15th A.F.
- 1 - C.G. 47th Wg.
- 1 - C of S, 47th Wg.
- 3 - en GP.
- 2 - en Sq.
- 1 - Wg Bomb.
- 1 - Wg Nav.
- 1 - Stat.
- 1 - File.

C O N F I D E N T I A L



*21 Day*

## I. CHRONOLOGY.

25 B-24's took off at 0845 hours to bomb ROSENHEIM M/Y, GERMANY. 2 A/C returned early. 23 Sorties. 23 A/C were over target at 1255 hours. 19 A/C dropped 45 tons of RDX 500 lb. RDX (.10 & .01) bombs on primary target. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 1 A/C jettisoned .75 tons at 47:35N - 11:50E. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 1 A/C jettisoned .25 tons at 47:50N - 12:07E - Due to hang-up. 1 early return jettisoned 2.5 tons at 47:48N - 11:56E - Supercharger out. 1 early return brought back to base 2.5 tons. 4 A/C at Friendly fields, bomb disposition unknown. 19 A/C returned to base at 1610 hours. None lost, none missing, 4 at friendly fields. (FOGGIA, BARI, MADNA, 451st Bomb Gp.).

## II. ROUTE AND ASSAULT.

Remedvoused with 376th, 449th, and 450th Groups at 0927 hours at 9,500' at SAN PANCRAZIO.\* Reached IP at 1246 hours at 23,200 feet made right turn into target and attacked on an axis of 123 degrees. Ballied right off target.  
 \* and with fighter escort ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (6 P-38's) at 1104 hours, 18,000' at 43:42N - 14:49E, last seen at 1147 hours at 20,000'. 3 P-51's first seen at 1212 hours at 23,000' at 46:12N - 12:20E.

## III. RESULTS.

Results unobserved - Bombed on PFF - Good PFF run.  
 Bomb Strike Photos shows  
 All photographs are completely obscured by 10/10ths cloud cover.

## IV. ENEMY RESISTANCE.

Fighters : At 1340 hours, 19,000' at 45:15N - 12:42E - 12:42E - 5 to 9 probably ME 109's at 8,000' - heading inland.  
 Flak : At target - ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Nil. At MUNICH 1246 hours 22,500' - Moderate Accurate, Aimed. At 1244 hours, 23,300' 47:53N - 11:42E (HOLZEIRCHEN) slight, innacurate, barrage.

## V. SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATION

A. Communications: At 1133 hours, 22,000' at 45:38N - 12:45E (DELI21) M/Y with 50 cars rolling stock.  
 B. Flak positions: Nil.  
 C. Smoke Screens: Nil.  
 D. Naval : At 1135 hours 21,000' 45:00N - 13:40E - 2 Cargo ships.  
 E. Others : Nil.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS.

A. Total losses: Nil.  
 B. Damage : 1 A/C received major and 5 A/C received minor damage from flak.  
 C. Casualties : Nil.  
 D. Victories : Nil.  
 E. Corrections : None.