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SA-BOMB-447-SU-OPS  
FEB-1944

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448 BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

FEB 1944

X

P.R.C.

DECLASSIFIED  
DOC DIR. 820000

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MICROFILMED



SECRET

Sq- BOMB-448-SU-AP

S.D.#1 - Feb. 44.

448th Bombardment Squadron (M), AAF.  
321st Bombardment Group (M), AAF

Missions

February 1944.

Mission 164 (205) 1 - 30 - 44.

At 08:00 33 planes off to bomb Genzano R/J and dropped 113 x 1000 bombs at 09:20. All returned at 10:20, 21 planes holed. Bombs reported scattered with hits observed on both sides of R/J and in town both N and S of main road. Hits observed on both N and S of main road. Hits observed on both N and S roads N of Junction and at Junction of three roads on NE side of main road and in center of town. One report of direct hit on target area which was covered with smoke and dust and one large explosion was seen. Several motor transports on main road from road about 1 mile NW of target. Many motor transports along road from Avezzano to Vincenzo. Flak: heavy, moderate and accurate from Genzano and Velletri. One E/A seen to follow formation.

Weather: CAVU over target.

F/L: Powder.

Mission 165 (206) 1 - 30 - 44.

At 13:30 30 planes off to bomb Marino R/J. All returned at 16:00 as complete overcast over target prevented bombing.

Mission 166 (207) 2 - 1 - 44.

At 13:40 23 planes off to bomb Albano R/J and dropped 82 x 1000 bombs from 10,500 feet at 15:00. 3 planes holed and all returned at 15:40. Bombs fell in area S of town between main road and secondary road and carried across main road SE of Junction. Some hits along E edge of town and some in N part of town. One crew identified place bombed as Castel Gandolfo. Large oil fire observed SE of Albano. 10 - 15 M/T heading towards Rome 10 miles NW of Valmontone, 25 30 M/T's

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heading S from Palestrina to Valmontone. Flak: Heavy, slight and inaccurate.

Weather: Slight haze 15 miles.

F/L: Freeland.

Mission 167 (208) 2 - 2 - 44.

At 11:05 36 planes off to bomb Albano R/J and all dropped 127 x 1000 bombs from 10,000 feet at 12:30 and all returned at 13:08, 12 planes holed. Crews reported target area well covered with main road cut N and S of Junction, many bursts in town of Albano. E end of town hit at R/J. 8 M/T's seen 3 miles S of Gioia di Marse, 15 M/T's heading N toward Avezzano. Flak: Heavy, intense, accurate, 12 guns pin pointed N of Genzano.

Weather: 5/10ths Strato Cumulus at 4,000 feet.

Mission 168 (209) 2 - 3 - 44.

At 10:35 24 planes off to bomb Viterbo M/Y but were prevented from dropping bombs by complete overcast over target. All planes returned at 13:35. 8 - 10 SE unidentified A/C seen on Adriatic Coast near Ancona. 6 ME-109's seen but did not attack. Large concentration of M/T in small town of Fermo.

Weather: Complete overcast.

F/L: Sowder.

Mission 169 (210) 2 - 8 - 44.

At 12:40 24 planes off to bomb Orte M/Y, 12 x 1000 bombs salvaged by 1st element. One engine F/L went out, first three planes first flight turned back. But rest of formation went on but could not see target due to cloud cover in immediate area. Convoys of from 20 - 30 M/T's seen near Navelli and Rieti and Civitella.

Mission 170 (211) 2- 14 - 44.

At 12:20 36 planes off to bomb Perugia M/Y, third flight returned early and 3 others returned early. 21 planes dropped 69 x 1000 and 6 x 1000 delayed bombs from 10,500 feet at 14:00. All down at 15:20, 8 planes holed. Concentration of bombs on E end of M/Y believed to have cut choke point, tracks to Foligno cut be-

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tween choke point and bridge. Smoke covered E end of M/Y after bombs dropped. Some bombs in fields N and S of yards. 50 - 60 M/T's on bridge near Todi, 10 - 12 MT's on road 30 miles S of Rieti. Flak: heavy, moderate and inaccurate. Weather: OAVU.

Mission 171 (213) 2 - 16 - 44.

At 10:36 24 planes off to bomb Orte M/Y and dropped 79 x 1000 and 3 x 1000 delayed bombs at 11,000 feet at 12:10. All returned at 13:50, 7 planes holed. Some widely spread bombs scattered on both E and W side of M/Y, however bursts reported across middle of M/Y and on N and S choke point along W side of yard and on tracks W of N choke point. 50 - 60 M/T's at Terni, 10 - 12 at Avezzano, 40 - 50 at Magliano M/Y. Flak: Heavy, moderate and accurate from Sarra, Isola and Alvito.

Weather: 5/10th Strato Cumulus, at 9000.

F/L: Sowler.

Mission 172 (214) 2 - 17 - 44.

At 13:55 24 planes off to bomb troop concentration at F875452. 12 planes dropped 742 frags at 15:30 from 11,000 feet. 12 planes returned at 17:30 and 12 planes down at Guado A/D. One plane hit. Scattered hits reported through entire target area with some bombs bursting behind gun positions firing toward beachhead. Other hits reported on some small buildings in area and on road running NW. Flak: slight to moderate inaccurate at target, also heavy, moderate accurate flak from Albano to coast.

Weather: 4/10th Cumulus at 8,000 feet.

F/L: Stokes.

Mission 173 (215) 2- 18 - 44.

At 11:55 24 planes off to bomb Campoleone Station area but weather prevented dropping bombs. All planes down at new base at 14:25. No observations.

F/L: Stokes.

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Mission 174 (216) 2 - 19 - 44.

At 08:20 24 planes off to bomb troop concentration 200 yards N and S of F 9037 and dropped 1162 frags at 09:45 from 10,500 feet. 14 planes holed and 2 planes shot down one by flak and one by flak and E/A and one plane missing (one plane down in water approximately 41° 40' N and 12° 15' E 3 or 4 persons seen in water, dingy dropped by another plane, one plane shot down about F 7550 three chutes seen from some plane). Plane that landed in water piloted by Lt. Annear, crew: Kuykendall, Zinkand, Morris, Tudor and Nesbit. Three officers were picked up by English crash boat 182. To date word has been received that Sgt. Tudor is in Allied Hospital, no word of Morris and Nesbit. Target area well covered with one string observed crossing bens in river just N of F9037 and S of RR. Saw bombs along RR tracks just W of target. Groups of 6 - 8 and from 15 - 20 E/A reported over and after leaving target attacking in pairs. ME-109's, FW-109's, one ME-210 and MA-202 reported. Most attacks from rear and one tactic was for one plane to come from 6 o'clock level, hanging back while another dove from 7 o'clock, from above. Some Me's attacked after diving. Group claims 7 ME-109's destroyed 2 FW-190's destroyed, 2 ME-109's damaged. In 448 Sgt. Mauder claimed 2 ME-109's, Sgt. Coleman one, Van Cura one and Chosta one FW-190. Flak: Heavy, intense and accurate from bomb line to target and out to coast, barrage type.

Weather: CAVU at target.

F/L: Stokes

Mission 175 (217) 2 - 19 - 44.

At 15:00 24 planes off to bomb troop concentration at F9037 and dropped 1542 frags from 11,000 feet at 16:50. 23 returned at 17:07, one crash landed at Pompei and burned; crew safe, 17 planes holed. Excellent coverage of target area, some bombs carried across road N of pin point. 6 ME-109's seen heading S but did not attack. Flak: Heavy, intense and accurate.

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Weather: OAVU with haze.

F/L: Freeland.

Mission 176 (218) 2 - 20 - 44.

At 08:38 18 planes off to bomb road at F898350, F890381 and dropped 1014 frags from 10,000 feet at 09:55. One plane returned early and 17 returned at 10:50, 7 planes holed. Good coverage reported particularly in northern half of target area with strings on both sides and across roads. Small explosions and considerable smoke in area. Some hits W of target road, two ships report few bombs dropped early possibly on our side. Flak: Heavy, intense and accurate just inside enemy lines.

Weather: OAVU.

Mission 177 (219) 2 - 20 - 44.

At 13:40 18 planes off to bomb F900385, F902379, F905389, F907384 but did not bomb as target completely overcast. All returned at 15:50.

Mission 178 (220) 2 - 21 - 44.

At 08:30 24 planes off to bomb Spoleto M/Y but bombed alternate of Orte M/Y and dropped 73 x 1000 and 10 x 1000 delayed bombs at 10:38 from 10,000 feet. 23 returned at 11:45 and 12:10. One plane shot down (445th) by E/A, At F5995 no chutes seen and plane seen to hit ground and explode. Due to cloud cover over primary target the alternate was bombed. First flight bombed last on an axis of 275° second flight bombed at 45° and reported good coverage in S end of M/Y and on RR S of M/Y. First flights bombs over for most part a few hits reported near N choke point across road N of Orte. 3 FW-190's followed first flight after leaving target one aggressive came up from rear to attack at 6 o'clock, one flew under element from head on coming up from rear and flew parallel with formation for two miles.

Weather: 4/10th Cumulus.

F/L: Stokes.

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Mission 179 (221) 2 - 22 - 44.

At 09:40 24 planes off to bomb Foligno M/Y and dropped 44 x 1000 and 7 x 1000 delayed from 10:500 feet at 11:30. Eleven returned early and 13 down at 13:15. Several strings of bombs across center of M/Y few hits just N of S choke point, possible hits on cavalry barracks, heavy concentrations of bombs just E of center of yards 40 - 50 freight cars in Spoleta M/Y, several M/T going towards Terni. Few flak bursts at target.

Weather: 4/10ths Strata Cumulus.

F/L: Freeland.

Mission 180 (222) 2 - 24 - 44.

At 10:00 24 planes off to bomb Fabrica di Roma L/G and dropped 1352 frags at 12:05 from 9,000 feet 21 returned at 13:50 and 3 returned early. Bombs generally fell short to S of target. Several strings fell near W end of L/S near S dispersal area one fire seen 200 yards S of L/S. 20 planes seen on ground at target.

Weather: 7/10th Alto cumulus.

Mission 181 (223) 2 - 28 - 44.

At 10:30 18 planes off to bomb Canino L/G 3 dropped 216 frags at 12:05 from 9,000 feet. Of 3 planes bombing 2 report hits on L/G or near L/G one to east of target area. Flak: Heavy, slight inaccurate.

Weather: 6/10th coverage.

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