

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785017

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10000/109/1185  
(VOL. II)

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785017

10000/109/1185  
(VOL. II)

AIR REPORTS  
APR., MAY 1945



785017

8502

116

From: Air Forces Sub-Commission, Rome

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 10th May, 1945

Ref.: AFSC/INT/37

MAY 11 1945

Italian Air Force Operations Summary

1st and 2nd May, 1945

1st May

1 S.82 transported 2,200 lbs. of food, clothing and medical supplies to National troops at TIRANA and a wheel for an S.82 which was damaged at TIRANA airfield.

1 S.82 landed at BARI with 22 military Nationals from TIRANA.

2 P.39s carried out a Met. recon over the LISSA-ZAGARRIA route. The mission was interrupted over BIHAC because the area was totally obscured.

2nd May

1 S.82 transported 23 military Nationals and 2 civilians from TIRANA to BARI.

5 Cants Z506 searched for Naval craft along the Eastern coast of TARANTO Gulf, between TORRE DELL' OVO and GALLIVOLI, and also searched for any survivors in the same area. At 0630 hours, at sea position Lat. 40° 10' Long. 17° 50', 15 life boats were spotted, 5 rowing boats, 1 motor boat and the steam ship "Contarini". The 5 aircraft later lead an English mine-sweeper and 2 National motor fishing vessels to the zone, where they picked up survivors. 4 landings were made South of Porto CESAREO; 1 boat entered CESAREO Port. The mine-sweeper picked the survivors of 1 boat near TORRE DELL' OVO. At 1000 hrs. the cruiser "Garibaldi" and a National Torpedo Boat arrived on the scene, and at 1100 hrs. the last survivors were picked up.

2728  
E.J. SASS,  
MAJOR, AIR CORPS  
AIRVICE MARSHAL,  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

For

785017

8502 18

115

From: Air Forces Sub-Commission, Rome

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 6th May, 1945

Ref.: AFSC/INT/37

Italian Air Force Operations Summary

MAY 8 REC'D

30th April, 1945

4 P.39s transferred from CANNE to LISSA for offensive operations over YUGOSLAVIA.

6 Baltimores attempted to bomb a train West of POPOVACA Station. The aircraft were recalled to base by r/t before they reached the target area because of weather conditions over the objective being prohibitive.

1 S.82 transported 24 wounded Nationals and 1 passenger from TIRANA to BARI. Another S.82 stayed in TIRANA because of a punctured tyre, awaiting a change of wheel.

2 Cants Z506 searched for survivors in the zone 39° 35'-17° 59' with no success.

2 Cants Z506 unsuccessfully searched for survivors over sea positions 39° 38'-17° 38', 39° 30'-20° 17', 39° 20'-17° 45' and 39° 48'-18° 10'.

1 S.82 carried out two flights from CANNE to LISSA, transporting 28 passengers and 1,200 kgs. of Italian Air Force material.

6 P.39s carried out a Met recon over the LISSA-ZAGABRIA route. The mission was interrupted over BOS KRUPA because the area was totally obscured.

*[Signature]*  
E.J. SASS,  
MAJOR, AIR CORPS  
For AIR VICE MARSHAL  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

2727

*[Signature]*  
(Miss LLEWELLYN)

*[Signature]*  
PA 10/5



785017

8502

From: Air Forces Sub-Commission, Rome

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 6th May, 1945

Ref.: AFSC/INT/37

Italian Air Force Operations Summary

28th and 29th April, 1945

28th April

Due to bad weather conditions there was no Fighter or B Bomber activity.

2 Cants Z506 searched for survivors in the area of CAPO TRIONTO (40° 12' - 16° 42') and in the area of CAPO SAN VITO, ALICE Foirt and the Western coast of the Gulf of TARANTO. Results nil.

29th April

4 P.39s carried out a Met. recon over the coast of YUGOSLAVIA. Between 700 and 4,000 metres, was completely overcast.

4 P.39s transferred from CANNE to LISSA. The aircraft were recalled to base by w/t.

4 P.39s and 3 Spitfires returned to CANNE from LISSA.

2 S.82s transported 4,600 kgs. of food, clothing and medical supplies to National troops at TIRANA.

For

*E.J. Sass*  
E.J. SASS,  
MAJOR, AIR CORPS  
AIR VICE MARSHAL  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

2726

(Miss L. L. L. L.)

785017

8502

113

From: Air Forces Sub-Commission, Rome

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 4th May, 1945

Ref.: AFSC/INT/37

Italian Air Force Operations Summary

26th and 27th April, 1945

26th April

4 Spitfires and 4 P.39s transferred from CANNE to LISSA.  
4 P.39s attempted to transfer from CANNE to LISSA, but were recalled to base as the runway was unserviceable.

4 Spitfires carried out an offensive recon over the BANOVA-POPOVACA area. 2 trains, consisting of 10 trucks, were observed travelling between JESENOVAC and NOVSKA. 2 engines seen putting up steam at NOVSKA Station were not attacked as their identity was uncertain. The following were also observed:- 1 engine in BANOVA JARUGA Station, some 20 trucks without an engine between JARUGA and KUTRINA, another 20-truck train without an engine 5 kms. West of KUTRINA. Eight 250 lb. bombs were dropped on the engine in BANOVA JARUGA Station. 4 bombs exploded on the railway lines, and 4 very close to the train. There was intense and accurate A.A. fire from the neighbourhood of the Station.

12 Baltimores, in 2 Formations, bombed POPOVACA Station. 22 500 pounders and 36 250 lb. bombs were dropped. The target was missed. There was no A.A. reaction. 2 500 pounders were carried back to base because of a defective bomb-release, preventing the drop over the target.

2 Cants Z1007 and 3 S.82s dropped 8,280 kgs. of supplies to Partisans at SERAJEVO. Arms, munitions, food, clothing and medical supplies were dropped.

4 Spitfires carried out an offensive recon over the area BANOVA JARUGA-ZAGABRIA-SISAK-DUBICA. 12 agricultural carts were attacked East of MOSEMICA, 4 of which were damaged.

3 P.39s attacked the bridge at OTOKA. Three 500 lb. bombs were dropped. The target was not hit.

27th April

No activity.

For

E.J. S/532 MAJOR  
AIR VICE MARSHAL, A.F.C.

(Miss L)



8002  
From: Air Forces Sub-Commission, Rome

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 4th May, 1945

Ref.: AFSC/INT/37

Italian Air Force Operations Summary

25th April, 1945.

4 Spitfires transferred from CANNE to LIESSE.

3 P.39s carried out an offensive recon sweep over the area of BANOVA JERUGA-POPOVACA. 12 railway convoys were observed on the railway stretch, consisting of 200 trucks, 9 had engines. A railway convoy near KUTRINA was machine gunned, 1 engine and 6 trucks were damaged. 1 engine and 4 trucks were attacked and damaged South of POPOVACA.

4 Spitfires carried out an offensive recon over the BANOVA JERUGA-DUGO SELO area. A 10-truck train was observed at OTOKA. 8 250 lb. bombs were dropped on an armoured train South-east of VANIC GRAD. The engine and truck were probably destroyed; the railway line was certainly interrupted.

3 P.39s bombed the road bridge at BOS KRUPA. Three 250 pounders were dropped, 1 of which exploded close to the bridge, 1 on buildings and 1 on the Station. The bridge appeared to have been severely damaged by the previous raids.

5 Spitfires carried out an offensive recon sweep on the railway stretch LIPOVLJANI-BANOVA JARUGA-DUGO SELO. 8 250 lb. bombs were dropped on a stationary, 20-truck train West of LIPOVLJANI Station. The results were not observed because the objective was almost totally obscured. There was very intense A.A. reaction from medium calibre guns at NOVSKA. 1 aircraft returned to base after 30 minutes because of engine trouble.

3 Spitfires and 4 P.39s returned to CANNE from LIESSE.

2 Formations, consisting of 12 Baltimores, bombed POPOVACA railway Station, dropping 24 500 pounders and 36 250 lb. bombs. The first Formation hit a train West of the Station, the second Formation hit the railway lines at the entrance to the station.

2 Formations, consisting of 12 Baltimores bombed BANOVA JARUGA Station. 22 500 lb. and 33 250 lb. bombs were dropped. The target was missed. There was intense and accurate A.A.

(Miss L)

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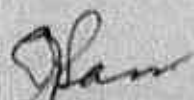
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fire, which hit most of the aircraft. 1 aircraft, which had difficulty in pinpointing the target because of A.A. fire, dropped the bomb load on the return flight, in the sea. 1 air-craft hit by flak caught fire on landing. The fire was soon put under control. The aircraft would be repairable with the substitution of the port engine and fuel cell. The crew were unhurt.

1 Cant Z1007 carried out a Met. recce and dropped supplies to Partisan troops at SERAJEVO. The weather was reported as excellent. 570 kgs. of arms, munitions and medical supplies were dropped.

1 Cant Z1007 and 4 S.82s dropped 9,140 kgs. arms, munitions, food, clothing and medical supplies to Partisans at SERAJEVO.

1 Cant Z501 and 1 Cant Z506 searched for wrecks 20 miles radius of TORRE MILETO, with negative results.



E.J. SASS,  
MAJOR, AIR CORPS  
For AIR VICE-MARSHAL  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING



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From: r Forces Sub-Commission, me

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 1st May, 1945

Ref.: AFSC/INT/37

Italian Air Force Operations Summary24th April, 1945

15 P.39s and 4 Spitfires transferred from CANNE to LISSA.  
4 P.39s carried out an offensive recon over the area  
BANOVA-JARUGA-POPOVACA, and the bridges over the SAVA. Between  
SISAK and JASENOVAK a 30-truck train, with an engine, was ob-  
served. A 25-truck railway convoy was seen in NOVSKA Station.  
4 kms. West of NOVSKA a 25-truck train was observed travelling  
Westward. In BANOVA JARUGA Station a 20-truck train was  
temporarily stationary with the engine heading Westward. Near  
KUTINA 25 trucks were seen, and in KUTINA Station a railway  
convoy with the engine with steam up. A railway convoy with  
one engine in the centre and another at the head, was attacked.  
This engine and 8 trucks were damaged. The engine in the centre  
exploded. A.A. reaction from small and medium calibre guns  
was very intense. All the bridges across the SAVA between  
SISAK and JASENOVAC appeared to be intact.

4 Spitfires carried out an offensive recon sweep over  
the JARUGA-POPOVACA rail and road stretch. A 30-truck train  
was observed near KUTINA travelling Westward, another 15-truck  
train was observed travelling Westward through KUTINA Station.  
8 250 lb. bombs were dropped. 2 bombs exploded in the Station  
near the train, 2 at the end of the train, 2 on the Station,  
the last 2 explosions were not observed. 2 trucks were destroyed  
and 5 damaged. A.A. fire from 20 mm. guns ceased after the  
first 2 bombs exploded. A 20-truck train with an engine was  
observed between BUTRINA and POPOVACA.

4 P.39s and carried out an offensive recon over the  
BANOVA JARUGA-POPOVACA area. 2 railway convoys, consisting  
of a total of 60 trucks without an engine, were observed near  
KUTINA Station, and another in BUTRINA Station with an engine,  
consisting of 25 trucks. A railway convoy was attacked just  
East of this Station. 3 trucks were destroyed and 5 damaged.

3 P.39s carried out an offensive recon over the area of

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(Miss L)

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BANOVA J. JARUGA-POPOVACA. A 30-truck train was machine gunned in KUTRINA Station. The engine exploded and was destroyed. 6 trucks were damaged. There was A.A. reaction from medium calibre guns from positions near the Station.

4 P.39s bombed the road bridge of BOS KRUPA. 4 500 pounders were dropped. 1 bomb exploded near the road close to the S.E. entrance to the bridge. 1 in an inhabited area; 1 in a railway Station and the 4th on waste ground.

4 P.39s carried out an offensive reconnaissance sweep on road and rail communications over the area of OBOROVO-SISAK-KOSTAJNICA-OTOKA. It was impossible to carry out a recon over the OBOROVO-SISAK stretch because of prohibitive weather conditions. A train, partially under a short tunnel was attacked. 10 trucks and the engine were damaged. In BOS NOVI Station 3 engines and some CC trucks were machine gunned. 8 trucks were damaged. Some 20 trucks were observed North of BOS NOVI. There was A.A. reaction from small and medium arms posted between huts that were distinctly bearing the Red Cross markings.

4 P.39s bombed the road bridge at BOS KRUPA. Four 500 pounders were dropped. 2 bombs exploded in the water alongside the bridge and 2 exploded in the centre of an inhabited area.

4 P.39s bombed the road bridge at BOS KRUPA. 4 500 lb. bombs were dropped. 2 bombs exploded at the S.W. entrance to the bridge, and 2 were a complete miss.

7 Spitfires and 15 P.39s returned to CANNE from LISSA.

6 Baltimores bombed the railway line at BANOVA JARUGA. 6 500 pounders were dropped and 9 250 pounders. They scored a near miss, exploding on the strip of railway line at the Eastern extremity of the Station. A.A. fire was intense and accurate. 2 aircraft were lightly hit. 3 aircraft due to difficulty in pinpointing the target because of intense flak, jettisoned their bombs in the sea on their return flight.

6 Baltimores bombed BANOVA JARUGA railway Station. Due to bad weather conditions the operation was not carried out and the aircraft returned to base with their bomb-loads.

6 Baltimores bombed the railway Station at BANOVA JARUGA. 12 500 pounders and 18 250 lb. bombs were dropped. The target was hit. There was no A.A. reaction.

6 Baltimores bombed BANOVA JARUGA railway Station. 12 500 pounders and 18 250 lb. bombs were dropped. Near misses were scored. The bombs exploded on the railway lines on the East side of the Station. There was weak A.A. fire from heavy calibre guns.

1 Baltimore dropped leaflets on the Eastern coast of the Istrian Peninsula. 50 packets of leaflets were dropped in the



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area of LURANA, MOSCHIENA and PIANONA. 1 Baltimore on re-entering base, due to a cross wind landed off the runway damaging the nose of the aircraft and the starboard propeller. The crew were safe.

1 Cant Z1007 carried out a Met. recon and dropped supplies to Partisan troops at SERAJEVO. Weather conditions reported as excellent. 570 kgs. of arms, munitions and medical supplies were dropped.

1 Cant Z1007 and 2 S.82s dropped 5,140 kgs. to Partisan troops at SERAJEVO. Arms, munitions, food, clothing and medical supplies were dropped.

1 S.82 transported 3,000 kgs. of Allied material from CANNE to LISSA.

*E.J. SASS*

E.J. SASS  
MAJOR, AIR CORPS  
For AIR VICE MARSHAL  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

785017

From: Air Forces Sub-Commission, Rome

To: Chief Commissioner  
Executive Commissioner

Date: 30th April, 1945

Ref.: AFSD/INT/37

MAY 2 - Recd

Italian Air Force Operations Summary

22nd and 23rd April, 1945.

22nd April

Owing to bad weather conditions there was no operational activity.

23rd April

7 Spitfires and 8 P.39s transferred to LISSA from CANNE.  
5 P.39s carried out an offensive recon sweep over the area of NOVA GRADISKA-OKUCANI-NOVSKA. A 15-truck train was observed in OKUCANI Station, heading for GRAJC. A 20-truck train travelling South between OKUCANI and GRAJC was machine-gunned; 5 trucks were seriously damaged and the engine was put out of action.

4 P.39s set out on a strafing mission of railway convoys reported East and West of OKUCANI Station. A 20-truck convoy, without an engine was attacked West of OKUCANI; 10 trucks were damaged. There was strong A.A. reaction. 1 aircraft attacked an A.A. gun position.

9 P.39s returned to CANNE from LISSA.

12 Baltimores bombed POPOVAC railway station. 24 500 pounders and 36 850 lb. bombs were dropped. The target was not hit. There was no A.A. fire.

6 Baltimores bombed POPOVAC Station. 12 500 lb. bombs and 18 250 lb. bombs were dropped, 9 of which were delayed-action bombs with a 6 to 12 hour delay. The target was hit. There was no A.A. reaction.

1 Baltimore dropped leaflets on an unnamed peninsula near LAURANA, and on FIANONA and ALBONA.

1 Cant Z1007 carried out a Met. recon over TESLIC. Weather conditions reported as good. It also dropped 570 lbs. of arms, munitions and medical supplies.

4 S.82s and 1 Cant Z1007 dropped supplies to Partisans

(Miss L)



( 2 )

in TESLA. 1 S.82 returned to base without completing the mission because the target was not pinpointed. The rest of the aircraft dropped 7,140 kgs. of arms, munitions, clothing and medical supplies.

4 Spitfires carried out a bomb-laden recce sweep over the area of OKUCANI-NOVSKA. 8 250 lb. bombs were dropped on a 20-truck train, with 2 engines, travelling Westwards East of OKUCANI. 2 bombs exploded very close to the engine; 2 the right and 4 to the left of the train, about 20 metres away. The train was then machine gunned. The 2 engines and 8 trucks were damaged. A railway convoy, consisting of 20 trucks and no engine, was observed halted about half way on the line. A 20-truck train was also observed stationary West of OKUCANI.

3 Spitfires carried out an offensive recce sweep on road and rail communications in the area of NOVSKA-DICO SELO-TUROLOLJE-SISAK-SUNJA-ZIVAJA. No traffic was observed between NOVSKA and SUNJA. In the intermediate stations many damaged and fire-gutted trucks were observed. There was A.A. fire from medium calibre guns from the outskirts of POPOVACA. A 12-truck train was machinegunned North West of SLOVENCI. The engine and 3 trucks were damaged.

*glen*  
E. J. SASS,  
MAJOR, AIR CORPS  
For AIR VICE MARSHAL  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

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