

BRIEFING NOTES FOR F. O. #346 - 22 May 1944

The 20th Group is furnishing close escort, on penetration, in target and on withdrawal for the front 2 C.Ws of the 1st Bomb. Div. (B-17s) of the 1st Task Force that is bombing the Submarine and Ship-building yard at KIEL. The 364th Gp. will be covering the ~~mk~~ last 3 C.Ws of the 1st Task Force, and the 55th Ftr. Gp. will be furnishing close escort for ~~the~~ 2 C.Ws of the 3rd Div. (2nd Task Force) also bombing the same target. The 355th (P-51s) and the 357th (P-51s) will be providing top cover for both Task Forces. The 4th Gp will be in target area when we arrive and will remain there until all the bombers have left.

The bombers will be flying at 25,000 ft. at R/V and 25,000 ft. at target.

All of the fighters except the 4th Gp. will be ~~making~~ making R/V at the same point as the 20th.

B-24s of the 3rd Task Force will be bombing St. Pol in the Pas De Calais area.

The Group Leader of the 20th will be the Fighter Control Officer and will disperse fighters and direct fighter escort as becomes necessary by use of Channel "C", the Call Signs of the fighters in this area are as follows:

355th Gp. (P-51s) - UNCLE  
357th Gp. (P-51s) - DRYDEN  
20th Gp. (P-38s) - WALNUT  
364th Gp. (P-38s) - SUNHAT  
55th Gp. (P-38s) - WINDSOR  
4th Gp. (P-51s) - HORSEBACK

The P-51s flying top cover will operate on the flanks of the bombers in search of enemy spotters, patrols or concentrations of ~~M/A~~ M/A and will report same to Fighter Control Officer. In the event any P-38s leave their forces early the high cover Gps. may be brought down to provide necessary support.

The 4th Gp. is free lancing ~~and~~ except while ~~they~~ they are providing target support.

Fighter Bomber Intercom:

1st Task Force:

Bombers: Vinegrove, 1-1, 1-5  
Fighters: 20th Balance 1-1  
364th " 1-2  
355th " 1-3  
357th " 1-4

2nd Task Force:

Bombers: Vinegrove, 1-1, 1-2  
Fighters: 55th Balance 2X 2-1  
4th Balance 2-2

ENEMY AIRCRAFT:

110 T.E. and 185 S.E. can be vectored in to area.

Geographical Check Points:

M - Kiel  
I - Hamburg  
N - Dummer Lake  
S - Munster  
T - Hanover  
R - Lille  
E - Compiegne      L - St. Pol