

303rd BG(H) Combat Mission No. 7

20 December 1942

Target: Air Depot at Romilly-sur-Seine, France

Crews Dispatched: 21

Crews Lost: Lt. Witt - 10 KIA

Length of Mission: 5 hours, 6 minutes

Bomb Load: 10 x 500 lbs H.E. M43 bombs

Bombing Altitude: 22,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 20,701 rounds

Enemy Aircraft Claims: 15 Destroyed, 15 Probables

Maj. **Romig** led the 359th BS low formation and Maj. **Sheridan** led the 427th BS high squadron. Maj. **Callaway**, 360th BS CO, flew in the lead squadron. Maj. **Wurzbach**, 358th BS CO, led the Group.



Maj Eugene A. Romig

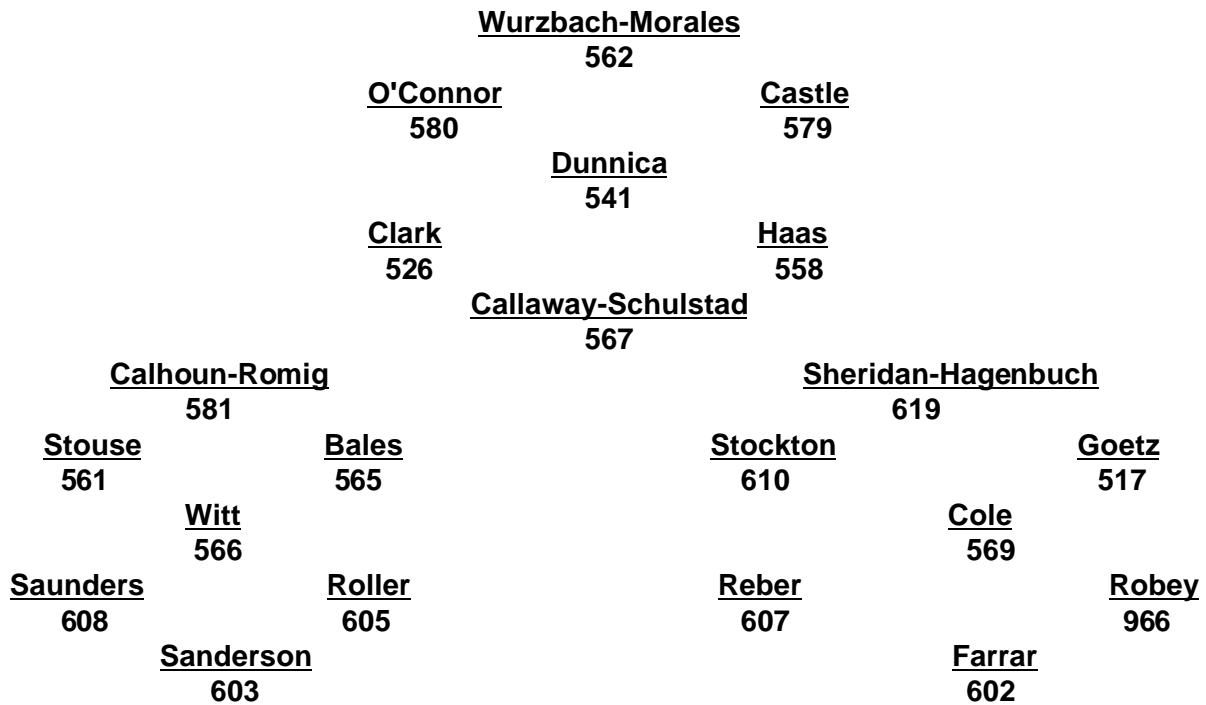
The primary target was Romilly, the secondary, Villacoublay, and the last resort, Rouen. Twenty-one aircraft took off and seven aborted due to mechanical failures. Fourteen B-17s bombed the primary target from 22,500 feet with 500 pound M-43 H.E. bombs. Photographs confirmed direct hits on the target.

Every airplane encountered German fighters, and gunners claimed fifteen destroyed and fifteen probables. Light anti-aircraft fire was observed.

B-17F #41-24566, *Zombie*, piloted by Lt. O.S. **Witt**, was shot down by enemy fighters and ditched in the English Channel. All crew members were lost. T/Sgt. L.C. **Woods** is buried in Ardennes American Cemetery near Liege, Belgium. Sgt. H.A. **Kinsey** is buried in Normandy American Cemetery near Coleville-sur-Mer, France. The body of S/Sgt. W.R. **Renner** washed ashore near Dieppe, France 1 Feb 1943. Lt. O.S. **Witt**, Lt. F.M. **McMurtry**, Jr., T/Sgt. T.F. **Bachom** and S/Sgt. L.W. **Thomas** are on the Wall of Missing at Ardennes, Belgium. Lt. W.E. **Dyar** and Sgt B.W. **Millett** are on the Wall of Missing at Cambridge, England.

B-17F #41-24581, *The '8' Ball*, 358th BS-O, piloted by Capt. W.R. **Calhoun**, Jr., and with Maj. E.A. **Romig** as co-pilot, was badly damaged by enemy action and made a forced "belly landing" at Bovingdon. The B-17 was later salvaged. Capt. **Calhoun** ordered his crew to bail out before his landing and they all parachuted to the ground without injury. Maj. **Romig** and Capt. **Calhoun** and crew returned to Molesworth from Bovingdon the next day. Capt. **Calhoun** had a piece of flak in his knee.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point



Seven (7) aircraft aborted this mission:

- Lt. Goetz in 517
- Lt. Robey in 966
- Lt. O'Connor in 580
- Lt. Saunders in 608
- Lt. Sanderson in 603
- Lt. Roller in 605
- Lt. Reber in 607

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<p>CREW POSITIONS</p> <p>CMP - Command Pilot P - Pilot CP - Co-Pilot NAV - Navigator ANV - Ass't. Navigator MNV - Mickey Navigator ENG - Engineer BOM - Bombardier RO - Radio Operator</p>	<p>TOG - Toggler BT - Ball Turret Operator TT - Top Turret Operator TG - Tail Gunner NG - Nose Gunner RG - Radio Gunner WG - Waist Gunner LWG - Left Waist Gunner RWG - Right Waist Gunner GUN - Gunner</p>	<p>VI - Voice Interpreter OBS - Observer PAS - Passenger PHO - Photographer</p> <p>RESULTS OF MISSION</p> <p>KIA - Killed in action WIA - Wounded in action MIA - Missing in action POW - Prisoner of war</p>	<p>DOW - Died of wounds EVD - Evaded the enemy INT - Interned in neu cntry REP - Repatriated RES - Rescued ESC - Escaped BO - Bailed out DCH - Ditched CR-L - Crashed on land CR-S - Crashed at sea</p>
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358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #41-24562 *Sky Wolf*

P Wurzbach, Clemens K., Maj
CP Morales, Carl H., 2Lt
NAV Miller, Hubert E., 1Lt
NAV Anderson, Sam H., 2Lt
BOM Dieffenbach, Albert W., 1Lt
ENG Hinds, Francis G., T/Sgt
BT Carroll, Albert V., Sgt
RO Burns, Francis J., S/Sgt
RWG Hill, John E., Sgt
TG Blake, Robert C., Sgt
LWG Westfall, Max M., Sgt

B-17F #41-24580 *Hell Cat*

P O'Connor, Oran T., 1Lt
CP Shumake, Glynn F., 1Lt
NAV Gordon, Bruce W., 2Lt
BOM DuMont, Earle J., Jr., 2Lt
ENG Mullendore, Merle S., T/Sgt
ENG Brunnet, Arthur, Sgt
RO Hughes, Norman, Sgt
RWG Lucas, Jack, Sgt
TG Bitter, Emile V., Jr., Sgt
LWG Robuck, Lester M., Sgt
(Abortive)

B-17F #41-24541 *Spook*

P Dunnica, Lawrence G., 1Lt
CP Pacey, Orson E., 2Lt
NAV Thornton, Leonard E., 2Lt
BOM Montgomery, James H., Jr., 2Lt
ENG Tucker, Harry W., T/Sgt
RWG Dew, Robert L., Sgt
RO Holland, Bertis W., Sgt
BT Cascio, Philip T., Sgt
TG Taylor, Claude P., Sgt
LWG Harker, Wayne E., Sgt

B-17F #41-24558 *Hunga Dunga*

P Haas, Joseph E., 1Lt
CP O'Connor, Robert S., 2Lt
NAV Grant, Donald L., 2Lt
BOM Steele, Earl A., 2Lt
ENG Koenig, Bernard H., T/Sgt
BT Smith, Robert H., Sgt
RO Gergash, Bernard A., Pvt
RWG Isham, Lawrence W., Sgt
LWG Raesley, Wilmer G., Sgt
TG Batterson, Frank L., S/Sgt

B-17F #41-24526 *Leapin Liz*

P Clark, James B., Lt
CP Bouton, Paul, Jr., Lt
NAV Hoffman, Charles E., Lt
BOM Lusk, Don W., Jr., Lt
ENG Reino, Thomas J., T/Sgt
RO Wilder, LeRoy W., S/Sgt
RWG Hall, George F., S/Sgt
TG Rukes, Merlyn D., S/Sgt
BT Fincher, Clifton R., Sgt
LWG Land, Jonathan S., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #41-24581 *The '8' Ball*

P	Calhoun, William R., Jr., Capt	
CP	Romig, Eugene A., Maj.	
NAV	Strickland, Joseph M., 2Lt	BO
BOM	Yonkman, Robert J., 1Lt	BO
ENG	Zaorski, Roman R., T/Sgt	BO
LWG	Fortunak, Richard C., S/Sgt	BO
RO	Terry, Charles R., T/Sgt	BO
BT	Mulgrew, William C., S/Sgt	BO
TG	Stephen, Willard W., S/Sgt	BO
RWG	Murphy, Murel A., Sgt	BO

B-17F #41-24566 *Zombie - DCH*

P	Witt, Orville S., 1Lt	KIA
CP	McMurtry, Francis M. Jr., 2Lt	KIA
NAV	Brightbill, Donald H., 2Lt	KIA
BOM	Dyar, Wilmer E., 2Lt	KIA
ENG	Woods, Lyle C., T/Sgt	KIA
LWG	Renner, Warner R., S/Sgt	KIA
RO	Bachom, Thomas F., T/Sgt	KIA
RWG	Kinsey, Harold A., S/Sgt	KIA
TG	Thomas, Lawrence W., S/Sgt	KIA
BT	Millett, Bernard W., Cpl	KIA

B-17F #41-24608 *Yehudi*

P	Saunders, Frank A., 1Lt	
CP	Kirk, Leonard W., 2Lt	
NAV	Forester, Oscar F., Jr., 2Lt	
BOM	Kossis, Norman, 2Lt	
ENG	Wagner, Lloyd E., S/Sgt	
RO	Clevenger, Walter M., T/Sgt	
BT	Hoklin, Leif H., S/Sgt	
TG	Chitwood, Russell O., S/Sgt	
LWG	High, Howard A., Sgt	
RWG	Litton, Rufus C., Sgt	

(Abortive Sortie)

B-17F #41-24603 *Green Hornet*

P	Sanderson, Ellis J., 1Lt	
CP	Bowman, Horace D., Jr. 2Lt	
NAV	Spence, John W., 2Lt	
BOM	Ward, Grady B., 2Lt	
ENG	Devers, Sidney, T/Sgt	
RO	Jones, Miles B., T/Sgt	
BT	Greene, Frank W., S/Sgt	
RWG	Swanson, Harry F., S/Sgt	
TG	Markiewicz, Joseph L., S/Sgt	
LWG	Silva, Carlos J., Sgt	

(Abortive)

B-17F #41-24561 *The Duchess*

P	Stouse, Harold L., 1Lt	
CP	O'Connor, Squire T., 2Lt	
NAV	Elliott, Jesse H., 2Lt	
BOM	Mathis, Jack W., 2Lt	
ENG	Audiss, Eldon W., T/Sgt	
RO	Roberts, Raymond K., T/Sgt	
LWG	Tupper, Theron S., S/Sgt	
BT	Garriott, John A., S/Sgt	
TG	Owen, Calvin H., S/Sgt	
RWG	Brown, Houston B., Jr., Sgt	

B-17F #41-24565 *Idaho Potato Peeler*

P	Bales, Ross C., 1Lt	
CP	McGough, Wilson N., 2Lt	
NAV	Browning, Richard C., 2Lt	
BOM	Thomas, Paul M., 2Lt	
ENG	Winter, Raymond K. Jr., Sgt	
TT	Perkins, Homer T., Sgt	
BT	Klee, John P., S/Sgt	
RO	Kilgore, Raymond H., T/Sgt	
TG	Snell, Jack D., S/Sgt	
LWG	Van Ravenstein, Edward A., Sgt	

B-17F #41-24605 *Knockout Dropper*

P	Roller, Jack, 1Lt	
CP	Cline, William J., 2Lt	
NAV	Henson, Walter C., 2Lt	
BOM	Shoup, John R., Jr., 2Lt	
ENG	Marcelonis, Joseph G., T/Sgt	
TT	Ketron, Frank M., S/Sgt	
RO	Williams, Lemuel R., T/Sgt	
BT	Beringer, John L., Jr., S/Sgt	
TG	Burnham, Arthur L., S/Sgt	
LWG	Gonsalves, John D., S/Sgt	

(Abortive)

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #41-24567 *Beats Me*

P Callaway, Richard D., Maj
CP Schulstad, Louis M., Lt
NAV Embach, John H., Lt
BOM Saiz, Reinaldo J., Lt.
ENG Pacheco, Antone, T/Sgt
RO Roth, Charles L., S/Sgt
RWG Sherman, John H., S/Sgt
BT Soria, Peter, Sgt
TG Stevens, Wayne O., S/Sgt
LWG Dobbins, Jerry W., Sgt

B-17F #41-24602 *Yardbird*

P Farrar, John W., 1Lt
CP Witterstetter, Gene A., 2Lt
NAV Auman, Rictor H., 2Lt
BOM Stewart, Jack W., 2Lt
ENG Hassler, Kenneth C., S/Sgt
RWG Prescott, Paul H., S/Sgt
RO Lindewall, Erick K., T/Sgt
BT Sunderlin, Joseph R., Sgt
TG Bartlett, Frank W., Sgt
LWG Magee, Alan E., Sgt

B-17F #41-24579 *Thumper*

P Castle, John E., 2Lt
CP Fitzsimmons, Kent M., 2Lt
NAV Hoyt, Otis A., Lt
BOM Sinopoli, Louis B., 2Lt
ENG Levin, Meyer, S/Sgt
RWG Staner, Billie L., Sgt
RO Yannie, Emilio J., Jr., S/Sgt
BT Craft, Cecil E., Sgt
TG Semonick, Martin A., S/Sgt
LWG Murray, Gilbert A., Jr., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #41-24619 *S for Sugar*

P	Sheridan, Charles C., Maj
CP	Hagenbuch, Glenn E., Capt
NAV	Soha, Walter M., Lt
BOM	Swindle, Robert J., Lt
ENG	Zipfel, Charles E., T/Sgt
RO	Karanson, William A., Jr., S/Sgt
LWG	Hummel, Wilbur F., Sgt
TG	Henderson, George W., Sgt
BT	Pennington, James L., Sgt
RWG	Harmon, Edward Z., Sgt

B-17F #41-24569 *Memphis Tot*

P	Cole, Lloyd R., Capt
CP	McCune, Robert N., 2Lt
NAV	Driggs, Robert P., 2Lt
BOM	Bryant, Edward N., 2Lt
ENG	Means, Lucian W., Jr., T/Sgt
RO	Brandfas, Dale F., S/Sgt
TG	Callery, Phillip J., Sgt
LWG	Van Etten, James R., Sgt
RWG	Coomes, Clarence S., S/Sgt
BT	Belk, Jack, Sgt

B-17F #41-24607 *Jerry Jinx*

P	Reber, Ehle, H., 1Lt
CP	Mitchell, Allan D., 2Lt
NAV	Byrom, Jarold J., 2Lt
BOM	McCright, Ewell R., Lt
ENG	Hamilton, Duke L., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Blankenship, Irwin D., Sgt
RO	Mayo, Donald A., S/Sgt
TG	Jurosek, Bernard, Sgt
RWG	Hand, Victor G., Sgt
LWG	Gross, Luther N., Sgt
	(Abortive)

B-17F #41-24517 *Kali*

P	Goetz, William H., 1Lt
CP	McDermott, Mark L., 2Lt
NAV	Madrid, Robert L., 2Lt
BOM	Smith, Robert W., 2Lt
ENG	Smock, Edmund L., T/Sgt
RO	Walters, Joseph H., S/Sgt
LWG	Storer, Charles R., Sgt
TG	Koch, Vernon E., Sgt
BT	Runge, Walter E., Sgt
RWG	Milford, Roger W., Sgt
	(Abortive)

B-17F #41-24610 *Joe Btfsplk*

P	Stockton, Donald E., 1Lt
CP	Lipe, Fort W., 1Lt
NAV	Grant, Lawrence H., 2Lt
BOM	Shirley, Lloyd A., 2Lt
ENG	Smith, Roy Q., S/Sgt
RO	Amos, Lee H., S/Sgt
LWG	Bryant, Carson, S/Sgt
BT	Hairr, Elwood F., Sgt
TG	Meyer, Marines H., Jr., Sgt
RWG	Morrison, Thoms H., Sgt

B-17F #42-2966 *(No Name)*

P	Robey, Harry A., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Burma, Benjamin H., 2Lt
NAV	Grice, Charles R., 2Lt
BOM	Moser, Roy R., 2Lt
ENG	Sulcofski, Francis, S/Sgt
RO	Vogel, Sebastian L., S/Sgt
RWG	Levering, Edward T., Sgt
TG	Bradley, Merel D., Sgt
BT	Choice, Hudson, Sgt
LWG	Hannen, Val B., Sgt
	(Abortive Sortie)