

303rd BG(H) Combat Mission No. 19

4 March 1943

Target: Railroad Marshalling Yards, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Crews Dispatched: 18

Length of Mission: 3 hours, 45 minutes

Bomb Load: 2 x 1000 lb H.E. M44 bombs

Bombing Altitude: 21,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 13,621 rounds

Capt. **Barrett** and 1Lts. **Von Schmidt** and **Robinson** held briefing at 0500 hours. The primary target was Hamm, Germany; the secondary, Osnabruck; and the last resort, Rotterdam.

The 303rd had eighteen aircraft off the ground on schedule at 0755 hours. Assembly and rendezvous were made on time and according to schedule. Two aircraft returned from this group's formation:

#41-24609, *Holy Mackerel*, 359BS(H) (Lt. **Eyster**). The tail gunner, S/Sgt. F.E. **Bauer**, experienced frost-bitten hands.

#42-5341, *Vicious Virgin*, 427BS(H) (Lt. **Broussard**). The oil cooler and supercharger regulator on the No. 3 engine were out.

The remaining sixteen aircraft proceeded on course until crossing the Dutch coast. At that time it was apparent that weather and heavy clouds would prevent an attack on the Primary target, Hamm, and the Group turned to Rotterdam, the last resort target. Rotterdam was bombed under fairly good conditions with about 4/10 cloud cover, slight haze and good visibility. Forty tons of 1000 lb. H.E. M44 bombs were dropped from 21,500 feet. Black and red flak were encountered along the Dutch coast and other points with intensity ranging from slight to moderate. It was both accurate and inaccurate.

In no case were more than fifteen enemy aircraft reported. Most of them kept a safe distance from our aircraft, and only two weak attacks were reported. Enemy aircraft were one ME-109 and the balance FW-190s. Fifteen to twenty enemy merchant vessels and cruisers were sighted about ten miles off Rotterdam at 1025 hours. The cruisers fired at the Group formation, but only slight damage was reported.

There was no fighter support. Aircraft returned to Molesworth between 1130 and 1151 hours with no casualties.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Robinson</u> 559		
		<u>Griffin</u> 262		<u>Bilek</u> 382
			<u>Baldwin</u> 577	
		<u>Nolan</u> 539		<u>Austin</u> 558
	<u>Roller</u> 605			<u>Hagenbuch</u> 619
<u>Smith</u> 177		<u>McClung</u> 257	<u>Broussard</u> 341	<u>Shaeffer</u> 612
	<u>Eyster</u> 609			<u>Stockton</u> 587
<u>Johnson</u> 561		<u>Bales</u> 635	<u>Morales</u> 562	<u>McDonald</u> 432

Two (2) aircraft aborted this mission:

Lt. Eyster in 609

Lt. Broussard in 341

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 cuntry 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 #41-24577 *Hell's Angels*

P Baldwin, Irl E., Capt
CP Joy, Ripley W., 2Lt
NAV Madsen, Parley W., Jr., 1Lt
BOM Bone, Donald R., 1Lt
ENG Rodriguez, James E., Jr., T/Sgt
RWG Meddaugh, Allerton F., S/Sgt
RO Hogue, Earl, T/Sgt
BT Brody, Harry J., S/Sgt
LWG Weiskopf, Dennis, Sgt
TG Godwin, Harold E., Sgt

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

P Morales, Carl H., 1Lt
CP Mitchell, Kirk R., Capt
NAV Miller, Hubert E., 1Lt
BOM Zasadil, Frank E., 2Lt
ENG Hinds, Francis G., T/Sgt
BT Carroll, Albert V., S/Sgt
RO Burns, Francis J., T/Sgt
RWG Hill, John E., S/Sgt
TG Blake, Robert C., S/Sgt
LWG Westfall, Max M., Sgt

B-17F #41-24539 *Jersey Bounce*

P Nolan, Robert J., 1Lt
CP Kruse, Richard L., 2Lt
NAV Anderson, William J., 2Lt
BOM Hopper, Richard R., 2Lt
ENG Hively, Roy J., T/Sgt
BT Nordeen, Howard H., S/Sgt
RO Hamill, Milton, T/Sgt
RWG Isham, Lawrence W., S/Sgt
LWG Goff, James P., Sgt
TG Murray, Gilbert J., Jr., S/Sgt

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

P Austin, Charles N., 1Lt
CP Feldman, Norbert B., 1Lt
NAV White, Richard G., Jr., 1Lt
BOM Coltrane, Robert A., 1Lt
ENG Snipes, Samuel O., S/Sgt
LWG Mikkelson, Delbert, Sgt
RO Gergash, Bernard A., Sgt
BT LeBlanc, Alex, Sgt
TG Deal, Fred O., Sgt
RWG Eckard, Eugene W., Sgt

B-17F #42-5432 *The Hunting Club*

P McDonald, James M., 1Lt
CP Rogan, Dave L., 2Lt
NAV McElwain, Richard E., 2Lt
BOM Montgomery, James H., Jr., 2Lt
ENG Fanning, David D., T/Sgt
RWG Raesley, Wilmer G., Sgt
RO Carpenter, Glenn S., T/Sgt
BT Bruskotter, James E., S/Sgt
TG Sterling, Robert W., S/Sgt
LWG Martin, James C., S/Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P Roller, Jack, Capt
CP Calhoun, William R., Jr., Capt
NAV Henson, Walter G., 2Lt
BOM Shoup, John R., Jr., 2Lt
ENG Marcelonis, Joseph G., T/Sgt
TT Ketron, Frank M., S/Sgt
RO Terry, Charles R., T/Sgt
BT Beringer, John L., Jr., S/Sgt
TG Burnham, Arthur L., S/Sgt
LWG Gonsalves, John D., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5177 *Fast Worker MK II*

P Smith, Sanford T., 1Lt
CP Farrell, Lawrence C., 2Lt
NAV Kelley, James F., 2Lt
BOM Dwyer, Robert P., 1Lt
ENG Zaorski, Roman R., T/Sgt
LWG Adams, Ralph B., S/Sgt
RO Thornton, Edmund R., Sgt
BT Hardaway, Sidney T., Sgt
TG Howard, Earl R., S/Sgt
RWG Murphy, Murel A., S/Sgt

B-17F #41-24635 *The '8' Ball MK II*

P Bales, Ross C., 1Lt
CP Dooley, Walter E., 1Lt
NAV Browning, Richard C., 2Lt
BOM Thomas, Paul M., 2Lt
ENG Winter, Raymond K., Jr., T/Sgt
TT Holzhauser, John A., S/Sgt
RO Kilgore, Raymond H., T/Sgt
BT Mulgrew, William C., S/Sgt
TG Snell, Jack D., S/Sgt
RG Van Ravenstein, Edward A., Sgt

B-17F #42-5257 *Miss Bea Haven*

P McClung, Guy H., 1Lt
CP Nix, James S., 2Lt
NAV Stettler, Donald G., 2Lt
BOM Rothman, Theodore I., 2Lt
ENG Coykendall, Ralph A., T/Sgt
BT Phillips, Carl W., S/Sgt
RO Gentry, Robert, T/Sgt
TG Piatek, Casimir P., S/Sgt
LWG Tibbles, Russell F., Sgt
RWG Ryan, Francis J., Sgt

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

P Johnson, Hans C., 1Lt
CP Gibson, Charles E., 1Lt
NAV McNeely, Robert T., 1Lt
BOM Owen, Jedediah G., 1Lt
ENG Dickinson, Paul A., S/Sgt
RWG Traban, James J., S/Sgt
RO Himes, Albert A., Sgt
BT Chandler, U.M., Sgt
LWG McKagan, Azzon C., S/Sgt
TG Treon, John E., S/Sgt

B-17F #41-24609 *Holy Mackerel*

P Eyster, Ercil F., 1Lt
CP Hayward, Fred H., 2Lt
NAV Shanks, John D., 2Lt
BOM Cargill, William D., 2Lt
ENG Dunham, Harold J., T/Sgt
RO Davis, Marcus K., S/Sgt
LWG Stephen, Willard W., S/Sgt
BT Nicosia, Eugene A., Sgt
TG Bauer, Floyd E., S/Sgt
NG Altizer, Robert C., T/Sgt
LWG O'Reilly, Francis W., Sgt
(Abortive)

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #41-24559 *Ooold Soljer*

P	Robinson, George L., LtCol
CP	Lyle, Lewis E., Capt
NAV	Hoyt, Otis A., Lt
BOM	Saiz, Reinaldo J., Lt
ENG	Smith, Gene K., T/Sgt
RWG	Bradford, Edward A., S/Sgt
RO	Balcombe, Clayton S., T/Sgt
TG	Smith, Woodrow W., S/Sgt
BT	Semonick, Martin A., S/Sgt
LWG	McGiffin, Tom, Sgt
OBS	Anderson, Samuel H., Lt

B-17F #42-5262 (*No Name*)

P	Griffin, Loyd D., Lt
CP	Swanson, Walter C., Lt
NAV	Preston, William M., Lt
BOM	Taylor, Robert L., Lt
ENG	Eason, William M., T/Sgt
BT	Rheaume, Louis W., S/Sgt
RO	Schwartz, Vernon E., T/Sgt
TG	Wiegand, Lynwood D., S/Sgt
RWG	Stevenson, Robert L., Sgt
LWG	Edwards, Samuel L., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5382 *The Witches Tit*

P	Bilek, A.F., Lt
CP	Kelly, C.J., Lt
NAV	Bowers, W.R., Lt
BOM	White, Raymond R., Lt
ENG	Sage, L.G., T/Sgt
RWG	Savickas, J.J., Sgt
RO	Fogarty, J.J., S/Sgt
LWG	Slayton, C.E., S/Sgt
TG	Brannan, H.P., Sgt
BT	Glaspell, T.D., Sgt



Ooold Soljer #41-24559 (360BS) PU-C

1st BW Lead - Pilot Capt L.E. Lyle / CoPilot LtCol G.L. Robinson

(Back L-R) 1Lt R.A. Saiz (B), 1Lt S.H. Anderson (N), Capt L.E. Lyle (P), LtCol G.L. Robinson (CP), 1Lt O.A. Hoyt (N)
 (Front L-R) Sgt T. McGiffin (LWG), T/Sgt G.K. Smith (E), T/Sgt W.W. Smith (TG), T/Sgt C.S. Bolcombe (R),
 T/Sgt M.A. Semonick (BT), S/Sgt E.A. Bradford (RWG)

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Hagenbuch, Glenn E., Capt
CP	Barker, John C., Lt
NAV	Soha, Walter M., Lt
BOM	Dieffenbach, Albert W., Lt
ENG	Zipfel, Charles E., T/Sgt
RO	Coomes, Clarence S., S/Sgt
RWG	Hinds, Durward L., S/Sgt
LWG	Henderson, George W., S/Sgt
BT	Kirkpatrick, Ward M., S/Sgt
TG	Harmon, Edward Z., Sgt
PHO	Thorson, Ellwood, S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5341 *Vicious Virgin*

P	Broussard, Edward J., Jr., Lt
CP	Le Fevre, William G., Lt
NAV	Illgen, Frederick J., Lt
BOM	Sherwood, Lyle D., Lt
ENG	Good, James K., T/Sgt
RO	Karanson, William A., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Choice, Hudson, S/Sgt
LWG	Bridges, Alvin A., Sgt
TG	Barron, Dante G., S/Sgt
RWG	Jurosek, Bernard, Sgt (Abortive)

B-17F #41-24587 *Bad Check*

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
RWG	Bryant, Carson, S/Sgt
TG	Koch, Vernon E., S/Sgt
LWG	Ashworth, George W., T/Sgt
BT	Jenkins, Robert R., Sgt

B-17F #41-24612 *The Devil Himself*

P	Shaeffer, Earl A., Lt
CP	Stone, Arthur M., Lt
NAV	Stugard, F., Jr., Lt
BOM	Fec, A.D., Lt
ENG	Murray, G.F., T/Sgt
BT	Harris, M.L., Sgt
RO	Penley, D.B., T/Sgt
TG	Vance, F.S., S/Sgt
LWG	Groves, R.W., S/Sgt
RWG	Lentz, R.C., S/Sgt