

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

CREW POSITIONS CMP - Command Pilot P - Pilot CP - Co-Pilot NAV - Navigator ANV - Ass't. Navigator MNV - Mickey Navigator ENG - Engineer BOM - Bombardier RO - Radio Operator	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	VI - Voice Interpreter OBS - Observer PAS - Passenger PHO - Photographer RESULTS OF MISSION KIA - Killed in action WIA - Wounded in action MIA - Missing in action POW - Prisoner of war	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
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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 Kelly, 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. McGriffin (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