

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 36

15 May 1943

Target: Airdrome and Naval Installations, Heligoland Islands

Crews Dispatched: 24

Crews Lost: Lt. Jaques and crew, 3 crewmen slightly wounded

Length of Mission: 5 hours, 50 minutes

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

Bombing Altitudes: 23,000 ft & 26,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 45,722 rounds

Enemy Aircraft Claims: 2 Destroyed, 3 Probables, 2 Damaged

The weather was ideal. Maj. Lewis E. **Lyle** led the main 303rd BG(H) formation of 18 B-17s and Maj. **Hagenbuch** led the six aircraft 427BS formation that was part of the 303/305BG Composite Group. The primary target was the naval dockyards at Wilhelmshaven in northern Germany. One 427BS B-17 in the Composite Group aborted: #41-24587, *Bad Check*. The No. 1 engine and two generators went out.

The weather on the way to the primary target at Wilhelmshaven was excellent, but as soon as the Group formation approached the German coast, 10/10 cloud cover developed. Light and inaccurate flak was seen.

The 1st Bomb Wing, unable to bomb the primary target, opted to bomb targets of opportunity. The 303rd BG(H) elected to bomb targets on the island installations at Heligoland, but was forced to abandon the bomb run when the 101st PBCW passed underneath. Seven aircraft dropped 16 1/2 tons of 500-lb. bombs on the Heligoland airdrome and naval installations. Six aircraft jettisoned their bombs and 10 brought their bombs back to Molesworth.

Enemy aircraft opposition was considerable; 50 to 75 were reported. A running attack of over one hour developed when the formation crossed the enemy coast until it was well out to sea on the way home. FW-190s, ME-109s, and ME-110s met Group aircraft and literally pounced upon them from all directions. Crews say they had never before seen so many at any time. There were 21 enemy attacks on the 303rd BG(H). Group gunners destroyed two German fighters with an additional three as probable and two damaged.

One B-17F, #42-29481 (*No Name*), failed to return. It was last seen being attacked by enemy aircraft about 10 miles west of Scharhorn Island, heading east toward the island at an altitude of 24,000 feet. One parachute was seen leaving the aircraft. 1Lt. Chester D. **Jaques** and all crew members were killed. 1Lt. Alvin D. **Holder**, S/Sgt. Clayton W. **Ryan** and Sgt. Keith L. **Clapshaw** are buried in the United States. 1Lt. John W. **Bradshaw**, Sgt. Warren T. **Vasel** and S/Sgt. W.G. **Morrison** are buried in Ardennes American National Cemetery near Liege, Belgium. 2Lt. Robert C.A. **Carlson**, T/Sgt. Lester O. **Corns** and S/Sgt. Ward M. **Kirkpatrick** are listed on the Wall of Missing at Cambridge.

Crew Reports on Enemy Aircraft Destroyed or Damaged

Lt. E.E. Stone (571)	FW-190	Destroyed
Lt. E.E. Stone (571)	ME-109	Probable
S/Sgt. J.B. Paiva (656)	ME-109	Probable
S/Sgt. M.C. Milliff (432)	FW-190	Probable
S/Sgt. E.E. McGill (392)	ME-109	Destroyed
T/Sgt. A.S. Doran and		
S/Sgt. M.C. Milliff (432)	ME-110	Damaged
S/Sgt. C.R. Storer (341)	FW-190	Damaged

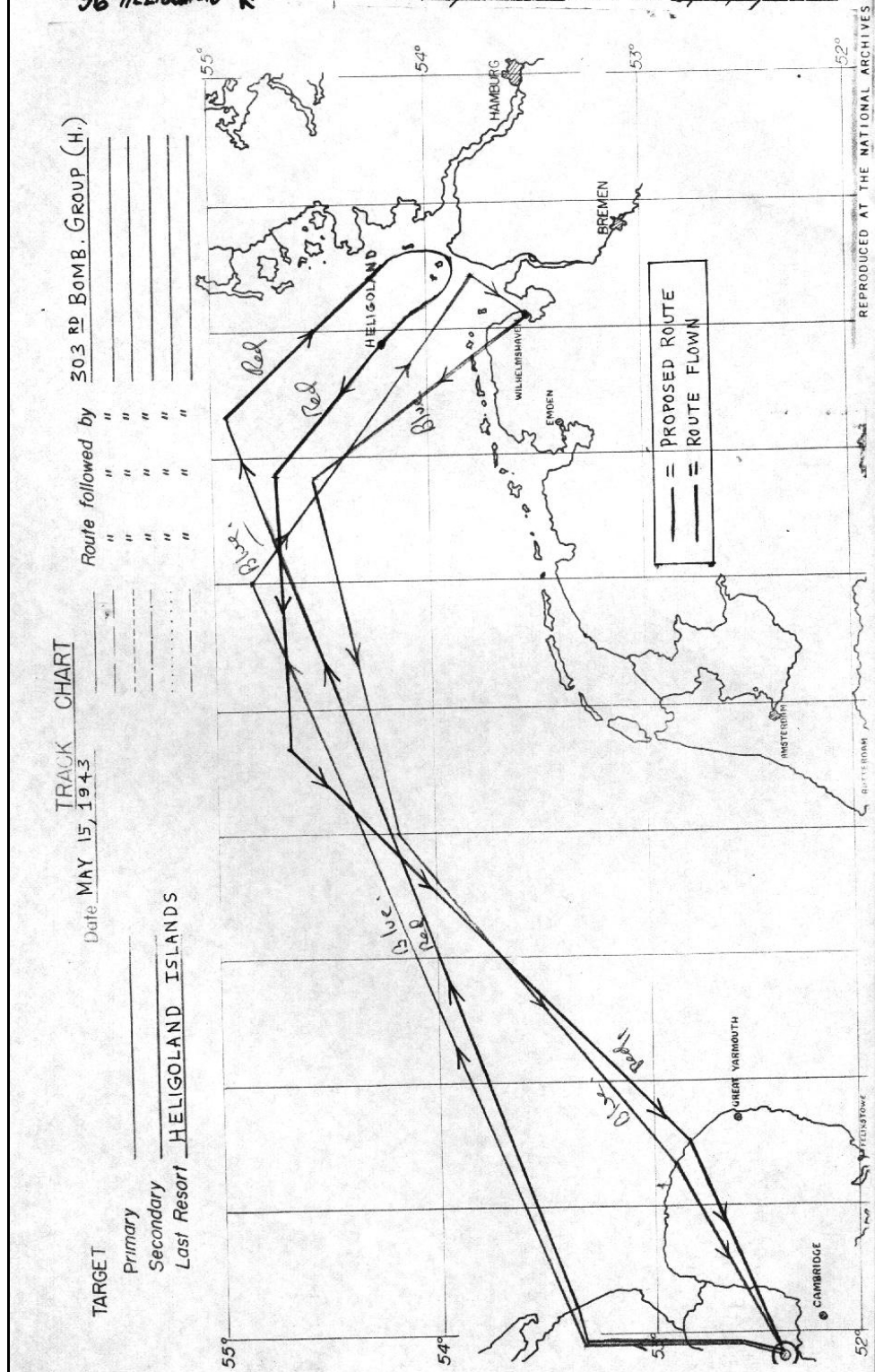


Yardbird II #42-5260 (360BS) PU-A

102nd PBCW #2 (360BS) - Pilot Maj L.E. Lyle / CoPilot Cap J.W. Farrar

(Back L-R) T/Sgt K.C. Hassler (E), Capt L.E. Lyle (P), Lt R.H. Auman (N), Capt J.W. Farrar (CP),
Lt M.S. Fonorow (B), Capt S.H. Anderson (N) - (Front L-R) S/Sgt F.W. Bartlett (TG), S/Sgt P.H. Prescott (WG),
S/Sgt L.T. O'Connell (WG), T/Sgt E.K. Lindewall (R), S/Sgt J.R. Sunderlin (BT)

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BY R. Baylan NARA, Date 8/20/87.



Route Map

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Lyle</u> 260		
		<u>Clifton</u> 973		<u>Van Wie</u> 393
			<u>Griffin</u> 570	
		<u>Mack</u> 606		<u>Palmer</u> 483
	<u>Nolan</u> 664			<u>Roller</u> 605
<u>Timken</u> 656		<u>Lemmon</u> 571	<u>Haines</u> 029	<u>Mattison</u> 177
	<u>Morales</u> 562			<u>Smith</u> 002
<u>Thompson</u> 9635		<u>Jess</u> 577	_____	<u>Nix</u> 4635
	<u>McClung</u> 221			_____

One (1) aircraft aborted this mission:
Lt. Burch in 587

Author	Year	Volume	Pages
<u>Hagenbuch</u>	1969	1	619
<u>Strickland</u>	1992	1	392
<u>Jaques</u>	1981	1	481
<u>Broussard</u>	1931	1	341
<u>Cline</u>	1932	1	432
<u>Burch</u>	1957	1	587

<u>CREW POSITIONS</u> 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 - Togglier 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 <u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u> 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 cntry 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 #42-29635 *Augerhead*

P	Thompson, Frank H., 2Lt
CP	Sumaridason, Arni L., 2Lt
NAV	McConnen, James R., 2Lt
BOM	McCord, Lawrence E., 2Lt
ENG	Welch, James R., S/Sgt
TT	Fulanovich, Charles J., S/Sgt
RO	McGuire, Robert J., T/Sgt
BT	Nakaniski, Ralph, S/Sgt
TG	Aubrey, Eldred L., S/Sgt
RWG	Wilson, Donald R., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29571 *Charley Horse*

P	Lemmon, John V., 1Lt
CP	Clark, Elmo E., F/O
NAV	Gust, Darrell D., 2Lt
BOM	Stone, Elbert E., 2Lt
ENG	Berzansky, Andrew, T/Sgt
RWG	Beavers, Albert T., S/Sgt
RO	Zeller, Caryl C., T/Sgt
BT	Bagwell, Clayton R., S/Sgt
TG	Brown, Virgil E., S/Sgt
LWG	Briggs, Wayne E., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29664 *Jersey Bounce, Jr.*

P	Nolan, Robert J., Capt
CP	Mitchell, Kirk R., Capt
NAV	Anderson, William J., 2Lt
BOM	Hopper, Richard R., 1Lt
ENG	Hively, Roy J., T/Sgt
RWG	Koenig, Bernard H., T/Sgt
RO	Hamill, Milton, T/Sgt
TG	Bitter, Emile V., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Mathews, Frank M., S/Sgt
LWG	Goff, James P., S/Sgt

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

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

B-17F #41-24577 *Hell's Angels*

P	Jess, Ray W., 2Lt
CP	Gunn, Harold W., 2Lt
NAV	Davidson, Robert P., 2Lt
BOM	Bone, Donald R., 1Lt
ENG	Smith, Harold E., T/Sgt
RWG	Hardacre, Charles F., S/Sgt
RO	Godzinski, Joseph J., T/Sgt
BT	Johnson, Byron W., S/Sgt
LWG	Hall, Sidney V., Sgt
TG	White, Frank M., Sgt

B-17F #42-29656 *The Terrible Ten*

P	Timken, Jack C., 1Lt
CP	Wright, George E., 2Lt
NAV	Chamberlain, William V., 2Lt
BOM	Solverson, Robert K., 2Lt
ENG	Knuth, Leland N., S/Sgt
RWG	Paiva, Joseph B., Sgt
RO	Baxter, Jack, T/Sgt
BT	Toy, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Giassullo, Criscienzo N., S/Sgt
LWG	Redhead, George R., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-3029 Wallaroo

P Haines, Rolland M., 1Lt
 CP Kramer, Mayer, 2Lt
 NAV Delorenzo, D.D., 2Lt
 BOM Morse, Anthony E., 2Lt
 ENG Garcia, Robert A., S/Sgt
 RO Kalk, Kenneth T.M., T/Sgt
 TG Davis, Charles E., S/Sgt
 RWG Martin, Raymond W., S/Sgt
 BT Foster, Allen G., S/Sgt
 LWG Morgan, Robert L., Sgt

B-17F #42-5221 Son

P McClung, Guy H., 1Lt
 CP Pentz, Arthur H., 1Lt
 NAV Stettler, Donald G., 2Lt
 BOM Rothman, Theodore I., 2Lt
 ENG Coykendall, Ralph A., T/Sgt
 RWG Traban, James J., S/Sgt
 RO McCoy, Gordon K., Sgt
 TG Piatek, Casimir P., S/Sgt
 BT Phillips, Carl W., S/Sgt
 LWG Ryan, Francis J., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5432 The Hunting Club

P Cline, William J., 1Lt
 CP Mulligan, Thomas E., 2Lt
 NAV Street, Benjamin B., 1Lt
 BOM Gordon, LeRoy V., 1Lt
 ENG Doran, Arnold S., T/Sgt
 RO McGee, Paul P., T/Sgt
 TG Milliff, Mike C., S/Sgt
 RWG Jordan, Lloyd L., S/Sgt
 BT Lemann, Paul C., S/Sgt
 LWG Kerr, Joseph, Sgt

B-17F #41-24605 Knockout Dropper

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

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

P Mattison, Robert L., 1Lt
 CP Case, Spencer F., 2Lt
 NAV Rich, David A., 1Lt
 BOM Shafer, John H., 1Lt
 ENG Green, Frederick J., T/Sgt
 RO Nordyke, Lloyd E., T/Sgt
 TG McEachern, David C., S/Sgt
 BT Schneider, James E., S/Sgt
 RWG Rettinhouse, Robert A., S/Sgt
 LWG Vogel, George W., Sgt

B-17F #42-3002 The Old Squaw

P Smith, Sanford T., Capt
 CP Farrell, Lawrence C., 2Lt
 NAV Summers, Thomas E., 1Lt
 BOM Dwyer, Robert P., 1Lt
 ENG Hardaway, Sidney T., T/Sgt
 RO York, Robert F., T/Sgt
 LWG Perryman, Jack L., Sgt
 BT Tibbles, Russell F., S/Sgt
 TG Howard, George Z., S/Sgt
 RWG Adams, Ralph B., S/Sgt

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

P Nix, James S., 1Lt
 CP Phelps, Robert L., Jr., 1Lt
 NAV Jacobson, Norman N., 2Lt
 BOM Yonkman, Robert J., Capt
 ENG Zaorski, Roman R., T/Sgt
 LWG Fortunak, Richard C., S/Sgt
 RO Terry, Charles R., T/Sgt
 BT Mulgrew, William C., S/Sgt
 RWG Bruns, William H., Jr., Sgt
 TG Stephen, Willard W., S/Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-5393 *Thumper Again*

P	Van Wie, John A., Lt
CP	Walsh, James D., Lt
NAV	Blank, Paul, Lt
BOM	Rice, Bernard, Lt
ENG	Hlebasko, Albert, T/Sgt
BT	Morton, Eugene L., S/Sgt
RO	Noll, Robert W., T/Sgt
RWG	Spring, Benjamin F., S/Sgt
LWG	Swanson, Theodore G., S/Sgt
TG	Bridges, Robert C., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29570 *(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
LWG	Edwards, Samuel L., S/Sgt
RO	Schwartz, Vernon E., T/Sgt
TG	Wiegand, Lynwood D., S/Sgt
BT	Plummer, Robert, S/Sgt
RWG	Henderson, Paul E., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29606 *Butch*

P	Mack, David W., Lt
CP	Barhaug, Ragnar, Lt
NAV	Smith, Roland M., Lt
BOM	Cox, Charles J., Lt
ENG	Deitch, Daniel T., T/Sgt
LWG	Stewart, Carl C., S/Sgt
RO	Cicinelli, Salvatore J., S/Sgt
TG	Biernacki, Joseph J., S/Sgt
BT	Peterson, Andrew C., S/Sgt
RWG	Spitzfaden, Robert E., Sgt

B-17F #42-2973 *Iza Vailable*

P	Clifton, David S., Lt
CP	Garvey, John L., Lt
NAV	Wright, Howard R., Lt
BOM	Currie, Herman C., Lt
ENG	Doss, Carroll P., T/Sgt
LWG	Compo, Anthony, S/Sgt
RO	Morrison, Eugene D., T/Sgt
BT	Mitchell, John B., S/Sgt
TG	Villarreal, Rodolfo A., S/Sgt
RWG	Jameson, Jimmie E., Sgt

B-17F #42-5260 *Yardbird II*

P	Lyle, Lewis E., Maj
P	Farrar, John W., Capt
NAV	Auman, Rictor H., Lt
NAV	Anderson, Samuel H., Capt
BOM	Fonorow, Milton S., Lt
ENG	Hassler, Kenneth C., T/Sgt
RWG	Prescott, Paul H., S/Sgt
RO	Lindewall, Erick K., T/Sgt
BT	Sunderlin, Joseph R., S/Sgt
TG	Bartlett, Frank W., S/Sgt
LWG	O'Connell, Lincoln T., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5483 *Red Ass*

P	Palmer, Joseph F., Lt
CP	Sheldon, Robert M., Lt
NAV	Rosenblum, Nathan J., Lt
BOM	Kieffer, Claude M., Lt
ENG	Duffey, Elmer E., S/Sgt
RO	Gullage, Edmund, T/Sgt
LWG	Hornbacher, Norman E., Sgt
BT	Owen, Burl M., S/Sgt
TG	Hodges, Alva E., S/Sgt
RWG	Holder, Samuel A., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17 #41-24587 *Bad Check*

P	Burch, Armand F., Lt
CP	Cardwell, Burt J., Lt
NAV	Noblin, John D., Lt
BOM	Butt, Byron K., Lt
ENG	Bryant, Carson, S/Sgt
BT	Bourdon, Louis F., S/Sgt
RO	Ashworth, George W., S/Sgt
RWG	Arnold, Robert W., S/Sgt
TG	Brown, Howard T., S/Sgt
LWG	Cooney, Robert M., Sgt

(Abortive)

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

P	Hagenbuch, Glenn E., Maj
CP	Rolfson, Jack G., Lt
NAV	Illgen, Frederick, J., Lt
BOM	Dieffenbach, Albert W., Capt
ENG	Good, James K., T/Sgt
TG	Bednarchuk, Antonio, S/Sgt
RO	Jessee, Jesse J., T/Sgt
LWG	Smith, Delvyn, S/Sgt
RWG	Koch, Vernon E., S/Sgt
BT	Johnson, Otto D., Sgt

B-17F #42-29481 *(No Name)* - DCH

P	Jaques, Chester D., Lt	KIA
CP	Holder, Alvin D., Lt	KIA
NAV	Bradshaw, John W., Lt	KIA
BOM	Carlson, Robert C.A., Lt	KIA
ENG	Corns, Lester O., T/Sgt	KIA
TG	Clapshaw, Keith L., S/Sgt	KIA
RO	Vasel, Warren T., Sgt	KIA
BT	Kirkpatrick, Ward M., S/Sgt	KIA
RWG	Morrison, W.G., S/Sgt	KIA
LWG	Ryan, Clayton W., Sgt	KIA

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

P	Broussard, Edward J., Jr., Capt
CP	LeFevre, William G., Lt
NAV	Herman, Charles L., Lt
BOM	Sherwood, Lyle D., Lt
ENG	Smock, Edmund L., T/Sgt
RO	Karanson, William A., Jr., T/Sgt
BT	Choice, Hudson, S/Sgt
LWG	Fleming, William W., S/Sgt
RWG	Storer, Charles R., S/Sgt
TG	Jurosek, Bernard, Sgt

B-17F #42-5392 *Stric Nine*

P	Strickland, Alexander C., Lt
CP	Olsen, Curtis M., Lt
NAV	Hokans, Carl A., Lt
BOM	Lamme, Edwin G., Lt
ENG	Baart, James C., T/Sgt
BT	Peck, Raymond R., S/Sgt
RO	Martel, Albert E., Jr., T/Sgt
RWG	Strohsack, R.R., S/Sgt
TG	Sherg, Anthony W., S/Sgt
LWG	McGill, Edward E., Sgt