

303rd BG(H) Combat Mission No. 39

21 May 1943

Target: Marinwerke Submarine Pens, Wilhelmshaven, Ger.

Crews Dispatched: 19

Bomb Load: 10 x 500 lb M-43 G.P. bombs

Bombing Altitude: 24,400 ft

Length of Mission: 5 hours, 55 minutes

Ammo Fired: 44,295 rounds

Enemy Aircraft Claims: 8 Destroyed, 2 Probables, 3 Damaged

Maj. Lewis E. **Lyle**, CO of the 360th BS(H), led the Group formation in excellent flying weather to bomb the primary target. One aircraft, #41-24602, *Yardbird*, 360BS (**Trojan**), returned before bombing when the ball turret heating unit went out. Eighteen Group B-17s reached the target at 24,000 feet and dropped 45 tons of 500-lb. M-43 bombs. Flak was reported as moderate and fairly accurate over the target, slight over the coast, and from one island just off the German coast.

It became quite apparent that the Germans were desperately attempting to do all in their power to stop the devastation caused by the precision bombing of the Fortresses. Many aircraft attacked from all angles. Nose attacks were the most prevalent. Many aircraft attempted to bomb the formation from above. In addition, an apparently new type of attack was made. Crews reported that single-engine planes were shooting what seemed to be rocket shells at the formation. Great bursts of flame from their wings would suddenly develop into many bursts. None, however, was effective enough to cause any real damage.

Maj. **Lyle**, in his mission report, commented, "It is my belief that unless our formations are able to use heavier long-range defensive firepower, our losses will materially increase because of the 30mm cannon attacks from enemy pursuit planes that fly outside of our effective range." He described the mission as ". . . one of the roughest ever. We flew in terrible weather until just before our bomb run. We had no attacks of any kind until we started on the run. Then we got flak and fighters a'plenty although the flak wasn't too bad. We saw the fighters before, but they didn't come in until then. They stayed with us as far as 90 miles back out to sea. There were two Squadrons of JU-88s out there sweating us out. It looked like they were coming on top of us to bomb us so we took violent evasive action. They stuck around for another 10 minutes, still sweating us, and then they turned back. It looked like they were using smoke screen starting over the target, but our Fortresses were able to make their bomb run and set their sights on the aiming point of the target while it was still visible."

Capt. Carl H. **Morales**, 358th BS(H) pilot, who completed his 25th mission in *S for Sugar*, said, "There were so many fighters that it looked like a fighter escort. I am not kidding. I have never seen so many before." 2Lt. Richard **McElwain**, who at 19 was one of the Air Force's youngest commissioned officers and Capt. **Morales's** navigator, commented, "I would look around and all I could see were fighters all around us. They

stayed with us for 30 to 40 minutes, attacking from all angles. I was too busy over the target to see the bombing results." S/Sgt. Robert C. **Blake**, another 25-mission veteran tail gunner on the **Morales** crew, said, "I didn't get any attacks from my end today. They were coming by from the top and nose."

Crew Reports of Enemy Aircraft Destroyed or Damaged

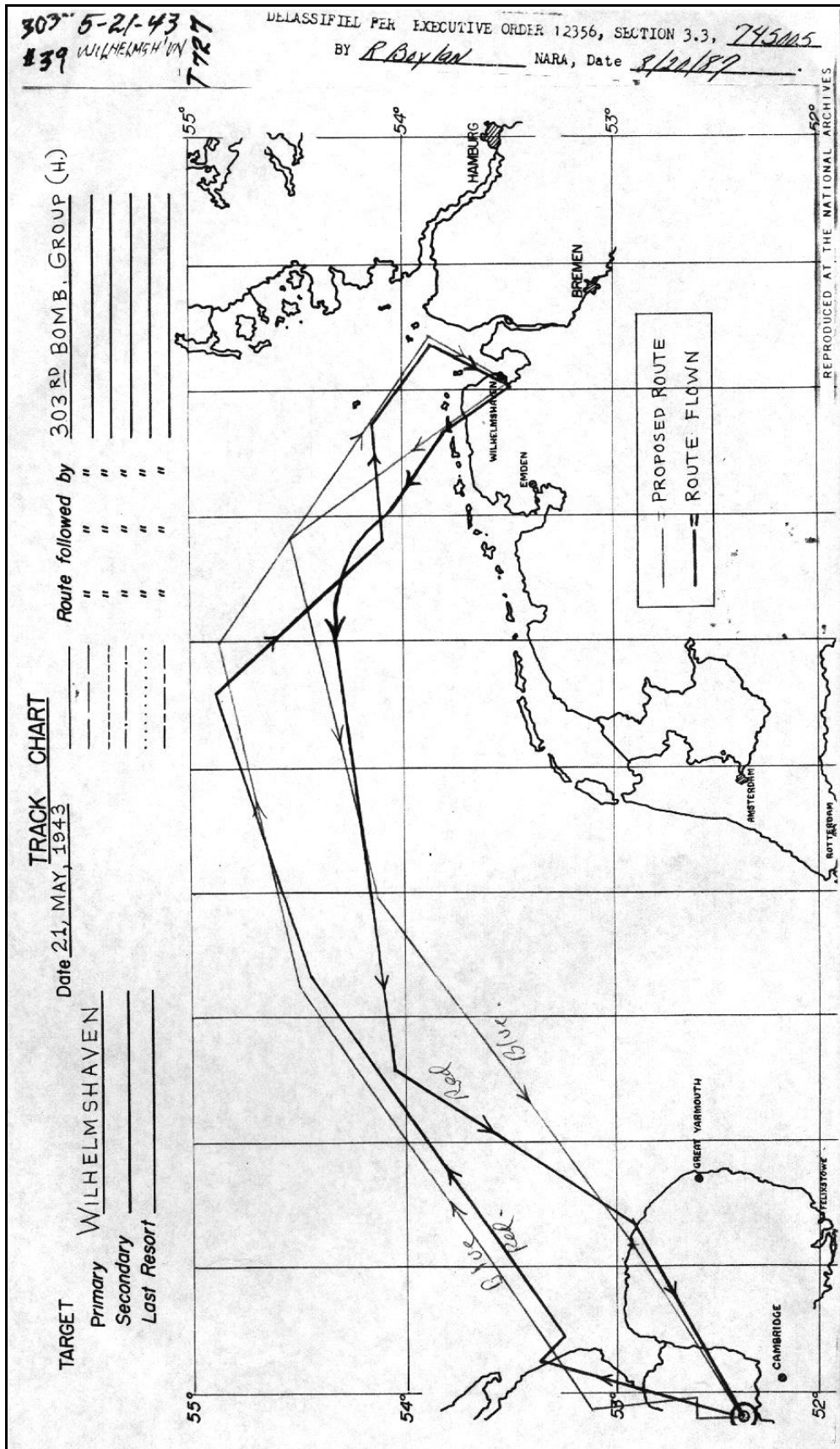
T/Sgt. F.B. Ziemer (081)	FW-190	Possible
T/Sgt. H.E. Hernan (029)	ME-109F	Destroyed
S/Sgt. J.D. Gonsalves (605)	FW-190	Destroyed
Lt. R.O. Philpit (846)	FW-190	Destroyed
Lt. R.O. Philpit (846)	FW-190	Destroyed
Sgt. W.H. Bruns (605)	ME-109	Possible
Sgt. E.T. Knudsen (605)	ME-109	Probable
S/Sgt. R.A. Garcia (635)	FW-190	Possible
T/Sgt. A.S. Stevens (393)	FW-190	Destroyed
Lt. H.R. Wright (221)	FW-190	Possible
S/Sgt. L.F. Bourdon (540)	FW-190	Possible
S/Sgt. L.F. Bourdon (540)	FW-190	Probable
S/Sgt. H.T. Brown (540)	ME-109	Destroyed



A.O.G. Not in Stock #42-5788 (360BS) PU-H

102nd PBCW Lead (360BS) - Pilot Maj L.E. Lyle / CoPilot Capt J.W. Fredericks

(Back L-R) S/Sgt H.L. Collins (WG), T/Sgt R.J. Smith (R), T/Sgt M.S. Hlastala (E), Capt J.W. Fredericks (CP), Maj L.E. Lyle (P), Lt M.S. Fonorow (B), Lt O.A. Hoyt (N), Lt L.M. Schulstad (TG-O)
 (Front L-R) S/Sgt H.H. Nardine (BT), S/Sgt H.G. Schneiderman (WG), Capt P.G. Moore (N)



Route Map

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

<u>Lyle</u> 788				
<u>Palmer</u> 483		<u>Stallings</u> 393		
<u>Clifton</u> 221				
<u>Trojan</u> 602		<u>Burch</u> 540		
<u>Morales</u> 619		<u>Roller</u> 605		
<u>Lemmon</u> 571	<u>Jess</u> 432	<u>Van Wie</u> 640	<u>Cline</u> 561	
<u>Nolan</u> 955		<u>Smith</u> 846		
<u>O'Connor</u> 081	<u>Thompson</u> 539	<u>Haines</u> 635	<u>Campbell</u> 029	
<u>McDonald</u> 792		_____		

One (1) aircraft aborted this mission:
Lt. Trojan in 602

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 - 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 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 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 #41-24539 *Jersey Bounce*

P	Thompson, Frank H., 2Lt
CP	Joy, Ripley W., 2Lt
NAV	McConnen, James R., 2Lt
BOM	McCord, Lawrence E., 2Lt
ENG	Welch, James R., S/Sgt
TT	Koenig, Bernard H., T/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 #42-5081 *Luscious Lady*

P	O'Connor, Robert S., 2Lt
CP	Hurlburt, Donald W., 2Lt
NAV	Grant, Donald L., 2Lt
BOM	Steele, Earl A., 2Lt
ENG	Ziemer, Frederick B., T/Sgt
BT	Maxwell, Samuel P., S/Sgt
RO	Warren, Russell M., T/Sgt
RWG	Smith, Robert H., S/Sgt
TG	Sadler, James K., S/Sgt
LWG	Heaps, Theodore C., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29955 *Mr. Five By Five*

P	Nolan, Robert J., Capt
CP	Kruse, Richard L., 2Lt
NAV	Anderson, William J., 2Lt
BOM	Hopper, Richard R., 1Lt
ENG	Hively, Roy J., T/Sgt
RWG	Meddaugh, Allerton F., S/Sgt
RO	Hamill, Milton, T/Sgt
TG	Bitter, Emile V., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Mathews, Frank M., S/Sgt
LWG	Smith, Delvyn, S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5792 *The Mugger*

P	McDonald, James M., 1Lt
CP	Sumaridason, Arni L., 2Lt
NAV	Clement, Richard W., 1Lt
BOM	Miller, Robert S., 2Lt
ENG	Fanning, David D., T/Sgt
RWG	Zioance, John, S/Sgt
RO	Carpenter, Glenn S., T/Sgt
BT	Toy, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Sterling, Robert W., S/Sgt
LWG	Martin, James C., S/Sgt

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

P	Jess, Ray W., 1Lt
CP	Gunn, Harold W., 2Lt
NAV	Davidson, Robert P., 2Lt
BOM	Godwin, Harold E., S/Sgt
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 #41-24619 *S for Sugar*

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
RWG	Hill, John E., S/Sgt
TG	Blake, Robert C., S/Sgt
LWG	Westfall, Max M., 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
PHO	Weiskopf, Dennis, S/Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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 #42-29846 *(No Name)*

P Smith, Sanford T., Capt
 CP Farrell, Lawrence C., 2Lt
 NAV Summers, Thomas E., 1Lt
 BOM Philpitt, Russell O., 2Lt
 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, Earl R., Sgt
 RWG Adams, Ralph B., S/Sgt
 PHO Kagey, Martin I., Jr., Sgt

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

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 C., T/Sgt
 TG Milliff, Mike C., S/Sgt
 TT 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 Bruns, William H., Jr., Sgt
 TG Knudsen, Elmer T., Sgt
 LWG Gonsalves, John D., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-3029 *Wallaroo*

P Campbell, Claude W., 1Lt
 CP Miller, Arthur W., 2Lt
 NAV Ririe, George M., 2Lt
 BOM Boutelle, Winston E., 2Lt
 ENG Hernan, Howard E., T/Sgt
 RO Kraft, Harold A., T/Sgt
 RWG Bachert, Kurt W., S/Sgt
 BT Catozza, Peter P., S/Sgt
 TG Quick, George D., S/Sgt
 LWG Wilson, Benton, Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-29640 *Old Ironsides*

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 #42-5221 *Son*

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 #41-24602 *Yardbird*

P	Trojan, Joseph E., Lt
CP	Vaughan, Thomas S., Lt
NAV	Madsen, Parley W., Jr., Lt
BOM	Stewart, Jack W., Lt
ENG	Prescott, Paul H., S/Sgt
LWG	Semonick, Martin A., S/Sgt
RO	Craft, Cecil E., S/Sgt
BT	Sunderlin, Joseph R., S/Sgt
TG	Bartlett, Frank W., S/Sgt
RWG	O'Connell, Lincoln T., S/Sgt
NG	Murray, Gilbert A., Jr., Sgt

(Abortive)

B-17F #42-5393 *Just For Laughs*

P	Stallings, George V., Jr., Lt
CP	Bradbury, Joseph E., Lt
NAV	Kelley, James F., Lt
BOM	Kulesa, Frank E., Lt
ENG	Watson, James A., T/Sgt
LWG	Yattaw, Robert H., S/Sgt
RO	Jones, Dick W., S/Sgt
BT	Stevens, A.S., T/Sgt
TG	Stickler, John J., S/Sgt
RWG	Klasnick, Joseph S., Sgt

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

P	Palmer, Joseph F., Lt
CP	Way, Arthur C., 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

B-17F #42-5788 *A.O.G. Not in Stock*

P	Lyle, Lewis E., Maj
CP	Fredericks, Jacob W., Capt
NAV	Hoyt, Otis A., Lt
NAV	Moore, Paul G., Capt
BOM	Fonorow, Milton S., Lt
ENG	Hlastala, Michael S., T/Sgt
LWG	Schneiderman, Henry G., S/Sgt
RO	Smith, Richard J., T/Sgt
BT	Nardine, Howard H., S/Sgt
TG	Schulstad, Louis M., Lt
RWG	Collins, Harvie L., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew List

B-17 #42-29540 *Shooting Star*

P Burch, Armand F., Lt
CP Olsen, Curtis M., Lt
NAV Noblin, John D., Lt
BOM Butt, Byron K., Lt
ENG Means, Lucian W., Jr., T/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