

303rd BG(H) Combat Mission No. 40

29 May 1943

Target: Submarine Locks and Docks Area, St. Nazaire, France

Crews Dispatched: 30

Crews Lost: Lt. Trojan & crew - 1 KIA, 9 POW

Length of Mission: 5 hours, 40 minutes

Bomb Load: 2 x 2,000 lb G.P. M-34 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 24,900 ft & 26,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 69,075 rounds

Enemy Aircraft Claims: 2 Destroyed, 1 Possible, 1 Damaged

Thirty Flying Fortresses left Molesworth to join in one of the largest VIII Air Force daylight bombing raids of the war. Maj. Glenn E. **Hagenbuch**, CO 427BS(H) commanded the Group formation.

Two aircraft aborted the mission:

#42-29955, *Mr. Five by Five*, 427BS (**Liye**). The Fortress experienced filings in the oil sump.

#42-3192, (*No Name*), (**O'Connor**). The ball turret gunner passed out.

The 28 remaining aircraft flew in perfect weather, unescorted over land, to make a perfect bomb run. Little flak was encountered on the way into the target over the French coast, but the bursts were inaccurate with no damage until the target was reached. Over the target intense and very accurate flak was filling the air. Some crews reported hearing pieces of shrapnel banging against the skin of their planes. Bomb sighting was perfect and bombs landed well on the aiming point and target area. Some attempt was made to conceal the target with a smoke screen.

Considerable enemy aircraft opposition was reported with as many as 35 to 40 seen. There were five encounters with the Group claiming two destroyed , one possible and one damaged.

Yardbird, #42-41-24602, 360BS, piloted by 1Lt. Joseph E. **Trojan**, an original 303rd BG(H) failed to return. The Fortress was last seen leaving the target after having been disabled by flak. It was subsequently hit by attacking FW-190s and ME-109s which caused the aircraft to crash. Eight parachutes were seen leaving *Yardbird*, which exploded with a burst of fire when it hit the ground. 1Lt. Thomas S. **Vaughan** was killed and Lt. **Trojan**, 1Lt. Parley W. **Madsen**, Jr., 1Lt. Jack W. Stewart, S/Sgt. Paul H. **Prescott**, S/Sgt. Cecil E. **Craft**, S/Sgt. Joseph R. **Sunderlin**, S/Sgt. Martin A. **Semonick**, S/Sgt. Frank W. **Bartlett**, and S/Sgt. Lincoln T. **O'Connell** were captured by the enemy and taken prisoner. S/Sgt. **Prescott** died in a German hospital at Paris-Clichy on 4 June 1943, about 20 days after becoming a POW. He is buried in Epinal American Cemetery near Vosges, France. S/Sgt. **Bartlett** was badly wounded and was repatriated in 1944.

Formation commander Maj. **Hagenbuch** commented, "It was a good trip. Our boys flew in a tight formation. I have never seen so many B-17s in the air. It sure looked good to me. My bombardier, Capt. **Dieffenbach**, said the bombs were right in there." 1Lt. Mel **Schulstad**, a pilot flying as the official tail gunner observer on Maj. **Hagenbuch's** plane, said, "Our formation was perfect. Although most of the attacks were from the tail, they didn't come in too close. Fighters were picking on the stragglers mostly or waiting for them. The target must have been bombed well because it was completely covered with smoke when I got to see it."

Capt. Joseph **Strickland**, navigator for Capt. **Calhoun** in the *Wallaroo*, #42-3029, 359BS, reported excellent results by commenting, "The bombing was excellent. They tried to hide the target in a smoke screen, but it was too late. We were the ones that laid in the smoke screen. Fighters weren't too bad, but the flak is getting back to where it used to be."

Some of the crew of the Fortress *Pappy* were enthusiastic about the results. The pilot, 1Lt. William J. **Cline**, said, "It was a good trip. Not too many fighters against us, although they were working over the Group ahead of us." *Pappy's* co-pilot, 2Lt. Thomas E. **Mulligan**, said, "I thought it was OK, too. There sure were a lot of Forts ahead of us, as far as you would see." Lt. Leroy V. **Gordon**, bombardier, said, "There were bombs all over the place. We sure gave it hell. The aiming point was smothered and large puffs of black smoke came up from the building alongside the wharf." Engineer and top turret gunner, S/Sgt. Lloyd **Jordan**, said, "I didn't see too many fighters, although I shot one down. He was riding up alongside of us, and then all of a sudden he peeled off as if to attack the ships behind us. Then is when I let him have it and he went down."

Crew Reports of Enemy Aircraft Destroyed and Damaged

S/Sgt. L.L. Jordan (624)	FW-190	Destroyed
S/Sgt. G.W. Henderson (221)	FW-190	Damaged
S/Sgt. A.W. Sherg (392)	FW-190	Destroyed
Sgt. O.T. Stout (260)	FW-190	Possible

307 5-29-43
 440 ST. NAZARE 1.12.1

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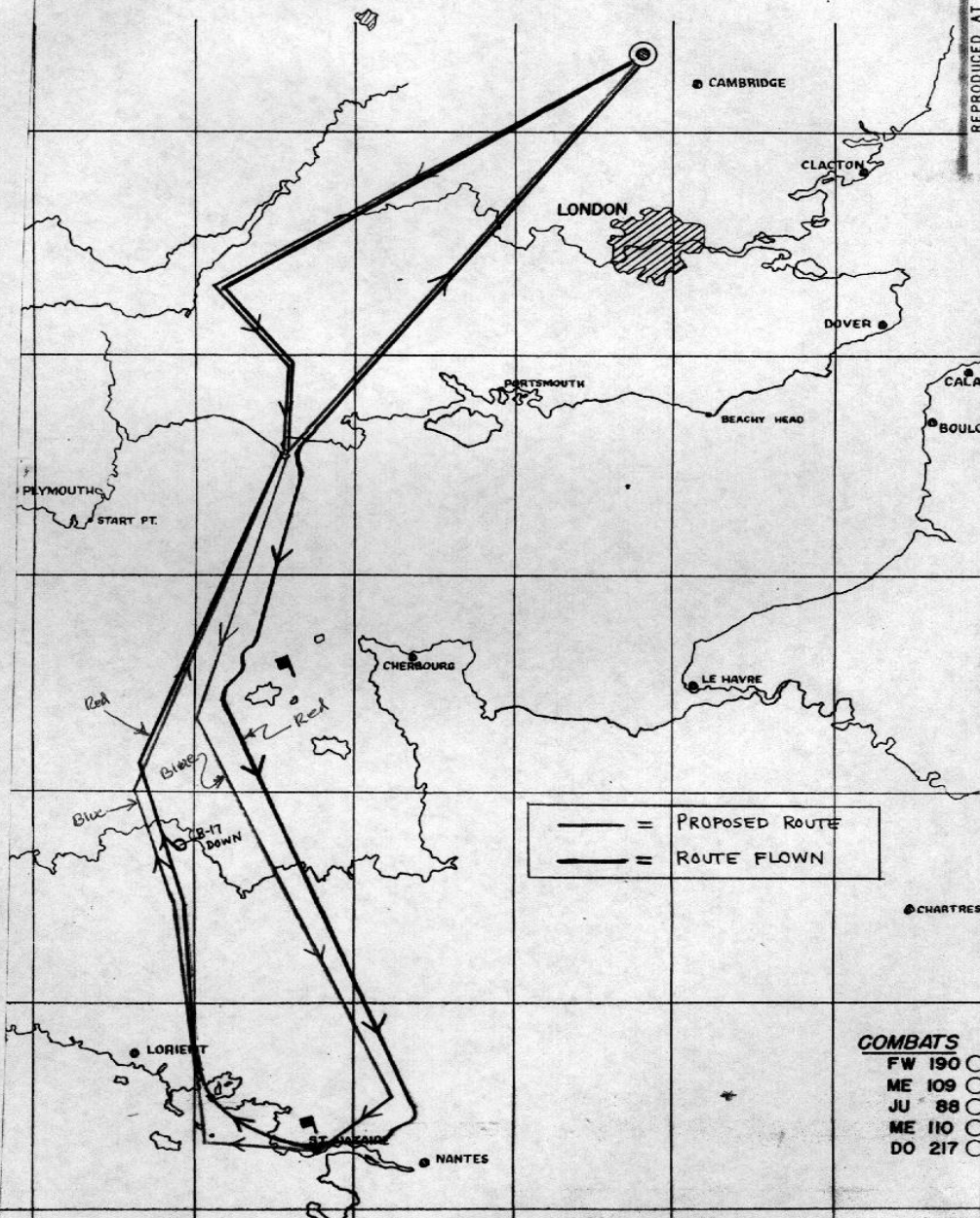
BY R. Baylen NARA, Date 8/24/89

TRACK CHART

DATE 29, MAY, 1943

Route followed

303RD BOMB. GROUP
 AND COMPOSITE GROUP



Route Map

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Hagenbuch</u> 619		
	<u>James</u> 360		<u>Strickland</u> 392	
		<u>Southworth</u> 221		
	<u>Burch</u> 587		<u>Lipe</u> 955	
	<u>Fredericks</u> 788		<u>Calhoun</u> 029	
<u>Palmer</u> 483		<u>Trojan</u> 602		<u>Pentz</u> 640
	<u>Griffin</u> 434		<u>Mattison</u> 177	
			<u>Roller</u> 605	
<u>Stallings</u> 393		<u>Clifton</u> 973		<u>Cline</u> 624
	_____			_____

Two (2) aircraft aborted this mission:

Lt. Lipe in 955 Lt. O'Connor in 192

303rd Aircraft Which Flew in Composite Group with 379th BG(H)

		<u>Nolan</u> 792		
	<u>Timken</u> 656		<u>Jess</u> 432	
		<u>O'Connor</u> 192		
	<u>Thompson</u> 635		<u>Lemmon</u> 571	
	_____		<u>Smith</u> 846	
_____			<u>Mack</u> 606	<u>McClung</u> 482
	_____		<u>Broussard</u> 081	
_____			<u>Van Wie</u> 468	<u>Casello</u> 260
	_____			_____



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

Part of 103rd PBCW Lead Group (18 B-17s) - Lead Crew Low Squadron Flight (6 B-17s) (360BS)

Pilot Capt J.W. Fredericks / CoPilot Lt A.C. Way

(Back L-R) unidentified, unidentified, T/Sgt M.S. Hlastala (E),

S/Sgt H.L. Collins (RWG), S/Sgt H.H. Nardine (BTG)

(Front L-R) Lt A.C. Way (CP), Lt M.S. Fonorow (B),

Capt J.W. Fredericks (P), Lt Otis W. Hoyt (N), unidentified

unidentified crewmen are:

S/Sgt G.H. Schneiderman (LWG), T/Sgt R.J. Smith (R), Sgt G.A. Murphy (TG)

(Capt L.W. Blythe, 360th BS Pilot, (not in photo) also flew as an Observer.)

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

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-29635 *Augerhead*

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	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 #42-5792 *The Mugger*

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
BT	Mathews, Frank M., S/Sgt
RO	Hamill, Milton, T/Sgt
RWG	Isham, Laurence W., S/Sgt
TG	Swaffer, Calvin A., 2Lt
LWG	Goff, James P., S/Sgt
PAS	Jackson, W.M., Maj

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

P	Jess, Ray W., 2Lt
CP	Gunn, Harold W., 2Lt
NAV	Davidson, Robert P., 2Lt
BOM	Zasadil, Frank E., 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 #42-29571 *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	Carroll, Albert V., S/Sgt
TG	Brown, Virgil E., S/Sgt
LWG	Briggs, Wayne E., S/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	Koenig, Bernard H., T/Sgt
RWG	Paiva, Joseph B., Sgt
RO	Baxter, Jack, T/Sgt
BT	Toy, James E., Sgt
TG	Giassullo, Criscienzo N., S/Sgt
LWG	Redhead, George R., Sgt

B-17F #42-3192 *(No Name)*

P	O'Connor, Robert S., 2Lt
CP	Hurlburt, Donald W., 2Lt
NAV	Grant, Donald L., 1Lt
BOM	Steele, Earl A., 2Lt
ENG	Zierner, 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

(Abortive Sortie)

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-5430 *Pappy/Good Snuf*

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 #42-29624 *Pappy*

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
RWG	Jordan, Lloyd L., S/Sgt
BT	Lemann, Paul C., S/Sgt
LWG	Kerr, Joseph, Sgt
PAS	Rahn, Lehman H., 1Lt

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 #42-29640 *Old Ironsides*

P	Pentz, Arthur H., 1Lt
CP	Phelps, Robert L., Jr., 1Lt
NAV	Jacobsen, Norman N., 2Lt
BOM	Philpitt, Russell O., 1Lt
ENG	Hernan, Howard E., T/Sgt
BT	Edwards, Hurd L., Sgt.
RO	Murray, Robert L., T/Sgt
RWG	Horvath, Robert A., S/Sgt
TG	Knudsen, Elmer T., Sgt
LWG	Howard, George Z., S/Sgt

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

P	Roller, Jack, Capt
CP	Kruse, Richard L., 2Lt
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., S/Sgt
LWG	Gonsalves, John D., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29846 *(No Name)*

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	Bachert, Kurt W., S/Sgt
BT	Tibbles, Russell F., S/Sgt
TG	Howard, Earl R., Sgt
RWG	Wilson, Benton F., S/Sgt
PAS	Sapienza, Samuel T., 1Lt

B-17F #42-5482 *Cat-O-Nine Tails*

P	McClung, Guy H., 1Lt
CP	Miller, Arthur W., 2Lt
NAV	Stettler, Donald G., 2Lt
BOM	Rothman, Theodore I., 2Lt
ENG	Coykendall, Ralph A., T/Sgt
RWG	Traban, James J., S/Sgt
RO	Roberts, Raymond K., T/Sgt
TG	Piatek, Casimir P., S/Sgt
BT	Catozza, Peter P., S/Sgt
LWG	Ryan, Francis J., S/Sgt
PHO	Kagey, Martin I., Jr., Sgt

B-17F #42-3029 *Wallaroo*

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

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-5468 Quinine-Bitter Dose

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 #42-2973 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	Hogue, Earl, T/Sgt
BT	Crissman, Fred T., Sgt
TG	Villarreal, Rodolfo A., S/Sgt
RWG	Jameson, Jimmie E., Sgt

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	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

B-17F #42-5260 Yardbird II

P	Casello, John J., Lt
CP	Huguenin, Wesley V., Lt
NAV	Effinger, Lawrence E., Lt
BOM	Fawcett, Jack B., Lt
ENG	Carnathan, Hugh S., T/Sgt
RWG	Gray, Johnnie E., S/Sgt
RO	Calco, Anthony, T/Sgt
BT	Ponder, Truly S., S/Sgt
TG	Stout, Otis T., S/Sgt

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

P	Fredericks, Jacob W., Capt
CP	Way, Arthur C., Lt
NAV	Hoyt, Otis A., Lt
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
RWG	Collins, Harvie L., S/Sgt
TG	Murray, Gilbert A., Jr., Sgt
PAS	Blythe, Leon W., Capt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17F #42-29606 <i>Butch</i>		B-17F #42-5434 <i>Lady Luck</i>	
P	Mack, David W., Lt	P	Griffin, Loyd D., Lt
CP	Barhaug, Ragnar, Lt	CP	Swanson, Walter C., Lt
NAV	Smith, Roland M., Lt	NAV	Preston, William M., Lt
BOM	Cox, Charles J., Lt	BOM	Taylor, Robert L., Lt
ENG	Deitch, Daniel T., T/Sgt	ENG	Eason, William M., T/Sgt
LWG	Stewart, Carl C., S/Sgt	LWG	Edwards, Samuel L., S/Sgt
RO	Cicinelli, Salvatore J., S/Sgt	RO	Schwartz, Vernon E., T/Sgt
TG	Biernacki, Joseph J., S/Sgt	TG	Wiegand, Lynwood D., S/Sgt
BT	Peterson, Andrew C., S/Sgt	BT	Plummer, Robert, S/Sgt
RWG	Spitzfaden, Robert E., Sgt	RWG	Henderson, Paul E., S/Sgt

B-17F #41-24602 <i>Yardbird</i> - CR-L		
P	Trojan, Joseph E., 1Lt	BO/POW
CP	Vaughan, Thomas S., 1Lt	KIA
NAV	Madsen, Parley W., Jr., 1Lt	BO/POW
BOM	Stewart, Jack W., 1Lt	BO/POW
ENG	Prescott, Paul H., S/Sgt	POW/DOW
LWG	Semonick, Martin A., S/Sgt	BO/POW
RO	Craft, Cecil E., S/Sgt	BO/POW
BT	Sunderlin, Joseph R., S/Sgt	BO/POW
TG	Bartlett, Frank W. S/Sgt	BO/WIA/POW
LWG	O'Connell, Lincoln T., S/Sgt	BO/POW

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	Storer, Charles R., 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
OBS	Grobe, David E., Jr., 1Lt

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	Scheuerer, Joseph E., S/Sgt
TG	Sherg, Anthony W., S/Sgt
LWG	McGill, Edward E., Sgt

B-17F #42-5081 *Luscious Lady*

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	Hairr, Elwood F., S/Sgt
RWG	Koch, Vernon E., S/Sgt
TG	Jurosek, Bernard, Sgt

B-17F #42-5360 *Old Faithful*

P	James, Jacob C., Lt
CP	Ness, Howard C., Lt
NAV	Scroggins, Paul W., Lt
BOM	Witt, Walter E., Lt
ENG	Johnson, Otto D., Sgt
BR	Longo, Angelo L., Sgt
RO	Jessee, Jesse J., T/Sgt
TG	Misiak, Frank L., S/Sgt
LWG	Smith, Delvyn, S/Sgt
RWG	Tripp, Jesse E., S/Sgt

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

P	Lipe, Fort W., Lt
CP	Pratt, James N., Lt
NAV	Boner, Allen M., Lt
BOM	Smith, Abbott M., Jr., Lt
ENG	Good, James K., T/Sgt
BT	Sink, Robert K., S/Sgt
RO	Brandfas, Dale F., T/Sgt
TG	Serpa, Joseph E., S/Sgt
LWG	Hinds, Durward L., S/Sgt
RWG	Barron, Dante G., Sgt
(Abortive)	

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

P	Hagenbuch, Glenn E., Maj
CP	Snyder, Edgar E., Jr., Capt
NAV	Soha, Walter M., Capt
BOM	Dieffenbach, Albert W., Capt
ENG	Means, Lucian W., Jr., T/Sgt
BT	Jenkins, Robert R., S/Sgt
RO	Amos, Lee H., T/Sgt
LWG	Bryant, Carson, S/Sgt
TG	Schulstad, Louis M., Lt
RWG	Coomes, Clarence S., S/Sgt
PAS	Lame, Louis A., Capt

B-17F #42-5221 *Son*

P	Southworth, Billy B., Jr., Capt
CP	Mackin, George T., Lt
NAV	McElwain, Richard E., Lt
BOM	Rohrlich, Robert E., Lt
ENG	Zipfel, Charles E., T/Sgt
BT	Belk, Jack, S/Sgt
RO	Doughty, Edward J., T/Sgt
TG	Henderson, George W., S/Sgt
RWG	Harmon, Edward Z., S/Sgt
LWG	Brandt, Waldo B., S/Sgt