

## 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 43

22 June 1943

Target: Synthetic Rubber Plant, Huls, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 28

Crews Lost: Lt. Jess - 6 KIA, 4 POW, 1 WIA

Length of Mission: 5 hours, 55 minutes / 5 hours, 25 minutes

Bomb Load: 10 x 500 lb G.P. bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 26,450 ft & 27,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 45,169 rounds

Enemy Aircraft Claims: 1 Damaged

**M**ajor Glenn E. **Hagenbuch**, CO 427BS, flew with the 384BG in a 381/384BG Task Force to Antwerp, Belgium. The 303rd BG(H) put up 13 aircraft as part of a composite group with seven aircraft of the 379BG(H).

Lt. **Mattison**, pilot of *Fast Worker MKII* #42-5177, brought his aircraft back early when the No. 4 engine and supercharger went out. Maj. William R. **Calhoun** led the formation, flying as co-pilot in *Lady Luck*, #42-5434, piloted by Capt. L.D. **Griffin** of the 360th BS. Sixty-five tons of 500-lb. bombs were successfully dropped on the target from 26,000 feet. All crews were enthusiastic about the bombing results and the large amount of smoke that billowed up from the immense fires started by their bombs. The target was clearly seen through a large hole in the broken clouds.

1Lt. **Fonorow**, who skillfully released his bombs directly on the target despite severe frontal attacks, and then manned his nose guns and aided in fighting the fighters, was awarded the Silver Star Medal.

Maj. **Calhoun** said, "I think it is about the best bombing we've done. Smoke from the fires blossomed up to about 8,000 feet and could be plainly seen as we turned away from the target." Navigator 2Lt. W.R. **Barnhill** said, "I saw a beautiful red fire in the target and a mass of black and orange smoke rolling up from it to a tremendous height. It sure was a good job!" Many comments were made about German anti-aircraft fire. Maj. **Calhoun** said, "The flak was thick. They seemed to be throwing up everything they had. I'm sure that we weren't within range very long." Maj. **Calhoun's** tail gunner observer, Lt. N.J. **Rosenblum**, said, "It's true what they say about flak in the Ruhr. They didn't quite have our range, but the Groups behind us caught plenty."

Fighter opposition was moderate with 25 to 30 seen and one encounter. 1Lt. Bernard **Rice** in *Red Ass* claimed an FW-190 damaged. 1Lt. James S. **Nix**, pilot of the *The '8' Ball MkII* said, "My ship was riddled by fighter fire. I could see him coming and tried to dodge, but he turned and the puffs from his bursting 20mm climbed to us." 1Lt. Frank **Thompson**, pilot of *Augerhead*, 358BS said, "Three Squadrons of those damn FWs sneaked up on us just as we were expecting to pick up Spitfire escort on the route home. It sure surprised the hell out of me when they suddenly came roaring in at us but we were ready and no one got hurt."

For the first time, five YB-40s of the 92BG(H) accompanied the 303rd BG(H) formations. Capt. Glynn **Shumake**, Group Operations Officer, in his mission summary report wrote, "The YB-40s gave excellent fire support to the front today and we would like to have them with us regularly. It is believed that they should be somewhat more familiar with the mechanics of our formation."



Tail Art on B-17F 42-5432 *The Hunting Club*

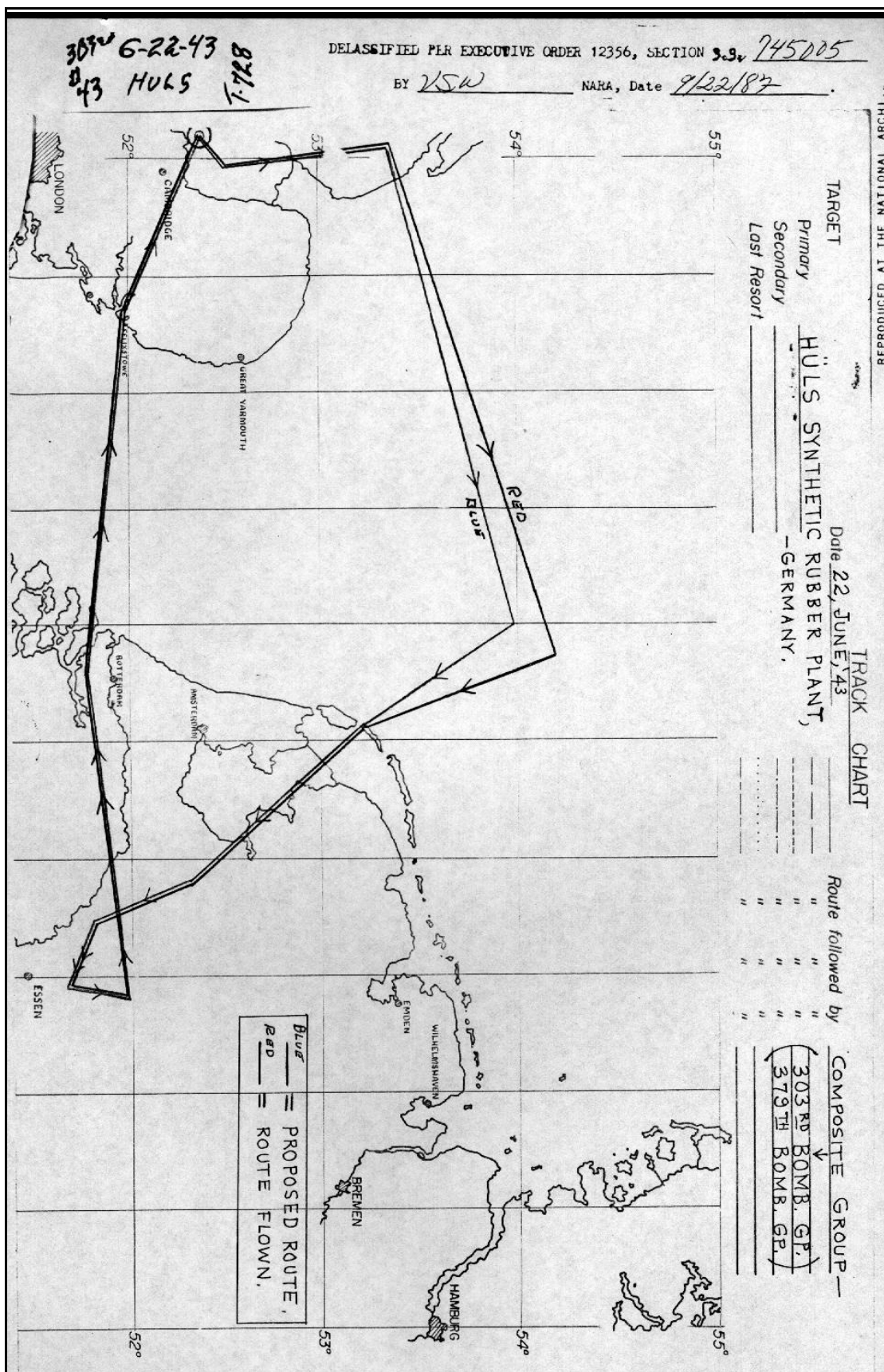
One B-17, #42-5432 *The Hunting Club*, piloted by 1Lt. Ray W. **Jess**, was lost to the anti-aircraft fire and was last seen after it had passed over the target area. It crashed at Berg Bossendorf, Germany. Lt. **Jess**, 2Lt. Robert P. **Davidson**, 1Lt. James H. **Montgomery**, T/Sgt. Joseph J. **Godzinski**, S/Sgt. Byron W. **Johnson**, and S/Sgt. Frank M. **White** were killed in the crash. Lt. **Jess**, Lt. **Davidson**, S/Sgt. **Johnson** and S/Sgt. **White** are buried in Ardennes American Cemetery near Liege, Belgium. 2Lt. Harold W. **Gunn**, T/Sgt. Harold E. **Smith**, S/Sgt. Sidney V. **Hall** and S/Sgt. Charles F. **Hardacre** were captured and became prisoners of war.



**RAY W. JESS CREW - 358th BS**

(crew assigned 358BS: 12 March 1943 - photo: 04 Jan 1943, Pierre, SD)

(Back L-R) T/Sgt Joseph J. Godzinski (R-KIA), S/Sgt Byron W. Johnson (BT-KIA),  
T/Sgt Harold E. Smith (E-POW), S/Sgt Charles F. Hardacre (RWG-POW), S/Sgt Frank M. White (TG-KIA)  
(Front L-R) 2Lt Charles M. Box (B), 2Lt Robert P. Davidson (N-KIA),  
2Lt Harold W. Gunn (CP-POW), 1Lt Ray W. Jess (P-KIA)



Route Map

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Griffin-Calhoun</u> 434		
		<u>Van Wie</u> 483		
		<u>Clifton</u> 260		
			<u>Palmer</u> 390	
		<u>Stallings</u> 393		
	<u>Roller</u> 605		<u>Rogan</u> 192	
			<u>Jess</u> 432	<u>O'Connor</u> 656
	<u>Cline</u> 257		<u>Timken</u> 562	
<u>Campbell</u> 561			<u>Lemmon</u> 571	<u>Thompson</u> 9635
	<u>Nix</u> 4635			

One (1) aircraft aborted mission: Lt. Mattison in 177



**Lady Luck #42-5434 (360BS) PU-T**  
**103rd PBCW-A Main Lead 303rd BG(H) Group**  
**Pilot Capt L.D. Griffin / CoPilot/Air Commander Maj W.R. Calhoun**

(Back L-R) Lt N.J. Rosenblum (pass), Lt M.S. Fonorow (B), Maj W.R. Calhoun (CP), Capt L.D. Griffin (P),  
 Lt W.M. Preston (N), Lt W.C. Swanson (TG-O)  
 (Front) S/Sgt S.L. Edwards (WG), T/Sgt W.M. Eason (E), S/Sgt L.D. Wiegand (pass), S/Sgt P.E. Henderson (WG),  
 S/Sgt R. Plummer (BT), T/Sgt V.E. Schwartz (R)

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

		<u>Southworth</u> 619		
	<u>Shelhamer</u> 124			
		<u>Broussard</u> 158		
	<u>Lipe</u> 131		<u>Strickland</u> 392	
		<u>Mack</u> 606		
				<u>Smith</u> 846
			<u>Pentz</u> 482	<u>Mattison</u> 177
				<u>Burch</u> 944
			<u>James</u> 587	<u>Pratt</u> 955
				<u>Casello</u> 382

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<b><u>CREW POSITIONS</u></b> 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  <b><u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u></b> 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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**S-for-Sugar #41-24619 (427BS) GN-S**

**103rd PBCW Composite High Group (303rd & 379th BGs)**

**Pilot Capt B.B. Southworth / CoPilot 1Lt R.P. Dubell / Observer LtCol K.D. Stevens**

LtCol K.D. Stevens (OB - Director Operations, Hdqs. 8thAF) (back, 4th from left),

Capt B.B. Southworth (P), 1Lt R.P. Dubell (CP),

Lt F.J. Illgen (N), Lt A.M. Smith, Jr. (B), Lt A.A.Cote (TG-O)

T/Sgt J.K. Good (E), S/Sgt J. Belk (BTâ, T/Sgt E.J. Doughty (R),

S/Sgt E.Z. Harmon (WG), S/Sgt W.D. Brandt (WG)

crewmembers are not in order

## 358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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

### **B-17F #42-29635 *Augerhead***

P	Thompson, Frank H., 2Lt
CP	Sumarladason, Arni L., 2Lt
NAV	McConnen, James R., 2Lt
BOM	Sweet, William T., 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 #42-29656 *The Terrible Ten***

P	O'Connor, Robert S., 2Lt
CP	Hurlburt, Donald W., 2Lt
NAV	Karraker, William H., 2Lt
BOM	Bitter, Emile V., Jr., S/Sgt
ENG	Koenig, Bernard H., T/Sgt
RWG	Goff, James P., S/Sgt
RO	Hogue, Earl, T/Sgt
BT	May, Cecil M., S/Sgt
TG	Sadler, James K., S/Sgt
LWG	Heaps, Theodore C., S/Sgt

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

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

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

P	Rogan, Dave L., 1Lt
CP	Gamble, Donald, 1Lt
NAV	McSween, William D., 2Lt
BOM	Coburn, Ralph F., 2Lt
ENG	Wagner, Clyde E., T/Sgt
LWG	Vaughn, Norville, S/Sgt
RO	Bland, Hugh N., T/Sgt
BT	Scharch, Richard G., S/Sgt
TG	Gilbert, Bill A., S/Sgt
RWG	Martin, James C., S/Sgt

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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	Roberts, Raymond K., T/Sgt
TG	Milliff, Mike C., S/Sgt
RWG	Jordan, Lloyd L., S/Sgt
BT	Lemann, Paul C., S/Sgt
LWG	Kerr, Joseph, Sgt
PHO	Kagey, Martin I., Jr., Sgt

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

P	Pentz, Arthur H., 1Lt
CP	Tippet, Paul S., 2Lt
NAV	Jacobsen, Norman N., 2Lt
BOM	Philpit, Russell O., 1Lt
ENG	Dougherty, John A., 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	McClung, Guy H., 1Lt
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., 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	Adams, Ralph B., S/Sgt
BT	Tibbles, Russell F., S/Sgt
TG	Howard, Earl R., Sgt
RWG	Powell, Marvin F., Sgt

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

P	Nix, James S., 1Lt
CP	Phelps, Robert L., Jr., 1Lt
NAV	Stettler, Donald G., 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	Murphy, Murel A., S/Sgt
TG	Stephen, Willard W., S/Sgt

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

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	Dioquardo, Fred J., Sgt
TG	Quick, George D., S/Sgt
LWG	Wilson, Benton, 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
LWG	Rettinhouse, Robert A., S/Sgt
TT	Vogel, George W., S/Sgt
	(Abortive)

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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
(Abortive Sortie)	

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

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
RWG	Yattaw, Robert H., S/Sgt
RO	Jones, Dick W., S/Sgt
BT	Stevens, A.S., T/Sgt
TG	Stickler, John J., S/Sgt
LWG	Klasnick, Joseph S., S/Sgt
NG	Hlastala, Michael S., T/Sgt

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

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
LWG	Frost, Carlyle A., S/Sgt
BT	Ponder, Truly S., S/Sgt
TG	Stout, Otis T., 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 #42-5390 *The Avenger***

P	Palmer, Joseph F., Lt
CP	Sheldon, Robert M., Lt
^AV	Applequist, Leonard C., Sgt
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 #42-5483 *Red Ass***

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 #42-5434 *Lady Luck***

P	Griffin, Loyd D., Capt
CP	Calhoun, William R., Jr., Maj
NAV	Preston, William M., Lt
BOM	Fonorow, Milton S., Lt
ENG	Eason, William M., T/Sgt
RO	Schwartz, Vernon E., T/Sgt
TG	Swanson, Walter C., Lt
LWG	Edwards, Samuel L., S/Sgt
BT	Plummer, Robert, S/Sgt
RWG	Henderson, Paul E., S/Sgt

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **B-17F #42-3158 *Max***

P	Broussard, Edward J., Jr., Capt
CP	LeFevre, William G., Lt
NAV	Herman, Charles L., Lt
BOM	Rohrlich, Robert L., Lt
ENG	Smock, Edmund L., T/Sgt
RO	Karanson, William A., Jr., T/Sgt
BT	Johnson, Otto D., Sgt
LWG	Jurosek, Bernard, S/Sgt
RWG	Bryant, Carson, S/Sgt
TG	Coomes, Clarence S., S/Sgt

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

P	Southworth, Billy B., Jr., Capt
CP	Dubell, Richard P., Lt
NAV	Illgen, Frederick J., Lt
BOM	Smith, Abbott M., Jr., Lt
ENG	Good, James K., S/Sgt
BT	Belk, Jack, S/Sgt
RO	Doughty, Edward J., T/Sgt
TG	Cote, Addell A., Lt
RWG	Harmon, Edward Z., S/Sgt
LWG	Brandt, Waldo B., S/Sgt
OBS	Stevens, Kermit D., LtCol

### **B-17 #42-29944 *Winning Run***

P	Burch, Armand F., Lt
CP	Cardwell, Burt J., Lt
NAV	Noblin, John D., Lt
BOM	Butt, Byron K., Lt
ENG	Barlow, Benjamin, T/Sgt
BT	Bourdon, Louis F., S/Sgt
RO	Ashworth, George W., S/Sgt
RWG	Arnold, Robert W., S/Sgt
TG	Fleming, William W., S/Sgt
LWG	Cooney, Robert M., Sgt
PHO	Stringer, James L., 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., S/Sgt

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

P	Pratt, James H., Lt
CP	Bowling, William A., Lt
NAV	Boner, Allen M., Lt
BOM	Bierman, Leonard B., Lt
ENG	Scheuerer, Joseph E., Sgt
RO	Royar, Frederick J., S/Sgt
BT	Allen, Glen R., Sgt
TG	Johnston, Walter J., S/Sgt
LWG	Schilling, D.E., Sgt
RWG	Humphreys, Robert R., S/Sgt

### **B-17F #42-3131 *Flak Wolf***

P	Lipe, Fort W., Lt
CP	Rolfson, Jack G., Lt
NAV	Barnhill, Wilbur R., Lt
BOM	Hinds, Durward L., S/Sgt
ENG	Hairr, Elwood F., S/Sgt
BT	Sink, Robert K., S/Sgt
RO	Brandfas, Dale F., T/Sgt
TG	Bednarchuk, Antonio, S/Sgt
LWG	Serpa, Joseph E., S/Sgt
RWG	Barron, Dante G., Sgt

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

P	James, Jacob C., Lt
CP	Ness, Howard C., Lt
NAV	Scroggins, Paul W., Lt
BOM	Witt, Walter E., Lt
ENG	Means, Lucian W., Jr., T/Sgt
RWG	Longo, Angelo L., Sgt
RO	Jessee, Jesse J., T/Sgt
LWG	Misiak, Frank L., S/Sgt
BT	Kesky, Leonard A., S/Sgt
TG	Tripp, Jesse E., S/Sgt

### **B-17F #42-3124 *(No Name)***

P	Shelhamer, David P., Jr., Lt
CP	Tucker, Frederick W., Lt
NAV	Kotz, Warren C., Lt
BOM	Lewis, William L, Lt
ENG	Willet, John K., S/Sgt
BT	Keaton, Joe J., S/Sgt
RO	Harvie, Warren L., T/Sgt
TG	Vateckas, Coster R., S/Sgt
LWG	Micek, John M., S/Sgt
RWG	Volz, Robert J., S/Sgt