

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 49

10 July 1943

Target: Rebeyville & Poix Airfields, France

Crews Dispatched: 26

Length of Mission: 3 hours, 25 minutes

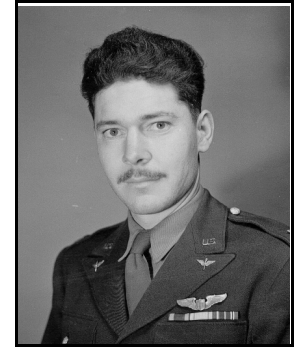
Bomb Load: 24 x 100 lb H.E. M30 bombs

Bombing Altitude: 24,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 1,630 rounds

Twenty-six aircraft were dispatched. Twenty-one were under the command of Major Kirk R. **Mitchell**, CO of the 358th BS, three were assigned to fly as tail ships with the 384th BG(H) Squadrons and two were tail ships with the 379th BG(H) Squadrons. There were no aborted missions.

There was no enemy air opposition. Flak was reported as moderate, but very accurate as to height, generally to the right and rear of Group aircraft. Only six aircraft sustained minor battle damage. There were no casualties.



Major Kirk R. Mitchell

Lead bombardier, 2Lt. Lawrence E. **McCord** flying with Maj. **Mitchell** in #42-29664 *Jersey Bounce, Jr.* found himself in a serious dilemma. The 303rd BG(H) formation turned toward the target at Poix but did not locate it immediately. When the target was located, it was off to the right. He made a right turn on the bombing run. As the Group was turning, the 379th and 384th Bomb Groups cut in front of the 303rd BG(H). With about five seconds from the bomb release line, the 379th cut back in front leading the 384th under the 303rd BG(H). The bombardier could see B-17s framed in his bombsight making it impossible to drop bombs without hitting the formation below. Due to developing solid cloud cover, a successful bombing appeared impossible with a second bomb run. The bombs were brought back to Molesworth.

Three of the 303rd BG(H) aircraft flying with the 379th and 384th Bomb Groups dropped their bombs on the Abbeville Airdrome.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Mitchell</u> 664		
		<u>Kruse</u> 360		<u>Swaffer</u> 791
			<u>Lemmon</u> 562	
		<u>Joy</u> 577		<u>Thompson</u> 571
			<u>Pentz</u> 416	
	<u>Burch</u> 221			<u>Griffin</u> 434
<u>Pratt</u> 081		<u>LeFevre</u> 131	<u>Way</u> 483	<u>Baker</u> 754
	<u>Strickland</u> 392			<u>Clifton</u> 260
<u>Cote</u> 124		<u>Shelhamer</u> 341	<u>Casello</u> 788	<u>Cogswell</u> 973
	<u>James</u> 944			<u>Van Wie</u> 606

flew with the 384th Bomb Group:

	<u>McClung</u> 605	
<u>Mattison</u> 177		<u>Loughnan</u> 565

flew with the 379th Bomb Group:

	<u>Campbell</u> 257
<u>Reeder</u> 561	

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #41-24562 Sky Wolf

P	Lemmon, John V., 1Lt
CP	Clark, Elmo E., F/O
NAV	Gust, Darrell D., 2Lt
BOM	Stone, Elbert E., 2Lt
ENG	Bertzansky, 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 #41-24577 Hell's Angels

P	Joy, Ripley W., 1Lt
CP	Monahan, William J., 1Lt
NAV	Maher, William P., 2Lt
BOM	Hargrove, Walter, 2Lt
ENG	Ignaczewski, Marion D., T/Sgt
RWG	Gasser, Walter, S/Sgt
RO	Kimotek, Frank, T/Sgt
BT	Buinicky, Alfred R., S/Sgt
TG	Miller, David, S/Sgt
LWG	Comer, James H., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29571 Charley Horse

P	Thompson, Frank H., 2Lt
CP	Sumarlidason, Arni L., 2Lt
NAV	McConnen, James R., 2Lt
BOM	Coburn, Ralph F., 2Lt
ENG	Welch, James R., T/Sgt
TT	Fulanovich, Charles J., S/Sgt
RO	Baxter, Jack, T/Sgt
RWG	Wilson, Donald R., S/Sgt
BT	Nakaniski, Ralph, S/Sgt
TG	Aubrey, Eldred L., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-5360 Old Faithful

P	Kruse, Richard L., 1Lt
CP	Hendry, John W., Jr., 1Lt
NAV	McNamara, Bernard T., 2Lt
BOM	Webster, Richard E., 2Lt
ENG	Biddle, Loran C., T/Sgt
LWG	Doherty, John J., S/Sgt
RO	Brown, James J., T/Sgt
BT	Humphries, Olwin L., S/Sgt
TG	Abney, Howard L., S/Sgt
RWG	Arasin, John C., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29791 Memphis Blues

P	Swaffer, Calvin A., 1Lt
CP	Johnston, John R., 1Lt
NAV	Karraker, William H., 2Lt
BOM	Sweet, William D., 2Lt
ENG	Lopez, Rudolph S., T/Sgt
RWG	Mills, James E., S/Sgt
RO	Matthews, James O., T/Sgt
BT	Griffin, Edward W., S/Sgt
TG	Moody, John F., S/Sgt
LWG	Cobb, Edward N., Sgt

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

P	Mitchell, Kirk R., Maj
CP	Rogan, Dave L., 1Lt
NAV	McElwain, Richard E., 2Lt
BOM	McCord, Lawrence E., 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	Schulstad, Louis M., 1Lt
RWG	Schmeltzer, Charles S., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-5257 Miss Bea Haven

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 McCauley, Patrick N., Sgt
 TG Quick, George D., S/Sgt
 LWG Wilson, Benton, S/Sgt
 PHO Howard, Earl R., S/Sgt

B-17F #41-24605 Knockout Dropper

P McClung, Guy H., 1Lt
 CP Bolsover, Harold S., F/O
 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 Tibbles, Russell F., T/Sgt
 LWG Ryan, Francis J., S/Sgt
 PHO Fortunak, Richard C., T/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
 PHO Williams, Lemuel R., T/Sgt

B-17F #41-24565 Idaho Potato Peeler

P Loughnan, Victor J., 2Lt
 CP Gredvig, Winfield H., 2Lt
 NAV Maxwell, James L., 2Lt
 BOM Robinson, John M., 2Lt
 ENG High, Eugene W., T/Sgt
 LWG Knorpp, Billy F., S/Sgt
 RO Daley, Russell M., T/Sgt
 BT McGee, Kenneth L., S/Sgt
 RWG Barr, Gordon E., S/Sgt
 TG McConaghy, Leo R., S/Sgt

B-17F #41-24416 Black Diamond Express

P Pentz, Arthur H., 1Lt
 CP Phelps, Robert L., Jr., 1Lt
 NAV Jacobsen, Norman N., 2Lt
 BOM Philpitt, 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
 PAS Newell, Robert H., Capt

B-17F #41-24561 The Duchess

P Reeder, D.M., 2Lt
 CP McLean, Ralph C., 2Lt
 NAV Salk, Harvey M., 2Lt
 BOM Vermillion, Earl E., 2Lt
 ENG Herod, Henry W., T/Sgt
 LWG York, Robert F., T/Sgt
 RO Mowery, Ellis D., T/Sgt
 RWG Hull, Kenneth W., S/Sgt
 BT Wright, Samuel S., S/Sgt
 TG Swan, Henry, S/Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-5483 Red Ass

P Way, Arthur C., Lt
CP Fyler, Carl J., Lt
NAV Molnar, George, Lt
BOM Gibson, Steve M., Lt
ENG Addison, Bill J., T/Sgt
TG Stachowiak, Martin G., S/Sgt
RO Crowder, Gayther B., T/Sgt
RWG Jillson, John S., S/Sgt
LWG Fisher, George C., S/Sgt
BT Ford, Ray D., S/Sgt

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
RWG Jameson, Jimmie E., S/Sgt
TG Villarreal, Rodolfo A., S/Sgt
PHO Luman, Morton, Sgt

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

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 #42-29754 Shangrila Lil

P Baker, William T., Lt
CP Walsh, James D., Lt
NAV McLane, Joseph T., Lt
BOM Fleming, George J., Lt
ENG Fielder, Neal F., T/Sgt
LWG Bowman, Vergil E., S/Sgt
RO Pallage, Walter K., Sgt
BT Dioquardo, Fred J., Sgt
RWG Borrer, Norwood D., S/Sgt
TG Bacon, Charlie M., S/Sgt
PAS Gahimer, Loyd D., Lt

B-17F #42-2973 Iza Vailable

P Cogswell, Robert W., Lt
CP Tippet, Paul S., Lt
NAV Cobb, Edward L., Lt
BOM Kennedy, John D., Lt
ENG Bengston, Gilbert E., T/Sgt
RWG Etheredge, Alvin, S/Sgt
RO Deerfield, Eddie, S/Sgt
BT Davis, Paul J., S/Sgt
LWG Brundage, Augustus V., S/Sgt
TG Pierson, Lawrence C., Sgt

B-17F #42-5434 Lady Luck

P Griffin, Loyd D., Capt
CP Swanson, Walter C., Lt
NAV Preston, William M., Lt
BOM Taylor, Robert L., Lt
ENG Eason, William M., T/Sgt
RO Schwartz, Vernon E., T/Sgt
TG Wiegand, Lynwood D., S/Sgt
LWG Edwards, Samuel L., S/Sgt
BT Plummer, Robert, S/Sgt
RWG Henderson, Paul E., S/Sgt
OBS Anderson, O.A., Gen

B-17F #42-29606 Butch

P Van Wie, John A., Lt
CP Shayler, Walter K., Capt
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 Deffinger, John P., Sgt
LWG Swanson, Theodore G., S/Sgt
TG Bridges, Robert C., S/Sgt
NG Oxendine, Simeon, Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	LeFevre, William G., Lt
CP	Rolfson, Jack G., Lt
NAV	Herman, Charles L., 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
LWG	Hairr, Elwood F., S/Sgt
TG	Serpa, Joseph E., S/Sgt
RWG	Hinds, Durward L., S/Sgt

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

P	Cote, Addell A., Lt
CP	Eckhart, Alan, Lt
NAV	Barnhill, Wilbur R, Lt
BOM	Hull, John W., Lt
ENG	Arter, John R., T/Sgt
BT	May, Cecil M., S/Sgt
RO	Reaves, Vaughan, T/Sgt
TG	Gunsauls, Paul, S/Sgt
LWG	Micek, John M., S/Sgt
RWG	Keaton, Joe J., S/Sgt

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

P	James, Jacob C., Lt
CP	Ness, Howard C., Lt
NAV	Scroggins, Paul W., Lt
BOM	Witt, Walter E., Lt
ENG	Johnson, Otto D., S/Sgt
BT	Longo, Angelo L., Sgt
RO	Hamilton, A.J., S/Sgt
TG	Misiak, Frank L., S/Sgt
LWG	Kesky, Leonard A., S/Sgt
RWG	Tripp, Jesse E., 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	Strohsack, R.R., S/Sgt
BT	Peck, Raymond R., S/Sgt
RO	Martel, Albert E., Jr., T/Sgt
TG	Sherg, Anthony W., S/Sgt
LWG	McGill, Edward E., S/Sgt
RWG	Baart, James C., T/Sgt
PHO	Kagey, Martin I., Jr., S/Sgt

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

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	Garrett, Frank O., Sgt
RO	Harvie, Warren L., T/Sgt
TG	Vateckas, Coster R., S/Sgt
LWG	Barlow, Elmer O., T/Sgt
RWG	Volz, Robert J., S/Sgt

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

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-17 #42-5221 *Son*

P	Burch, Armand F., Lt
CP	Cardwell, Burt J., Lt
NAV	Noblin, John D., Lt
BOM	Rohrlich, Robert E., Lt
ENG	Barlow, Benjamin, T/Sgt
BT	Bourdon, Louis F., S/Sgt
RO	Ashworth, George W., S/Sgt
RWG	Smith, Delvyn, S/Sgt
TG	Bednarchuk, Antonio, S/Sgt
LWG	Cooney, Robert M., Sgt
OBS	Clap, C.E., Jr., Maj