

## 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 72

27 September 1943

Target: Port Area, Emden, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 20

Crews Lost: S/Sgt. W.E. Rein wounded by flak

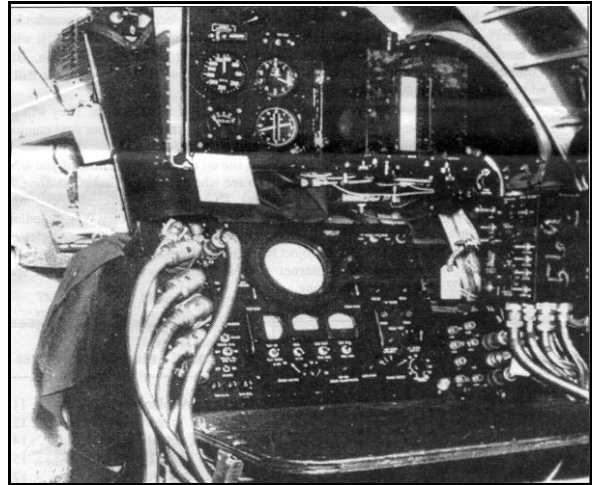
Length of Mission: 5 hours, 50 minutes

Bomb Load: 40 M47A1 Incendiary bombs

Bombing Altitude: 25,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 6,655 rounds

**E**ighth Air Force General **Eaker** was satisfied with the results of the Pathfinder practice missions of 23 and 25 September and decided to use the Emden mission as the first 8th Air Force operational use of Pathfinder aircraft. Emden was chosen as the first target because the contrasting reflections of water and land would show up on the H2S radar scopes more distinctly than any land target.



H2S (later H2X) Pathfinder Radar Equipment

Group aircraft were loaded with 1,000-lb general purpose H.E. M-44 bombs and 100-lb M47A1 white phosphorous bombs. The 303rd BG(H) approached the target at 25,000 feet to find 7/10 to 10/10 cloud cover and eight to ten miles visibility. 1Lt. Donald F. **DeCamp** in B-17 *Star Dust*, 358BS, aborted the mission when the No. 2 engine throttle linkage, vibrated apart and control of the engine was lost.

Due to an extremely steep, tight left turn immediately before the target was reached to avoid a heavy cloud at the bombing altitude, the 303rd BG(H) formation was separated from the Combat Wing at the target. Bombing instructions were to adhere to the policy of dropping on the Pathfinder B-17s parachute flares with the lead Group bombing on the flares and other Groups dropping on the lead Group. The 303rd BG(H) lead ship bombardier 1Lt. Reinaldo J. **Saiz**, never saw bombs being dropped by the lead Group and was unable to drop his bombs. During the subsequent confusion, three Group aircraft dropped their bombs in the vicinity of the target area--two on the city of Norden, Germany, one near the Island of Borkum and two jettisoned bombs into the North Sea.

Flak over the target was meager and inaccurate. Approximately 25 enemy fighters were seen. Their attacks were not persistent due to the excellent fighter protection given the Group by P-47s. There was one slight casualty. S/Sgt. W.E. **Rein**, tail gunner on Lt. **Brinkley's** crew in #42-5483 *Red Ass* 360BS, was hit by a small anti-aircraft gunfire splinter.

Many of the 303rd BG(H) crews were critical of the policy that required them only to drop bombs when the Group lead ship dropped theirs. They could have dropped their bombs on the Pathfinder ships' parachute flares that were clearly visible. They also requested that the Pathfinders "should get better organized." Groups in other Divisions had similar confusion and problems and most bombs fell far and wide from the target area.

**AIR-SEA RESCUE MISSION:** On the return trip to Emden several B-17s were seen in distress with parachutes observed. A hastily organized air-sea rescue effort was organized to search in two areas. The emergency timing gave little time for mission preparation and organization. Gee equipment, useful in overwater searches, was missing. Crews complained that they were not provided with food. The search was unsuccessful. The next day, a second air-sea rescue search was conducted by 10 B-17s of the 358th and 427th BSs. Four areas were searched at an altitude of 300 to 500 feet. The wing of an RAF fighter and a small tethered balloon were observed. The search lasted about five hours. Returning crews suggested that further searches be conducted at an altitude of 1000 feet rather than lower altitudes.



**Jersey Bounce #42-29664 (358BS) VK-C**

**41st CBW High (359BS) - Pilot R.L. Mattison / CoPilot Capt H.E. Kalhoefer**

(Back L-R) 1Lt David A. Rich (N), S/Sgt James E. Schneider (BTG),  
Lt Reinaldo J. Saiz (B), 1Lt Robert L. Mattison (P),  
1Lt Norman N. Jacobsen (N), Capt Herbert E. Kalhoefer (CP)

(Front L-R) Lt Spencer F. Case (TG/O), S/Sgt Shuble A. Boling (LWG),  
T/Sgt Lloyd E. Nordyke (RO), S/Sgt David G. McEachern (RWG),  
S/Sgt Morton Luman (Photo), T/Sgt Frederick J. Green (FE)



## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

|                                |                              |                               |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                |                              | <u><b>Mattison</b></u><br>664 |                                |                               |
|                                | <u><b>Phelps</b></u><br>177  |                               | <u><b>Hanselman</b></u><br>029 |                               |
|                                |                              | <u><b>Manning</b></u><br>565  |                                |                               |
|                                | <u><b>Brown</b></u><br>257   |                               | <u><b>Reeder</b></u><br>561    |                               |
|                                |                              |                               |                                |                               |
|                                | <u><b>Casello</b></u><br>260 |                               | <u><b>Gamble</b></u><br>341    |                               |
| <u><b>Fyler</b></u><br>393     |                              | <u><b>Brinkley</b></u><br>483 |                                | <u><b>Sanders</b></u><br>524  |
|                                | <u><b>Jokerst</b></u><br>482 |                               | <u><b>DeCamp</b></u><br>064    | <u><b>Johnston</b></u><br>562 |
| <u><b>McClellan</b></u><br>619 |                              | <u><b>Clifford</b></u><br>221 |                                | <u><b>Hartigan</b></u><br>605 |
|                                | <u><b>Ness</b></u><br>158    |                               | <u><b>Hendry</b></u><br>360    | <u><b>Woddrop</b></u><br>131  |

One aircraft aborted: 1Lt. DeCamp in 064

### KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b><u>CREW POSITIONS</u></b><br>CMP - Command Pilot<br>P - Pilot<br>CP - Co-Pilot<br>NAV - Navigator<br>ANV - Ass't. Navigator<br>MNV - Mickey Navigator<br>ENG - Engineer<br>BOM - Bombardier<br>RO - Radio Operator | TOG - Togglier<br>BT - Ball Turret Operator<br>TT - Top Turret Operator<br>TG - Tail Gunner<br>NG - Nose Gunner<br>RG - Radio Gunner<br>WG - Waist Gunner<br>LWG - Left Waist Gunner<br>RWG - Right Waist Gunner<br>GUN - Gunner | VI - Voice Interpreter<br>OBS - Observer<br>PAS - Passenger<br>PHO - Photographer<br><br><b><u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u></b><br>KIA - Killed in action<br>WIA - Wounded in action<br>MIA - Missing in action<br>POW - Prisoner of war | DOW - Died of wounds<br>EVD - Evaded the enemy<br>INT - Interned in neu cntry<br>REP - Repatriated<br>RES - Rescued<br>ESC - Escaped<br>BO - Bailed out<br>DCH - Ditched<br>CR-L - Crashed on land<br>CR-S - Crashed at sea |
|---|--|--|---|

## 358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| P                 | Gamble, Donald, 1Lt           |
| CP                | Kyse, Walter R., 2Lt          |
| NAV               | McSween, William D., 2Lt      |
| BOM               | Coburn, Ralph F., 2Lt         |
| ENG               | Wagner, Clyde E., T/Sgt       |
| RWG               | Vaughn, Norville, S/Sgt       |
| RO                | Bland, Hugh N., T/Sgt         |
| BT                | Scharch, Richard G., S/Sgt    |
| TG                | Gilbert, Bill A., S/Sgt       |
| LWG               | Schmeltzer, Charles S., S/Sgt |
| (Abortive Sortie) |                               |

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

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| CP                | Johnston, John R., 1Lt    |
| CP                | Lake, Lester A., Jr., 2Lt |
| 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 P., S/Sgt     |
| LWG               | Cobb, Edward N., S/Sgt    |
| (Abortive Sortie) |                           |

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

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| P                 | Hendry, John W., Jr., 1Lt |
| CP                | Wise, Calder L., 2Lt      |
| NAV               | McNamara, Bernard T., 2Lt |
| BOM               | Webster, Richard E., 2Lt  |
| ENG               | Biddle, Loran C., T/Sgt   |
| TG                | Doherty, John J., S/Sgt   |
| RO                | Brown, James J., T/Sgt    |
| BT                | Hargrave, Alfred J., Sgt  |
| RWG               | Raesley, Wilmer G., Sgt   |
| LWG               | Arasin, John C., S/Sgt    |
| PHO               | Moffett, Ralph M., Sgt    |
| (Abortive Sortie) |                           |

### **B-17F #42-29524 *Meat Hound***

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| P                 | Sanders, Roy C., 2Lt      |
| CP                | Nogash, Henry F., 2Lt     |
| NAV               | Wood, Gordon W., 2Lt      |
| BOM               | Peed, Philip A., 2Lt      |
| ENG               | Rozek, Joseph A., T/Sgt   |
| RWG               | Carll, Martin V., Sgt     |
| RO                | Trest, James G., T/Sgt    |
| BT                | Kremer, Mathias J., S/Sgt |
| TG                | Cockrum, Alfred E., S/Sgt |
| LWG               | Smith, Riker K., S/Sgt    |
| (Abortive Sortie) |                           |

### **B-17F #42-3064 *Star Dust***

|            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| P          | DeCamp, Donald F., 1Lt     |
| CP         | Emerson, Aubrey L., 2Lt    |
| NAV        | Haddock, Ralph M., 2Lt     |
| BOM        | Galbraith, Robert E., 2Lt  |
| ENG        | Hembree, William T., T/Sgt |
| RO         | King, Robert E., Sgt       |
| LWG        | Hoffman, Robert W., Sgt    |
| BT         | Witherwax, Leon J., Sgt    |
| TG         | Tracy, Richard J., S/Sgt   |
| RWG        | McLawhorn, Jerry C., Sgt   |
| (Abortive) |                            |

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

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| P                 | Hartigan, William R., 2Lt |
| CP                | Campbell, Paul W., 2Lt    |
| NAV               | Douthett, Lorin F., 2Lt   |
| BOM               | Dorsey, Bernard F., 2Lt   |
| ENG               | Resto, Clement, T/Sgt     |
| LWG               | Lowther, John W., S/Sgt   |
| RO                | Ward, Robert L., T/Sgt    |
| RWG               | Dove, Charles J., S/Sgt   |
| BT                | Stoddard, Val F., S/Sgt   |
| TG                | Ince, James T., S/Sgt     |
| PHO               | Martin, Wallace G., Sgt   |
| (Abortive Sortie) |                           |

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| P   | Brown, Malcolm E., 1Lt     |
| CP  | Szelwian, Felix T., 2Lt    |
| NAV | Alloway, Hillard C., 2Lt   |
| BOM | Schreidell, Matthew, 2Lt   |
| ENG | Wright, Malcolm, S/Sgt     |
| RO  | Cirello, Ralph T., T/Sgt   |
| LWG | Boucher, Henry C., S/Sgt   |
| BT  | Konecko, John, Sgt         |
| TG  | Boggs, Calvin E., S/Sgt    |
| TT  | Manchester, Robert E., Sgt |

(Abortive Sortie)

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

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|     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| P   | Reeder, D.M., 1Lt        |
| CP  | McLean, Ralph C., 2Lt    |
| NAV | Salk, Harvey M., 2Lt     |
| BOM | Vermillion, Earl E., 2Lt |
| ENG | Herod, Henry W., T/Sgt   |
| TG  | Hayes, John J., S/Sgt    |
| RO  | Mowery, Ellis D., T/Sgt  |
| LWG | Hull, Kenneth W., S/Sgt  |
| BT  | Wright, Samuel S., S/Sgt |
| RWG | Newman, John N., S/Sgt   |
| PHO | Mahffey, William D., Sgt |

(Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17F #41-24565 *Idaho Potato Peeler***

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|     |                                |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| P   | Manning, John P., 1Lt          |
| CP  | Blossom, George H., 2Lt        |
| NAV | Antman, Jack, 2Lt              |
| BOM | Shafer, John H., 1Lt           |
| ENG | Keesling, George R., T/Sgt     |
| TG  | Jennings, Harley F., S/Sgt     |
| RO  | Fitzsimmons, Kenneth P., T/Sgt |
| RWG | Santella, Albert C., S/Sgt     |
| BT  | Mace, LeRoy L., S/Sgt          |
| LWG | McKenna, Robert I., Sgt        |

(Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17F #42-3029 *Wallaroo***

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|     |                                |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| P   | Hanselman, Charles F., 2Lt     |
| CP  | Calwell, Lucien B., 2Lt        |
| NAV | Ramsey, Elijah W., Jr., 2Lt    |
| BOM | Livermore, William D., 2Lt     |
| ENG | Fouss, Howard E., T/Sgt        |
| TT  | Laubert, Robert J., S/Sgt      |
| RO  | Mouser, Lloyd C., Sgt          |
| RWG | Williams, Walter S., S/Sgt     |
| BT  | Armstrong, Keith N., S/Sgt     |
| TG  | Tybuszewski, Mitchel J., S/Sgt |

(Abortive Sortie)

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

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|     |                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| P   | Phelps, Robert L., Jr., 1Lt |
| CP  | Bolsover, Harold S., F/O    |
| NAV | Johnson, Lloyd S., 2Lt      |
| BOM | Rothman, Theodore I., 1Lt   |
| ENG | Powell, Marvin F., S/Sgt    |
| TT  | Robb, Charles W., Sgt       |
| RO  | McGee, Paul P., S/Sgt       |
| BT  | Joubert, Francis M., Sgt    |
| TG  | Perryman, Jack L., Sgt      |
| LWG | Robichaud, Joseph E., Sgt   |

(Abortive Sortie)

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

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|     |                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| P   | Mattison, Robert L., 1Lt    |
| CP  | Kalhoefer, Herbert E., Capt |
| NAV | Jacobsen, Norman N., 1Lt    |
| NAV | Rich, David A., 1Lt         |
| BOM | Shafer, John H., 1Lt        |
| ENG | Green, Frederick J., T/Sgt  |
| RO  | Nordyke, Lloyd E., T/Sgt    |
| RWG | McEachern, David C., S/Sgt  |
| BT  | Schneider, James E., S/Sgt  |
| LWG | Boling, Shuble A., Sgt      |
| TG  | Case, Spencer F., 1Lt       |
| PHO | Morton, Luman, S/Sgt        |

(Abortive Sortie)

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| P   | Fyler, Carl J., 1Lt        |
| CP  | Ward, Robert C., Lt        |
| NAV | Davis, Darius R., Lt       |
| BOM | Gibson, Steve M., Lt       |
| ENG | Addison, Bill J., T/Sgt    |
| RWG | Fisher, George C., S/Sgt   |
| RO  | Jillson, John S., S/Sgt    |
| BT  | Ford, Ray D., S/Sgt        |
| TG  | Sawicki, Joseph R., S/Sgt  |
| LWG | Stachowiak, Martin G., Sgt |

(Sortie)

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

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|     |                               |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| P   | Brinkley, Pharis C., Lt       |
| CP  | Parrott, John H., Lt          |
| NAV | Becker, Sylvester J., Lt      |
| BOM | Petrolino, James S., Lt       |
| ENG | Worthington, Arthur J., T/Sgt |
| LWG | Lance, Guy A., S/Sgt          |
| RO  | Snyder, Richard N., T/Sgt     |
| RWG | Ferguson, Charles R., S/Sgt   |
| BT  | Reid, Harold C., S/Sgt        |
| TG  | Rein, William E., S/Sgt       |

(Sortie)

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

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|     |                           |
|-----|---------------------------|
| P   | Casello, John J., Capt    |
| CP  | Jackson, Theodore M., Lt  |
| NAV | Molnar, George, Lt        |
| BOM | Rice, Bernard, Lt         |
| ENG | Carnathan, Hugh S., T/Sgt |
| RG  | Stout, Otis T., S/Sgt     |
| RO  | Calco, Anthony, T/Sgt     |
| LWG | Frost, Carlyle A., S/Sgt  |
| BT  | Ponder, Truly S., S/Sgt   |
| RWG | Gray, Johnnie E., S/Sgt   |

(Abortive Sortie)

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

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|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| P   | Jokerst, Leonard E., Lt    |
| CP  | Bergeron, Willard H., Lt   |
| NAV | Noland, James B., Lt       |
| BOM | DeFeis, Robert N., Lt      |
| ENG | Serwa, Alphonse B., T/Sgt  |
| RWG | Stephen, William H., S/Sgt |
| RO  | Cline, Leroy, T/Sgt        |
| BT  | Stevens, A.S., T/Sgt       |
| LWG | Wilson, George W., S/Sgt   |
| TG  | Appleton, Vernon R., S/Sgt |
| PHO | Chuhuran, Erven A., Sgt    |

(Sortie)

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| P   | Woddrop, Edward M., Lt     |
| CP  | Henderson, Grover C., Lt   |
| NAV | Iverson, Ingvald M., Lt    |
| BOM | Bierman, Leonard B., Lt    |
| ENG | Barlow, Benjamin, T/Sgt    |
| BT  | Allen, Glen R., S/Sgt      |
| RO  | Mulholland, John J., T/Sgt |
| LWG | Baggs, Charles C., S/Sgt   |
| TG  | Valis, William, S/Sgt      |
| RWG | Priestly, Van B., S/Sgt    |

(Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17F #42-5221 *Son***

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|     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| P   | Clifford, Bernard J., Lt |
| CP  | Jahn, Charles O., Lt     |
| NAV | Stata, Charles M., Lt    |
| BOM | Bruce, Robert V., Lt     |
| ENG | Dyke, Andrew A., Lt      |
| TT  | Horning, A.E., S/Sgt     |
| RO  | Hartzog, F.G., T/Sgt     |
| BT  | Gale, Charles L., S/Sgt  |
| TG  | Heller, W.O., S/Sgt      |
| LWG | McLarty, J.L., S/Sgt     |

(Sortie)

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

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|     |                               |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| P   | McClellan, George S., Jr., Lt |
| CP  | Greenwood, Ernest G., Lt      |
| NAV | Kotz, Warren C., Lt           |
| BOM | Cornish, Merlin L., Lt        |
| ENG | Tempesta, David, T/Sgt        |
| RWG | Chiles, Alfred B., Jr., S/Sgt |
| RO  | Callihan, George A., T/Sgt    |
| BT  | Yarian, Robert G., S/Sgt      |
| LWG | Heaton, Barnell S., Sgt       |
| TG  | Dugan, Charles E., S/Sgt      |

(Sortie)

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

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|     |                            |
|-----|----------------------------|
| P   | Ness, Howard C., Lt        |
| CP  | Barker, John C., Lt        |
| NAV | Doyle, Robert V., Lt       |
| BOM | Reeder, John J., Lt        |
| ENG | Walsh, Charles E., T/Sgt   |
| BT  | Tambe, Angelo L., S/Sgt    |
| RO  | Ratliff, Leonard E., T/Sgt |
| LWG | McGrew, Robert H., S/Sgt   |
| RWG | Hoff, Henry, Sgt           |
| TG  | Ferguson, Jack D., Sgt     |

(Sortie)