

# 303rd BG(H) Combat Mission No. 100

21 Jan 1944

Target: Construction Sites:

A Group, Bois-Coquerel, France

B Group, Bealieu, France

Crews Dispatched: 29

Length of Mission: 3 hours, 45 minutes

Bomb Load: 12 x 500 lb G.P. bombs

Bombing Altitudes: A - 13,000 ft; B - 12,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 3,360 rounds

This mission was a classic "milk run" – there were no abortions, there were no casualties, flak was meager and inaccurate at scattered points along the route, there was no fighter opposition, only two aircraft had minor damage and all aircraft returned to Molesworth.

The eight aircraft in the 303BG-A Group lead Squadron dropped their bombs in a wooded area. The low Squadron of seven aircraft returned with their bombs. Four bomb runs were made in the target area, but each time cloud conditions prevented sightings of the target. The bombing altitude was 13,000 feet ("A" Group) and 12,000 feet ("B" Group).

Major **Cole** said, "It was a comparatively easy mission. We didn't see either fighters or flak where we were. We made two runs over the target and our waist gunner said our bombs hit right in there." Capt. **Schulstad** remarked, "There was no reason for anybody to have trouble today. I didn't see a single enemy fighter and the only flak in the area wasn't directed anywhere near us." T/Sgt. Kenneth **Fitzsimmons**, radio operator on *The '8' Ball MK II*, finished his tour of operations and said, "I've been sweating this one out and I sure wasn't mad when it turned out to be an easy one."

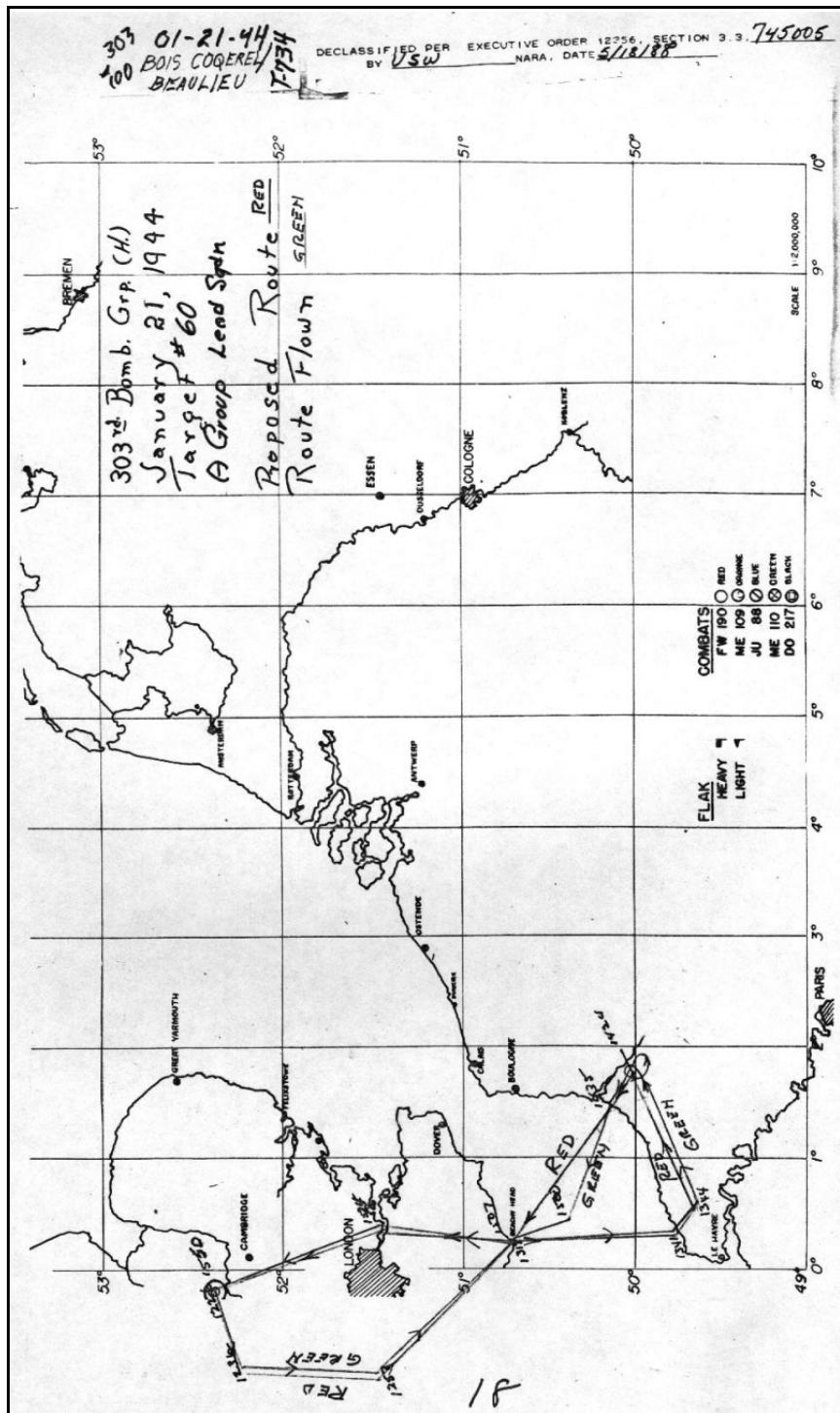
## 24 January 1944-Mission Recalled

The weather closing in at bases, caused the recall of 14 Combat Wings, although 58-8th Air Force aircraft bombed last resort targets. The 303rd BG(H) had 39 aircraft airborne—the high Group of the 41st "A" and 41st "B" Combat Wing formations. There were no abortives. Maj **Snyder** and Capt **Hullar** (427BS) led the 303BG-A Group formation. Maj **Mitchell** and Capt **Lemmon** (358BS) led the 303BG-B formation.

## NEW 8TH AIR FORCE MISSION RECALL POLICY

This mission, like the 11 January 1944 mission to Oschersleben, was personally recalled by General **Doolittle** because of bad weather that threatened to shut down English airfields. Gen Doolittle was rebuked by Gen **Tooeys Spaatz**, who established a new recall doctrine. The new directive stated that no recall would be issued by 8th Air Force Headquarters after the aircraft crossed the enemy coast. Mission Air Commanders were to be kept advised of changing weather conditions at English Bases and when the anticipated fighter cover could not be recalled. The decision to issue a recall was to be made by the Air Commanders rather than 8th Air Force Headquarters. The directive led

to problems in coordinating recall actions of the Bomber Air Commanders and the three Fighter Air Commanders. It led to the formation of the 1st Scouting Force, suggested by Col Budd J. Peaslee, Commanding Officer of the 384BG. This force, as part of the 355FG, was piloted by bomber pilots in P-51s who volunteered to serve a 2nd tour for the privilege of flying fighters. The scouts determined the actual weather ahead of the bomber forces and relayed this vital information to the bomber Air Commanders. The 2nd and 3rd Scouting Forces were established later.



Route Map

# Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Brinkley-Schulstad</u></b> 931</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bordelon</b> <u>788</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Long</b> <u>340</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Holdcroft</b> <u>973</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lawlor</b> <u>055</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clark</b> <u>583</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lake</b> <u>224</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Kyse</b> <u>893</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Worthley</b> <u>787</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Smith</b> <u>239</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parrott</b> <u>393</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Glass</b> <u>054</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Crook</b> <u>854</u></p>
<p><b>Litman</b> <u>810</u></p> <p><b>Stuermer</b> <u>785</u></p>	

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

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

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

	<u>Cole-Mackin</u> 635
<u>Stoulil</u> 807	<u>Moncur</u> 405
	<u>Young</u> 306
<u>Hybert</u> 314	<u>Dahleen</u> 183
	<u>Bech</u> 483
<u>Sheets-Dubell</u> 341	
<u>Hoeg</u> 616	<u>Wood</u> 7875
	<u>Barnes</u> 241
<u>Sawyer</u> 052	<u>McGarry</u> 9875
	<u>Fowler</u> 051



The '8' Ball Mk II #41-24635 (359BS) BN-O  
303rd BG-B - Pilot Maj R.H. Cole / CoPilot Capt G.T. Mackin

(Back L-R) 2Lt Byron F. Clark (N), 2Lt Charles J. McClain (B),  
Capt George T. Mackin (CP), Maj Richard H. Cole (CP), 2Lt Robert H. Halpen (TG)

(Front L-R) S/Sgt Harley F. Jennings (WG), T/Sgt George R. Keesling (E),  
T/Sgt Kenneth P. Fitzsimmons (R), T/Sgt Albert C. Santella (WG), S/Sgt LeRoy L. Mace (BT)

## 358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **B-17G #42-37893 *Bam Bam***

P Kyse, Walter R., 2Lt  
 CP Taylor, James B., 2Lt  
 NAV Abernathy, Milton B., 2Lt  
 BOM Mack, Austin J., 2Lt  
 ENG Jones, Douglas L., S/Sgt  
 BT Kennard, Royal G., Sgt  
 RO Dulin, Woodroe G., S/Sgt  
 RWG Schweinebraten, Leslie H., Sgt  
 TG Cox, James B., S/Sgt  
 LWG Hitt, William T., S/Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17G #42-39787 *Wanton Woman***

P Worthley, Joe R., 2Lt  
 CP Crook, Kenneth D., 2Lt  
 NAV Ratay, Joseph B., 2Lt  
 BOM Blum, Eugene C., 2Lt  
 ENG Johnson, Edwin D., S/Sgt  
 BT Vanderhoff, Grant W., Sgt  
 RO Egan, Harry R., S/Sgt  
 RWG Malherbe, Benjamin F., S/Sgt  
 TG Lawson, Fred B., Sgt  
 LWG Robinson, Ray I., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17G #42-39810 *Big A Bird***

P Litman, Arnold S., 1Lt  
 CP Gorman, Quentin J., 2Lt  
 NAV Merthan, Lawrence C., 2Lt  
 BOM Stravinsky, Albert W., 2Lt  
 ENG Smith, George A., S/Sgt  
 RWG Lawson, Tracy W., Sgt  
 RO Ebbighausen, Francis R., T/Sgt  
 BT Witherwax, Leon J., Sgt  
 TG Castillo, Buenaventura L., Sgt  
 LWG Miller, Victor R., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17G #42-31224 *Hell in the Heavens***

P Lake, Lester A., Jr., 1Lt  
 CP Snyder, Robert W., 2Lt  
 NAV Williams, Jack N., 2Lt  
 BOM Morrison, James P., 2Lt  
 ENG Haggerty, Jerome J., S/Sgt  
 LWG Delaney, Jessie L., Sgt  
 RO Rumpf, Charles W., S/Sgt  
 RWG Balzano, Christopher, Sgt  
 TG Hunt, John L., Sgt  
 BT Chadick, Neal T., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17G #42-31239 *(No Name)***

P Smith, Marshall L., 2Lt  
 CP Palecek, Francis J., 2Lt  
 NAV Neuwirth, Edward, 2Lt  
 BOM Troy, Edward J., 2Lt  
 ENG Dick, Andrew, S/Sgt  
 LWG Schor, John, Sgt  
 RO Frolick, Edwin J., S/Sgt  
 BT Simon, Gustof J., S/Sgt  
 TG Fugate, Walter O., Sgt  
 RWG Stauffer, Herman L., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17G #42-31583 *Clover Leaf***

P Clark, Martin L., 1Lt  
 CP Bass, Julius E., 2Lt  
 NAV Steely, Robert H., 1Lt  
 BOM Sweet, William T., 1Lt  
 ENG Quevedo, Alfonso, S/Sgt  
 RWG Grsetic, John P., Sgt  
 RO Hensley, James C., S/Sgt  
 LWG Canale, Michael J., Sgt  
 TG Milliff, Mike C., Sgt.  
 BT Brown, Harold J., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

### **B-17G #42-39785 *Thru Hel'en Hiwater***

P Stuermer, John W., 2Lt  
 CP Reynolds, Charles E., 2Lt  
 NAV Tielman, William A., 2Lt  
 BOM Newman, Clyde D., 2Lt  
 ENG Harris, David W., S/Sgt  
 LWG Rogers, Thomas A., Sgt  
 RO Murray, Edward F., S/Sgt  
 BT Stark, Joseph, Sgt  
 TG Collins, Marvin B., Sgt  
 RWG Carroll, Marvin A., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **B-17F #42-5306 (No Name)**

P	Young, Elmer W., 2Lt
CP	Blossom, George H., 2Lt
NAV	Schoner, George R., 2Lt
BOM	Yelsky, Fred B., 2Lt
ENG	Steele, John C., S/Sgt
RO	Dulick, Steve, S/Sgt
BT	Lebeck, Richard H., Sgt
RWG	Rohaly, Andrew, Jr., Sgt
LWG	Withrow, John W., Sgt
TG	Stapelton, Bill, Sgt

### **B-17G #42-39807 Nero**

P	Stoullil, Donald W., 2Lt
CP	Callahan, Edward F., 2Lt
NAV	Susskind, Harold A., 2Lt
BOM	Trawicki, George J., 2Lt
ENG	Romer, Eugene A., Sgt
LWG	Brown, William F., Jr., Sgt
RO	Owen, James C., Sgt
BT	Holder, Kenneth L., Sgt
RWG	Greene, George P., Jr., Sgt
TG	Turkington, Calvin G., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31483 Bonnie B**

P	Bech, G. Neil, Jr., 2Lt
CP	Hall, Franklin M., 2Lt
NAV	Cotter, Edward R., 2Lt
BOM	Van Zandt, Roland, 2Lt
ENG	Sanelli, Floyd L., S/Sgt
RWG	Boatwright, Edward C., Sgt
RO	Dennis, Julian E., S/Sgt
BT	Johnson, Lawrence G., Sgt
LWG	Cundiff, Robert W., Sgt
TG	Cox, Elbert S., Jr., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31405 Wallaroo MK II**

P	Moncur, Vern L., 2Lt
CP	Cunningham, Billy A., 2Lt
NAV	Brooks, James, 2Lt
BOM	Chang, David K.S., 2Lt
ENG	Rosier, Robert L., S/Sgt
RO	Andrus, James S., S/Sgt
BT	Hein, Walter E., Sgt
RWG	Baer, Richard K., Sgt
LWG	Dickman, Thomas J., Sgt
TG	Wike, Leonard L., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31314 Scorchy**

P	Hybert, Arthur J., 2Lt
CP	Harrison, Weldon O., 2Lt
NAV	Lunde, Frithjof M., 2Lt
BOM	Kelly, James H., Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Broderick, George V., S/Sgt
RO	Ratford, Edward V., S/Sgt
RWG	Gilcrease, Roland L., Sgt
BT	Jaehne, Charles R., Sgt
LWG	Neathery, Ralph P., Sgt
TG	Barmak, Paul J., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31183 Bad Penny**

P	Dahleen, Howard D., 2Lt
CP	Austin, John T., 2Lt
NAV	Klingensmith, Russell S., 2Lt
BOM	Gauthier, Raymond W., 2Lt
ENG	Malcolm, Orrick H., S/Sgt
RO	Swanson, Clifford E., S/Sgt
RWG	Smith, Harding W., Sgt
LWG	Titsworth, William E., Sgt
BT	Hirn, Edward M., Sgt
TG	Covington, Charles G., Sgt

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

P	Cole, Richard H., Maj
CP	Mackin, George T., Capt
NAV	Clark, Byron F., 2Lt
BOM	McClain, Charles J., 2Lt
ENG	Keesling, George R., T/Sgt
RWG	Santella, Albert G., S/Sgt
RO	Fitzsimmons, Kenneth P., T/Sgt
BT	Mace, LeRoy L., S/Sgt
LWG	Jennings, Harley F., S/Sgt
TG	Halpin, Robert H., 2Lt

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Parrott, John H., Lt
CP	McGrath, Leo B., Lt
NAV	Volk, Anthony D., Lt
BOM	Walter, George M., Lt
ENG	Levin, Meyer, T/Sgt
LWG	Green, Jack E., S/Sgt
RO	DeWitte, Victor W., S/Sgt
BT	Mayfield, James E., Sgt
RWG	Huddleston, D.O., Sgt
TG	Laible, Gilbert N., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31055 *Aloha***

P	Lawlor, John C., Jr., Lt
CP	Hicks, David F., Lt
NAV	Munroe, Linton S., Jr., Lt
BOM	Barker, Havelock W., Lt
ENG	Tower, Jack W., S/Sgt
RWG	Baker, Nelson, Sgt
RO	Esposito, Frank B., S/Sgt
LWG	Krenek, Joe W., Sgt
BT	Kuntashian, Warren V., Sgt
TG	Butler, Raymond K., Sgt

### **B-17F #42-5054 *Belle of San Joaquin***

P	Glass, Henry F., Lt
CP	McMahan, Eugene A. Lt
NAV	Pepe, Nicholas A., Lt
BOM	Robrock, Paul A., Lt
ENG	Carbillano, Dominick J., Sgt
LWG	Stellato, Francis A., Sgt
RO	Miller, Gordon R., S/Sgt
RWG	Patrone, Frank, S/Sgt
BT	Michael, David O., Sgt
TG	Roberts, James E., Sgt

### **B-17F #42-2973 *Iza Available***

P	Holdcroft, Lloyd L., Lt
CP	Chapman, John M., Lt
NAV	Pace, Charles M., Lt
BOM	O'Donnell, John J., Lt
ENG	DeMarco, John A., S/Sgt
RWG	Hustus, Walter L., Sgt
RO	Crowder, Gayther B., T/Sgt
LWG	Slusser, Walter C., Sgt
BT	Kern, Lloyd F., Sgt
TG	Krumholz, Robert A., Sgt
PHO	Lovett, William F., Sgt

### **B-17F #42-5854 *Alley Oop***

P	Crook, Charles D., Lt
CP	Evans, Ernest N., Lt
NAV	Davis, Roscoe, Lt
BOM	DeLuca, Joseph, F/O
ENG	Breitenbach, Louis H., S/Sgt
RWG	Chavez, Salvador, Sgt
RO	Hannan, Robert J., S/Sgt
LWG	Williams, Norris R., Sgt
BT	Cheek, Roy A., Sgt
TG	Hensley, James H., Sgt

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

P	Bordelon, Berton A., Lt
CP	Coons, Charles L., Lt
NAV	Cromwell, Frederick P., Lt
BOM	Cottrell, John W., Lt
ENG	Barker, Forrest, S/Sgt
RWG	Adams, Donald K., Sgt
RO	Mirkin, Herman H., T/Sgt
LWG	Patterson, Harry L., Sgt
BT	Harrington, Joseph F., Sgt
TG	Couch, Ted, Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31340 *Miss Liberty***

P	Long, John A., Lt
CP	Earhart, Amon E., Lt
NAV	Carroll, George M., Lt
BOM	Cascio, Giuseppe, Lt
ENG	Wilson, Clarence G., T/Sgt
LWG	Ledley, Albert J., S/Sgt
RO	Jennings, Ralph T., T/Sgt
RWG	Henson, Mace, S/Sgt
TG	Orlando, Anthony T., S/Sgt
BT	Logan, Frank C., S/Sgt

### **B-17F #42-29931 *Satan's Workshop***

P	Brinkley, Pharis C., 1Lt
CP	Schulstad, Louis M., Capt
NAV	Becker, Sylvester J., Lt
BOM	DeSousa, John, Jr., Lt
ENG	Worthington, Arthur J., T/Sgt
RWG	Lance, Guy A., S/Sgt
RO	Snyder, Richard N., T/Sgt
LWG	Ferguson, Charles R., S/Sgt
BT	Reid, Harold C., S/Sgt
TG	Huguenin, Wesley V., Lt
PAS	Rein, William E., S/Sgt

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **B-17G #42-37875 *Empress of D Street***

P	Wood, Vere A., Lt
CP	Knutson, Wilmer A., Lt
NAV	Pinnette, William S., Lt
BOM	Brown, Thomas G., Lt
ENG	Snider, Otto L., S/Sgt
BT	Grant, Thomas V., S/Sgt
RO	Brooks, Winnie R., S/Sgt
TG	Helton, Edward, Sgt
RWG	Heathershaw, Charles L., Sgt
LWG	Tevis, John E., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #42-39875 *Buzz Blonde***

P	McGarry, John J., Jr., Lt
CP	Cotham, Willie C., Lt
NAV	Halligan, Robert W., Lt
BOM	Foe, Kenneth D., Lt
ENG	Grace, Henry J., S/Sgt
BT	Friedman, Ira, Sgt
RO	Wilson, Elmer A., S/Sgt
TG	Kowalonek, Walter A., Sgt
LWG	Brown, Edgar S., Sgt
RWG	Hilborn, Ervin, Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31616 *Spirit of Flak Wolf***

P	Hoeg, Kenneth A., F/O
CP	O'Hare, Phil W., Lt
NAV	Olsen, Kenneth L., Lt
BOM	Cronin, Ernest L., Lt
ENG	Relyea, Ralph R., S/Sgt
BT	McMahan, Bonnar P., Sgt
RO	O'Connor, William S., S/Sgt
TG	Vargas, Michael A., Sgt
LWG	McFall, Leonard C., Sgt
RWG	McLaughlin, Jesse W., Sgt

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

P	Sheets, Robert W., Lt
CP	Dubell, Richard P., Capt
NAV	Brown, Elmer L., Lt
BOM	McCormick, James E., Lt
ENG	Neuner, Francis X., S/Sgt
BT	King, Earl J., Sgt
RO	Du Bray, Ernest D., S/Sgt
TG	Sullens, Tom C., Sgt
LWG	Donnelly, James F., Sgt
RWG	Smith, Leonard C., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31241 *Spirit of Wanette***

P	Barnes, Deane L., Lt
CP	Raistrick, Albert G., Lt
NAV	Randall, Everett Z., Lt
BOM	Roode, William A.T., Lt
ENG	Sparks, Willie T., S/Sgt
BT	Chancellor, John R., Sgt
RO	Doyle, Edward J., S/Sgt
TG	Underwood, Clifford B., Sgt
LWG	Winters, Craig W., Sgt
RWG	Price, John B., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-38051 *My Yorkshire Dream***

P	Fowler, James F., Lt
CP	Rawlings, Bernard W., Lt
NAV	Thompson, Joseph C., Lt
BOM	Taylor, Alvin L., Lt
ENG	Finley, Curtis E., T/Sgt
RWG	Jackson, Miller O., Sgt
RO	Dinwiddie, Donald J., S/Sgt
TG	Ferguson, Jack D., Sgt
BT	Arrington, Richard, S/Sgt
LWG	Zimmer, Loren E., Sgt

### **B-17F #42-5052 *Mizpah***

P	Sawyer, Frederick W., Lt
CP	Sayers, Darwin D., Lt
NAV	Arvanites, George L., Lt
BOM	Umphress, F.E., Jr., Lt
ENG	Weed, Lowrey A., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Teno, James R., Sgt
RO	Cohen, Leo, S/Sgt
TG	La Frenier, James E., Sgt
LWG	Wright, Edgar A., Sgt
RWG	Kotel, Tofil P., Sgt
PHO	Mulberry, Harold F., Sgt