

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 111

22 February 1944

Target: Junkers Aircraft Factory, Aschersleben, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 36

Crews Lost: Lt. J.W. Stuermer, Lt. J.R. Morrin,

Lt. G.E. Underwood, Lt. C.D. Crook and Lt. J. Moffatt

Crew Members Lost or Wounded: 50 total; 37 crew members

plus 1 passenger missing, 3 bodies recovered from sea from missing A/C
and 9 crewmen killed in mid-air collision

Length of Mission: 8 hours, 30 minutes

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

Bombing Altitude: 20,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 37,455 rounds

The 303rd BG(H) had 38 aircraft scheduled for the mission. Two failed to take off: #42-31562 (*No Name*) 358BS-A (J.F. **Henderson**), oil pressure in No. 4 engine and #42-38051 *My Yorkshire Dream*, 427BS-P (G.C. **Henderson**), with a blown tire. Three aircraft returned early, aborting the mission: #42-37841 *Banshee*, 360BS-P (**Bordelon**), had problems with all four engines. #41-24635 *The '8' Ball MK II*, 359BS-O (**Watson**), the No. 2 and 4 engines provided inadequate power, and #41-24561 *The Duchess*, 359BS-T (**Savage**), could not keep up with formation when the No. 1 prop ran away, the No. 1 supercharger was out and the Nos. 2 and 3 superchargers malfunctioned.

Twenty-seven aircraft dropped 258 500-lb. G.P. bombs from 20,000 feet on the primary target with three direct hits on the aiming point and others in the target area. One aircraft had a bomb release malfunction and dropped bombs on railroad tracks and the marshalling yard at Coppenstadt.

Crews reported seeing from 20 to 75 enemy fighters who attacked in three distinct areas: Nimegen, north of the Ruhr and the area between Munster and Paderborn. They were persistent and attacked in groups of three or four, chiefly out of the sun. Some FW-190s fired rockets. Fighter support was reported as inadequate. It was during a break in P-47 and P-51 support when the enemy aircraft carried out their heaviest attacks. No flak was seen over the target, but it was moderate and accurate in the Ruhr and moderate at other points.

A 303rd BG(H) B-17G #42-38041 *Hell's Angels II*, 358BS-D piloted by 1Lt. John W. **Stuermer**, crashed at Irthling Borough following a mid-air collision with B-17 #42-31516, 384BG, while assembling. The 303rd BG(H) aircraft was cut in two at the rear door position. Sgt. David I. **Miller** managed to bail out and parachuted down over England. Lt. **Stuermer**, 2Lt. Charles E. **Reynolds**, 2Lt. William A. **Tielman**, 2Lt. Clyde D. **Newman**, S/Sgt. David W. **Harris**, S/Sgt. Edward F. **Murray**, Sgt. Joseph **Stark**, Sgt. Marvin A. **Carroll** and Sgt. Marvin B. **Collins** were killed in the crash. Lt. **Reynolds**, Lt. **Newman** and S/Sgt. **Harris** are buried in Cambridge American Cemetery in England.

B-17F #42-5052 *Mizpah*, piloted by 2Lt. James **Moffat**, was shot down at Garzweyler, Germany. The No. 1 and 2 engines were smoking after passing the flak area. The ship was descending under control when last seen. It crashed near Nordhausen, Germany. 2Lt. Gayle W. **Dearborn**, Sgt. Enos H. **Odell**, Sgt. Vincent C. **Loeffel**, Sgt. Wilber R. **Sanders** and Sgt. Jack A. **Slagle** were all killed. Lt. **Dearborn**, Sgt. **Odell** and Sgt. **Loeffel** are buried in Netherlands American Cemetery, Martgratten, Netherlands. Lt. **Moffat**, 2Lt. F.G. **Pringle**, F/O Paul L. **Mazey**, S/Sgt. Richard E. **Rowan** and Sgt. Nickolas J. **Fizzani** were captured and became POWs.



CHARLES D. CROOK CREW - 360th BS

(crew assigned 360BS: 16 November 1943)

(Back) 1Lt Charles D. Crook (P-Evd), 1Lt Ernest N. Evans (CP), 2Lt Roscoe Davis (N-POW), F/O Joseph DeLuca (B-Evd)

(Front) T/Sgt Lois H. Breitenbach (E-Evd/POW), T/Sgt Robert J. Hannan (R-Evd), S/Sgt Roy A. Cheek (BT-Evd), S/Sgt Norris R. Williams (LWG-POW), Sgt Salvador Chavez (RWG-Evd), Sgt James N. Hensley (TG-Evd/POW)

(crewmen are not in order)

German fighters inflicted a hole in the wing of #42-31399 (*No Name*), piloted by 1Lt. Charles D. **Crook**. The No. 4 engine prop windmilled and the ship went down in a shallow dive. The crew's regular co-pilot, Lt. Ernest N. **Evans**, was hospitalized and Lt. William A. **Clark** was his substitute. The loss of gas from the damaged wing led to the conclusion that they could not reach England or Sweden. They decided to try to ditch in the North Sea. They were then hit by two ME-109s. S/Sgt. Roy A. **Cheek** bailed out, evaded capture and returned to England on 26 January 1945. S/Sgt. Norris R. **Williams** also bailed out and became a POW. The rest of the crew stayed with the B-17 and they crash-landed at Wijk Bij Buurstede, the Netherlands, 30 kilometers southeast of Utrecht, near Ziest.

1Lt. **Crook** evaded capture and returned to Base on 12 October 1944. F/O Joseph **DeLuca** evaded capture, returning on 14 September 1944. Sgt. Salvador **Chavez** also evaded, returning on 15 September 1944. T/Sgt. Louis H. **Breitenbach** and Sgt. James H. **Hensley** stayed together and evaded capture for four months. They were contacted by members of the Oranje Brigade of the Dutch Underground and moved around the Netherlands, staying with various Dutch families. On 24 June, after moving to Liege, Belgium, their remarkable period of evasion ended. They were captured by German soldiers who were searching all houses in the area looking for downed airmen that had been hiding.

Sgt. Robert J. **Hannan** also made contact with the Dutch underground. He then joined the underground and became a "Freedom Fighter." He took part in helping other downed airmen evade capture working on the "Comet Line," took part in train raids and other actions to harass the Germans. He was finally liberated by British troops who were driving the Germans out of Holland. He is now considered a Hero by the Dutch Government as are many of the Dutch friends with whom he worked.

The stories of Sgts. **Breitenbach**, **Hensley** and **Hannan** are full of many instances of bravery of the Dutch underground. Daily they risked capture, torture and death for helping downed Allied fliers. Many died in their underground activities. The wartime heroics of the Dutch underground members still deserve greater praise and recognition for their wartime exploits.

T/Sgt. **Breitenbach** wrote an account of "The Last Flight of a Flying Fortress" while evading capture in the Netherlands. The following is a portion of his story:

We had come down "to the deck" which was about 1,300 feet and we flew just above the clouds, ready to go into them if a fighter should show up. For some time we flew along, keeping "cloud cover," and then it happened. We were twenty minutes from the coast and the clouds ceased to exist. We were in the open and an FW-190 had spotted us. He came from below and at the rear. The rear guns were out and he was too low for the other gunners to shoot at. He gave us a burst of machine gun fire and the shells ripped through the ship. Our pilot was doing some beautiful flying, but we were defenseless and the German came in from the left and to the rear again. We could see his whole wing light up with orange flame from his machine gun and cannon fire. We fired the best we could, but it only took a split second for him to get us in his sights and fire away. His bullets came crashing into the plane, knocking out two more engines. A cannon shell passed between the two waist gunners, missing them by inches and blew a machine gun off its position and out into the air. One of the waist gunners later remarked, "I guess my mother was praying for me." You will have to realize that what is taking minutes to tell, only took seconds to happen.

The order came, "stop firing." We were going to crash-land. We were going down and we were too low for all of us to jump to safety. Two of the crew had jumped before anyone knew it and because of their action we were able to flee in safety later on. Everyone was climbing into their positions for the crash-landing: the pilot, co-pilot, bombardier, navigator, and the engineer in the front cabin and the tail gunner, radio operator, and one waist gunner in the radio compartment.

Things happened so fast, it is hard to say what really happened. We were all crouched down and waiting for the first bounce. It came and plenty hard. We bounced up into the air, came down again with a loud crash, and were sliding along the ground, taking fences and everything along with us. Things were flying all around inside the ship: ammunition, radio sets, flares, and boxes of all kinds. A thousand thoughts passed before me. Will the plane catch fire and blow up? Will we crash into a house? The feelings of terror and suspense that gripped us can't be put on paper.

We were still sliding and then we stopped with a jolt. The front of the plane was in the water of a pond and the tail was bent and pointing into the air. The pilot opened the window and they crawled out of the plane. The bombardier had put on his parachute and was too nervous to get it off by himself. I helped him take it off as he was blocking the exit. In the meantime, the German plane was circling the wreckage and suddenly dove down and strafed the ship. There were still five of us in the plane and shells were hitting everywhere. A shell hit an ammunition box and they started to explode, adding to our discomfort. It was a miracle that no one was injured in any way. We finally managed to crawl out, the men in the radio compartment having to wade in knee-deep, ice-covered water to reach the embankment.

We decided to get away as fast as we could. One man who parachuted out took a boat and crossed a river. The Germans, thinking all of us had done the same, searched that side of the river first.



JOHN R. MORRIN CREW - 360th BS

(crew assigned 360BS: 09 Jan 1944)

(Back) 2Lt John R. Morrin (P-POW), 2Lt Richard X. Sheehan (CP-POW),
2Lt Edward J. Gill (N-KIA), 2Lt Homer W. Howard (B-POW)

(Front) T/Sgt John A. Beck (E-POW), T/Sgt Frederick J. Cataldi (R-POW/DOW), Sgt Donald R. Houser (BT-KIA),
Sgt Robert A. DiStasi (LWG-KIA), Sgt Eugene H. Kannapel (RWG-KIA), Sgt Charles G. Dodge, Jr. (TG-POW)

(crewmen are not in order)

Hit by fighters, #42-5788 *A.O.G. Not in Stock*, piloted by 2Lt. John R. **Morrin**, had peeled off under control in a shallow dive. The No. 4 engine was smoking. It crashed near Duffel, 15 kilometers southeast of Antwerp, Belgium. 2Lt. Edward J. **Gill**, Sgt. Donald R. **Houser**, Sgt. Robert A. **DiStasi**, and Sgt. Eugene H. **Kannapel** were killed. Sgt Charles Dodge, Lt. Joun R. **Morrin**, 2Lt. Richard X. **Sheehan**, 2Lt. Homer M. **Howard**, T/Sgt. John A. **Beck** and T/Sgt. Frederick J. **Cataldi** were captured and became prisoners. T/Sgt. **Cataldi** died on 25 March 1944 while a POW in St. Giles, Belgium Hospital, Brussels, Belgium. He had suffered flak wounds on the left side of his body.

Maj. George R. **Weinbrenner**, who bailed out of *A.O.G. Not in Stock*, was assigned to 8th Air Force Bomber Command and was on temporary duty with the 303rd BG(H). His aircraft was a straggler flying on two engines when it was attacked by five ME-109s which queued up and made three passes: two on the nose and one of the tail. On the third attack, Maj. **Weinbrenner**, flying as an observer and the only one in the nose at the time, was manning the right nose gun and firing at the enemy aircraft as they attacked. The last FW-190 came in to 250-500 yards and as it winged to peel off, he hit it in the belly and it burst into flames. Maj. **Weinbrenner** bailed out and shortly learned from Belgians in the vicinity that two FW-190s had been shot down during this engagement. The major managed to evade capture on the Continent and returned to England. He was credited with a damaged FW-190.



GEORGE E. UNDERWOOD CREW - 360th BS

(crew assigned 360BS: 16 Nov 1943 - photo: 26 Nov 1943)

(Back) Lt George E. Underwood (P-KIA), Lt Creighton G. Doering (CP),
Lt Duane C. Parker (N-KIA), Lt John J. O'Donnell (B)
(Front) T/Sgt Mack E. Daniels (E-KIA), S/Sgt Thomas E. Dinneen (BTG),
S/Sgt Glen L. Casselman (LWG-KIA), S/Sgt Thomas L. Rike, Jr. (RWG-KIA),
S/Sgt Gregory C. Meyer (TG-KIA), T/Sgt Charles F. Phipps (R-KIA, not in photo)
(crewmen are not in order)

Flak had disabled the No. 2 engine on *Satan's Workshop* #42-29931, piloted by 1Lt. George E. **Underwood**. The return trip was on three engines. It lagged near the French coast and was last seen near mid-channel. Later, it ditched in a rough sea. Lt. **Underwood**, 2Lt. Joseph **Massimiliano**, 2Lt. Duane C. **Parker**, 2Lt. George M. **Walter**, T/Sgt. Mack E. **Daniels**, T/Sgt. Charles F. **Phipps**, S/Sgt. Thomas E. **Dinneen**, S/Sgt. Glen L. **Casselman**, S/Sgt. Thomas L. **Rike**, Jr. and S/Sgt. Gregory C. **Meyer** were all drowned. Only three bodies were recovered: Lt. **Underwood**, T/Sgt. **Daniels** and S/Sgt. **Casselman**. They were initially buried in Brookwood, United Kingdom.

Returning crewmen were jubilant over the bombing results, claiming that they saw only three bombs out of the lot fall away from the target area. Maj. **Mitchell**, who led the 41st Combat Wing "A" formation, reported: "About halfway into the target enemy fighters jumped us and we were pretty busy for a half-hour or so. Then we cut through a corner of the Ruhr Valley and had to fly through a solid wall of flak. We weren't bothered over the target and made a good bomb run. I think that we really smashed the place today."

Capt. **Dubell**, pilot of the 2nd Group lead B-17 was enthusiastic about the mission. "It was pretty good show, but rough," he reported. "I never saw so much flak and about 20 fighters tore through the formation, knocking down one of our planes. It was a long trip and rough."

S/Sgt. John **Gonsalves**, top turret gunner of *Connecticut Yankee* said, "Boy, the flak was really close. A ship about 60 yards from us got hit and just blew up and disappeared in a big puff of black smoke. It would have been us if we hadn't taken evasive action to get away from a fighter." S/Sgt. George L. **Angelo**, who got a good look at the bombed target from his tail gunner position said, "The bombs were really in there this time. I only saw three hit outside the target. It was a beautiful sight."

In addition to the five aircraft that were lost, seven aircraft sustained fighter battle damage, thirty aircraft sustained flak battle damage, three men were wounded, one seriously, and three men received frostbite.

From the Journal of Vern L. Moncur, 359th BS Pilot

MISSION #14

Date: February 22, 1944

Target: Aschersleben, Germany

Altitude: 20,000 feet

Plane: U-050 "Thunderbird"

Position: No. 6, Low Squadron, Lead Group

This was the third mission in three days and we were plenty tired before we even started out. The target was Aschersleben, and that was almost as rough as Oschersleben. This was our second roughest raid so far, and we didn't care to have another one like it.

Fighters attacked the high group and made a pass or two at our group. After one of these passes, one of the Forts seemed to be having some kind of trouble. The pilot pulled out of formation and opened the bomb bay doors as if to salvo his bomb load. In about ten seconds the ship exploded in one massive orange ball of fire. It was a sickening sight to witness. This was the first time I had seen a Fortress go down like that.

We were in the plane nearly nine and one half hours. We went through a lot of flak, and as usual, picked up a few holes. One piece of flak went through the cowlings on the No. 1 engine. How it missed hitting one of the cylinders is still a mystery to me. There was no crew injury. The plane had to be patched up in a few places, but the damage was not very serious. Our bomb load was 12 five-hundred pound high explosive bombs.

After landing, I decided to go to the hospital for a few days rest. Our group didn't fly the next day, but the next two days after that our squadron flew. Lt. Brooks, Lt. Cunningham and S/Sgt. Hein flew with different crews which happened to be short one man each. This put these three fellows one raid ahead of the rest of the crew (except for S/Sgt. Wike, who was two missions behind).

Comments from James S. Andrus, Moncur's Radio Operator:

This one was a real exciting mission. Plenty of flak and fighters. As soon as we left our escort we were attacked by enemy fighters. They pressed their attack for about 30 minutes and that time seemed like 30 hours. As soon as we got the flak from the Ruhr Valley, the fighters left us because they won't fly in their own flak. I don't know which is worse, the fighters or the flak. You can do something about fighters, but you can't fight back with flak. It was plenty accurate and plenty of it. We only got one flak hole in number one engine cowling. Luckily, it didn't go too far in, or we would have lost an engine.

I saw two B-17s go down. One of them had a good friend of mine aboard. I only saw three chutes open up. Rosier knocked down another fighter. That makes two for him. I could have shot at some, but a turret is twice as good as a flexible gun. I just hope I never have to fire a gun. I don't want a fighter that close. It was a tough raid, but the target was destroyed.

I opened up the bomb door, I mean the door that leads from the bomb-bay into the radio room, and I followed the bombs down to the target. It was a Messerschmitt factory and airport - but it isn't anymore.

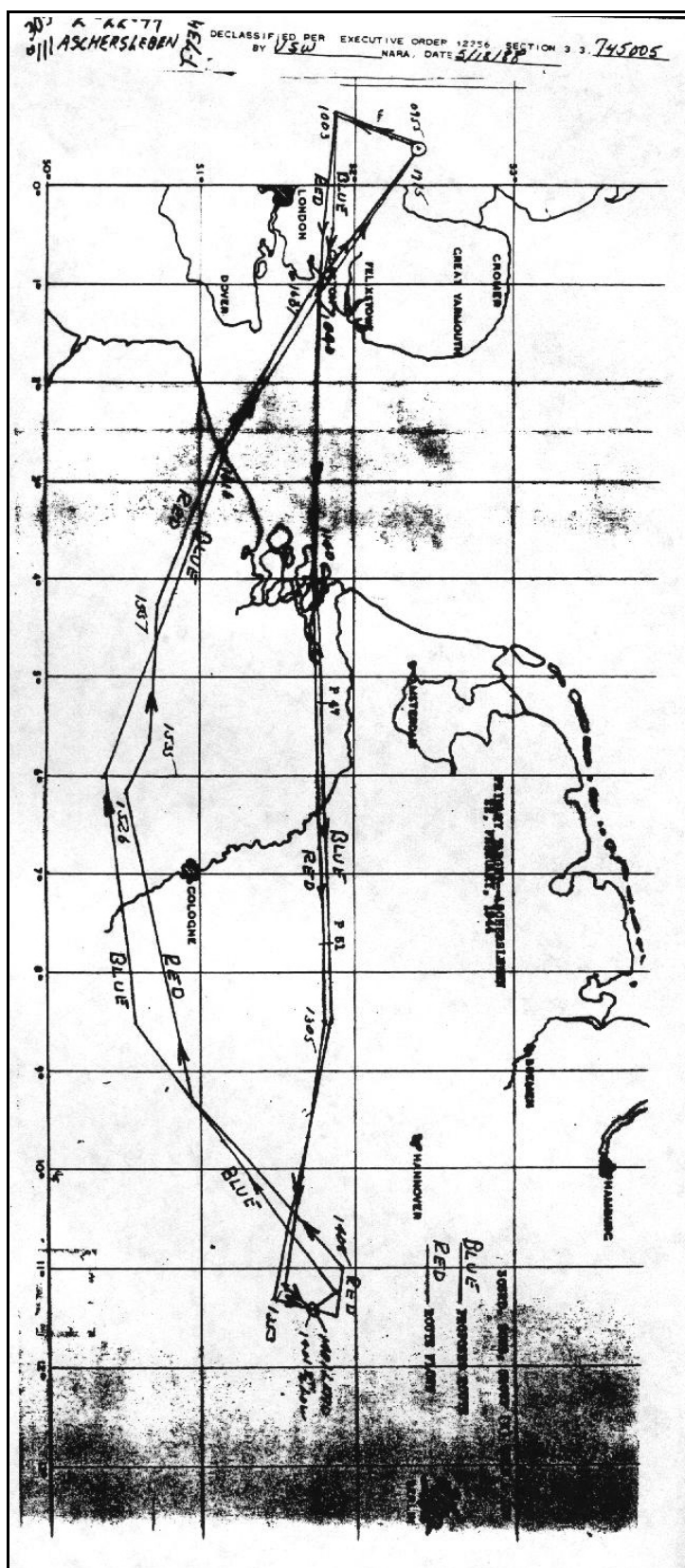
Crew Reports of Enemy Aircraft Destroyed or Damaged

Gunner Claims: Destroyed 13, Probable 2, Damaged 6, Total 21

Confirmed Claims: Destroyed 7, Probable 0, Damaged 5, Total 12, No Claim 9

		<u>Claim</u>	<u>Confirmation</u>
Maj. G.R. Weinbrenner (788)	ME-109	Destroyed	Damaged
S/Sgt. Paul J. Barmak (386)	FW-190	Destroyed	Destroyed
2Lt. George R. Schoner (386)	ME-109	Damaged	No Claim
T/Sgt. George V. Broderick (386)	ME-109	Destroyed	Damaged
S/Sgt. Charles R. Jaehne (386)	FW-190	Destroyed	No Claim
S/Sgt. Raymond Butler (854)	FW-190	Destroyed	Damaged
S/Sgt. Herman L. Stauter (239)	ME-109	Damaged	Damaged
T/Sgt. Jerome J. Haggerty (669)	FW-190	Destroyed	No Claim
Sgt. Jessie L. Delaney (669)	FW-190	Probable	Destroyed
T/Sgt. Douglas L. Jones (893)	ME-109	Destroyed	Destroyed
T/Sgt. Robert L. Rosier (050)	FW-190	Damaged	No Claim
1Lt. Hobart H. Steely (583)	FW-190	Destroyed	Destroyed
S/Sgt. William A. Ferri (795)	FW-190	Destroyed	No Claim
S/Sgt. John C. Mayhugh (213)	FW-190	Destroyed	Destroyed
T/Sgt. Kurt J. Hermann (213)	ME-109	Destroyed	No Claim
T/Sgt. William A. Watts (875)	FW-190	Damaged	No Claim
S/Sgt. John W. Davies (823)	FW-190	Damaged	No Claim
S/Sgt. William B. Jewett (823)	ME-109	Damaged	Damaged (*)
Sgt. William T. Werner (081)	FW-190	Destroyed	Destroyed (*)
S/Sgt. George P. Greene (257)	ME-109	Destroyed	Destroyed
S/Sgt William F. Brown (257)	ME-109	Probable	No Claim

(No S-2 Intelligence confirmation stamp in file)



Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Mitchell</u> 583		
	<u>Worthley</u> 669		<u>Smith</u> 239	
		<u>Maxey</u> 629		
	<u>Stuermer</u> 041			
	<u>Hybert</u> 386		<u>Watson</u> 635	
<u>Hoeg</u> 885		<u>Estes</u> 081	<u>Ferguson</u> 795	<u>Moffat</u> 052
	<u>Taylor</u> 893		<u>Lawlor</u> 854	
<u>Dahleen</u> 183		<u>Edwards</u> 483	<u>Coppom</u> 340	<u>Glass</u> 432

Three (3) aircraft aborted this mission:

Lt. Bordelon in 841, Lt. Watson in 635, Lt. Savage in 561



Clover Leaf (Little Princess) #42-31583 (358BS) VK-C
41st CBW-B Lead "A" - Pilot Maj K.R. Mitchell / CoPilot 1Lt A.S. Litman

Maj. K.R. Mitchell (P), 1Lt A.S. Litman (CP), 1Lt. H.H. Steely (N),
2Lt. L.C. Merthan (N), 1Lt. C.C. Armstrong (B)
S/Sgt G.A. Smith (E), S/Sgt B.L. Castillo (WG), T/Sgt F.R. Ebbighausen (R),
Sgt L.J. Witherwax (BT), S/Sgt F.H. Stender (TG), S/Sgt V.R. Miller (WG)

(crewmen are not in order)

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

		<u>Sheets-Dubell</u> 341		
	<u>Wood</u> 7875		<u>Mars</u> 423	
		<u>McGarry</u> 9875		
	<u>Harrison</u> 616		<u>Sullivan</u> 020	
<u>Underwood</u> 931				<u>Goolsby</u> 306
<u>Parrott</u> 393	<u>Morrin</u> 788		<u>McManus</u> 823	<u>Eisenhart</u> 213
	<u>Bordelon</u> 841			<u>Stoullil</u> 257
<u>Crook</u> 399	<u>Thomas</u> 973		<u>Newell</u> 605	<u>Savage</u> 561
			<u>Moncur</u> 050	



Viscous Virgin #42-5341 (427BS) GN-Q
41st CBW-B Lead "B" (427BS) - Pilot 1Lt R.W. Sheets / CoPilot Capt R.P. Dubell

(Back L-R) S/Sgt J.F. Donnelly (WG), 1Lt G.T. Orvis (B), Capt R.P. Dubell (CP),
 1Lt R.W. Sheets (P), 1Lt J.J. Culpin (N), 2Lt D.E. Kendall (TG-O)
 (Front) S/Sgt F.X. Neuner (E), S/Sgt L.C. Smith (WG), Sgt J.R. Jervis (photo),
 T/Sgt F.T. Kuehl (R), Sgt E.J. King (BT)

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Taylor, James B., 2Lt
CP	Hall, Charles M., 2Lt
NAV	Levy, Herbert E., 2Lt
BOM	Feinman, Milton, 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	Loveland, William H., Sgt

B-17G #42-31669 *Shoo Shoo Baby*

P	Worthley, Joe R., 1Lt
CP	Cook, John H., 2Lt
NAV	Williams, Jack N., 2Lt
BOM	Morrison, James P., 2Lt
ENG	Haggerty, Jerome J., S/Sgt
RWG	Delaney, Jessie L., Sgt
RO	Rumpf, Charles W., S/Sgt
LWG	Balzano, Christopher, Sgt
TG	Hunt, John L., Sgt
BT	Chadick, Neal T., Sgt

B-17G #42-38041 *Hell's Angels II CR-L*

P	Stuermer, John W., 1Lt	KIA
CP	Reynolds, Charles E., 2Lt	KIA
NAV	Tielman, William A., 2Lt	KIA
BOM	Newman, Clyde D., 2Lt	KIA
ENG	Harris, David W., S/Sgt	KIA
RWG	Miller, David I., Sgt	B/O
RO	Murray, Edward F., S/Sgt	KIA
BT	Stark, Joseph, Sgt	KIA
TG	Collins, Marvin B., Sgt	KIA
LWG	Carroll, Marvin A., Sgt	KIA

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

P	Smith, Marshall L., 1Lt
CP	Palecek, Francis J., 2Lt
NAV	Connors, Edward B., 2Lt
BOM	Troy, Edward J., 2Lt
ENG	Dick, Andrew, T/Sgt
LWG	Schor, John, S/Sgt
RO	Frolick, Edwin J., S/Sgt
BT	Simon, Gustof J., S/Sgt
TG	Fugate, Walter O., S/Sgt
RWG	Stauter, Herman L., Sgt

B-17F #42-29629 *Connecticut Yankee*

P	Maxey, Frank, 2Lt
CP	Knight, R.A., 2Lt
NAV	Shamban, Marcus F., 2Lt
BOM	Spatt, Arnold I., 2Lt
ENG	Gonsalves, John D., S/Sgt
LWG	Johnston, Wendell B, Sgt
RO	Rabun, Clifford G., Sgt
BT	Swain, Norman F., Sgt
TG	Angelo, George L., S/Sgt
RWG	Hodgins, Robert A., Sgt

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

P	Moffat, James, 2Lt	POW
CP	Pringle, Frank G., 2Lt	POW
NAV	Dearborn, Gayle W., 2Lt	KIA
BOM	Mazey, Paul L., F/O	POW
ENG	Rowan, Richard E., S/Sgt	POW
LWG	Sanders, Wilber R., Sgt	KIA
RO	Odell, Enos H., Sgt	KIA
BT	Loeffel, Vincent C., Sgt	KIA
TG	Fizzani, Nicholas J., Sgt	POW
RWG	Slagle, Jack A., Sgt	KIA

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P Mitchell, Kirk R., Maj
 CP Litman, Arnold S., 1Lt
 NAV Steely, Hobart H., Jr., 1Lt
 NAV Merthan, Lawrence C., 2Lt
 BOM Armstrong, Charles C., 1Lt
 ENG Smith, George A., S/Sgt
 TG Stender, Francis H., S/Sgt
 RO Ebbighausen, Francis R., T/Sgt
 BT Witherwax, Leon J., Sgt
 RWG Castillo, Buenaventura L., S/Sgt
 LWG Miller, Victor R., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29795 *Flying Bitch*

P Ferguson, Wendell Z., 2Lt
 CP Moody, James D., 2Lt
 NAV Brown, James F., 2Lt
 BOM Schmid, Ralph D., 2Lt
 ENG Ferri, William A., S/Sgt
 LWG Smithson, Clyde E., Sgt
 RO Phillips, Robert B., S/Sgt
 RWG Matthews, David R., Sgt
 TG Brooks, Richard S., Sgt
 BT Rhodes, Kenneth C., Sgt

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

P Watson, Jack W., 2Lt
 CP Burns, James R., 2Lt
 NAV Neuwirth, Edward, 2Lt
 BOM Mack, Austin J., 2Lt
 ENG Hoffman, Robert W., S/Sgt
 RWG Daniel, Herbert A., Sgt
 RO Kistulentz, Paul, Sgt
 BT Gibbs, Paul M., Sgt
 TG McArthur, Robert G., Sgt
 RWG Smythe, Samuel W., Sgt
 (Abortive)

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

CREW POSITIONS			
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	RESULTS OF MISSION	ESC - Escaped
ENG - Engineer	WG - Waist Gunner	KIA - Killed in action	BO - Bailed out
BOM - Bombardier	LWG - Left Waist Gunner	WIA - Wounded in action	DCH - Ditched
RO - Radio Operator	RWG - Right Waist Gunner	MIA - Missing in action	CR-L - Crashed on land
	GUN - Gunner	POW - Prisoner of war	CR-S - Crashed at sea

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Dahleen, Howard D., 1Lt
CP	Rice, Charles M., 2Lt
NAV	Klingensmith, Russell S., 2Lt
BOM	Gauthier, Raymond W., 2Lt
ENG	Newman, John F., S/Sgt
RO	Mongtomery, Robert E., S/Sgt
RWG	Smith, Harding W., S/Sgt
LWG	Murphy, Carl B., Sgt
BT	Hirn, Edward M., S/Sgt
TG	Manchester, Robert E., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P	Moncur, Vern L., 1Lt
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., S/Sgt
RWG	Baer, Richard K., S/Sgt
LWG	Dickman, Thomas J., S/Sgt
TG	Wike, Leonard L., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-29823 *(No Name)*

P	McManus, Henry, F/O
CP	Bishop, Robert F., 2Lt
NAV	Carroll, Charles P., 2Lt
BOM	Cecot, Chester R., 2Lt
ENG	Row, Robert A., T/Sgt
RO	Colburn, Robert R., T/Sgt
RWG	Doezema, Albert, S/Sgt
LWG	Jewett, William B., S/Sgt
BT	Davies, John W., S/Sgt
TG	Cowles, Clifton G., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-31213 *Pistol Packin' Mama*

P	Eisenhart, William E., 2Lt
CP	Gorecki, Victor T., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Carey, William D., 2Lt
BOM	Robinson, John M., 1Lt
ENG	Mayhugh, John C., Jr., S/Sgt
RO	Mouser, Lloyd C., T/Sgt
BT	McCauley, Patrick N., S/Sgt
TG	Rettinhouse, Robert A., S/Sgt
RWG	Robichaud, Joseph E., S/Sgt
LWG	Hermann, Kurt J., II, T/Sgt

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

P	Goolsby, Billy M., 1Lt
CP	Calwell, Lucien B., 2Lt
NAV	Towberman, P.E., 2Lt
BOM	Marlatt, Ray G., 2Lt
ENG	Bumgarner, Donald, T/Sgt
RWG	Rothrock, Harry J., S/Sgt
RO	Greenhalgh, Chester W., T/Sgt
BT	Chraniuk, William, S/Sgt
TG	Strobel, William A., S/Sgt
LWG	Cueto, Frank Z., S/Sgt

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

P	Stoulil, Donald W., 1Lt
CP	Callahan, Edward F., 2Lt
NAV	Susskind, Harold A., 2Lt
BOM	Trawicki, George J., 2Lt
ENG	Romer, Eugene A., S/Sgt
LWG	Brown, William F., Jr., S/Sgt
RO	Owen, James C., S/Sgt
BT	Bergman, Harvey F., S/Sgt
RWG	Greene, George P., Jr., S/Sgt
TG	Turkington, Calvin G., S/Sgt
PHO	Mahaffey, William D., S/Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17F #41-24605 *Knock-Out Dropper*

P	Newell, Noel N., 1Lt
CP	Donalson, Douglas C., 2Lt
NAV	Palmer, Gerald M., 1Lt
BOM	Hoover, William L., 2Lt
ENG	Freinwald, Earl C., T/Sgt
LWG	McGee, Richard, S/Sgt
RO	Weepie, Robert F., T/Sgt
TG	Atkinson, William E., S/Sgt
BT	Hart, Edgar B., Jr., S/Sgt
RWG	Mendel, Myron R., S/Sgt

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

P	Savage, John N., 2Lt
CP	Marsh, Richard K., 2Lt
NAV	Walsh, Myles J., 2Lt
BOM	Joyce, John D., 2Lt
ENG	Davis, Eugene B., S/Sgt
RO	Minks, George A., S/Sgt
BT	Munson, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Moessner, Raymond J., S/Sgt
LWG	Rogers, Warren G., Sgt
RWG	Ferrell, William R., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)

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

P	Edwards, Kenneth C., 2Lt
CP	Peterson, Edwin V., 2Lt
NAV	Sanders, Coleman, 2Lt
BOM	Anderson, Everett J., 2Lt
ENG	Johnson, Kenneth V., S/Sgt
RO	Kennedy, Herbert W., S/Sgt
BT	Guzman, Abel G., Sgt
LWG	Champagne, Adam, Sgt
TG	Kowalk, Francis H., Sgt
RWG	Abernathy, Fay S., Cpl

B-17G #42-31386 *Sky Duster*

P	Hybert, Arthur J., 2Lt
CP	Harrison, Weldon O., 2Lt
NAV	Schoner, George R., 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., S/Sgt
LWG	Neathery, Ralph P., S/Sgt
TG	Barmak, Paul J., S/Sgt
PHO	Green, William H., T/Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Thomas, Earl N., 2Lt
CP	Chapman, John M., 2Lt
NAV	Walenta, Clarence V., 2Lt
BOM	Scott, Harold L., 2Lt
ENG	Mason, John W., T/Sgt
TG	Harvey, Roy D., Sgt
RO	Crowder, Gayther B., T/Sgt
RWG	Oxendine, Simeon, S/Sgt
BT	Johnston, Harold A., Sgt
LWG	Books, Carl O., Sgt

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

P	Coppom, John F., 1Lt
CP	Stevens, Joseph E., 2Lt
NAV	Fleming, Samuel P., 2Lt
BOM	Peterson, Elmer L., S/Sgt
ENG	Brewster, John L., S/Sgt
RWG	Cole, Edgar W., Sgt
RO	Geisman, Gaylord W., S/Sgt
LWG	Fitko, Marion F., Sgt
BT	Deffinger, John P., S/Sgt
TG	Edwards, Marvin R., Sgt

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

P	Underwood, George E., 1Lt	KIA
CP	Massimiliano, Joseph, 2Lt	KIA
NAV	Parker, Duane C., 2Lt	KIA
BOM	Walter, George M., 2Lt	KIA
ENG	Daniels, Mack E., T/Sgt	KIA
RWG	Rike, Thomas L., Jr., S/Sgt	KIA
RO	Phipps, Charles F., T/Sgt	KIA
BT	Dinneen, Thomas E., S/Sgt	KIA
LWG	Casselman, Glen L., S/Sgt	KIA
TG	Meyer, Gregory C., S/Sgt	KIA

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

P	Parrott, John H., 1Lt
CP	McGrath, Leo B., 2Lt
NAV	Volk, Anthony D., 2Lt
BOM	Pierson, Lawrence C., S/Sgt
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., S/Sgt
TG	Laible, Gilbert N., Sgt

B-17G #42-31399 (*No Name*) CR-L

P	Crook, Charles D., 2Lt	EVD
CP	Clark, William A., 2Lt	POW
NAV	Davis, Roscoe, 2Lt	POW
BOM	DeLuca, Joseph, F/O	EVD
ENG	Breitenbach, Louis H., T/Sgt	EVD/POW
RWG	Chavez, Salvador, Sgt	EVD
RO	Hannan, Robert J., T/Sgt	EVD
LWG	Williams, Norris R., S/Sgt	POW
BT	Cheek, Roy A., S/Sgt	EVD
TG	Hensley, James H., Sgt	EVD/POW

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

P	Lawlor, John C., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Hicks, David F., 2Lt
NAV	Munroe, Linton S., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Barker, Havelock W., 2Lt
ENG	Tower, Jack W., T/Sgt
RWG	Baker, Nelson, S/Sgt
RO	Esposito, Frank B., T/Sgt
LWG	Krennek, Joe W., S/Sgt
BT	Kuntashian, Warren V., S/Sgt
TG	Butler, Raymond K., S/Sgt
PHO	Lovett, William F., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #42-31432 *Old Glory*

P	Glass, Henry F., 1Lt
CP	McMahan, Eugene A. 2Lt
NAV	Pepe, Nicholas A., 2Lt
BOM	Robrock, Paul A., 2Lt
ENG	Carbillano, Dominick J., Sgt
LWG	Stellato, Francis A., S/Sgt
RO	Miller, Gordon R., T/Sgt
RWG	Patrone, Frank, S/Sgt
BT	Michael, David O., S/Sgt
TG	Roberts, James E., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-37841 *Banshee*

P	Bordelon, Berton A., 1Lt
CP	Coons, Charles L., 2Lt
NAV	Cromwell, Frederick P., 2Lt
BOM	Cottrell, John W., 2Lt
ENG	Barker, Forrest, S/Sgt
RWG	Adams, Donald K., S/Sgt
RO	Fontana, Joseph L., S/Sgt
LWG	Patterson, Harry L., S/Sgt
BT	Harrington, Joseph F., S/Sgt
TG	Couch, Ted, Sgt
PHO	Buckley, Paul E., Sgt
(Abortive)	

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

P	Morrin, John R., 1Lt	POW
CP	Sheehan, Richard X., 2Lt	POW
NAV	Gill, Edward J., 2Lt	KIA
BOM	Howard, Homer M., 2Lt	POW
ENG	Beck, John A., S/Sgt	POW
LWG	DiStasi, Robert A., Sgt	KIA
RO	Cataldi, Frederick J., T/Sgt	
		POW/DOW
RWG	Kannapel, Eugene H., Sgt	KIA
BT	Houser, Donald R., Sgt	KIA
TG	Dodge, Charles G., Jr., Sgt	POW
OBS	Weinbrenner, George R., Maj	
		BO/EVD

Distinguished Service Cross Awarded

The tail gunner aboard the B-17 *Luscious Lady* of the 427th Bomb Squadron was SSgt **William T.L. Werner**, from Lebanon, Pennsylvania. About an hour and a half before reaching the target, during heavy German fighter attacks, a 20mm shell seriously injured Sgt Werner. Realizing that survival of the B-17 depended upon him being able to defend it from rear attacks, he remained at his post and continued firing his guns without pause. About 20 or 30 minutes later the aircraft was hit by flak and Sgt Werner received wounds in the arms, abdominal area, and leg. Only after all fighter attacks ceased did Sgt Werner, weakened by loss of blood, crawl to the waist gunners compartment and collapse. He had survived because flak had knocked out his heated flight suit and the freezing temperatures lowered his body temperature and helped the blood from his wounds coagulate quickly. Sgt Werner was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions. The Citation reads:



"For extraordinary heroism . . . while serving as tail gunner on a mission to Germany on 22 February 1944. Before reaching the target Sgt. Werner was seriously wounded by a 20mm. shell. He realized that with most attacks being made from the tail the ship would be doomed unless a steady stream of fire was maintained from the tail gun. In spite of his painful wounds he stayed at his post and destroyed at least one enemy fighter. Although wounded again by anti-aircraft fire and becoming weaker from loss of blood, he heroically stayed at his guns until all fighter attacks ceased before letting crew mates give him first aid."

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-38020 *V-Packet*

P	Sullivan, Francis X., Lt
CP	Brangwin, Kenneth R., Lt
NAV	Eccleston, Edward F., Lt
BOM	Bawol, Walter S., Lt
ENG	Frey, James L., S/Sgt
BT	Latta, Thomas B., T/Sgt
RO	Sullivan, James J., T /Sgt
TG	Stone, Vernon W., S/Sgt
RWG	Swanson, Charles A., S/Sgt
LWG	Keely, Eugene F., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-39885 *Sweet Rose O'Grady*

P	Hoeg, Kenneth A., Lt
CP	O'Hare, Phil W., Lt
NAV	Olsen, Kenneth L., Lt
BOM	Cronin, Ernest L., Lt
ENG	Relyea, Ralph R., T/Sgt
BT	Knight, Frederick B., S/Sgt
RO	Benevento, Andrew G., S/Sgt
RWG	Hadley, Owen W., S/Sgt
LWG	Vargas, Michael A., S/Sgt
TG	McLaughlin, Jesse W., S/Sgt

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

P	Harrison, Emmittes S., Jr., Lt
CP	Basteau, Stephen B., Lt
NAV	Kurnik, Walter F., Lt
BOM	Biedanski, Edmund J., Lt
ENG	Rombach, Joseph H., S/Sgt
BT	Dye, James W., S/Sgt
RO	Volmer, Lawrence O., T/Sgt
TG	Vateckas, Coster R., S/Sgt
LWG	Campbell, Kenneth H., S/Sgt
RWG	Hawk, Kenneth L., S/Sgt

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	Watts, William A., T/Sgt
BT	Grant, Thomas V., S/Sgt
RO	Brooks, Winnie R., S/Sg
TG	Helton, Edward, Sgt
RWG	Heathershaw, Charles L., Sgt
LWG	Tevis, John E., S/Sgt

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

P	Estes, Shirley W., Lt
CP	Byers, Ballard T., Lt
NAV	Shemwell, John T., Lt
BOM	Minter, Thomas W., Lt
ENG	Price, Jack J., S/Sgt
BT	Wiley, Nathan H., Sgt
RO	Wagner, Wayne, S/Sgt
TG	Werner, William T.L., Sgt
RWG	Silrum, Orvis K., Sgt
LWG	Ross, Samuel C., Sgt

B-17G #42-31423 *Jigger Rooche*

P	Mars, Charles W., Lt
CP	Shope, George W., Jr., Lt
NAV	Clark, James G., Lt
BOM	Landry, Robert J., Lt
ENG	Foster, Raymond L., Sgt
BT	Dunlap, Charles W., Jr., Sgt
RO	McGinnis, Eddie, Sgt
TG	Angione, Vincent A., Sgt
RWG	Rider, Wilbert, Sgt
LWG	Nivens, Delbert 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	Plante, Royal F., S/Sgt
RO	Wilson, Elmer A., S/Sgt
TG	Serpa, Joseph E., S/Sgt
LWG	Brown, Edgar S., Sgt
RWG	Hilborn, Ervin, Sgt
OSB	Geyer, H.M., Maj

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

P	Sheets, Robert W., Lt
CP	Dubell, Richard P., Capt
NAV	Culpin, John J., Jr., 1Lt
BOM	Orvis, George T., Jr., 1Lt
ENG	Neuner, Francis X., S/Sgt
BT	King, Earl J., S/Sgt
RO	Kuehl, Fred T., T/Sgt
TG	Kendall, Dallas E., 2Lt
LWG	Donnelly, James F., S/Sgt
RWG	Smith, Leonard C., S/Sgt
PHO	Gervais, Joseph R., Sgt