

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 130

28 March 1944

Target: Dijon/Longvic Airdromes, France

Crews Dispatched: 20

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 30 minutes

Bomb Load: 42 x 65 lb M-47A1 Incendiary bombs

Bombing Altitude: 16,900 ft

Ammo Fired: 440 rounds

Another Nazi airfield was partially missing after being visited by 303rd BG(H) Fortresses. With perfect visibility at 16,900 feet, Group bombardiers could take time to position for the run-up on the target. 838 65-lb. M47A1 incendiary bombs dropped in a compact mass on the building in the corner of the airdrome. Tall plumes of smoke could be seen rising from the burning building and petrol dumps 150 miles away from the target.

In many respects, it was one of the best missions ever executed by the 303rd BG(H). In addition to the good bombing, there was no opposition of any kind—enemy fighters or flak. The bombers flew a perfect bombing formation. The fighter escort, mostly P-47s, was present throughout the mission, although there were no German airplanes in the air. Only a few very distant bursts of anti-aircraft fire were seen. There were no casualties and no battle damage to the B-17s. All aircraft returned safely to Molesworth.

Capt. Louis M. **Schulstad**, Group Air Commander said, "It was the most perfect mission I've ever been on. Absolutely no opposition and bombing couldn't have been better." 1Lt. Edwin H. **Assenheimer**, a Fortress pilot said, "The visibility was unlimited and we could see the target for half an hour before we got to it. We had a good chance to plaster it and the bombardiers did a good job." S/Sgt. Charles W. **Robb**, tail gunner said, "When we were 150 miles away from the target on the way home I could still see smoke coming up from the field."

A total of 117 Eighth Air Force B-17s dropped 902 x 500 General Purpose and 1718 x 65 Incendiary bombs - 280 tons - from 16,900 feet at 1442 to 1453 hours. The Dijon/Longvic Airdrome is an operational base for twin-engine fighters, probably ME-110s. In the main hangar-administration area on the west side of the airfield, two heavy concentrations of incendiaries and one concentration of G.P. bombs were seen. Fires were started in two of five large double-bay hangars and damage was expected to be severe. Two square-type hangars received direct incendiary hits and were burning fiercely. A large workshop was hit. The whole administration area was covered by incendiaries. In the hangar-workshop area on the northwest side of the field, a three-bay hangar received three direct hits and was severely damaged. Four workshops received direct hits and two of them were completely demolished. Blast damage by near misses on four medium workshops could be seen. Twenty-nine medium, four S/E enemy aircraft and one twin-fuselage enemy aircraft were seen on the field. Four medium enemy aircraft were damaged.

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

MISSION #25

Date: March 28, 1944

Target: Dijon, France

Altitude: 16,900 feet

Plane: U-050 "Thunderbird"

Position: No. 4, Lead Squadron, Low Group

This was the easiest mission we were ever on. We did not have a single shot fired at our group, and our bombing was excellent. There wasn't a cloud in the sky, and it really was a pleasure to see how nice and pretty everything looked in France. Our altitude was low enough to be comfortable and warm.

This was one of the very few raids which we didn't pick up any battle damage to the plane. Again there was no injury to the crew.



This photo was taken from the camera pit in *Thunderbird* on March 28, 1944. The target was an airfield at Dijon, France. Bomb strikes can be seen in one area of buildings. A following group of fortresses wiped out the next group of buildings, while a third group demolished the third group of buildings. The airfield was completely destroyed.

Commendation
Received from Brigadier General Robert B. Williams
on 22 April, 1944

1. The outstanding performance of duty rendered by the 303rd Bombardment Group on the attack 28 March 1944 at Dijon/Longvic, occupied France, is continued evidence of the excellent teamwork contributed by combat personnel of your organization in sustained operations.

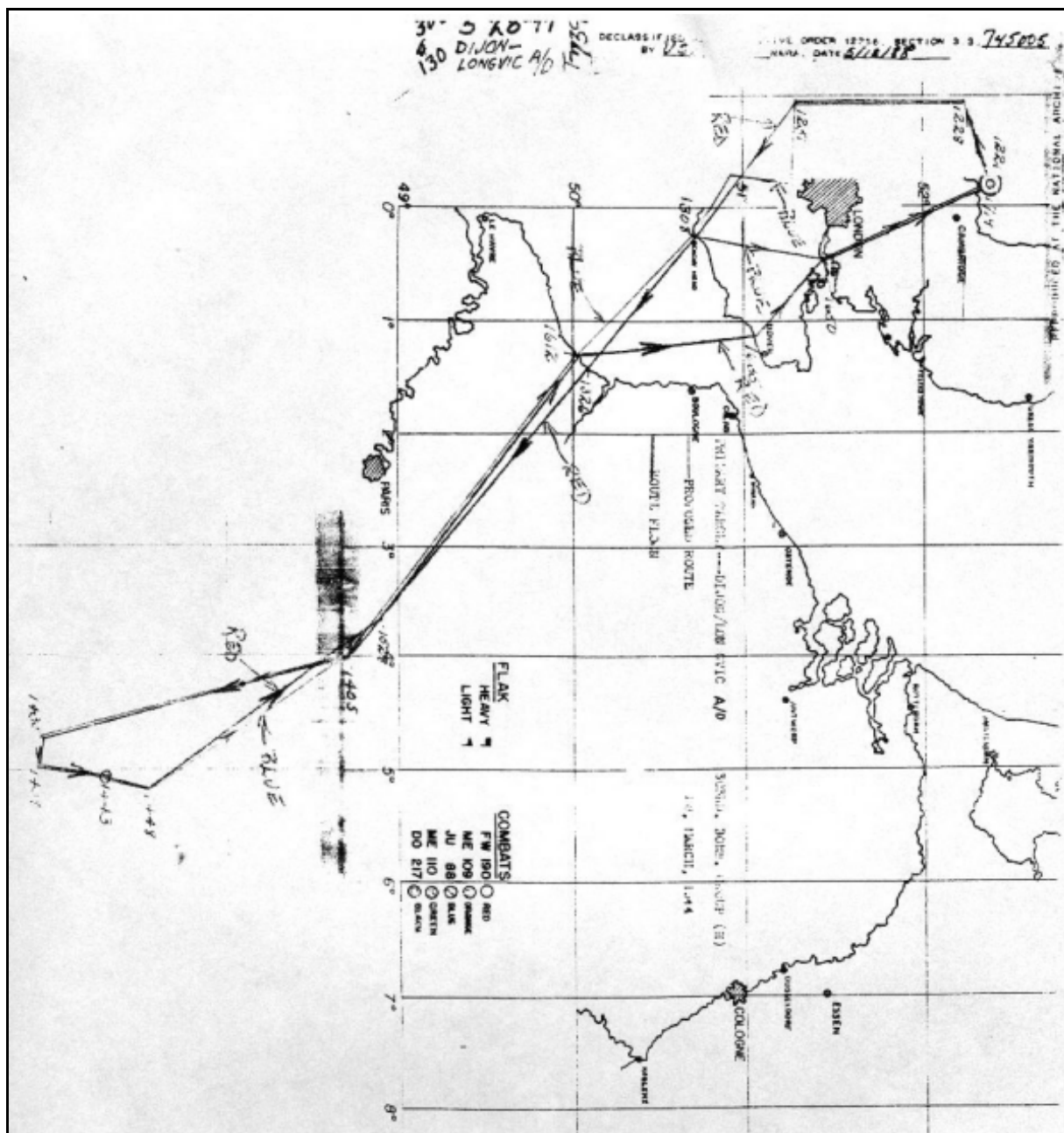
2. Interpretation of Strike Attack Photographs resulted in the following tabulated percentages of the total bombs identified.

Bombs within 500 feet of A.P.	twenty-four (24) percent
Bombs within 1000 feet of A.P.	sixty-eight (68) percent
Bombs within 2000 feet of A.P.	one hundred (100) percent

3. The exemplary teamwork exhibited by the following personnel, 359th Bombardment Squadron, lead aircraft of the group formation, is reflected in the remarkable results attained. It is gratifying to note that Lieutenant **Hoover** and Lieutenant **Schoner** have again demonstrated a high degree of skill and coordination as members of a combat team.

1Lt.	Billy M. Goolsby	0-676778	Pilot
Capt.	Louis M. Schulstad	0-442237	Co-Pilot
2Lt.	George R. Schoner	0-738667	Navigator
2Lt.	William L. Hoover	0-746720	Bombardier
2Lt.	Victor T. Gorecki, Jr.	0-672798	Tail Gunner
T/Sgt.	Donald Bumgarner	36026873	Engineer
T/Sgt.	Chester W. Greenhalgh	11136123	Radio Operator
S/Sgt.	William Chraniuk	32438176	Ball Turret Gunner
S/Sgt.	Harry J. Rothrock	15334202	Waist Gunner
S/Sgt.	Frank Z. Cueto	12156789	Waist Gunner

ROBERT B. WILLIAMS
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding



Route Map

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

CREW POSITIONS

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

RESULTS OF MISSION

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

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

	<u>Schulstad-Goolsby</u> 168		
<u>Hybert</u> 830		<u>Savage</u> 213	
	<u>Moncur</u> 050		
<u>Newell</u> 405		<u>Assenheimer</u> 386	
<u>Taylor</u> 669		<u>Harrison</u> 241	
<u>Ferguson</u> 224	<u>Moreau</u> 754	<u>Wood</u> 483	<u>Jones</u> 051
	<u>Gorman</u> 622		<u>Flesh</u> 020
<u>Viets</u> 617	<u>Ames</u> 002	<u>Headlee</u> 885	<u>Shope</u> 807
	<u>Larson</u> 785		<u>Estes</u> 546
		<u>Hofmann</u> Spare - 037	<u>Earhart</u> Spare - 204



B-17G #42-97546 *Idaliza* (360BS) PU-E

In front of Hangar "K". The Control Tower is just out of the picture to the right.

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P Larson, Roy A., 2Lt
 CP Duncan, Ronald E., 2Lt
 NAV Mikulich, Louis F., 2Lt
 BOM Wilson, Claud, Jr., 2Lt
 ENG Campbell, Thomas J., Sgt
 BT Brim, Lee R., Sgt
 RO Culp, Everett E., Sgt
 LWG Schinker, Arthur W., Sgt
 TG Hodge, Herman L., Sgt
 RWG Gamon, Edward J., Sgt

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

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

B-17G #42-97622 *Paper Dollie*

P Gorman, Quentin J., 1Lt
 CP Knight, R.A., 2Lt
 NAV Williams, Jack N., 2Lt
 BOM Morrison, James P., 2Lt
 ENG Gonsalves, John D., S/Sgt
 BT Swain, Norman F., Pvt
 RO Rabun, Clifford G., Sgt
 LWG Johnston, Wendell B., Sgt
 TG Angelo, George L., S/Sgt
 RWG Hodgins, Robert A., Sgt

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

P Taylor, James B., 1Lt
 CP Hall, Charles M., 2Lt
 NAV Binder, Carroll, Jr., 2Lt
 BOM Israelson, Elmer P., 2Lt
 ENG Jones, Douglas J., S/Sgt
 BT Czczotka, Theodore R., 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 #42-31754 (No Name)

P Moreau, Joseph A., 2Lt
 CP Hudson, Hendric S., 2Lt
 NAV Kelly, William T., 2Lt
 BOM Larson, Albert W., 2Lt
 ENG Rossman, Carl H., Sgt
 RWG Tate, Royce G., Sgt
 RO Lowe, Gareth W., Sgt
 LWG Tomasini, Michael, Sgt
 TG Fox, Howard E., Sgt
 BT Ross, Ben A., Sgt

B-17G #42-107002 *Mairzy Doats*

P Ames, Walter J., Jr., 2Lt
 CP Howell, Ernest F., 2Lt
 NAV Williams, Grover C., 2Lt
 BOM Campbell, William D., 2Lt
 ENG West, Jerome H., Sgt
 RWG Stafford, Sheldon A., Sgt
 RO Lesser, Edward R., Sgt
 LWG Strickland, Frank L., Sgt
 TG MacFarland, Kendall H., S/Sgt
 BT Stone, Robert L., Jr., Sgt

B-17G #42-97617 (No Name)

P Viets, John B., 2Lt
 CP Bennett, John C., 2Lt
 NAV Heibert, David C., F/O
 BOM Rodgers, Burton, 2Lt
 ENG Robinson, Frank E., S/Sgt
 LWG Madarchik, Michael, Sgt
 RO York, Franklin F., S/Sgt
 RWG Rademacher, Don J., Sgt
 TG Ferrell, William R., Sgt
 BT Holland, Ambrose J., Sgt

B-17G #42-32037 (No Name)

P Hofmann, Raymond, 2Lt
 CP Brothers, Calvin S., 2Lt
 NAV Levy, Herbert E., 2Lt
 BOM Feinman, Milton, 2Lt
 ENG Blakeney, William R., Jr., S/Sgt
 BT Crenshaw, Ollie G., Sgt
 RO Berman, Seymour, S/Sgt
 RWG Miller, David I., Sgt
 LWG Lawson, Tracy W., S/Sgt
 TG Castello, Benaventura L., S/Sgt
 (Spare)

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-31830 *Marie*

P	Hybert, Arthur J., 1Lt
CP	Calwell, Lucien B., 2Lt
NAV	Carey, William D., 2Lt
BOM	Corbin, Frederick A., F/O
ENG	Broderick, George V., S/Sgt
RO	Ratford, Edward V., S/Sgt
RWG	Gilcrease, Roland L., Sgt
BT	Jaehne, Charles R., S/Sgt
TG	Barmak, Paul J., S/Sgt
LWG	Neathery, Ralph P., S/Sgt

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

P	Assenheimer, Edwin H., 1Lt
P	Sassone, Joseph C., 2Lt
NAV	Palmer, Gerald M., 1Lt
BOM	Livermore, William D., 1Lt
ENG	Mayhugh, John C., S/Sgt
RO	Mouser, Lloyd C., T/Sgt
LWG	Jones, Derrell S., S/Sgt
RWG	Hermann, Kurt J., II, T/Sgt
BT	Franceschini, James V., Sgt
TG	Robb, Charles W., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P	Moncur, Vern L., 1Lt
CP	Peterson, Edwin V., 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-17G #42-31213 *Pistol Packin' Mama*

P	Savage, John N., 1Lt
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	Dean, Raymond N., Sgt

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

P	Newell, Noel N., 1Lt
CP	Donalson, Douglas C., 2Lt
BOM	Sanders, Coleman, 2Lt
BOM	Yelsky, Fred B., 2Lt
ENG	Freinwald, Earl C., T/Sgt
RWG	McGee, Richard, S/Sgt
RO	Weepie, Robert F., T/Sgt
LWG	Mendel, Myron R., S/Sgt
BT	Hart, Edgar B., S/Sgt
TG	Atkinson, William E., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-38168 *Dear Mom*

P	Goolsby, Billy M., 1Lt
CP	Schulstad, Louis M., Capt
NAV	Schoner, George R., 2Lt
BOM	Hoover, William L., 2Lt
ENG	Bumgarner, Donald, T/Sgt
RO	Greenhalgh, Chester W., T/Sgt
LWG	Rothrock, Harry J., S/Sgt
BT	Chraniuk, William, S/Sgt
RWG	Cueto, Frank Z., S/Sgt
TG	Gorecki, Victor T., 2Lt



Dear Mom #42-33168 (359BS) BN-M

41st CBW Low (359BS) - Pilot 1Lt B.M. Goolsby / CoPilot Capt L.M Schulstad

(Back L-R) 2Lt V.T. Gorecki (TG-O), 2Lt W.L. Hoover (B),

1Lt B.M. Goolsby (P), 2Lt G.R. Schoner (N), Capt L.M. Schulstad (CP)

(Front L-R) T/Sgt C.W. Greenhalgh (R), S/Sgt W. Chraniuk (BT),

T/Sgt D. Bumgarner (E), S/Sgt F.Z. Cueto (WG), S/Sgt H.J. Rothrock (WG)

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew List

B-17G #42-38204 (No Name)

P	Earhart, Amon E., 1Lt
CP	O'Beirne, Nelson B., 2Lt
NAV	Shipp, Gene K., 2Lt
BOM	Dello Buono, Thomas J., 2Lt
ENG	Henselman, Miles A., S/Sgt
RO	Blumberg, Marvin R., S/Sgt
BT	Faraone, Sam S., Sgt
TG	Studt, Allo L., Sgt
RWG	Rogers, Winford E., Sgt
LWG	Cammack, Francis C., Sgt
(Spare)	

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Wood, Vere A., 1Lt
CP	Knutson, Wilmer A., 2Lt
NAV	Pinnette, William S., 2Lt
BOM	Brown, Thomas G., 2Lt
TT	Tevis, John E., S/Sgt
BT	Grant, Thomas V., S/Sgt
RO	Brooks, Winnie R., T/Sgt
RWG	Heathershaw, Charles L., S/Sgt
TG	Helton, Edward, S/Sgt
LWG	Wright, Edgar A., S/Sgt

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

P	Jones, Wilbur H., 2Lt
CP	Wallace, Walstein W., 2Lt
NAV	Skarsten, Albert B., 2Lt
BOM	Kennedy, William J., 2Lt
TT	Weed, Lowrey A., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Calnon, Frederick N., S/Sgt
RO	Kosher, Albert J., Sgt
TG	Underwood, Clifford B., S/Sgt
LWG	Thompson, Frederick A., Sgt
RWG	Dimowitz, Morris, Sgt

B-17G #42-39807 *Nero*

P	Shope, George W., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Jenkins, Elton L., 2Lt
NAV	Landry, Robert J., 2Lt
BOM	Meagher, Robert W., 2Lt
TT	Relyea, Ralph R., T/Sgt
RO	Cohen, Leo, T/Sgt
BT	Plante, Royal F., S/Sgt
TG	Smith, Nyle F., S/Sgt
LWG	Doyle, Robert V., S/Sgt
RWG	Hadley, Owen W., S/Sgt

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

P	Harrison, Emmittes S., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Bastean, Stephen B., 2Lt
NAV	Peacock, Lawrence A., 1Lt
BOM	Umphress, F.E., Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Rombach, Joseph H., T/Sgt
BT	Dye, James W., S/Sgt
RO	Volmer, Lawrence O., T/Sgt
TG	LaFrenier, James E., S/Sgt
LWG	Campbell, Kenneth H., S/Sgt
RWG	Hawk, Kenneth L., S/Sgt

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

P	Flesh, William R., 1Lt
CP	Greenwood, Ernest G., 2Lt
NAV	Kurnik, Walter F., 2Lt
BOM	Biedanski, Edmund J., 2Lt
TT	Souder, Lee F., Jr., Sgt
RO	Benevento, Andrew G., S/Sgt
BT	McMahan, Bonnar P., S/Sgt
TG	McLaughlin, Jesse W., S/Sgt
LWG	Kossin, Jack, S/Sgt
RWG	Rider, Wilbert, Sgt

B-17G #42-97546 *Idaliza*

P	Estes, Shirley W., Lt
CP	Byers, Ballard T., Lt
NAV	Shemwell, John T., 2Lt
BOM	Minter, Thomas W., Lt
TT	Price, Jack J., S/Sgt
BT	Wiley, Nathan H., Sgt
RO	Wagner, Wayne, S/Sgt
TG	Ross, Samuel C., S/Sgt
RWG	Silrum, Orvis K., Sgt
LWG	Ford, Thomas P., Sgt
	(Abortive)

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

P	Headlee, Dale C., 2Lt
CP	O'Hare, Phil W., 2Lt
NAV	Schweitzer, Jerome D., 2Lt
BOM	Handley, Donald J., 2Lt
ENG	Klunk, James A., S/Sgt
BT	Teno, James R., S/Sgt
RO	Moberg, Chester H., S/Sgt
TG	Hoff, Henry, S/Sgt
LWG	Wilson, Robert J., S/Sgt
RWG	Kyle, Clarence, S/Sgt