

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 138

20 Apr 1944

Target: Crossbow Targets at Sottevast & Mesmil Au Val, Fra.

Crews Dispatched: 28

Crew Members Lost or Wounded: Lt. Lux KIA

S/Sgt. Schlottman WIA, Lt. Randall WIA

Length of Mission: 5 hours

Bomb Load: 6 x 1000 lb M44 & 2 x 500 lb AN-64 RDX bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 19,000, 19,400, 19,500 & 19,700 ft

Ammo Fired: 3,200 rounds

Eleven 303rd BG(H) B-17s comprising the 41 CBW-B Lead Group (359BS and 427BS) took off and assembled on schedule. The twelve 41st CBW-B Low Group (360BS and 358BS) had assembly problems. The 379BG Squadron pulled into the Low Squadron position scheduled for the 358BS and bombed in this location. The makeshift Low Group pulled into position with the 41 CBS-B Lead Group. Lt. **Moreau** was forced to assemble his 358BS with another 379BG lead Squadron. The composite 427/359/360BS flying as the Lead Squadron in the 41 CBS-C Low Group assembled per instructions.

Twenty-three aircraft attacked the V-weapon site at Sottevast, France. Five 427BS aircraft attacked Mesmil Au Val, France. There were no abortive aircraft. At the target there was 2/10 cloud cover at 2,000 feet with tops at 5,000 feet. Visibility was unlimited.

The five B-17s led by Maj. **Shumake** failed to rendezvous with the other Squadrons and flew alone. Shortly before reaching the target, Maj. **Shumake**'s B-17 was hit by flak and was forced to immediately salvo its bombs. The other four B-17s in the formation dropped their bombs on this aircraft. There was no evidence as to where the bombs hit. The lead ship navigator, 1Lt. E.Z. **Randall**, was injured by the flak burst. On return, Maj. **Shumake** landed at Thorney Island.



2Lt Andrew L. Lux

Sixteen of the B-17s, led by Maj. **Cole**, dropped 126 1,000-lb. M44 bombs on the primary target and jettisoned two 1,000-lb. M44 bombs into the English Channel. One Fortress dropped its bombs with the 384BG. Bombing results were unobserved. The bombardier believed that he hit to the right of the assigned aiming point. No leaflets were dropped. S/Sgt. Jerome D. **Schlottman** received a splinter of flak in his eye. 2Lt. Andrew L. **Lux**, co-pilot on #42-31830 *Marie*, 359BS-N, piloted by 2Lt. Clinton A. **Moser**, was killed by flak fragments on the bomb run. He is buried in Cambridge American Cemetery, England.

No enemy aircraft were observed. Friendly fighter support was excellent. Meager flak was observed at Alderney Island with intense and accurate flak at the target. Chaff dropped had no apparent effect in confusing the flak gunners. Only seven FW-190s were seen. There were no attacks on Group aircraft.

The bomber crews and citizens of London witnessed the entire 8th and 9th Air Forces as they swept over the heart of London on their way to and from the target. Even veteran combat men reported that this mass of bombers and fighters was an impressive sight. Over the coast of France the air was so full of planes that some crewmen said that aerial traffic cops would not have been out of place.

Major **Cole** said, "There were no enemy fighters at all — our own fighters were too thick. But that flak was as rough as any I've been through. The bombing was pretty good, I think." Major Alexander C. **Strickland**, Jr., 41 CBW, and previously with the 303BG, flew on the mission. All 303rd BG(H) bombers returned to England.



Scorchy II #42-97058 (359BS) BN-V

41st CBW-B Lead - Pilot Col W.L. Travis / CoPilot Capt A.C. Strickland

(Back L-R) Capt Alexander C. Strickland (CP-41CBW),
1Lt Walter E. Ulbricht (B-359BS), Col William L. Travis (P-41CBW),
1Lt Nicholas A. Pepe (N-360BS), 1Lt George M. Carroll (N-360BS)

(Front - not in order) T/Sgt William J. Huston (E), T/Sgt Charles R. Ferguson (R),
S/Sgt Lee Lanier, Jr. (BT), S/Sgt Anthony Laurinitis (TG),
S/Sgt Guy A. Lance (LWG), S/Sgt William E. Rein (RWG)

303rd 4-20-44
138 CHERBOURG T-736

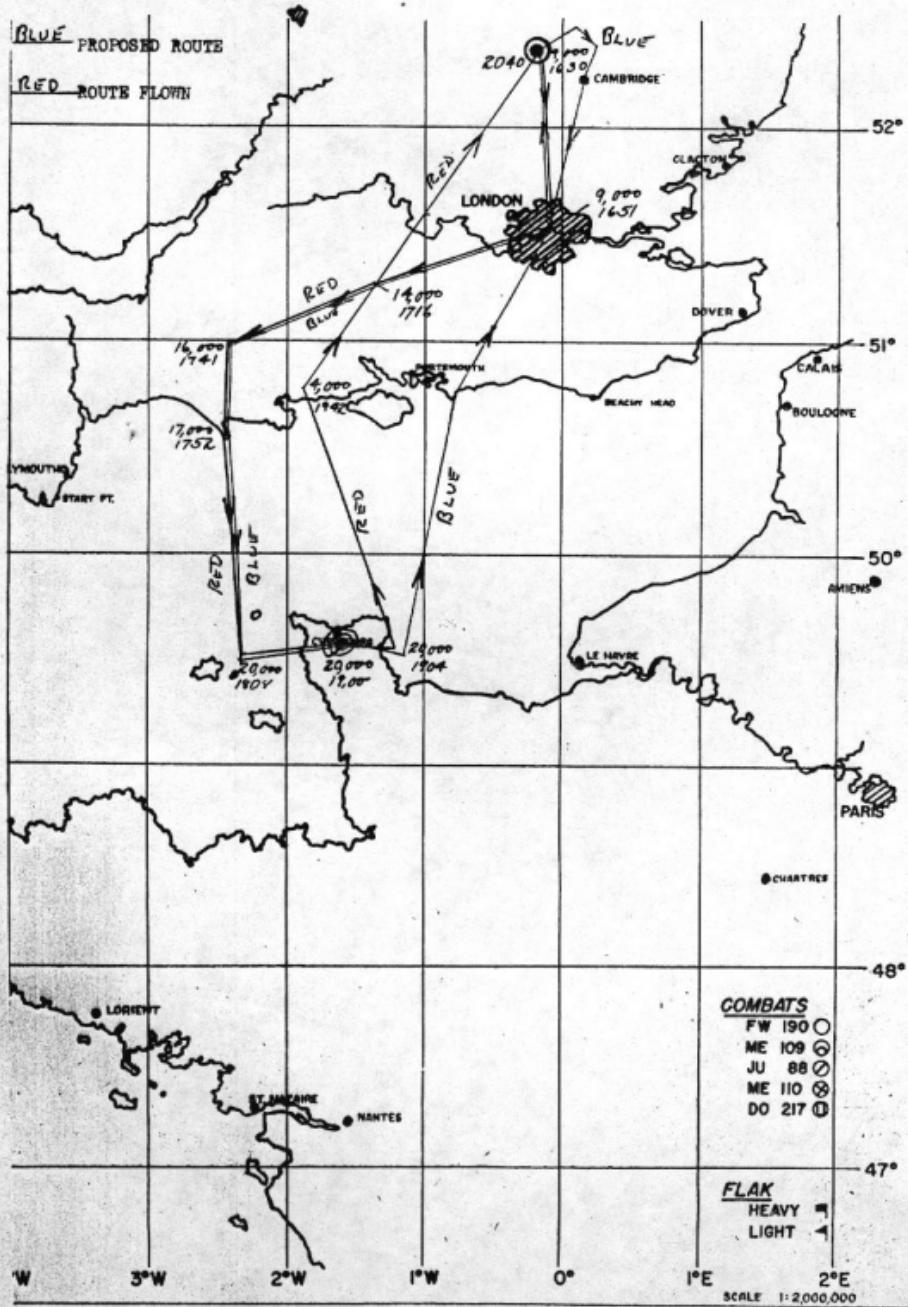
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BY USW NARA DATE 5/8/80

TRACK CHART

DATE 20 APRIL 1944

Route followed by 303RD. BOMB. GROUP (H)
LEAD SQUAD. OF THE LOW GROUP
OF THE 41ST. "C" G. R.

- PRIMARY TARGET ---
- MESMIL AU VAL,
- FRANCE



Route Map - Lead Group

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Lead Group

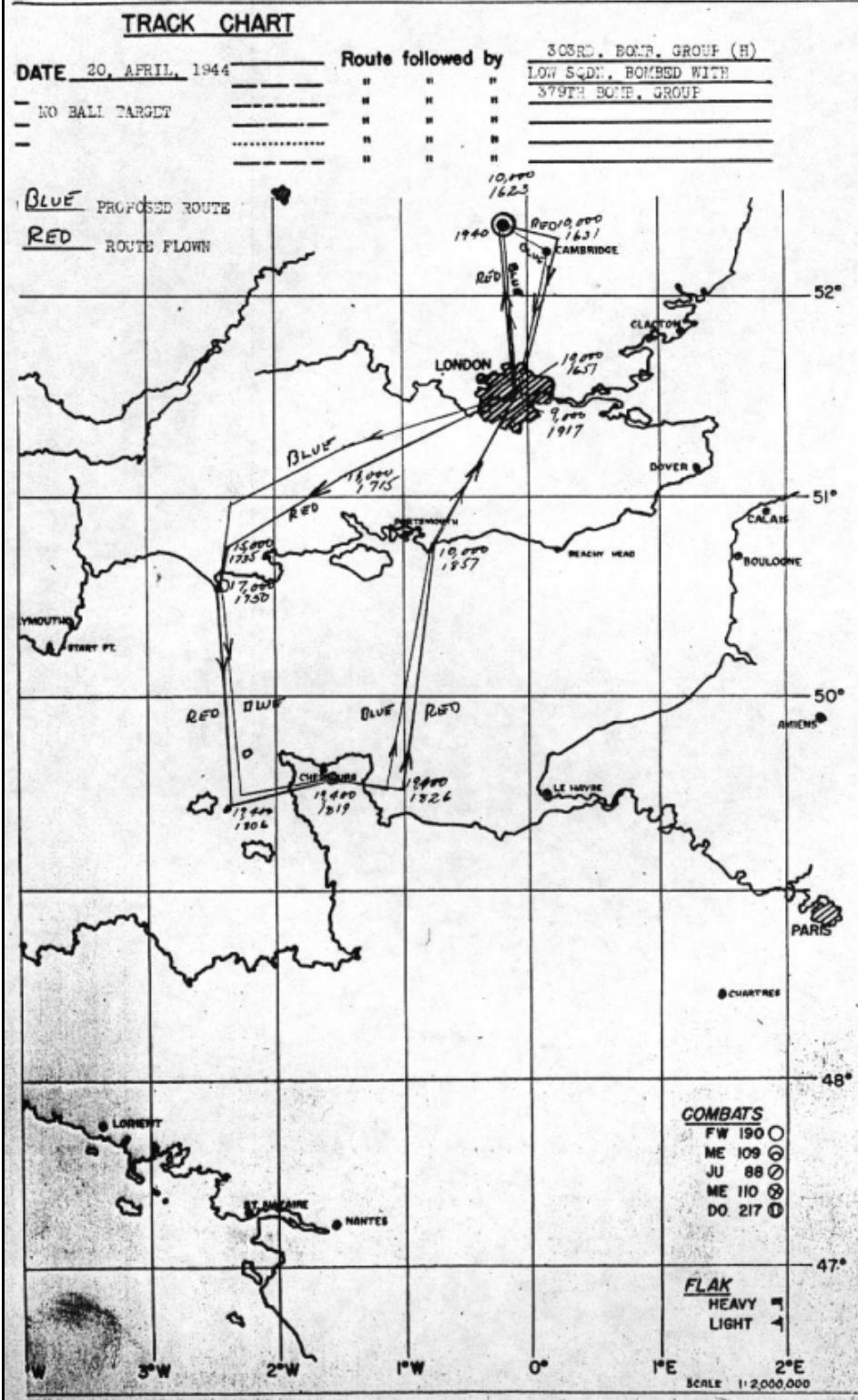
	<u>Cole-Quinn</u> 058	
Marsh 050		Meier 183
	<u>Hanselman</u> 483	
Fackler 807		Moser 830
	<u>Wood</u> 096	
Oranges 051		
	<u>Savage</u> 241	
	<u>Shope</u> 060	
Melton 020		

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Low Group

	<u>Travis-Strickland</u> 841	
O'Beirne 048		Cecchini 204
	<u>Stevens</u> 7875	
		<u>Johnston</u> 158

4-20-44
138 CHERBOURG T-736

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Route Map - Composite Group

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point
Composite Group A w/379BG

<u>Moreau</u>	<u>Ames</u>
574	028
<u>Hall</u>	<u>Ferguson</u>
669	583
<u>Eisele</u>	<u>McClure</u>
386	739

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point
Composite Group B w/379BG

<u>Shumake-Barnes</u>	
432	
<u>Daum</u>	<u>Williams</u>
284	254
<u>Sullivan</u>	
9875	
<u>Combs</u>	
885	

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<u>CREW POSITIONS</u>	TOG - Toggler 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	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
CMP - Command Pilot P - Pilot CP - Co-Pilot NAV - Navigator ANV - Ass't. Navigator MNV - Mickey Navigator ENG - Engineer BOM - Bombardier RO - Radio Operator		<u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u> KIA - Killed in action WIA - Wounded in action MIA - Missing in action POW - Prisoner of war	

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Larson, Roy A., 2Lt
CP	Duncan, Ronald E., 2Lt
NAV	Spatt, Arnold I., 2Lt
NG	Czeczotka, Theodore R., S/Sgt
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	Thayer, Duane P., Sgt

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

P	Hall, Charles M., 2Lt
CP	Stewart, Paul C., 2Lt
NAV	Moller, Robert C., 2Lt
BOM	Manze, Dario J., F/O
ENG	Coe, Thomas E., Jr., S/Sgt
RWG	Cast, James L., Sgt
RO	Jones, Drackart L., Sgt
TG	Cadlolo, Raymond E., Sgt
BT	Jasinski, Joseph T., Sgt
LWG	Sable, Roy A., Sgt

B-17G #42-31739 *Pugnacious Peter*

P	McClure, Thomas R., 1Lt
CP	Burks, Charles D., 2Lt
NAV	Brady, Joseph E., 2Lt
BOM	Stavast, James A., 2Lt
ENG	Swift, Herbert E., S/Sgt
LWG	Kent, Amos, Sgt
RO	Frazee, Francis L., Sgt
RWG	Bahr, John W., Sgt
TG	Senheiser, George A., Sgt
BT	Duncan, George T., Sgt

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

P	Ferguson, Wendell Z., 1Lt
CP	Moody, James D., 2Lt
NAV	Brown, James F., 2Lt
BOM	Schmid, Ralph D., 2Lt
ENG	Matthews, David R., Sgt
LWG	Basteau, Edward L., S/Sgt
RO	Phillips, Robert B., S/Sgt
RWG	Rogers, Thomas J., Sgt
TG	Brooks, Richard S., Sgt
BT	Rhodes, Kenneth G., Sgt

B-17G #42-31574 *Ole George*

P	Moreau, Joseph A., 2Lt
CP	Hudson, Hendric S., 2Lt
NAV	Minkowitz, Samuel, 1Lt
BOM	Hoover, William L., 1Lt
ENG	Roszman, 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 #42-107028 (*No Name*)

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

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P	Marsh, Richard K., 2Lt
CP	Halpin, Robert H., 1Lt
NAV	Bates, Robert L., 2Lt
BOM	Corbin, Frederick A., F/O
ENG	Davis, Eugene B., S/Sgt
RO	Minks, George A., S/Sgt
BT	Munson, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Moessner, Raymond J., S/Sgt
RWG	Rogers, Warren G., Sgt
LWG	Dean, Raymond N., Sgt

B-17G #42-97284 *Ain't Misbehavin'*

P	Daum, Maurice G., 2Lt
CP	Roth, Ernest L., 2Lt
NAV	Forve, Frank F., 2Lt
TOG	Kolling, Arthur J., S/Sgt
TT	Wike, Leonard L., S/Sgt
RO	Rose, William A., S/Sgt
BT	Jenkins, Crawford E., S/Sgt
TG	Taylor, Burt W., S/Sgt
LWG	Sampson, Dale A., S/Sgt
RWG	Frederick, Lee W., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-39807 *Nero*

P	Fackler, David E., 2Lt
CP	Paton, Wallace L., 2Lt
NAV	Hogan, Paul G., 2Lt
BOM	Nance, George H., 2Lt
ENG	Schlottman, Jerome D., S/Sgt
RO	Prendergast, Bert T., S/Sgt
BT	McIntyre, Harold W., Sgt
TG	Pohlman, Wilbert F., Sgt
LWG	Brewer, Ray, Sgt
RWG	Tipton, Bill B., Sgt

B-17G #42-31830 *Marie*

P	Moser, Clinton A., 2Lt.	
CP	Lux, Andrew L., 2Lt	KIA
NAV	Andreasen, Rolf W., 2Lt	
BOM	Campbell, Frank P., 2Lt	
ENG	Duffey, Willis A., Sgt	
RO	Zionkoski, John T., S/Sgt	
BT	Parrish, Vernon, Sgt	
TG	Seelock, Joseph J., Sgt	
LWG	Raines, Donald E., Sgt	
RWG	Mays, Pearl E., S/Sgt	

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

P	Meier, Russell W., 2Lt
CP	Reed, John W., 2Lt
NAV	Counts, George H., F/O
BOM	Smith, Ralph, 2Lt
ENG	Danford, Emmett J., S/Sgt
RO	Connors, Joseph Q., S/Sgt
LWG	Henson, Archie H., Sgt
RWG	Colley, Smith K., Sgt
BT	Richard, Vernon, Sgt
TG	Butler, Ashley A., Sgt

B-17G #42-97058 *Scorchy II*

P	Cole, Richard H., Maj
CP	Quinn, Thomas J., 1Lt
NAV	Lunde, Frithjof M., 1Lt
BOM	Bowen, Ricahrd R., 1Lt
ENG	Bumgarner, Donald, T/Sgt
RO	Vieira, Joseph, T/Sgt
BT	Chraniuk, William, S/Sgt
TG	Gorecki, Victor T., 2Lt
RWG	Cueto, Frank Z., S/Sgt
LWG	Rothrock, Harry J., S/Sgt

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

P	Hanselman, Charles F., 1Lt
CP	Rice, Charles M., 2Lt
NAV	Carey, William D., 2Lt
TOG	Livermore, William D., 1Lt
ENG	Fouss, Howard E., T/Sgt
LWG	Jaouen, Robert F., T/Sgt
RO	Zitzler, George A., T/Sgt
RWG	Armstrong, Keith N., S/Sgt
BT	Williams, Walter S., S/Sgt
TG	Tybuszewski, Mitchel J., S/Sgt
PAS	Longworth, Edmund F., Maj

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17F #42-3158 Max

P	Johnston, Donald M., 2Lt
CP	Heussler, Robert W., 2Lt
NAV	Schultz, Milo R., 2Lt
BOM	Davis, Paul J., S/Sgt
ENG	Barnum, Abraham E., M/Sgt
RO	Treece, Charles E., S/Sgt
BT	Pesetsky, Paul W., Sgt
TG	Nestok, Frank, Sgt
RWG	Smith, Herbert L., Sgt
LWG	Turner, Kenzie H., Sgt

B-17G #42-107048 (No Name)

P	O'Beirne, Nelson B., 2Lt
CP	Duffield, Richard B., 2Lt
NAV	Shipp, Gene K., 2Lt
BOM	Nebhut, Kenneth E., S/Sgt
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

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

P	Cecchini, Anthony J., 2Lt
CP	Fisher, Stanley L., 2Lt
NAV	Veigel, Edward J., 2Lt
BOM	McDevitt, Theodore D., 2Lt
ENG	Bachman, Clifford D., S/Sgt
RO	Smith, Benjamin H., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Kepics, George, Sgt
TG	Hudson, Ward A., Sgt
RWG	Cogdell, Clarence L., Sgt
LWG	O'Hearn, Robert J., Sgt

B-17G #42-31386 Sky Duster

P	Eisele, Roy, 1Lt
CP	Girard, Louis F., 2Lt
NAV	Schenker, Murray, 2Lt
BOM	Gladstone, Melvin, 2Lt
ENG	Cowley, Louis M., S/Sgt
RWG	Bell, Richard L., Sgt
RO	Millard, Ralph, S/Sgt
LWG	Friedman, Szymon A., S/Sgt
BT	Longoria, Efrain, Sgt
TG	Vallee, Edward J., S/Sgt

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

P	Stevens, Joseph E., 1Lt
CP	McMahan, Eugene A., 1Lt
NAV	Fleming, Samuel P., 1Lt
BOM	Finley, Robert A., 1Lt
ENG	Brewster, John L., T/Sgt
RO	Deerfield, Eddie, T/Sgt
BT	Logan, Frank C., S/Sgt
TG	Edwards, Marvin R., Sgt
RWG	Fitko, Marion F., S/Sgt
LWG	Cole, Edgar C., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97254 Iza Available

P	Williams, John T., 2Lt
CP	Coats, Niel, 2Lt
NAV	Fazio, Joseph J., 2Lt
BOM	Grunseth, Roald J., 2Lt
ENG	Schwenke, Howard A., S/Sgt
RO	Barber, Stewart, L., S/Sgt
BT	Whitten, Cleveland W., Sgt
TG	Ott, John E., Sgt
RWG	Northam, James W., Sgt
LWG	Mitchell, John B., Sgt

B-17G #42-37841 Banshee

P	Travis, William L., Col
CP	Strickland, Alexander C., Capt
NAV	Carroll, George M., 1Lt
NAV	Pepe, Nicholas A., 1Lt
BOM	Ulbricht, Walter E., 1Lt
ENG	Huston, William J., T/Sgt
RO	Ferguson, Charles R., T/Sgt
BT	Lanier, Lee, Jr., S/Sgt
TG	Laurinitis, Anthony, S/Sgt
LWG	Lance, Guy A., S/Sgt
RWG	Rein, William E., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-31060 *Poque Ma Hone*

P	Shope, George W., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Jenkins, Elton L., 2Lt
NAV	Meagher, Robert W., 2Lt
BOM	Smith, Nyle F., S/Sgt
TT	Relyea, Ralph R., T/Sgt
RO	Cohen, Leo, T/Sgt
BT	Teno, James R., S/Sgt
TG	Underwood, Clifford B., S/Sgt
LWG	O'Neil, Austin J., Sgt
RWG	Hadley, Owen W., S/Sgt

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

P	Sullivan, Francis X., 1Lt
CP	Brangwin, Kenneth R., 2Lt
NAV	Cronin, Ernest L., 1Lt
BOM	Bawol, Walter S., 2Lt
TT	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
RWG	Keely, Eugene F., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97096 (*No Name*)

P	Wood, Vere A., 1Lt
CP	Knutson, Wilmer A., 2Lt
NAV	Peacock, Lawrence A., 1Lt
BOM	Umphress, F.E., Jr., 1Lt
TT	Tewis, John E., S/Sgt
BT	Grant, Thomas V., S/Sgt
RO	Kosher, Albert J., S/Sgt
LWG	Heathershaw, Charles L., S/Sgt
TG	LaFrenier, James E., S/Sgt
RWG	Musashe, Michael, S/Sgt

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

P	Oranges, Chester N., 2Lt
CP	Lawrenson, George C., 2Lt
NAV	Whitman, John H., 2Lt
ENG	Wright, Edgar A., S/Sgt
TT	Eisenhauer, James A., Sgt
BT	Gentry, Richard A., Sgt
RO	Sorese, Leonard V., S/Sgt
TG	Franklin, Robert E., Sgt
RWG	Korpi, Walfred J., S/Sgt
LWG	Ward, Homer J., Jr., Sgt

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

P	Savage, Gilbert T., 2Lt
CP	Schwołow, John C., 2Lt
NAV	Coffey, John B., 2Lt
BOM	Coughlin, George A., 2Lt
TT	Kelly, J.D., S/Sgt
BT	Holt, Richard R., Sgt
TG	Paul, Samuel D., S/Sgt
TG	Stover, Edward J., Sgt
RWG	Layton, Wilber A., Sgt
LWG	Jefferson, Arthur G., S/Sgt

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

P	Melton, James H., 1Lt
CP	Belknap, Robert W., 2Lt
NAV	Frechter, Harry G., 2Lt
BOM	Clapp, Keith W., 2Lt
TT	Weed, Lowrey A., Jr., T/Sgt
BT	Moore, John J., Jr., S/Sgt
RO	Stoberl, Donald L., S/Sgt
TG	Anderson, Ralph R., Sgt
LWG	LaPlante, Willard R., Sgt
RWG	Miller, Norman L., S/Sgt

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

P	Combs, Americus V., III, 2Lt
CP	Greenwood, Ernest G., 2Lt
NAV	Brown, Thomas G., 1Lt
TG	Helton, Edward, S/Sgt
TT	Souder, Lee F., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	McMahan, Bonnar P., S/Sgt
RO	Dubray, Ernest D., Sgt
TG	McLaughlin, Jesse W., S/Sgt
RWG	Rider, Wilbert, S/Sgt
LWG	Doyle, Robert V., Sgt

B-17G #42-102432 *Tiny Angel*

P	Barnes, Deane L., 1Lt
CP	Shumake, Glynn F., Maj
NAV	Randall, Everett Z., 1Lt
BOM	Roode, William A.T., 1Lt
TT	Sparks, Willie T., T/Sgt
BT	Chancellor, John R., S/Sgt
RO	Benevento, Andrew G., S/Sgt
TG	Kendall, Dallas E., 2Lt
LWG	Winters, Craig W., S/Sgt
RWG	Price, John B., S/Sgt