

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 190

24 June 1944

Target: Deutsche Vacumol A.G. Works at Bremen, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 35

Crews Lost: F/O Farthing

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 25 minutes

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

Bombing Altitudes: Group A - 25,000 ft; Group B - 24,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 150 rounds

Thirty-three 303rd BG(H) aircraft plus two 305G PFF B-17s flew as lead and low Groups in the 41st CBW-A mission to Bremen. The target was covered by 9/10 clouds necessitating a PFF bomb run. The PFF equipment on the 384BG high Group lead B-17 malfunctioned and they bombed on the 303rd lead PFF ship. A variety of bombs were dropped from 25,000 and 24,000 feet: 108 500-lb. M43, 84 500-lb. RDX and 288 250-lb. M27 bombs.



"Alone No More" by William S. Phillips

Sweet Rose O'Grady B-17G #42-39885 (427BS) GN-R returning to Molesworth. She is joined by two Mark IX Spitfires of the RAF 241st Squadron who will escort her home. Rosie and her crew are "Alone No More."

No enemy fighters were spotted. Friendly fighters furnished good escort and area support. At the target, intense inaccurate flak was encountered. Most bursts were below the formation with some about 10,000 feet above. Five aircraft sustained minor flak damage.

One aircraft was missing. #43-37654 (*No Name*), 360BS, piloted by F/O Harold C. **Farthing**, was flying in the No. 2 position, low Squadron, low Group, 41st CBW-A formation. It had been straggling most of the way, left the formation, and went down in the clouds just before reaching the IP. It seemed under control and one feathered engine was reported, however, the aircraft crashed at Hamburg, Germany. Sgt. Ernest A. **Viles** later reported that they had been hit over Bremen, Germany, but the entire crew made successful parachute jumps. F/O **Farthing**, F/O Frank N. **Page**, 2Lt. James P. **George**, F/O John D. **Carson**, S/Sgt. William M. **Sweetie**, S/Sgt. Francis W. **Postles**, Sgt. **Viles**, Sgt. Leonard C. **Greig**, Jr., Sgt. Joseph **Melnyk** were all taken captured and became Prisoners of War.

MISSION NUMBER 22, June 24, 1944

from the book "25 Milk Runs" by Richard R. "Dick" Johnson

Diary: "Bremen, Germany. Oil refinery. PFF (Radar) Target nine tenths cloudy. Flak moderate to intense. Few flak holes. Hate to go there on a clear day. Another 'Flak City'."

We carried 18 bombs per plane. They were 250 pound general purpose type. Our target was Oslebshausen, a suburb of Bremen if radar was the required method of aiming. This was all in the industrial part of Bremen. We each carried 2100 gallons of gas for this trip.

Beiser and I had the newly repaired "Buzz Blonde" again for this mission, and were assigned the number four position in the high squadron of the low group. On this raid, Capt. Bob Sheets, our operations officer was flying the lead, and again, Wardowski and Roy were flying side by side, behind him in positions number 2 and 3.

Bob Sheets took off in a PFF plane and led 17 aircraft to fly low group of the 41st "A" Combat Wing. We assembled over base at 4000 ft. and got into position with the lead group. We flew in Wing formation until the IP was reached. We overran the IP a small amount in order to take interval for bombing by groups. We came to the target behind the lead group and made a straight and level bomb run of seven minutes. Bombs were away at 1:00 PM from twenty-four thousand feet on a magnetic heading of 211 degrees. During the bomb run we encountered intense flak that didn't seem to be aimed at anyone in particular. After bombs away we immediately made a turn to avoid flak, at which time we rejoined the Wing until reaching the North Sea, where we fell into trail for the descent. After reaching friendly territory, the lead plane peeled off and returned to Chelveston where it was based.

Our use of "Chaff" probably helped in the flak avoidance, since the German gunners had to aim by radar, it being almost solid overcast at the target.

We lost one B-17 from our group on this mission. Lt. Harold C. Farthing flying A/C number 43-37654 (No Name) was straggling for quite a while, and just before reaching the IP he had to leave the Number 2 position of the low squadron. He was almost directly to our left in the formation, about a hundred feet lower and gradually fell back, losing altitude until Charlie Latta, our ball turret operator, said that he had gone into the clouds. He never returned to base and we later learned that they all had to bail out. They all landed safely.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Stevens-Moreau</u> 592 - PFF		
		<u>Lee</u> 949		<u>Bailie</u> 739
			<u>Latshaw</u> 086	
		<u>Vermeer</u> 622		<u>Davis</u> 085
	<u>Moser</u> 781			<u>Benham</u> 298
<u>Walker</u> 177		<u>Carney</u> 284		<u>Stein</u> 006
	<u>Carpenter</u> 206			<u>Baker</u> 680
<u>Langford</u> 405		<u>Reed</u> 960		
				<u>McConnell</u> 154
				<u>Crozier</u> 496

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

			<u>Sheets</u> 638 - PFF	
		<u>Roy</u> 051		<u>Wardowski</u> 885
			<u>Mitchell</u> 411	
		<u>Savage</u> 099		<u>Gallagher</u> 027
	<u>Brown</u> 340			<u>Jones</u> 432
<u>Wilson</u> 853		<u>Farthing</u> 654		<u>Flick</u> 391
	<u>Bartholomew</u> 187			<u>Beiser</u> 875
<u>Arnold</u> 483		<u>Vitale</u> 861		
				<u>Lehmann</u> 569
				<u>Moreman</u> 537

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Vermeer, Bernard E., 2Lt
CP	Markos, Costa, F/O
NAV	Connor, John P., 2Lt
BOM	Barteau, Edward L., S/Sgt
ENG	Varvil, Willis E., S/Sgt
BT	Schley, John G., S/Sgt
RO	Moon, Charles E., S/Sgt
TG	Kennedy, Robert F., S/Sgt
RWG	Ferris, James H., Sgt

B-17G #42-97949 (No Name)

P	Lee, Gareth G., 2Lt
CP	Bowman, William E., F/O
NAV	Sweig, Morris, 2Lt
BOM	Townsend, Charles D., 2Lt
ENG	Leimgruebler, Victor H., S/Sgt
WG	Olive, Martin, Sgt
RO	Adkinson, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Newman, Gerald D., Sgt
BT	Grundon, Joseph D., Sgt

B-17G #42-97085 (No Name)

P	Davis, William C., 1Lt
CP	Graham, Edward, Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Alderson, Raleigh L., 2Lt
TOG	Roseland, Ralph A., Sgt
ENG	Johnson, Walker K., S/Sgt
RO	Sandler, David L., S/Sgt
BT	Clarke, Kenneth, Sgt
TG	Hiland, Robert L., Sgt
WG	Rogers, Joseph S., Sgt

B-17G #42-97298 *The Floose*

P	Benham, Philip O., 1Lt
CP	Thomas, Charles E., 2Lt
NAV	Coe, Charles F., 2Lt
BOM	Barkin, Herbert L., 2Lt
ENG	Van Drunen, Cornelius, S/Sgt
RO	Downs, Reginald, S/Sgt
BT	Vanderhoff, Grant W., Sgt
WG	Dellinger, Lenoir E., Sgt
TG	Gamon, Edward J., S/Sgt

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

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Bailie, Homer P., 2Lt
CP	Riseden, Jack W., 2Lt
NAV	Hamm, Willard A., 2Lt
BOM	Moody, Stanley E., S/Sgt
ENG	Ham, William J., S/Sgt
TT	Martinez, Gregorio, Sgt
RO	Sawyer, Robert B., S/Sgt
BT	Oss, Frank E., Sgt
TG	Naylor, Richard G., Sgt

B-17G #42-97592 PFF (305BG)

P	Stevens, Kermit D., Col
CP	Moreau, Joseph A., 1Lt
NAV	Krouskup, Wayne E., 2Lt
NAV	Prince, Alan M., 2Lt
BOM	Prussman, Henry G., 2Lt
ENG	Rossman, Carl H., Sgt
WG	Tate, Royce G., S/Sgt
RO	Lowe, Gareth W., T/Sgt
TG	Fox, Howard E., S/Sgt
PAS	Desmond, MacChesney, 2Lt

B-17G #42-102680 (No Name)

P	Baker, John M., 2Lt
CP	Byrnes, James H., 2Lt
NAV	Waterland, Edward L., 2Lt
TOG	Wright, Gene D., S/Sgt
ENG	Kishbaugh, Warren L., S/Sgt
WG	Reichmann, Fred P., Sgt
RO	Cottrell, Thomas B., Sgt
BT	Bertasso, Joseph S., Sgt
TG	Peters, Archie D., Sgt

B-17G #44-6086 *My Blonde Baby*

P	Latshaw, William E., 2Lt
CP	Kirkland, Robert A., F/O
NAV	Ivy, Wallis S., 2Lt
BOM	Doan, Curtis E., 2Lt
ENG	Pickens, Donald E., S/Sgt
RO	Tidwell, Andrew W., S/Sgt
TG	Hedrick, Warren L., Sgt
BT	Ginn, William E., Sgt
LWG	Miller, Horace J., Sgt

B-17G #42-38154 (No Name)

P	McConnell, John, 2Lt
CP	Lojewski, Telsphor, 2Lt
NAV	Atwood, Thomas M., 2Lt
BOM	Bennett, Robert W., 2Lt
ENG	Johnson, Jack M., S/Sgt
WG	Schneider, Lawrence J., Sgt
RO	Rego, Charles J., S/Sgt
BT	Messerich, Jerome R., Sgt
WG	Krebs, Henry R., Sgt

B-17G #44-6006 (No Name)

P	Stein, Lawrence J., 2Lt
CP	Whittall, Ernest A., 2Lt
NAV	Larkworthy, Bernard J., 2Lt
BOM	Carloss, Earl W., 2Lt
ENG	Card, Harry R, S/Sgt
WG	Grissom, Manley E., Sgt
RO	Meyer, Fred R., S/Sgt
BT	Truesdell, William P., Sgt
TG	Williams, Clarence J., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #43-37537 *Queen of Hearts*

P	Moreman, Robert, 2Lt
CP	Quiggle, Robert D., 2Lt
NAV	Nielsen, Carl V., 2Lt
BOM	Destito, Frank S., 2Lt
ENG	Genovese, Elic V., S/Sgt
RO	Barnts, Warren E., S/Sgt
WG	Alexander, Ray, Sgt
TG	Smith, Richard L., Sgt
BT	Lloyd, Stanely W., Sgt

B-17G #42-102496 *Special Delivery*

P	Crozier, Harry J., 2Lt
CP	Mowrey, Paul M., 2Lt
NAV	Kennedy, Clyde R., 2Lt
BOM	McCoy, Charles W., 2Lt
ENG	Passenant, Robert J., S/Sgt
RO	Hoyt, Robert B., S/Sgt
BT	Jara, Felix M., Sgt
TG	Stumpff, George W., Sgt
RWG	Butcher, Robert C., Sgt

B-17G #42-97781 *The '8' Ball MK III*

P	Moser, Clinton A., 1Lt
CP	Paton, Wallace L., 2Lt
NAV	Andreason, 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
WG	Mays, Pearl E., T/Sgt

B-17G #42-102960 *(No Name)*

P	Reed, John W., 2Lt
CP	Altman, Maurice C, 2Lt
NAV	O'Neill, Owen H., 2Lt
TOG	Meier, Wayne E., S/Sgt
ENG	Colley, Smith K., S/Sgt
WG	Hinson, Archie H., Sgt
RO	Rose, William A., Cpl
BT	Wernet, Charles, Pvt
TG	Butler, Ashley A., S/Sgt

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

P	Arnold, William J., 2Lt
CP	Parker, John W., 2Lt
NAV	Claster, Stanley M., 2Lt
BOM	Callahan, Ellsworth D., 2Lt
ENG	Williams, Robert M., S/Sgt
RO	Moreira, Joseph A., S/Sgt
BT	McClure, James D., Sgt
TG	Surrell, John M., Sgt
WG	Lichtenwalter, Ralph W., Sgt

B-17G #42-31177 *Lonesome Polecat*

P	Walker, Lewis M., 1Lt
CP	Doyle, Joseph J., 2Lt
NAV	Smith, Gordon F., 2Lt
BOM	Beers, Donald B., 2Lt
ENG	Sublett, James W., Sgt
RO	Lunday, Albert J., S/Sgt
BT	Hundley, Walter L., Sgt
TG	Reckert, Arthur C., Sgt
WG	Mathis, Henry C., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Carney, Walter J., 2Lt
CP	Hickey, James A., 2Lt
NAV	Taylor, Albert R., 2Lt
TOG	Perkins, Homer F., Pvt
ENG	Turner, Harold L., S/Sgt
RO	Foster, Albert A., S/Sgt
WG	Henderson, Jackson L., Sgt
TG	Howe, Clarence E., Sgt
BT	Encinas, William, Sgt

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

P	Langford, Allen W., 2Lt
CP	Zimmerman, Paul E., F/O
NAV	Heatherly, Phillip P., 2Lt
TOG	Arendt, John L., S/Sgt
ENG	O'Leary, Daniel R., Sgt
WG	Munn, Edwin C., S/Sgt
RO	Whisman, Chester C., S/Sgt
BT	Gray, William W., Sgt
TG	Mulstein, John E., Jr., Sgt

B-17G #42-107206 *Old Black Magic*

P	Carpenter, Arthur G., 2Lt
CP	Whitaker, Joseph C., 2Lt
NAV	Reid, George E., F/O
BOM	Day, Dean K., 2Lt
ENG	Pordham, Jack F., S/Sgt
RO	Bortolotti, Barney J., S/Sgt
BT	Welch, John R., S/Sgt
TG	Nichols, Dalbee, Sgt
WG	Vanlandingham, John C., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-97861 *Iza Vailable III*

P	Vitale, Hector F., 2Lt
CP	Boyle, Leo J., F/O
NAV	Hardwick, Jack C., 2Lt
BOM	Cassidy, Charles F., 2Lt
ENG	Reale, Joseph C., Sgt
RO	Miller, Hilary C., S/Sgt
BT	Thomas, Hal B., Sgt
TG	Younger, Andrew H., Sgt
WG	Nordberg, Francis E., Sgt

B-17G #42-97853 *Lucky Linda*

P	Wilson, William M., 2Lt
CP	Howard, Victor L., 2Lt
NAV	Blumenthal, Robert, 2Lt
BOM	Benford, Jack H., 2Lt
ENG	Asplund, Carl L., S/Sgt
RO	Means, Robert D., S/Sgt
BT	Case, Donald G., Sgt
TG	Sauer, George N., Sgt
WG	Sabuda, Emil S., Sgt

B-17G #42-97187 *Miss Umbriago*

P	Bartholomew, Dale E., 1Lt
CP	Ross, James A., 2Lt
NAV	Blume, William H., III, 2Lt
BOM	Andreason, Joseph G., 2Lt
ENG	Litwiller, Harold D., S/Sgt
RO	Allard, Charles G., S/Sgt
BT	Smith, Victor H., S/Sgt
TG	Blackwell, Haywood E., Jr., Sgt
WG	DeBartolo, Albert L., Sgt

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

P	Brown, Leonard M., 2Lt
CP	Caldwell, Frederick J., 2Lt
NAV	Fazio, Joseph J., 1Lt
BOM	Blythe, Robert W., Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Jamison, Charles A., S/Sgt
RO	Libert, Irving, S/Sgt
BT	LaFranchi, Alfred D., Sgt
TG	Johnson, Francis D., Sgt
WG	Enget, Obert L., Sgt

B-17G #43-37654 *(No Name)* CR-L

P	Farthing, Harold C., F/O	POW
CP	Page, Frank N., F/O	POW/D
NAV	George, James P., 2Lt	POW
BOM	Carson, John D., F/O	POW
ENG	Sweetie, William M., S/Sgt	POW
RO	Postles, Francis W., S/Sgt	POW
BT	Viles, Ernest A., Sgt	POW
TG	Melnyk, Joseph, Sgt	POW
WG	Greig, Leonard C., Jr., Sgt	POW

B-17G #42-97638 *PFF (305BG)*

P	Sheets, Robert W., Capt
CP	McCall, Robert S., Lt
NAV	Coffey, John B., 1Lt
BOM	Rickey, Lowell L., 2Lt
ENG	Neuner, Francis X., T/Sgt
RO	Benevento, Andrew G., T/Sgt
TG	Keating, Donald W., 2Lt
WG	Sullens, Tom C., S/Sgt
PAS	Clark, James G., 2Lt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-97391 (No Name)

P	Flick, Chester E., 2Lt
CP	Newton, John A., 2Lt
NAV	Parker, Joseph B., 2Lt
BOM	Harper, Kenneth L., 2Lt
BT	Forry, Harvey W., S/Sgt
RO	Abeyta, J. Charles, S/Sgt
TT	Eberly, Charles P., S/Sgt
TG	Brock, Charley F., Sgt
WG	Wilson, Robert J., Sgt

B-17G #42-102569 Miss Lace

P	Lehmann, Elroy C., 2Lt
CP	Heil, Lee C., 2Lt
NAV	Gast, William J., 2Lt
BOM	Miller, Charles F., 2Lt
TT	Sydor, Joseph, S/Sgt
BT	Koon, Bennie, Sgt
RO	Kelley, James D., S/Sgt
TG	Ruhge, Wayne L., Sgt
WG	Garlick, Darrell L., Sgt

B-17G #42-102595 Little Tush

P	Ligino, Steve, 1Lt
CP	Tyler, Frederick B., 2Lt
NAV	Smith, Arthur M., 2Lt
BOM	Dugger, William A., 2Lt
TT	Rau, Harvey L., S/Sgt
BT	Howard, George R., Sgt
RO	Dahms, Edward R., S/Sgt
TG	Dudley, Howard E., Sgt
WG	Gainer, Philip B., Sgt

B-17G #42-39875 Buzz Blonde

P	Beiser, Theodore R., 2Lt
CP	Johnson, Richard R., 2Lt
NAV	Gepner, Isadore, 2Lt
BOM	Cooper, Edward G., 2Lt
TT	Buchanan, Lonnie J., T/Sgt
BT	Latta, Charles W., Sgt
RO	Gorchesky, Benny J., S/Sgt
TG	Brackey, Carroll H., Sgt
LWG	Haines, James W., Sgt

B-17G #42-32027 Betty Jane

P	Gallagher, John W., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Bitel, Peter, 2Lt
NAV	Hibbard, Troy W., 2Lt
BOM	Tow, Weyman J., 2Lt
TT	Lynn, William V., Sgt
BT	Kail, Nicholas F., Sgt
RO	Dubray, Ernest D., S/Sgt
TG	Jacques, Warren, S/Sgt
WG	Joyce, Jess, S/Sgt

B-17G #42-102432 Tiny Angel

P	Jones, Wilbur H., 1Lt
CP	Mowatt, Frank G., 2Lt
NAV	Curley, Walter A., 2Lt
BOM	Kennedy, William J., 1Lt
TT	Duerr, William P., Sgt
BT	Calnon, Frederick N., S/Sgt
RO	Kosher, Albert J., Sgt
TG	Thompson, Frederick A., S/Sgt
WG	Dimowitz, Morris, S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #42-107099 *Old 99*

P	Savage, Gilbert T., 1Lt
CP	Schwolow, John C., 2Lt
NAV	Coughlin, George A., 2Lt
BOM	Johnson, Otto D., Sgt
TT	Jefferson, Arthur G., S/Sgt
BT	Holt, Richard R., S/Sgt
RO	Glass, David, S/Sgt
TG	Stover, Edward J., S/Sgt
WG	Layton, Wilber A., S/Sgt

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

P	Wardowski, Stanley, 2Lt
CP	Hainlin, Neal E., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Birnbaum, Warren G., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Eisel, Charles F., 2Lt
ENG	Kowatch, Raymond J., Sgt
BT	Paterson, Richard E., Sgt
RO	Willard, Albert, S/Sgt
TG	Wagner, Donald G., Sgt
WG	Snedde, John I., Sgt

B-17G #42-102411 *Miss Lace*

P	Mitchell, Fred E., 1Lt
CP	Ferguson, Gilbert L., 2Lt
NAV	Rafferty, Henry E., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Isaac, Kenneth W., 2Lt
TT	Cavagnol, Joseph J., S/Sgt
BT	Landa, Hyman J., Sgt
RO	Parr, Joe A., S/Sgt
WG	Byers, William R., S/Sgt
TG	Carpenter, Robert R., Sgt

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

P	Roy, Arnold K., 2Lt
CP	Quint, Ralph E., 2Lt
NAV	Whitman, John H., 2Lt
BOM	Weiss, Leonard E., 2Lt
TT	Cook, Leonard C., Sgt
BT	Black, Leslie K., Sgt
RO	Johnson, George N., Sgt
TG	Kahnert, Olaf F., Jr., Sgt
WG	On, Chan K., Sgt