

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 222

7 August 1944

Target: Airfield at Chartres, France

Fuel Depot at St. Ouen, France

Crews Dispatched: 37

Length of Mission: 5 hours, 45 minutes

Bomb Load: 12 x 500 lb G.P., 20 x 250 lb G.P., & 38 x 100 lb G.P.

Bombing Altitudes: 26,810, 27,650 & 25,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 200 rounds

Only the low Group bombed the primary target in the St. Ouen area of Paris. Clouds obscured the primary target, so the lead and high Groups bombed the Chartres, France, airfield — one of the assigned secondary targets. The lead Group dropped 150 500-lb. G.P. bombs, the high Group dropped 198 250-lb. G.P. bombs, and the low Group dropped 456 100-lb. G.P. bombs. The high Group had fair results, and the lead and low Groups, poor results. Two 359BS aircraft failed to drop bombs: #42-31183, *Bad Penny* 359BS (Lt. **McDavid**) - Due to bomb rack failure, the bombs could not be released; #44-6309 *Duchess' Granddaughter*, 359BS (Lt. **Walker**) - The salvo and selector switch were turned off in error.



Flying Bison Ground Crew

B-17G #42-37875 427BS (GN-A)

(L-R) Arnold A. Wedlund, Herman F. Hooper,
Allen W. Wheeler, Nelson J. Brown

In the general target area, there were 2/10 to 4/10 low clouds. Visibility was 10 to 12 miles in haze. The primary targets of the lead and high Groups were cloud-covered, so they couldn't be bombed. The target of the low Group was open, but closed in as the bombs were dropped. No enemy aircraft were seen and friendly support was good. Anti-aircraft fire was reported as: Lead Group - Meager and accurate at the enemy coast going in, meager and inaccurate at Paris and Chartres. Damaged aircraft: two major and five minor; Low Group - Intense and fairly accurate at Paris, moderate and fairly accurate at St. Digier, meager and inaccurate southeast of Caen. Damaged aircraft: five major and five minor; High Group: Moderate and inaccurate at Paris, moderate and accurate at Chartres. Damaged aircraft: two major and five minor.

All aircraft returned safely to Molesworth with no casualties.

PARIS, FRANCE

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

Today's mission would target a large fuel storage area in an area inside the city limits of Paris, almost on the banks of the Seine river in the St. Ouen section of the city. My diary reads: "Paris, France (St. Ouen). Flak really rough. They tracked us all the way. I was luckier than most as I only got a few holes. Target CAVU except for haze. Carried 38, 100 pound bombs. Over enemy territory two hours and five minutes.

I was flying in the number two opposition on the right wing of the lead plane. My new co-pilot for today was 2nd Lt. G.C. Lawrenson and we were flying A/C number 42-102569 which had no nose art. Thirteen airplanes were able to bomb this target while the rest went to Chartres, France to bomb the airfield there as a target of opportunity. From our bombing altitude of 25,000 feet the visibility was fair, with the target being obscured for a time with a thin layer of clouds. Another group from our wing turned in front of us at our altitude, giving us some violent prop wash. Even so, twelve of our thirteen aircraft bombed the primary target, but with only fair results. The new airplane being flown by Lt. Walker in the number four position didn't bomb, because the bombardier failed to turn on the selector and salvo switches. They brought their thirty-eight bombs back to base. Of course, there was a salvo switch at the bombardier's station as well as one in the pilot's position. The bombs could be dropped at any time from either location, armed or unarmed, but even a half second delay would cause that plane's bombs to overshoot the target by several hundred feet and possible killing a great many French civilians.

We were in a ticklish situation where we had to be extremely careful not to bomb built up areas in occupied France. We knew that we would occasionally kill non-combatants in occupied countries, but we always tried to avoid this.

The bombs that we dropped had no nose fuses and had a one-fortieth second fuse in the tail to give them instantaneous ignition. We were carrying two thousand gallons of gas for this five hour and forty-five minute mission.

There was intense flak throughout our seven minute bomb run, and just after bombs away it became very accurate until we took evasive turns. The German gunners were slow in getting our range while on the bomb run, and by the time they got us in their sights the bombs dropped and we turned away to foil their two and a half kilometer sighting lead. Of the thirteen planes in our low group, only three escaped damage. We had five planes with major damage and five, including mine, with minor damage.

Most of my new crews had a very exciting start to their combat tours. We were reminded of Winston Churchill's words from an earlier time of the Boer war: "Nothing is quite so exhilarating as being shot at and missed."

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Casello</u> 629		
		<u>Mehlhoff</u> 544		<u>Michaelis</u> 841
	<u>Francis</u> 340			<u>Baltes</u> 537
<u>Mosel</u> 861		<u>Hallum</u> 853	<u>Gould</u> 050	<u>Mainwaring</u> 7875
	<u>Baehr</u> 124			<u>Cureton</u> 027
<u>Connelly</u> 930		<u>Hobbs</u> 893		



(no name) #43-37629 (360BS) PU-A
41st CBW-C (360BS) - Pilot Maj J.J. Casello / CoPilot 1Lt B.C. Fontana

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Benham</u> 838		
		<u>Stark</u> 9875		<u>Cathey</u> 060
	<u>Vermeer</u> 972			<u>Eldridge</u> 484
<u>Goss</u> 298		<u>Smith</u> 291	_____	<u>McDavid</u> 183
	<u>Paullin</u> 316			_____
<u>Mayer</u> 085		<u>McConnell</u> 086	_____	_____
	_____			_____

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

		<u>Flesh-Flowers</u> 311		
		<u>Healy</u> 595		<u>Johnson</u> 569
	<u>Means</u> 281			<u>Walker</u> 309
<u>Caplinger</u> 432		<u>Bliss</u> 666	<u>Chance</u> 206	<u>Whitlock</u> 076
	<u>Brown</u> 099			<u>Smithy</u> 944
<u>Griggs</u> 423		<u>Drewry</u> 411	_____	_____
	_____			_____

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<p><u>CREW POSITIONS</u> CMP - Command Pilot P - Pilot CP - Co-Pilot NAV - Navigator ANV - Ass't. Navigator MNV - Mickey Navigator ENG - Engineer BOM - Bombardier RO - Radio Operator</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>VI - Voice Interpreter OBS - Observer PAS - Passenger PHO - Photographer</p> <p><u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u> KIA - Killed in action WIA - Wounded in action MIA - Missing in action POW - Prisoner of war</p>	<p>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</p>
--	--	---	--

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #44-6316 (No Name)

P	Paullin, James R., 2Lt
CP	Hinton, William B., 2Lt
NAV	Hunt, John W., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Simons, Robert A., 2Lt
ENG	Johnson, James P., S/Sgt
BT	Biestek, Stanley H., Sgt
RO	Thomas, Henry T., S/Sgt
WG	Woodward, Thomas J., Sgt
TG	Butler, Woodley O., Sgt

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

P	McConnell, John, 2Lt
CP	Thomas, Charles E., 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
TG	Krebs, Henry R., Sgt
BT	Messerich, Jerome R., Sgt

B-17G #44-6291 (No Name)

P	Smith, Alfred I., 2Lt
CP	King, Robert G., 2Lt
NAV	Jones, Emerson, 2Lt
BOM	Kemp, Stanley A., 2Lt
ENG	Harbarger, Martin M., S/Sgt
WG	Beres, Edward, Sgt
RO	Swanson, Richard A., Sgt
TG	Bruno, Sam S., Sgt
BT	Fischer, Jack D., Sgt

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

P	Mayer, Walter J., 2Lt
CP	Gradle, Raymond B., 2Lt
NAV	Hunt, Jackson H., 2Lt
BOM	Rogers, Oron J., 2Lt
ENG	Hicks, Douglas E., S/Sgt
WG	Withers, Frederick J., Sgt
RO	Tuescher, Ernest, S/Sgt
BT	Campbell, James M., Sgt
TG	Gendron, Ernest J., S/Sgt

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

P	Goss, Arthur L., 2Lt
CP	Cook, Harry J., 2Lt
NAV	Reuss, Lester E., 2Lt
BOM	Fouts, Malcolm M., 2Lt
ENG	Sprague, Floyd A., Sgt
WG	Stevens, Roy M., Sgt
RO	Rocco, Patsy, Sgt
TG	Bunney, Norman A., Sgt
BT	Earon, James A., Sgt

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

P	Cathey, John L., 2Lt
CP	Stephens, Chad W., 2Lt
NAV	Jackson, Charles S., 2Lt
BOM	Blomberg, Richard T., 2Lt
ENG	Reichling, Howard B., Sgt
WG	Raspa, Nicholas R., Sgt
RO	Whittier, Lamar H., Sgt
TG	Moerman, Arie, Sgt
BT	Nelson, Bert C., Sgt

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-97972 (No Name)

P	Vermeer, Bernard E., 1Lt
CP	Byrnes, James H., 2Lt
NAV	Metko, Earl D., 2Lt
BOM	Morrison, James P., 1Lt
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 #42-97944 *Daddy's Delight*

P	Smithy, Samuel C., 1Lt
CP	Boat, Ernest P., 2Lt
NAV	Joralemon, Lansing L., 2Lt
BOM	Klein, Robert J., 2Lt
ENG	Fisher, Raymond E. S/Sgt
WG	Bazo-Fontaneil, Juan A., Sgt
RO	Snoddy, Archie E., Sgt
TG	Bieranoski, Walter J., Sgt
BT	Politylo, Roman S., Sgt

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

P	Stark, Donald D., 1Lt
CP	Conley, George L., 2Lt
NAV	Nelson, Richard G., 2Lt
TOG	Mikola, Robert, Sgt
ENG	Batten, Delmer G., S/Sgt
RO	Steinhagen, Joseph R., S/Sgt
TG	Morrow, James C., Sgt
BT	Richkind, Max, Sgt
WG	Eggink, James H., Sgt

B-17G #43-37838 *Fearless Fosdick*

P	Benham, Phillip O., 1Lt
CP	Riseden, Jack W., 2Lt
NAV	Contos, Spiros P., 1Lt
BOM	Belles, Frank G., 1Lt
ENG	Van Drunen, Cornelius, T/Sgt
RO	Downs, Reginald, T/Sgt
TG	Dellinger, Lenoir E., S/Sgt
BT	Hill, Reginald L., S/Sgt
WG	Bonenberger, Robert E., S/Sgt
PHO	Frederick, Lee, S/Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #44-6076 *Liberty Run*

P	Whitlock, Garland M., 2Lt
CP	Ward, Duane G., 2Lt
NAV	Kelly, Thomas N., 2Lt
BOM	Scheibman, Herman B., 2Lt
ENG	Popovich, William G., Sgt
RO	Pomicter, Stanley, Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Boyle, Francis L., Jr., Sgt
TG	Gremillion, Raymond L., S/Sgt
WG	Harwat, Edward D., S/Sgt

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

P	McDavid, Philip H., 2Lt
CP	Beeman, Richard, 2Lt
NAV	Wodinsky, Abraham, 2Lt
BOM	Pickett, Donald E., 2Lt
ENG	Hall, Thomas M., S/Sgt
RO	Sikkema, Wilfred J., Sgt
BT	Johnson, Ralph R., Sgt
TG	Linville, Warren N., Sgt
WG	Erdody, Joseph, Sgt

B-17G #42-37875 *Flying Bison*

P	Mainwaring, Charles O., 2Lt
CP	Bach, Harold J., 2Lt
NAV	Hammond, Raymond D., 2Lt
BOM	Stone, Leonard, 2Lt
ENG	Gauthier, Leon C., S/Sgt
RO	Tognetti, Paul A., S/Sgt
BT	Cottrell, Bert, Sgt
TG	Dittman, Robert J., Sgt
WG	Angeloff, James P., Sgt

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P	Gould, Graham C., 2Lt
CP	Lasker, Yale, 2Lt
NAV	Leigh, Thomas W., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Reynolds, Ralph J., 2Lt
ENG	Mogck, Leonard, S/Sgt
RO	Anderson, Augustus C., S/Sgt
BT	Thompson, Val E., S/Sgt
TG	Gloria, Tony N., Sgt
WG	Bandy, Peter C., Sgt

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

P	Baltes, George E., 2Lt
P	Marble, Robert A., 2Lt
NAV	Macaulay, Edward H., 2Lt
BOM	Glover, Fred E., 2Lt
ENG	Stenger, John J., Jr., S/Sgt
RO	Giltenboth, Charles L., S/Sgt
BT	Kanz, Milton C., Sgt
TG	Posluszny, Branislaw B., Sgt
WG	Godsey, Austin C., Sgt

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

P	Chance, Arthur F., 2Lt
CP	Johnson, Robert H., 2Lt
NAV	McCarver, Eugene D., 2Lt
BOM	Couch, William M., 2Lt
ENG	Menasco, Elmer W., Sgt
RO	Miller, Albert, Sgt
BT	Moss, Shirley L., Cpl
TG	Hejna, Dennis R., Cpl
WG	Torre, Leo A., Cpl

B-17G #42-102484 *Heller's Angel*

P	Eldridge, Truman K., 1Lt
CP	Sheehan, Daniel J., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Durkin, James A., 2Lt
BOM	O'Neill, Owen H., 1Lt
ENG	Barnes, Frederick E., S/Sgt
RO	Rowlett, Samuel A., S/Sgt
BT	Strong, Ralph T., Cpl
TG	Panos, Andrew T., Cpl
WG	Wesley, LaFon, Sgt

B-17G #44-6309 *Duchess' Granddaughter*

P	Walker, Lewis M., 1Lt
CP	Doyle, Joseph J., 2Lt
NAV	Kennedy, Clyde R., 1Lt
BOM	Beers, Donald B., 2Lt
ENG	Murphy, Carl B., T/Sgt
RO	Lunday, Albert J., S/Sgt
BT	Hundley, Walter L., Sgt
TG	Reckert, Arthur C., Sgt
WG	Mathis, Henry C., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Hallum, Bertrand, Jr., 2Lt
CP	Romstad, Alfred M., 2Lt
NAV	Olson, Charles F., 2Lt
BOM	Fetzko, John, Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Young, Horace B., S/Sgt
RO	Botkin, Jack S., S/Sgt
BT	Ax, Heinz R., Sgt
TG	Ross, Milt I., Sgt
WG	Stroud, George E., Jr., Sgt

B-17G #42-37841 *Banshee*

P	Michaelis, Arthur D., 2Lt
CP	Johnson, Danny D., 2Lt
NAV	Lillig, Thomas J., 2Lt
BOM	Schobert, William A., Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Jones, Donald E., S/Sgt
RO	Jensen, Dale E., S/Sgt
BT	Barth, Harry W., Sgt
TG	Healy, Edward P., Sgt
WG	Hlavac, George A., Sgt

B-17G #44-6124 *(No Name)*

P	Baehr, Kenneth C., 1Lt
CP	King, John E., F/O
NAV	Levin, Albert, 2Lt
BOM	Smith, William H., 2Lt
ENG	Brackett, Clarence H., S/Sgt
RO	Ploeger, Jesse, S/Sgt
BT	Decker, Bruce O., Sgt
TG	Keipper, Carl E., Sgt
WG	Baldwin, Kenton F., Sgt

B-17G #42-97893 *Minnie the Moocher*

P	Hobbs, Willard, 1Lt
CP	Huckins, Earl R., 2Lt
NAV	Wade, Robert E., 2Lt
BOM	Smith, Herbert L., T/Sgt
ENG	Cole, Bethel A., S/Sgt
RO	Wiggans, Earl E., Sgt
BT	Bibik, James J., Sgt
TG	Glaser, Morris B., Sgt
WG	Callahan, Fred, Sgt

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

P	Francis, John R., 1Lt
CP	Tellinghuisen, Oscar A., 1Lt
NAV	Sanford, Isaac N., 2Lt
BOM	Benford, Jack H., 2Lt
ENG	Manser, Charles, T/Sgt
RO	Haynie, John D., T/Sgt
BT	Watson, Judson F., S/Sgt
TG	Hudson, Ward A., S/Sgt
WG	Jacobs, John W., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-102544 *Sack Time*

P	Mehlhoff, Arthur R., 2Lt
CP	Nelson, Edgar H., 2Lt
NAV	Williams, Gaylon C., 2Lt
BOM	Newcomb, Harry F., Jr., F/O
ENG	Wagner, Donald L., S/Sgt
RO	Thye, Norman W., S/Sgt
BT	Keeran, Elwood R., Sgt
TG	Quackenbush, Benjamin V., Sgt
WG	Harms, Vernon H., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #43-37930 (No Name)

P Connelly, Ben L., 2Lt
CP House, Frederick L., 2Lt
NAV Duros, Constantine J., 2Lt
BOM Shelley, David R., 2Lt
ENG Coyne, John A., S/Sgt
RO Schneider, Dale E., S/Sgt
BT Evans, Ralph V., Sgt
TG Bur, Robert D., Sgt
WG Koppes, Carl A., Sgt

B-17G #42-97861 Iza Vailable III

P Mosel, Arnold, 2Lt
CP Freeman, Kenneth H., 2Lt
NAV Strangohr, Bruce C., 2Lt
BOM Rudolph, Gabriel, 2Lt
ENG Conley, Donald H., S/Sgt
RO Groth, Gerald J., S/Sgt
BT Crawford, Frank J., Sgt
TG Bialobrzieski, Joseph C., Sgt
WG Koshar, Jerome J., Sgt

B-17G #43-37629 (No Name)

P Casello, John J., Maj
CP Fontana, Bernard C., 1Lt
NAV Cotner, Nyle E., 1Lt
NAV Peacock, Thomas I., 2Lt
BOM Sudderth, Ralph M., 1Lt
ENG Roszell, Thomas M., T/Sgt
RO Schuler, Frank H., T/Sgt
TG Cooter, William M., 2Lt
BT Chudej, Josef R., S/Sgt
WG Elmore, Kenneth L., S/Sgt
OBS Krogh, Kenneth R., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-32027 *Betty Jane*

P	Cureton, Peter F., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Nally, Paul E., 2Lt
NAV	Tollack, Howard V., 2Lt
BOM	Ulrich, Carl L., 2Lt
TT	Willison, Warren, S/Sgt
BT	Burford, Joseph A., Sgt
RO	Ellis, James A., S/Sgt
TG	Grove, John W., Sgt
WG	Celichowski, Ervin M., Sgt

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

P	Griggs, John C., 2Lt
CP	Dumont, Merrill J., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, William A., 2Lt
BOM	Rohner, William L., 2Lt
TT	Monnig, Alvin R., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Duffel, Robert L., Sgt
RO	Benning, Joseph F., Jr., S/Sgt
TG	Means, Henry H., Jr., Sgt
WG	Bruce, Miles R., Sgt

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

P	Brown, Tracy D., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Van Antwerp, Robert G., 2Lt
NAV	Rusk, Donald M., 2Lt
BOM	Drew, William F., 2Lt
TT	Kiely, Joseph P., S/Sgt
BT	Born, Robert S., Sgt
RO	Bridge, Howard R., S/Sgt
TG	Blim, Raymond C., Sgt
WG	Fisher, Clelland F., Sgt

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

P	Caplinger, Auston O., 2Lt
CP	Spruner, Donald L., 2Lt
NAV	Katz, Edwin Harold, 2Lt
BOM	Bober, Stanley, 2Lt
TT	Toth, Ernest, Sgt
BT	Jacobs, Carroll W., Jr., Sgt
RO	Mittell, Philip P., Sgt
TG	Holen, Theodore J., Sgt
WG	Olds, Andrew R., Sgt

B-17G #42-97281 *Queenie*

P	Means, Wilford T., 1Lt
CP	Luther, Joseph P., 2Lt
NAV	Sumbur, Simon, 2Lt
BOM	Prusha, Elmer E., F/O
TT	Payne, Joseph E., S/Sgt
BT	Miller, Robert L., Sgt
RO	Kopriva, Charles P., S/Sgt
TG	Turner, James W., Sgt
WG	Sileo, J.J., Sgt

B-17G #42-102569 *Miss Lace*

P	Johnson, Richard R., 2Lt
CP	Lawrenson, George C., 2Lt
NAV	Emmet, John P., 2Lt
T	Muzyka, Myron M., S/Sgt
TT	Foerster, LeRoy H.M., T/Sgt
BT	Czerwonka, Joseph A., S/Sgt
RO	Hitchcock, Robert H., Sgt
TG	Brown, Edgar S., S/Sgt
WG	Wilson, Robert J., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #42-102595 *Little Tush*

P	Healy, Richard F., 1Lt
CP	Smith, Donald R., 2Lt
NAV	Stuart, Norman L., 2Lt
BOM	Warner, Robert A., 1Lt
TT	Robertson, Joseph J., T/Sgt
BT	Leal, Raymond T., T/Sgt
RO	Smith, Phillip E., S/Sgt
TG	Whitlow, Zane O., Sgt
WG	DeLiso, Vincent A., Sgt

B-17G #43-37666 *Full House*

P	Bliss, Robert P., 2Lt
CP	Morrow, John E., 2Lt
NAV	O'Brien, William P., 2Lt
BOM	Johnson, O.D., S/Sgt
TT	Shumar, Carl K., Sgt
BT	Eakins, Charles A, Jr., Sgt
RO	Herman, Benjamin, Sgt
TG	Plesinger, Michael J., Sgt
WG	Curry, Richard L., Sgt

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

P	Drewry, James A., 2Lt
CP	Schneider, Richard H., 2Lt
NAV	Mayo, Archie W., 2Lt
BOM	Burke, James D., 2Lt
TT	Dorrah, Walter R., S/Sgt
BT	Morin, Donald P., S/Sgt
RO	Nash, Leslie G., Sgt
TG	Fidell, Frederick C., Sgt
WG	Koch, Edwin H., Sgt

B-17G #42-97311 *Shoo Shoo Baby*

P	Flesh, William R., 1Lt
CP	Flowers, Selwyn D., 2Lt
NAV	Curley, Walter A., 1Lt
BOM	Coughlin, George A., 1Lt
TT	Garrett, Joe W., S/Sgt
BT	Tambe, Angelo J., T/Sgt
RO	May, J.H., S/Sgt
TG	Noah, Norbert O., Sgt
WG	Soltero, John, S/Sgt