

# 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 223

8 August 1944

Target: Tactical Mission in Support of Ground Troops,  
Caen Area, France

Crews Dispatched: 36

Length of Mission: 4 hours, 35 minutes

Bomb Load: 38 x 100 lb G.P. bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 14,050, 13,500 & 15,200 ft

Ammo Fired: 50 rounds

**T**here were no clouds in the target area, but haze was present up to 15,000 ft. Air-to-ground visibility was limited to eight to ten miles. For these reasons, the lead and low Groups could not identify the target area in time to bomb it with certainty.

The lead Group dropped 446 100-lb. bombs on a small railroad marshalling yard at Courtonne, France, as a target of opportunity from 15,200 ft. Photos indicated that this choke point was hit. The low Group dropped 355 100-lb. bombs from 14,000 ft. on a railroad track at 48E 06'N/00E 22'E as a target of opportunity. The bomb pattern was concentrated on the tracks, which were cut. The high Group dropped 456 100-lb. bombs on the primary target at Caen, France, from 15,200 ft. Bombs hit in the target area about 1,500 yards SSW of the assigned MPI.

No enemy aircraft were seen and friendly fighters furnished good area support. Moderate and inaccurate flak was encountered at the primary target, causing minor damage to one B-17. No aircraft returned early. All aircraft landed at Molesworth with no casualties.



**B-17G Shoo Shoo Baby 42-97311 (427BS) GN-G**  
41st CBW-A (427BS) Lead - Pilot Capt Robert W. Sheets / CoPilot 1Lt William R. Flesh

**SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS - MY LAST MISSION!**  
from the book "25 Milk Runs" by Richard R. "Dick" Johnson

Our mission for today would be to try a tactical attack on German ground troops in an area eleven miles south of Caen, France. Captain Bob Sheets was leading today's raid with a ten man crew. This used to be standard for the Flying Fortress, but they had lately been reduced to a nine man crew. Bob Sheets was in aircraft number 42-97311, "*Shoo Shoo Baby*" of our 427th Squadron. Tech. Sgt. Frank X. Neuner was in Bob Sheets' top turret. He was a good buddy and roommate of my regular ball turret gunner, Charles W. Latta. We knew Frank from his experience of swimming in the English Channel on the first of December, 1943. His aircraft, piloted by Lt. Eckard, ran out of gas after a mission to Solingen, Germany. They had to ditch in the channel, but were all saved by Air-Sea Rescue.

I was assigned to "Tail End Charlie" for this raid, which was also "Purple Heart Corner," since there was nobody behind me. I had the same crew as on yesterday's raid, but with two different gunners on make-up missions.

My erstwhile pilot, Theodore "Bud" Beiser was 427th Operations officer, while Bob Sheets flew the lead position. Beiser had just finished his tour of duty and was doing this office work while waiting transport to the States.

This 41st "B" Combat Wing, Lead Group with twelve B-17s did an assembly at 5,000 ft. over the Harrington Buncher Beacon and departed the English coast at Portland Bill at 14,000 feet, which was to be our bombing altitude. The combat wing ahead of us didn't turn on the briefed IP and we had to follow them around to avoid flying a collision course. There were no clouds over the target, but the haze was so bad that we couldn't see the bright red and yellow markers that our ground troops had put out to identify the target that they wanted bombed. We made a bomb run, but the lead bombardier didn't drop because of this problem. The high group was the only one of our three groups to bomb the primary target, and they missed it by over a half mile. Luckily their bomb still fell in German occupied territory, destroying a lot of apple trees where a lot of vehicle tracks were visible.

Our secondary target had a cloud bank over it at 12,000 feet, so we finally picked a railroad siding and made a five minute bomb run and dropped 446, 100-pound bombs on that target with fairly good results, cutting the rail lines and a highway.

According to the mission summary, flak was "Moderate and inaccurate at the Primary." This was written by Bob Sheets at the front of the formation, while I was a quarter mile back and 500 feet lower. My diary reads: "Caen, France. German front line defenses. Flak was really rough as we were at 14,000 ft. Didn't drop on primary and finally dropped on railway yard, but good. CAVU. I'd rather go to Berlin. Finis. DFC."

Only one B-17 of our group received any damage. Guess whose? At one time the flak was bursting all around our plane, but several hundred feet away most of the time. I could see the angry, red center of these explosions several times. I often wondered if I was overly sensitive because it was my last mission, and thought that they were determined to get me on this one last chance. I thought at the time that one of those bursts might actually have my name on it.

After we returned to Molesworth at fifteen minutes past three p.m., I did the necessary paper work and came out of the airplane, only to find the crew lined up in front of the airplane by the nose art, "*Miss Lace*," to congratulate me. My co-pilot, 2nd Lt. George C. Lawrenson, who just finished his second mission, asked me, "How does it feel to finish your missions and get the Distinguished Flying Cross?"

"Wait a minute and I'll show you," I replied.

With this, I took off my "Fifty Mission" hat, removed by "Flak Beanie," and handed them to Lt. Lawrenson.

"Hold these for me, will you?" I said. I untied and dropped my flak suit which I picked up and handed to Lt. John P. Emmet, our navigator who also acted as our bombardier. I

removed my oxygen mask and throat mike and handed them to Tech. Sgt. Leroy H.M. Foerster, our engineer-top turret. I unhooked and removed my parachute harness which I gave to Sgt. Robert H. Hitchcock, our radio man. I lifted my "Mae West" life preserver over my head, and handed it to Staff Sgt. Myron M. Musyka, the other waist gunner. I removed my leather A-2 jacket, which I handed to our ball turret gunner, Sgt. Joseph A. Czerwonka, who had shot down the ME-110. My flight gloves I handed to Sgt. Darrell L. Garlick, waist gunner who had just finished his first mission. I took off my flight coveralls with its escape kit and handed them to Sgt. Wayne L. Rughe, our tail gunner, also on his first mission. This left me with my uniform pants, shirt and shoes. I walked to the middle of the line of crew members and faced them.

"How does it feel to finish my missions, you ask?"

With this, I did a standing back flip and landed on my feet. The crew applauded as I took a bow like a ham actor, the same as I did in my High School plays. The standing back flip was a standard with me that I learned at McLeansboro, Illinois High School. I never told the crew how scared I was on this mission when the flak started bursting around us.

But now it was over, and I could actually look forward to going back home where instructors wouldn't yell at me and other people wouldn't shoot at me. Utopia, here I come! I was not yet twenty-two and a half years old, a combat instructor with thirty-two missions under my belt. They were giving me credit for three more missions, so that my official records would indicate that I actually flew thirty-five missions. I guess my job of flying new crews on their first missions made me earn it.

My last mission on August 8, 1944 lasted four hours and forty minutes with an hour and fifteen minutes over enemy territory. That was to be my last flight in Europe. Once a person's tour of duty was over, they got in a hurry to get rid of you in order to make room for the replacement crews that were coming every few days. Of course, they would allow one to sign up for another thirty-five missions, but few ever did.

During my thirty-two missions, I flew twelve different B-17s in combat, plus two trips in the "*Barber Pole*," "*Scarlet Harlot*" weather plane of our 427th squadron.

I flew combat in the "*Buzz Blonde*" twelve times, "*Betty Jane*" five times, "*Sweet Rosie O'Grady*" two times, "*Tiny Angel*" two times, "*Miss Lace*" two times, "*Queenie*" two times, "*Jigger Rooche, Kraut Killer*" one time, "*Full House*" one time. The other five had no nose art.

The first and third of my students that I took on their first missions were killed in action just four or five weeks after my tour was over. I took H.C. Clark on his first mission on July 17 and he and three other officers and two enlisted men were killed in action on August 14 in the "*Jigger Rooche*" when they were shot down by German fighters over Wiesbaden. "*Tiny Angel*" that I flew on my 24th and 25th missions was shot down at the same time with the pilot, engineer, and one waist gunner killed. This was the time that the German FW-190s had installed the huge 30MM cannon under their wing. A single round from one of these cannons was enough to bring down a bomber.

On January 10, 1945, "*Buzz Blonde*" that I flew on 12 missions, collided with "*Iza Vailable III*" over Bonn, Germany, destroying the tail gun position, killing the gunner, Sgt. M.M. Mooney. The nose of "*Buzz Blonde*" was badly damaged, causing the bombardier and navigator to bail out, thinking they were out of control. They had little choice, since the oxygen system in the nose was destroyed in the collision. They became prisoners of war, while the others regained control and made emergency landings at friendly air fields. The pilot and co-pilot of "*Iza Vailable III*" received the Distinguished Flying Cross for keeping their aircraft from crashing, with much of the tail missing.

The "*Betty Jane*" that I flew five times, including the glide bomb attack on Cologne was shot down on September 13, 1944, with the pilot being the only one killed when his parachute failed to open.

"*Full House*," the only "new" B-17 that I flew in combat was in a mid-air collision with another 427th aircraft. Seventeen men were killed in the two aircraft, with only one survivor. The newer B-17s were unpainted except for group and squadron markings.

On November 21st my third "student" was killed, as were all but the radio operator. They were flying one of the "newer" planes built in 1943. This was one of the unpainted B-17s that were starting to show up during these months.

During a shuttle mission to Russia, "*Miss Lace*" which I flew on my last mission was hit by flak near the Russian lines and landed in Poland where it was abandoned. "*Queenie*" later made a crash landing in England, but was salvageable.

During my thirty-two missions, the 303rd Bomb Group lost twenty B-17s to enemy action. One of our B-17s made an emergency landing in Switzerland with sixty holes in the airplane, some disabling. I was able to see many B-17s of other groups shot down as well. Not one bomber from the 303rd ever went to Sweden, although one nearby Group had 8 bombers land there to sit out the war.

As a result of these twenty losses during my three months of combat, eighty crewmen lost their lives, some being murdered by German civilians. It appears that at least one was shot because he was a Jew. The pilot and co-pilot of one downed bomber were hung in small trees and pitch-forked to death by German farmers. This had always presented a dilemma to combat crews who had heard rumors of such murders. I had carried my 45 pistol on my early missions, but later abandoned this practice. If caught by civilians, you might fend them off until a military man arrived, but on the other hand, this might give a military man an excuse to shoot you, claiming that he had been threatened. Catch 22.

During the course of the war, starting with their first mission on November 17, 1942, our "Hell's Angels," 303rd Bomb Group, flew three hundred and sixty-four missions, ending at Pilsen, Czechoslovakia on April 25, 1945, just thirteen days before Germany surrendered. Unfortunately, German flak gunners got the last of the 181 B-17s lost from our group, killing three of the eight man crew in our 427th Squadron's "new" B-17, 44-83447, that had no nose art.

The 303rd Bomb Group flew more missions and dropped the second most bomb tonnage of any other Group in the European Theater. This was probably because we flew longer missions and thus more gas and less bombs. Our Group had the first heavy bomber to fly 25 missions, and the first to fly 75 missions. Walter Cronkite flew with us on D-Day and Clark Gable flew as gunner on one of our missions.

One of the most disastrous mission flown by the 303rd Bomb Group was on September 28, 1944, just after I had finished my tour of duty and returned to the States. On that day, eleven of our twenty-eight B-17s were lost, mostly to German fighters. Ninety-five of our men were missing and five were returned wounded in badly shot up Fortresses. Some of our men were murdered by German civilians.

The latest version of the FW-190 had an added feature. Carried under one wing was a 30 MM cannon which could bring down a bomber with one well-directed hit. This was the main item of our losses that day. While being quite potent, the 20 MM cannon had less than one-fourth the explosive force of a 30 MM shell. The 50 caliber machine guns of the B-17s were also quite effective that day, destroying at least nine enemy fighters.

During the war in Europe, B-17s dropped more bomb tonnage than all other aircraft combined, including Axis planes. B-17s dropped over 600,000 tons, while B-24s dropped over 400,000 tons. British bombers dropped only 110,000 tons during the entire war. Over half of American casualties of WWII were from the 8th Air Force and 18,000 men are still missing in action and presumed dead. All American aviators were volunteers, and many of us who are alive now had to live with the guilt of surviving when so many were lost. I always said that it was as if Fate were throwing darts, and it missed you. It sometimes got someone else. Such are the fortunes of war!

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Sheets-Flesh</u> 311			
		<u>Caplinger</u> 060	<u>Cureton</u> 7875		
	<u>Means</u> 166			<u>Hahn</u> 629	
<u>Dubose</u> 9875		<u>Clark</u> 885	<u>Bennett</u> 076		<u>Atwell</u> 860
	<u>Newton</u> 595			_____	
<u>Johnson</u> 411		<u>Davis</u> 597	_____		_____
	_____			_____	

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Morgan-Baltes</u> 484			
		<u>Akers</u> 309	<u>Underdown</u> 483		
	<u>Eldridge</u> 7291			<u>Mosel</u> 340	
<u>Hillary</u> 537		<u>Brabant</u> 944	<u>Shields</u> 893		<u>Foley</u> 930
	<u>Walker</u> 781			_____	
<u>Gould</u> 050		<u>Lorentz</u> 206	_____		_____
	_____			_____	

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

		<u><b>Benham</b></u> 574			
		<u><b>Mayer</b></u> 085	<u><b>Smithy</b></u> 183		
	<u><b>Lojewski</b></u> 065			<u><b>Baehr</b></u> 841	
<u><b>Smith</b></u> 6291		<u><b>Stark</b></u> 972	<u><b>Hallum</b></u> 861		<u><b>Vitale</b></u> 853
	<u><b>Paullin</b></u> 086			_____	
<u><b>Freeland</b></u> 298		<u><b>Cathey</b></u> 680	_____		_____
	_____			_____	

### KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<p><b><u>CREW POSITIONS</u></b>                  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><b><u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u></b>                  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 cuntry                  REP - Repatriated                  RES - Rescued                  ESC - Escaped                  BO - Bailed out                  DCH - Ditched                  CR-L - Crashed on land                  CR-S - Crashed at sea</p>
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## 358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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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 #44-6291 (No Name)**

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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)**

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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 #42-102680 (No Name)**

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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

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

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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 #42-97972 (No Name)**

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P	Stark, Donald D., 1Lt
CP	Conley, George L., 2Lt
NAV	Nelson, Richard G., 2Lt
TOG	Carloss, Earl W., 2Lt
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

## 358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

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P Freeland, Troit D., 2Lt  
CP Prudhoe, Louis J., 2Lt  
NAV Kosta, Alexander, 2Lt  
BOM Nugent, Robert F., 2Lt  
ENG Abernathy, Wylie C., S/Sgt  
WG Moran, George J., Sgt  
RO Wilson, Clarence K., S/Sgt  
TG Dyszel, Bernard J., Sgt  
BT Cerzosimo, Bernard P., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38065 *Princess Pat 2***

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P Lojewski, Telesphor, 1Lt  
CP Riseden, Jack W., 2Lt  
NAV Metko, Earl D., 2Lt  
BOM Morris, Warren B., 2Lt  
ENG Rossman, Carl H., T/Sgt  
RO Lowe, Gareth W., T/Sgt  
TG Peters, Archie D., S/Sgt  
BT Ross, Ben A., S/Sgt  
WG Tate, Royce C., S/Sgt

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

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P Benham, Phillip O., 1Lt  
CP Wright, Charles E., 2Lt  
NAV Larkworthy, Bernard J., 2Lt  
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  
PAS Morrow, T.B., LtCol



## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P Lorentz, Arthur, 2Lt  
CP Scott, Robert H., 2Lt  
NAV Smith, William A., 2Lt  
BOM Hewitt, LeRoy A., 2Lt  
ENG Kreager, Jon B., Sgt  
RO Ringen, Walter E., Sgt  
BT Ingalls, Earl F., Cpl  
TG Greenwald, Paul L., Sgt  
WG Gonser, Dwight W., Cpl

### **B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird***

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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 #42-97291 *Myasis Dragon***

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P Eldridge, Truman K., 1Lt  
CP Sheehan, Daniel J., Jr., 2Lt  
NAV Carey, William D., 1Lt  
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  
PAS Johnston, C.H., Maj

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

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P Akers, Robert O., 2Lt  
CP Giddings, Leslie W., 2Lt  
NAV Montone, Neil A., 2Lt  
TOG Cappucci, Joseph R., Sgt  
ENG Shanker, Herbert, S/Sgt  
RO Meyer, Gerald E., S/Sgt  
BT Saam, Donal W., Sgt  
TG Vogel, Cletus H., Sgt  
WG Meyer, Fulton R., Sgt

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

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P Walker, Lewis M., 1Lt  
CP Doyle, Joseph J., 2Lt  
NAV Durkin, James A., 2Lt  
BOM Beers, Donald B., 2Lt  
ENG See, Cecil J., T/Sgt  
RO Lunday, Albert J., S/Sgt  
BT Hundley, Walter L., Sgt  
TG Reckert, Arthur C., Sgt  
WG Mathis, Henry C., Sgt

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

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P Morgan, William D., 1Lt  
P Baltus, George E., 1Lt  
NAV Hogan, Paul G., 1Lt  
BOM Bowen, Richard R., Capt  
ENG Hayes, Theron M., T/Sgt  
RO Stemmler, Edward C., T/Sgt  
BT Lloyd, Stanley W., S/Sgt  
TG Caperton, James R., S/Sgt  
WG Gross, James J., S/Sgt  
PHO Skinner, Donald E., Sgt

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

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P Hillary, Jack R., 2Lt  
CP Robertson, William III, 2Lt  
NAV Rice, John E., 2Lt  
BOM DeFilippis, Rocco, 2Lt  
ENG Paul, George E., S/Sgt  
RO Girman, Eugene E., S/Sgt  
BT Bishop, Neldon R., Sgt  
TG Watson, James R., Pvt  
WG Sanson, Harry R., Sgt

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

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P Underdown, Sidney L., 2Lt  
CP Knolle, William C., 2Lt  
NAV Kenny, John P., 2Lt  
BOM Tyree, Joseph C., 2Lt  
ENG Kuwik, John J., S/Sgt  
RO Posada, Frank G., S/Sgt  
BT Guptill, Walter R., Sgt  
TG Stevens, Richard G., Sgt  
WG Botton, Pius L., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-97944 *Daddy's Delight***

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P Brabant, Patrick H., 1Lt  
CP Judy, Ira J., 2Lt  
NAV Heatherly, Phillip P., 1Lt  
TOG Wolfe, Ralph E., S/Sgt  
ENG Hodge, Dona A., S/Sgt  
RO Cohen, Seymour T., Sgt  
BT Marquez, Robert P., Sgt  
TG Millek, John P., Sgt  
WG Valentine, Robert J., Sgt

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Hallum, Bertrand, Jr., 1Lt
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 #42-31340 *Miss Liberty***

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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	Bialobrzkeski, Joseph C., Sgt
WG	Koshar, Jerome J., Sgt

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

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P	Bennett, Paul K., 2Lt
CP	Goff, Lloyd E., 2Lt
NAV	Lane, Elwin A., F/O
BOM	Singular, William H., 2Lt
ENG	Gonshor, Edmund A., S/Sgt
RO	Shulan, Gerald M., S/Sgt
BT	Jones, Charles E., Sgt
TG	Essig, Charles G., Sgt
WG	Marucco, Leroy N., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-37841 *Banshee***

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P	Baehr, Kenneth C., 1Lt
CP	King, John E., F/O
NAV	Peacock, Thomas I., 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 #42-97853 *Lucky Linda***

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P	Vitale, Hector F., 1Lt
CP	Boyle, Leo J., F/O
NAV	Hardwick, Jack C., 2Lt
BOM	Rice, Charles G., S/Sgt
ENG	Reale, Joseph C., Sgt
RO	Miller, Hilary C., S/Sgt
BT	Thomas, Hall R., S/Sgt
TG	Younger, Andrew H., Sgt
WG	Nordberg, Francis E., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-97860 *(No Name)***

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P	Atwell, Arley L., 2Lt
CP	Howard, Victor L., 2Lt
NAV	Littlefield, Robert I., 2Lt
BOM	Tibbetts, Arthur P., T/Sgt
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

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

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P Hahn, James T., 1Lt  
CP Fulks, James O., 2Lt  
NAV Levin, Albert, 2Lt  
BOM Shelley, David R., 2Lt  
ENG Kalasky, Pete M., S/Sgt  
RO Conkling, John R., S/Sgt  
BT Darbowski, Andrew, Sgt  
TG Howald, Hans, S/Sgt  
WG Lusk, Robert F., Sgt

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

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P Shields, Edward F., 2Lt  
CP Cooter, William M., 2Lt  
NAV Mundell, William K., F/O  
BOM Lee, Wilbur W., 2Lt  
ENG Nagel, Leeland J., S/Sgt  
RO Chastain, Robert R., Sgt  
BT Horwitz, Charles, Sgt  
TG Skubal, Joseph J., Sgt  
WG Sheehan, Arthur E., Jr., Sgt

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

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P Foley, Norment, 1Lt  
CP Rowe, Robert A., 2Lt  
NAV Conklin, James M., 2Lt  
BOM Kleppner, Clarence J., F/O  
ENG Snell, Edward A., S/Sgt  
RO Johnson, Vernelle V., S/Sgt  
TG Stewart, Charles R., Sgt  
BT Waltmire, Harrel A., Jr., Sgt  
WG Gordley, Damon, S/Sgt

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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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 #42-102411 *Miss Lace***

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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	Ruhge, Wayne L., Sgt
WG	Garlick, Darrell L., Sgt

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

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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 #43-37597 *Earthquake McGoon***

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P	Davis, Robert W., 2Lt
CP	Sayre, Dorwin D., 2Lt
NAV	Norman, Frederick J., 2Lt
BOM	Bryan, Fred W., F/O
TT	Hughes, Roy D., Sgt
BT	Joyce, Jess, S/Sgt
RO	Gorman, Eugene R., Sgt
TG	Foley, William J., Sgt
WG	Smirnes, E. "Nick", Jr., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-6166 *The Red***

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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	May, J.H., S/Sgt
TG	Turner, James W., Sgt
WG	Sileo, J.J., Sgt

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

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P	Newton, John A., 2Lt
CP	Mowatt, Frank G., 2Lt
NAV	Lange, George L., 2Lt
BOM	Rohner, William L., 2Lt
TT	Turner, Leonard A., S/Sgt
BT	Bricker, Albert W., Sgt
RO	O'Leary, James A., S/Sgt
TG	Hobgood, John F., Sgt
WG	Reeves, James E., Sgt

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

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P Dubose, Carl L., Jr., 1Lt  
CP Droll, Louis P., 2Lt  
NAV Laverty, Leo E., 2Lt  
BOM Miller, Charles F., 2Lt  
TT Jones, Jesse T., Jr., S/Sgt  
BT Kidd, Robert E., Sgt  
RO Kollmar, Donald L., S/Sgt  
TG Watson, Byron W., Sgt  
WG Balint, Daniel, Jr., Sgt

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

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P Clark, Henry C., 2Lt  
CP Vesey, Gilbert P., 2Lt  
NAV Davies, Ralph J., 2Lt  
BOM Brosius, Earl E., F/O  
TT Scott, Harold P., S/Sgt  
BT Sikora, Charles A., Jr., Sgt  
RO Roswal, Frederick, S/Sgt  
TG Bjorn, Edwin W., Sgt  
WG Cruttenden, Cyrus S., Sgt

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

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P Sheets Robert W., Capt  
CP Flesh, William R., 1Lt  
NAV Randall, Everett Z., 1Lt  
NAV Pandy, Bert J., 2Lt  
BOM Webster, Charles M., 1Lt  
TT Neuner, Francis X., T/Sgt  
BT Tambe, Angelo J., T/Sgt  
RO Bridge, Howard R., S/Sgt  
TG Noah, Norbert O., Sgt  
WG Soltero, John, S/Sgt