

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 235

3 September 1944

Target: I.G. Farben Plant at Ludwigshafen, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 39

Length of Mission: 8 hours, 20 minutes

Bomb Load: 4 x 1,000 lb G.P. M44 & 4 x G.P. M17 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 26,600, 25,000 & 24,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 2,570 rounds

The mission on 1 September was rescheduled for 3 September. There were no assigned secondary or last resort targets. One aircraft returned early, #42-31340 *Miss Liberty*, 360BS (**Nafius**) when the No. 1 engine oil line broke.

Thirty-six B-17s dropped 144 1,000-lb. G.P. M44 and 140-lb. G.P. M17 bombs from 26,600, 25,000 and 24,500 ft. Bombing was through 10/10 clouds by PFF and results were unobserved. Two aircraft failed to bomb: #43-38191 *Shasta*, 358BS (**Riseden**), the bomb bay door motor failed; #43-38057 (*No Name*) 427BS (**Cureton**), the pilot didn't notify the bombardier of the VHF radio drop signal.

A few enemy aircraft were seen, but there were no attacks on the 303rd BG(H) formations. Good escort support was provided by 254 P-51s. Moderate to intense, but inaccurate, flak was encountered over the target. Chaff had some beneficial effect. One B-17 suffered major and nine, minor battle damage. There were no casualties. Lt. **Morgan**, 359BS, landed on an emergency landing strip in France, all crewmen were safe.



ROBERT O. AKERS CREW - 359th BS

(crew assigned 359BS: 04 July 1944)

(Back L-R) 2Lt Neil A. Montone (N), 1Lt Robert O. Akers (P), 2Lt Leslie W. Giddings (CP),
Sgt Cletus H. Vogel (TG) - (Front L-R) S/Sgt Herbert Shanker (E), Sgt Donal W. Saam (BT),
S/Sgt Gerald E. Meyer (R), Sgt Louis V. Pierce (WG), Sgt Fulton R. Meyer (WG)

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Casello-Fontana</u> 125		
		<u>Johnson</u> 557		<u>Hahn</u> 137
	<u>Nafius</u> 340			<u>Brown</u> 323
<u>Crawford</u> 124		<u>Railing</u> 893	<u>Eisenwinter</u> 9875	<u>Newton</u> 248
	<u>Baehr</u> 860			<u>Bennett</u> 329
<u>Foley</u> 196		<u>Butler</u> 187	_____	_____
	_____			_____

One (1) aircraft aborted this mission:
Lt. Nafius in 340



TRACY D. BROWN CREW - 427th BS
(crew assigned 427BS: 27 June 1944 - photo: June 1944)

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

<u>Morgan-Mainwaring</u>				
058				
	<u>McDavid</u>		<u>Virag</u>	
	076		483	
	<u>Walker</u>			<u>Davis</u>
	484			197
<u>Carney</u>		<u>Frazier</u>	<u>Caplinger</u>	<u>Ackerman</u>
830		739	411	027
	<u>Akers</u>			<u>Quiggle</u>
	289			200
<u>Chance</u>		<u>Baltes</u>	_____	_____
177		7206		
	_____			_____

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

<u>Riseden-McNamara</u>				
191				
	<u>McConnell</u>		<u>Conley</u>	
	186		238	
	<u>Lee</u>			<u>Cureton</u>
	945			057
<u>Grisham</u>		<u>McKinley</u>	<u>Healy</u>	<u>O'Leary</u>
8206		176	099	569
	<u>Paullin</u>			<u>Freeland</u>
	316			590
<u>Heleen</u>		<u>Goering</u>	_____	_____
949		298		
	_____			_____

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 - 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 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 cuntry REP - Repatriated RES - Rescued ESC - Escaped BO - Bailed out DCH - Ditched CR-L - Crashed on land CR-S - Crashed at sea
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358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #43-38206 *Silver Fox*

P	Grisham, Rufus W., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Cox, William H., 2Lt
NAV	Hartel, Gale E., 2Lt
BOM	Celich, Nicholas J., 2Lt
ENG	Scheuermann, Edwin P., S/Sgt
BT	Loessin, Gerhard W., Jr., Sgt
RO	Post, Harry R., Sgt
WG	Buie, Ben M., Sgt
TG	Willis, Arnold, Sgt

B-17G #43-38186 (No Name)

P	McConnell, John, 1Lt
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 P., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-37590 *Neva-The Silver Lady*

P	Freeland, Troit D., 1Lt
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 #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 #42-97298 *The Floose*

P	Goering, Werner G., 2Lt
CP	Rencher, Jack P., 2Lt
NAV	Markt, Rex H., F/O
BOM	Sachau, William D., 2Lt
ENG	Gustafson, Orall R., Sgt
BT	LaPerch, William J., Sgt
RO	Brodzinski, Chester, Sgt
WG	Houseman, Clarence W., Sgt
TG	Mahan, Welson T., Sgt

B-17G #42-102945 *Sweet Pea*

P	Lee, Gareth G., 1Lt
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

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #42-97557 *Mercy's Madhouse* - PFF

P Johnson, Hugh B., 2Lt
 CP Seidel, Harry S., 2Lt
 NAV Weber, George F., 2Lt
 NAV Lifshus, Lawrence, 2Lt
 BOM Carlross, Earl W., 2Lt
 ENG Edwards, Eugene F., T/Sgt
 WG Blinebury, Joseph A., Sgt
 RO Carter, Robert D., S/Sgt
 TG Beck, Harold P., Sgt

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

P Heleen, Carl M., 2Lt
 CP Petersen, John N., 2Lt
 NAV Hodenius, Frank L., 2Lt
 BOM Cummings, Grover C.H., 2Lt
 ENG Hahn, Charles L., Sgt
 WG Brown, Jennings G., Sgt
 RO Gast, William H., Sgt
 BT Gaudette, Charles W., Sgt
 TG Dunford, Jefferson H., Sgt

B-17G #43-38176 *Bouncing Betty II*

P McKinley, Ralph C., 2Lt
 CP Harwick, James A., 2Lt
 NAV Long, Donald C., Jr., 2Lt
 BOM Green, George A., 2Lt
 ENG Jones, Burlen, Sgt
 WG Devaney, Thomas J., Sgt
 RO Moll, Richard S., Sgt
 BT Clark, Woodrow E., Sgt
 TG Soule, Evan R., Sgt

B-17G #43-38191 *Shasta*

P Riseden, Jack W., 1Lt
 CP McNamara, James F., Capt
 NAV Metko, Earl D., 2Lt
 BOM Ledbetter, Lamar E., 1Lt
 ENG Kishbaugh, Warren L., T/Sgt
 WG Nelson, James G., Sgt
 RO Jennings, Archie R., T/Sgt
 BT Richkind, Max, S/Sgt
 TG Casey, Lawrence, S/Sgt
 PHO Skinner, D.E., S/Sgt
 (Abortive Sortie)

B-17G #43-38238 (No Name)

P Conley, George L., 2Lt
 CP Glass, Leroy E., 2Lt
 NAV Haider, Joseph C., 2Lt
 BOM Boland, Anthony J., 2Lt
 ENG Eide, Richard W., S/Sgt
 BT Trumbull, Vernon L., Sgt
 RO Brady, James M., Sgt
 WG Hodges, Grady H., Sgt
 TG Davis, Mark M., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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 #42-31483 *Bonnie B*

P Virag, Andy R., 2Lt
 CP Beck, Edward R., 2Lt
 NAV Heatherly, Phillip P., 1Lt
 BOM Torley, Donald W., 2Lt
 ENG Jeter, James E., Jr., S/Sgt
 RO Vrabel, Cyril A., S/Sgt
 BT Gurka, Stanley, Jr., Sgt
 TG Bowman, John H., Sgt
 WG Schlottmann, Jerome D., T/Sgt

B-17G #43-38289 *Sweet LaRhonda*

P Akers, Robert O., 1Lt
 CP Giddings, Leslie W., 2Lt
 NAV Montone, Neil A., 2Lt
 TOG Cappucci, Joseph R., S/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 #42-107206 *Old Black Magic*

P Baltus, George E., 1Lt
 CP Marble, Robert A., 2Lt
 NAV Macaulay, Edward H., 2Lt
 TOG Wolfe, Ralph E., S/Sgt
 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 #43-38200 *(No Name)*

P Quiggle, Robert D., 2Lt
 CP Bergeron, Arthur A., 2Lt
 NAV Lewtas, Ralph A., 2Lt
 TOG Tartaglia, Raymond, S/Sgt
 ENG Fragasso, Glenn, S/Sgt
 RO Lawson, Lucien P., S/Sgt
 BT Tisdale Elmo O., Cpl
 TG Shrader, James F., Sgt
 WG Heffran, James J., Cpl

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

P Walker, Lewis M., 1Lt
 CP Bach, Harold J., 2Lt
 NAV Koran, William G., 2Lt
 BOM Beers, Donald, 2Lt
 ENG Sublett, James W., S/Sgt
 RO Lunday, Albert J., S/Sgt
 BT Hundley, Walter L., S/Sgt
 TG Reckert, Arthur C., S/Sgt
 WG Mathis, Henry C., S/Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Morgan, William D., 1Lt
CP	Mainwaring, Charles O., 2Lt
NAV	Kelly, Thomas N., 2Lt
BOM	Nance, George H., 1Lt
ENG	Hayes, Theron M., T/Sgt
RO	Stemmle, Edwin C., T/Sgt
BT	Lloyd, Stanley W., S/Sgt
TG	Caperton, James R., S/Sgt
WG	Gross, James J., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-31830 *Marie*

P	Carney, Walter J., 1Lt
CP	Hickey, James A., 2Lt
NAV	Taylor, Albert R., 2Lt
BOM	Cooney, Thomas E., 2Lt
ENG	Turner, Harold L., S/Sgt
RO	Foster, Albert A., S/Sgt
BT	Kayrallah, Emil, Sgt
TG	Howe, Clarence H., Sgt
WG	Encinas, William, Sgt

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

P	McDavid, Philip H., 2Lt
CP	Beeman, Richard, 2Lt
NAV	King, Robert L., 2Lt
BOM	Hanley, Bernard A., 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 #42-31739 *Pugnacious Peter*

P	Frazier, Eugene C., 2Lt
CP	Campbell, Laurie H., 2Lt
NAV	Goettman, Andrew T., 2Lt
BOM	Barlow, Richard B., 2Lt
ENG	Borges, Gilbert C., Sgt
RO	Trainor, Donald W., Cpl
BT	Charron, Raymond H., Cpl
TG	McCullough, Luther, Jr., Cpl
WG	Anderson, Eston R., Cpl

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-97329 *Flak Hack*

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 #42-107196 *Temptress*

P	Foley, Norment, 1Lt
CP	Rowe, Robert A., 2Lt
NAV	Conklin, James M., 2Lt
BOM	Littlefield, Robert I., 2Lt
ENG	Snell, Edward A., S/Sgt
RO	Johnson, Vernelle V., S/Sgt
TG	Stewart, Charles R., Sgt
BT	Waltmire, Harrel A., Jr., Sgt
WG	Rice, Charles G., S/Sgt

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

P	Butler, Milton C., 1Lt
CP	Lovell, Brook H., 2Lt
NAV	Holden, John E., 2Lt
BOM	Hackler, Maurice G., 2Lt
ENG	Bird, Harry G., Sgt
RO	Christ, Donald R., Sgt
BT	Miller, Donald E., Sgt
TG	Johnson, David T., Jr., Sgt
WG	Peterson, Robert E., Sgt

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

P	Crawford, William C., 1Lt
CP	Kidd, Warren D., 2Lt
NAV	Wade, Robert E., 2Lt
BOM	Woodbury, Benton R., 2Lt
ENG	LeRoux, Lyle W., T/Sgt
RO	Miller, William L., T/Sgt
BT	Whitney, Daniel F., S/Sgt
TG	Proctor, Robert D., S/Sgt
WG	Girard, Louis P., S/Sgt

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

P	Baehr, Kenneth C., 1Lt
CP	King, John E., F/O
NAV	Orenstein, Harold A., 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	Railing, Charles F., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Fulks, Jams O., 2Lt
NAV	Leibovitz, Mayer, 2Lt
BOM	Willson, Louis H., 2Lt
ENG	Mellon, James B., Jr., Sgt
RO	Hanna, William M., Sgt
BT	Burgeson, Lawrence L., Sgt
TG	Barber, Ralph K., Sgt
WG	Cole, Lorne R., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #44-8137 (No Name)

P Hahn, James T., 1Lt
CP McCarl, Howard D., 2Lt
NAV Edwards, Frank A., 1Lt
NAV Charlton, Rufus S., 2Lt
BOM Sudderth, Ralph M., 1Lt
ENG Kalasky, Pete M., T/Sgt
RO Conkling, John R., S/Sgt
BT Darbowski, Andrew, Sgt
TG Howald, Hans, S/Sgt
WG Lusk, Robert F., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-31340 Miss Liberty

P Nafius, Verner H., 1Lt
CP Smith, Richard L., 2Lt
NAV George, Sidney L., 2Lt
BOM Cummins, James E., 2Lt
ENG Ellis, Richard R., S/Sgt
RO Birkenholz, Irving, S/Sgt
BT McGinley, James E., S/Sgt
TG Jinkens, Billy B., S/Sgt
WG Rydquist, Roy K., S/Sgt
(Abortive)

B-17G #44-8125 Sparky - PFF

P Casello, John J., Maj
CP Fontana, Bernard C., 1Lt
NAV Jacobson, Norman N., Capt
NAV Peacock, Thomas I., 2Lt
NAV Garrett, Robert M., 2Lt
BOM Campbell, Sanders H., 2Lt
ENG Perry, Robert N., T/Sgt
RO King, Raymond C., T/Sgt
TG Cohl, Jules R., 1Lt
WG Weems, Thomas L., S/Sgt
BT Durfee, James R., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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 #43-38197 (*No Name*)

P	Davis, Robert W., 2Lt
CP	Sayre, Dorwin D., 2Lt
NAV	Martin, Walter E., F/O
BOM	Rohner, William L., 2Lt
TT	Hiibner, Okey L., Sgt
BT	Johnson, Charles H., Sgt
RO	Pope, Lester L., Sgt
TG	Ruhge, Wayne L., S/Sgt
WG	Smirnes, E. "Nick", Jr., Sgt

B-17G #43-38248 *Jigger Rooche II*

P	Newton, George C., 2Lt
CP	Raley, Stonewall J., 2Lt
NAV	Jenkins, John I., 2Lt
BOM	Lewis, Willard L., Jr., 2Lt
TT	Schneider, Joseph R., Sgt
BT	Hartog, Samuel S., Sgt
RO	Corn, Byron D., Sgt
TG	Karr, Leslie E., Sgt
WG	Simon, Lawrence E., Sgt

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

P	Caplinger, Auston O., 2Lt
CP	Spruner, Donald L., 2Lt
NAV	Katz, Edwin Harold, 2Lt
BOM	Bober, Stanley, 2Lt
TT	Sutton, Marvin A., S/Sgt
BT	Jacobs, Carroll W., Jr., Sgt
RO	Mittell, Philip P., Sgt
TG	Delcher, Merlin S., Sgt
WG	Olds, Andrew R., Sgt

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

P	O'Leary, James W., 2Lt
CP	Reed, Louis E., 2Lt
NAV	Kacere, Michael J., 2Lt
BOM	Lyda, Robert E., 2Lt
TT	Kernodle, John T., Sgt
BT	Czerwonka, Joseph A., S/Sgt
RO	DeVaney, Bernard C., Sgt
TG	Carver, Harold R., Sgt
WG	DeCicco, Frank C., Jr., Sgt

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

P	Eisenwinter, Philip D., 2Lt
CP	Waggoner, Richard C., 2Lt
NAV	Norman, Frederick J., 2Lt
BOM	Campbell, Robert C., 2Lt
TT	Noah, Norbert O., S/Sgt
BT	Veljkov, Paul, Sgt
RO	Scaglione, Joseph, Sgt
WG	Ross, Edward E., Sgt
TG	Gude, Richard C., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Ackerman, Stewart S., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Barrios, Alfred R., 2Lt
NAV	Oswald, Alois G., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Muzyka, Myron M., S/Sgt
TT	Creaghan, Robert E., Sgt
BT	Highfill, Thomas W., Sgt
RO	Ribesky, John V., Jr., Sgt
TG	Wiencek, Edward J., Sgt
WG	Proper, George M., Sgt

B-17G #43-38323 (No Name)

P	Brown, Tracy D., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Van Antwerp, Robert G., 2Lt
NAV	Rusk, Donald M., 2Lt
BOM	Drew, William F., 2Lt
TT	Duffek, Francis T., 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 #43-38057 (No Name)

P	Cureton, Peter F., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Nally, Paul E., 2Lt
NAV	DuBois, Benjamin, 2Lt
BOM	Ulrich, Carl L., 2Lt
TT	Bourlier, Donald W., T/Sgt
BT	Burford, Joseph A., Sgt
RO	Ellis, James A., S/Sgt
TG	Grove, John W., Sgt
WG	Celichowski, Ervin M., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)



1Lt Charles E. Wright

1Lt. Charles E. **Wright** and 1Lt. Telesphor **Lojewski**, who had completed their combat tours, were killed while on detached service at Steeple, Morden (Station 122-355FS). They were flying an AT-6 on a flight from Steeple Morden to Molesworth. The aircraft had an engine failure and, while in a steep bank to line up with an open field, a wing struck the ground, cartwheeled and killed both pilots. They were trainees for Eighth Air Force P-51 Scouting Force service.