

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 246

26 September 1944

Target: Marshalling Yards at Osnabruck, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 39

Crews Lost: Lt. Bennett, 3 KIA, 6 POW

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 5 minutes

Bomb Load: 5 x 1,000 lb G.P. M44 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 26,400, 26,000 & 25,200 ft

Ammo Fired: 4,240 rounds

Bombers continued their attacks on railroad marshalling yards. One aircraft returned early with the nose oxygen system out: #43-38609 (*No Name*), 359BS (Lt. **Baltes**).

The B-17s went through intense and very accurate flak in the target area to bomb visually. They dropped 177 1,000-lb. M44 bombs from 26,400, 26,000 and 25,200 ft. with fair to good results. Photos showed high Squadron hits right on the assigned MPI and bomb craters in the marshalling yards. One aircraft dropped five units of X026 and five of WG5P leaflets. There were 4/10 to 5/10 low clouds with tops at 8,000 ft. and no middle or high clouds.

One aircraft reported seeing one enemy aircraft, but there were no attacks. Chaff had no effect in curtailing the intense and accurate flak. Six aircraft had major battle damage and six, minor damage. Friendly fighter support by 134 P-51s was excellent.



PAUL K. BENNETT CREW - 360th BS
(crew assigned 360BS: 15 July 1944 - photo: 26 Aug 1944)

Aircraft #44-6124 (*No Name*), 360BS, piloted by 1Lt. Paul K. **Bennett**, received a direct flak hit between the Nos. 3 and 4 engines. Returning crewmen reported that it slid down under the formation, peeled off, went down in a glide, and blew up at about 5,000 to 6,000 ft. altitude. Seven parachutes were reported soon after the aircraft was hit at 25,000 ft. Some crewmen were believed to have delayed opening their parachutes. The co-pilot, 2Lt. Lloyd E. **Goff**, later related that the aircraft caught fire immediately after being hit and blew up at 25,000 ft., after he veered it to the right. He landed with

holes in his parachute caused by ground fire at him. He believes that his pilot, navigator and ball turret gunner were killed from being shot while still descending in their parachutes. The crew were on their 19th mission, except for S/Sgt. Charles E. **Jones**, who was on his 20th. Lt. **Bennett**, 2Lt. Elwin A. **Lane** and S/Sgt. **Jones** were killed. Lt. **Lane** is buried in Netherlands American Cemetery at Martgratten, Netherlands. 2Lt. **Goff**, 2Lt. William H. **Singular**, T/Sgt. Edmund A. **Gonshor**, T/Sgt. Gerald M. **Shulan**, S/Sgt. Charles G. **Essig** and S/Sgt. Leroy N. **Marucco** were captured by the enemy and became POWs.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

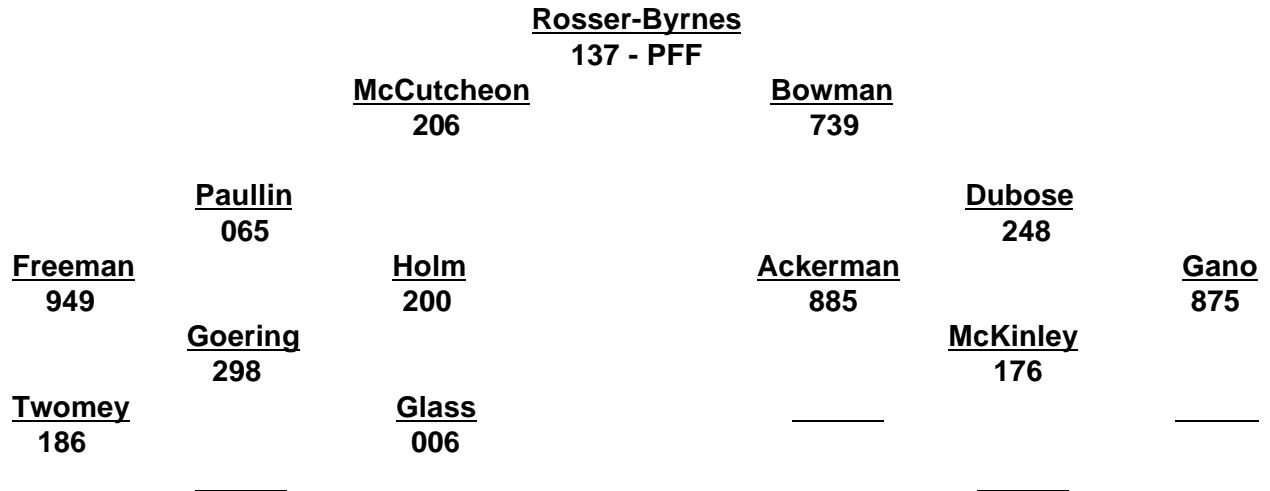
		<u>Mainwaring-Cunningham</u>			
		484			
		<u>Jenkins</u>		<u>Parker</u>	
		258		050	
	<u>Baltes</u>			<u>Cureton</u>	
	609			597	
<u>McDavid</u>		<u>Carney</u>		<u>Caplinger</u>	<u>Drewry</u>
289		604		060	099
	<u>Akers</u>			<u>Lorentz</u>	
	309			502	
<u>Virag</u>		<u>Underdown</u>		_____	_____
944		326			
	_____			_____	

One (1) aircraft aborted this mission:
Lt. Baltes in 609

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Casello-Kuykendall</u>			
		125 - PFF			
		<u>Michaelis</u>		<u>Hahn</u>	
		546		038 - PFF	
	<u>Nafius</u>			<u>Davis</u>	
	544			197	
<u>McCutchan</u>		<u>Juns</u>		<u>O'Leary</u>	<u>Newton</u>
861		860		666	569
	<u>Crawford</u>			<u>Hallum</u>	
	930			055	
<u>Bennett</u>		<u>Foley</u>		_____	_____
124		893			
	_____			_____	

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C



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 #43-38176 *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 #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	Messerich, Jerome R., S/Sgt
RO	Brodzinski, Chester, Sgt
WG	Houseman, Clarence W., Sgt
TG	Mahan, Weldon T., Sgt

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

P	McCutcheon, George E., 2Lt
CP	McGilvray, Richard L., 2Lt
NAV	Starr, Ben, 2Lt
BOM	Simons, Robert A., 2Lt
ENG	Burcham, Johnnie O., S/Sgt
WG	Foulk, Donald H., Sgt
RO	Alexander, John C., S/Sgt
BT	Aberdeen, James E., Cpl
TG	Kinsman, George R., Sgt

B-17G #43-38200 (*No Name*)

P	Holm, Maurice M., 2Lt
CP	Fletcher, Harold D., F/O
NAV	Howard, Paul A., 2Lt
BOM	Davis, Edward A., 2Lt
ENG	Compton, M.C., Sgt
WG	Huck, Robert L., Sgt
RO	Dale, John A., Sgt
BT	Ebert, Preston P., Sgt
TG	Copeland, George E., Sgt

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

P	Paullin, James R., 1Lt
CP	Hinton, William B., 2Lt
NAV	Hunt, John W., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Carloss, Earl W., 1Lt
ENG	Johnson, James P., S/Sgt
BT	Biestek, Stanley H., Sgt
RO	LaPerch, William J., Sgt
WG	Woodward, Thomas J., Sgt
TG	Butler, Woodley O., Sgt

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

P	Bowman, William B., 2Lt
CP	Lord, Truman R., 2Lt
NAV	Anderson, Arvid, 2Lt
BOM	Ruiz, Arthur F., 2Lt
ENG	Winiger, Bernard A., Sgt
TG	Ferguson, William H., Sgt
RO	Hatfield, Earl G., Sgt
BT	Stephenson, Oscar D., Jr., Sgt
WG	Martin, David S., Sgt

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Freeman, Clyde E., 2Lt
CP	Canning, Glenn R., 2Lt
NAV	Goldstein, Sheldon, 2Lt
BOM	Birkenseer, Donald L., 2Lt
ENG	Fleck, Peter J., Sgt
TG	Caporusso, Frank J., Sgt
RO	VanLier, Donald E., Sgt
WG	Martin, Robert G., Sgt
BT	Chesney, Alan D., Sgt

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

P	Twomey, John M., 2Lt
CP	Ross, James E., 2Lt
NAV	Hansen, Heber D., 2Lt
BOM	McDade, Maurie S., 2Lt
ENG	Shaw, Vergil A., Sgt
TG	Hammond, Walter E., Sgt
RO	Bzik, Paul J., Sgt
BT	Johnson, Morrin T., Sgt
WG	Martin, Jack E., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)

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

P	Glass, Leroy E., 2Lt
P	Chunat, Orlyn D., 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

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

P	Rosser, Samuel E., 1Lt
CP	Byrnes, James H., 1Lt
NAV	Larkworthy, Bernard J., 1Lt
NAV	Estes, Keith N., 1Lt
BOM	Morris, Warren B., 1Lt
ENG	O'Leary, James M., T/Sgt
RO	Rowe, Ollice Z., T/Sgt
WG	Putney, Norman W., S/Sgt
TG	Douglass, Earl B., 2Lt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P Akers, Robert O., 1Lt
 CP Hill, John D., Jr., 2Lt
 NAV Montone, Neil A., 2Lt
 TOG Cappucci, Joseph R., T/Sgt
 ENG Shanker, Herbert, T/Sgt
 RO Meyer, Gerald E., T/Sgt
 BT Saam, Donal W., S/Sgt
 TG Hejna, Dennis R., Sgt
 WG Meyer, Fulton R., S/Sgt

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

P Virag, Andy R., 2Lt
 CP Beck, Edward R., 2Lt
 NAV Durkin, James A., 2Lt
 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 Anderson, Eston R., Sgt

B-17G #44-6502 (No Name)

P Lorentz, Arthur, 1Lt
 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 #44-8326 (No Name)

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 #43-38289 *Sweet LaRhonda*

P McDavid, Philip H., 2Lt
 CP Beeman, Richard, 2Lt
 NAV King, Robert L., 2Lt
 TOG Tartaglia, Raymond, S/Sgt
 ENG Hall, Thomas M., S/Sgt
 RO Sikkema, Wilfred J., Sgt
 BT Johnson, Ralph R., Sgt
 TG McCullough, Luther, Jr., Sgt
 WG Linville, Warren M., Sgt

B-17G #43-38604 (No Name)

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

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #43-38258 *Forget Me Not Oily*

P Jenkins, Harry F., 1Lt
CP Blanchard, Samuel B., 2Lt
NAV Nute, Gordon B., 2Lt
BOM Protzman, John W., 2Lt
ENG Gillespie, Norton A., S/Sgt
RO Loosemore, Wesley G., S/Sgt
BT Fydrychowski, John J., Sgt
TG Cregan, John M., Sgt
WG Allen, Charles G., Sgt

B-17G #43-38609 (*No Name*)

P Baltus, George E., 1Lt
CP 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
(Abortive)

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P Parker, John W., 2Lt
CP Campbell, Laurie H., 2Lt
NAV Donovan, James R., 1Lt
TOG Arendt, John L., S/Sgt
ENG Lainson, Colin C., Sgt
RO Carman, Nolan, W., Sgt
BT Allerton, Jack R., Sgt
TG Turkington, Calvin G., S/Sgt

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

P Mainwaring, Charles O., 1Lt
CP Cunningham, Robert L., 1Lt
NAV Kelly, Thomas N., 1Lt
NAV Hammond, Raymond N., 2Lt
BOM Smith, Ralph L., 1Lt
ENG Gauthier, Leon C., S/Sgt
RO Tognetti, Paul A., S/Sgt
BT Cottrell, Bert, Sgt
TG Ward, Duane G., 2Lt
WG Angeloff, James P., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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	Enget, Obert L., S/Sgt

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

P	McCutchan, Eugene R., 2Lt
CP	Norris, Loy R., 2Lt
NAV	Conard, Willard G., 2Lt
BOM	Bays, Gordon C., 2Lt
ENG	Kress, Richard H., S/Sgt
RO	Frey, Alan E., Sgt
BT	Scott, Howard E., Sgt
TG	Wherry, Robert E., Sgt
WG	Pearson, George D., Sgt

B-17G #44-6124 (No Name) CR-L

P	Bennett, Paul K., 1Lt	KIA
CP	Goff, Lloyd E., 2Lt	POW
NAV	Lane, Elwin A., 2Lt	KIA
BOM	Singular, William H., 2Lt	POW
ENG	Gonshor, Edmund A., T/Sgt	POW
RO	Shulan, Gerald M., T/Sgt	POW
BT	Jones, Charles E., S/Sgt	KIA
TG	Essig, Charles G., S/Sgt	POW
WG	Marucco, Leroy N., S/Sgt	POW

B-17G #42-31055 *Aloha*

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	Johnson, Francis D., S/Sgt
WG	Stroud, George E., Jr., Sgt

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

P	Crawford, William C., 1Lt
CP	Kidd, Warren D., 2Lt
NAV	Wade, Robert E., 2Lt
BOM	Sudderth, Ralph M., 1Lt
ENG	LeRoux, Lyle W., T/Sgt
RO	Miller, William L., T/Sgt
BT	Whitney, Daniel F., S/Sgt
WG	LaFranchi, Albert S., S/Sgt
TG	Barder, Emmett R., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97546 *Idaliza*

P	Michaelis, Arthur D., 1Lt
CP	Huckins, Earl R., 2Lt
NAV	Lillig, Thomas J., 2Lt
BOM	Rudolph, Gabriel, 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

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Juns, Frank, 2Lt
CP	Beasley, Roland C., 2Lt
NAV	Harding, Warren G., 2Lt
BOM	Thomas, Edward H., 2Lt
ENG	Girard, Louis P., S/Sgt
RO	Wimer, Maurice H., Sgt
BT	Oberly, Eldridge C., Sgt
TG	Englis, Hiram E., Cpl
WG	Branin, James J., Cpl

B-17G #44-8038 (No Name) - PFF

P	Hahn, James T., 1Lt
CP	Fulks, James O., 2Lt
NAV	Peacock, Thomas I., 2Lt
NAV	Caldwell, Walter D., F/O
BOM	Gorham, Raymond H., 2Lt
ENG	Kalasky, Pete M., T/Sgt
RO	Conkling, John R., S/Sgt
BT	Darowski, Andrew, Sgt
TG	Howald, Hans, S/Sgt
WG	Lusk, Robert F., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-102544 Sack Time

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

B-17G #44-8125 Sparky - PFF

P	Casello, John J., Maj
CP	Kuykendall, Roger L., 1Lt
NAV	Jacobsen, Norman N., Capt
NAV	Klein, Norman M., 2Lt
NAV	Garrett, Robert M., 1Lt
BOM	Duros, Constantine J., 2Lt
ENG	Evans, Harry D., S/Sgt
BT	Boone, Everett D., Sgt
RO	Barton, Forrest E., S/Sgt
TG	Lovold, Ole, 2Lt
WG	Alexander, John P., Sgt
WG	Dubin, Martin M., Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #43-38197 (No Name)

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

B-17G #42-39875 Buzz Blonde

P	Gano, Frederick, 2Lt
CP	Flanders, Wesley J., 2Lt
NAV	Maniscalco, John B., 2Lt
BOM	Drew, William F., 2Lt
TT	Anthony, George E., Sgt
BT	Coyle, Arthur J., Sgt
RO	Meixner, Edward M., Sgt
TG	Nelson, Edward F., Sgt
WG	Burkemer, Robert F., Sgt

B-17G #42-107099 Old 99

P	Drewry, James A., 1Lt
CP	Schneider, Richard H., 2Lt
NAV	Mayo, Archie W., 2Lt
BOM	Burke, James D., 2Lt
TT	Dorrah, Walter R., S/Sgt
TG	Morin, Donald P., S/Sgt
RO	Nash, Leslie G., S/Sgt
BT	Ralph, William L., Sgt
WG	Koch, Edwin H., Sgt

B-17G #43-37666 Full House

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 #42-102569 Miss Lace

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

B-17G #42-31060 Poque Ma Hone

P	Caplinger, Auston O., 1Lt
CP	Spruner, Donald L., 2Lt
NAV	Katz, Edwin Harold, 2Lt
BOM	Bober, Stanley, 2Lt
TT	Johnson, O.D., S/Sgt
BT	Jacobs, Carroll W., Jr., Sgt
RO	Mittell, Philip P., S/Sgt
TG	Barnes, Charlie, T/Sgt
WG	Olds, Andrew R., Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P Ackerman, Stewart S., Jr., 2Lt
CP Barrios, Alfred R., 2Lt
NAV Dubois, Benjamin, 2Lt
BOM Oswald, Alois G., Jr., 2Lt
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 #43-37597 Earthquake McGoon

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

B-17G #43-38248 Jigger Rooche II

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