

# 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 254

9 October 1944

Target: Ball Bearing Plant & Cycle and Clutch Works  
at Schweinfurt, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 37

Length of Mission: 8 hours, 20 minutes

Bomb Load: 10 x 500 lb H.E. M43 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 27,800, 27,400 & 27,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 2,110 rounds

Unlike previous missions to Schweinfurt, this mission proved to be a milk run. There were no enemy aircraft, only moderate and inaccurate anti-aircraft fire, and very good fighter support by 364 P-51s. No B-17s sustained battle damage and there were no casualties—all returned safely to Molesworth.

There were 10/10 clouds over the target with light, persistent contrails at 25,000 ft. The bombers dropped 347 500-lb. H.E. M43 bombs from 27,800, 27,400 and 27,000 ft. with unobserved results. One aircraft dropped ten bundles of T174 leaflets. B-17G #44-8238, 358BS (Lt. **Twomey**), could not release its bombs due to a bomb bay door malfunction.



***Schweinfurt Again by Keith Ferris (1991)***

*Depicts the 76th mission of Thunderbird on 09 October 1944 to Schweinfurt, Germany.*

*Thunderbird B-17G #42-38050 (359BS) BN-U (1Lt Philip D. Eisenwinter Crew)*

*Poque Ma Hone B-17G #42-31060 (427BS) GN-N (2Lt Robert G. Van Antwerp Crew)*

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Mackin-Johnson</u> 557 - PFF			
		<u>Gmernicki</u> 739		<u>Twomey</u> 44- 8238 - PFF	
	<u>Paullin</u> 065			<u>Akers</u> 781	
<u>Freeman</u> 554		<u>Fielder</u> 38238		<u>Embrey</u> 502	<u>Haynes</u> 326
	<u>Grisham</u> 462			<u>Drewry</u> 099	
<u>McCutcheon</u> 442		<u>Holm</u> 590	_____	_____	_____
	_____			_____	

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Healy-Bliss</u> 137 - PFF			
		<u>Eisenwinter</u> 050		<u>Van Antwerp</u> 060	
	<u>J. Davis</u> 258			<u>Underdown</u> 945	
<u>O'Leary</u> 311		<u>Morrow</u> 248		<u>Gould</u> 604	<u>R. Davis</u> 197
	<u>Brown</u> 666			<u>Newton</u> 166	
_____		<u>Gano</u> 569	_____	_____	_____
	_____			_____	

# Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

		<b><u>Mosel-Francis</u></b> 191		
		<b><u>Gravrock</u></b> 055	<b><u>Kallet</u></b> 298	
	<b><u>Nafius</u></b> 517			<b><u>Carney</u></b> 484
<b><u>McCutchan</u></b> 532		<b><u>Lorentz</u></b> 289	<b><u>Frazier</u></b> 609	<b><u>Virag</u></b> 944
	<b><u>Baehr</u></b> 544		_____	
<b><u>Hallum</u></b> 516		<b><u>Butler</u></b> 200	_____	_____
	_____		_____	

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CREW POSITIONS</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	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  <b>RESULTS OF MISSION</b> 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 cntry 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 #43-38442 (No Name)**

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P	McCutcheon, George E., 1Lt
CP	McGilvray, Richard L., 2Lt
NAV	Severson, Jack O., T/Sgt
BOM	Starr, Ben, 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 #43-38238 (No Name)**

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P	Fielder, George H., 1Lt
CP	Dorsett, John D., 2Lt
NAV	Buckner, James C., 2Lt
BOM	Splawn, Elzic B., T/Sgt
ENG	Cavagnaro, James E., Sgt
WG	Pizzolato, Gasper, Jr., Sgt
RO	Buie, Neil C., Sgt
BT	Denning, Glenn J., Sgt
TG	Cox, Lyle H., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38554 *Bouncing Betty III***

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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 #43-38462 *Teddy's Rough Riders***

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P	Grisham, Rufus W., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Rencher, Jack P., 2Lt
NAV	Markt, Rex H., F/O
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 #43-37590 *Neva-The Silver Lady***

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P	Holm, Maurice M., 2Lt
CP	Fletcher, Harold D., F/O
NAV	Howard, Paul A., 2Lt
TOG	Garcia, Robert L., S/Sgt
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***

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P	Paullin, James R., 1Lt
CP	Hinton, William B., 2Lt
NAV	Hunt, John W., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Sachau, William D., 2Lt
ENG	Johnson, James P., T/Sgt
BT	Biestek, Stanley H., S/Sgt
RO	Thomas, Henry T., T/Sgt
WG	Putney, Norman W., S/Sgt
TG	Butler, Woodley O., S/Sgt

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

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

P Mackin, George T., Maj  
 CP Johnson, Hugh B., 2Lt  
 NAV Jacobson, Norman W., Capt  
 NAV Weber, George F., 2Lt  
 NAV Garrett, Robert M., 1Lt  
 BOM Morris, Warren B., 1Lt  
 ENG Edwards, Eugene F., T/Sgt  
 WG Blinebury, Joseph A., Sgt  
 RO Carter, Robert D., S/Sgt  
 TG Douglass, Earl B., 2Lt

### **B-17G #44-8238 (*No Name*) - PFF**

P Twomey, John M., 2Lt  
 CP Ross, James E., 2Lt  
 NAV Hansen, Heber D., 2Lt  
 NAV Beyeler, Earl R., 2Lt  
 BOM Green, George A., 2Lt  
 ENG Shaw, Vergil A., Sgt  
 TG Johnson, Morrin T., Sgt  
 RO LaPerch, William J., S/Sgt  
 TG Martin, Jack E., Sgt  
 (Abortive Sortie)

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

P Gmernicki, Richard H., 2Lt  
 CP Thomas, Charles E., 2Lt  
 NAV Jones, William M., 2Lt  
 BOM Guerrieri, Joseph C., F/O  
 ENG Griffith, Elwood A., Sgt  
 WG McClymont, John W., Sgt  
 RO Calenberg, Raymond N., Sgt  
 BT Greenberg, Bernard, Sgt  
 TG Henn, Thomas A., Sgt



#### **RICHARD H. GMERNICKI CREW - 358th BS**

(crew assigned 358BS: 28 Sep 1944)

(Back L-R) T/Sgt Elwood A. Griffith (E), Cpl Ray R. Cooper (WG), T/Sgt Raymond N. Calenberg (R),  
 Cpl Bernard Greenberg (BT), Cpl John W. McClymont (ARM), S/Sgt Thomas A. Henn (TG)  
 (Front L-R) 2Lt Richard H. Gmernicki (P), 2Lt Chester G. Judd (CP),  
 F/O Joseph C. Guerrieri (B), 2Lt William M. Jones (N)

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Akers, Robert O., 1Lt
CP	Giddings, Leslie W., 2Lt
NAV	Montone, Neil A., 2Lt
BOM	Guiciardi, Nino L., F/O
ENG	Shanker, Herbert, T/Sgt
RO	Meyer, Gerald E., T/Sgt
BT	Saam, Donal W., S/Sgt
TG	Connor, Joseph C., Sgt
WG	Meyer, Fulton R., S/Sgt

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

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P	Gould, Graham C., 1Lt
CP	Lasker, Yale, 2Lt
NAV	Leigh, Thomas W., Jr., 1Lt
BOM	Reynolds, Ralph J., 1Lt
ENG	Mogck, Leonard, T/Sgt
RO	Anderson, Augustus C., T/Sgt
BT	Thompson, Val E., S/Sgt
TG	Gloria, Tony N., Sgt
WG	Bandy, Peter C., Sgt

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

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P	Davis, Jack T., 1Lt
CP	Kohnstedt, Donald L., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, Roy M., F/O
TOG	McKinley, A.B., Sgt
ENG	Bloom, Dave, Sgt
RO	Lewnfield, Rex E., T/Sgt
BT	Martin, Richard A., Sgt
TG	Brown, Marvin W., Sgt
WG	Harris, Everette G., Sgt

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

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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	Carman, Nolan W., S/Sgt
BT	Guptill, Walter R., Sgt
TG	Stevens, Richard G., Sgt
WG	Botton, Pius L., Sgt

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

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P	Embrey, Henry C., 2Lt
CP	Sharp, Bryant M., 2Lt
NAV	Hellesvig, Vernon M., 1Lt
BOM	Mitchell, Robert C., 2Lt
ENG	Miller, Harry C., S/Sgt
RO	Zellar, Donald W., Sgt
BT	Duerr, Richard B., Sgt
TG	Gavin, William E., Sgt
WG	Peters, Arthur R., Sgt

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

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

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

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

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

### **B-17G #44-8326 (*No Name*)**

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P Haynes, Charles D., 2Lt  
CP McClurg, Galt L., 2Lt  
NAV Beder, Harrison K., 2Lt  
TOG Garcia, Leonard A., Sgt  
ENG Sherrill, Elliotte W., Sgt  
RO Deen, Oscar A., Sgt  
BT Freese, Paul D., Sgt  
WG Hrych, Robert C., Sgt  
TG Ipsen, Allen L., Sgt

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

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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 Hanson, Robert W., T/Sgt  
BT Ingalls, Earl F., Cpl  
TG Greenwald, Paul L., Sgt  
WG Gonser, Dwight W., Sgt

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

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P Frazier, Eugene C., 2Lt  
CP Campbell, Laurie H., 2Lt  
NAV Goettman, Andrew T., 2Lt  
TOG Cappucci, Joseph R., T/Sgt  
ENG Borges, Gilbert C., S/Sgt  
RO Trainor, Donald W., Sgt  
BT Charron, Raymond H., Sgt  
TG McCullough, Luther, Jr., Sgt  
WG Anderson, Eston R., Sgt

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Butler, Milton C., 1Lt
CP	Muth, Clifford F., 2Lt
NAV	Littlefield, Robert I., 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	Barder, Emmett R., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38532 (No Name)**

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P	McCutchan, Eugene R., 2Lt
CP	Schuchard, Virgil R., 2Lt
NAV	Conard, Willard G., 2Lt
BOM	Clippinger, Robert E., S/Sgt
ENG	Cole, Bethel A., T/Sgt
RO	Frey, Alan E., Sgt
BT	Scott, Howard E., Sgt
TG	Wherry, Robert E., Sgt
WG	Pearson, George D., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-6517 Old Cock**

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P	Nafius, Verner H., 1Lt
CP	Smith, Richard L., 2Lt
NAV	Orenstein, Harold A., 2Lt
BOM	Cummins, James E., 2Lt
ENG	Ellis, Richard R., S/Sgt
RO	Fegette, Iva L., T/Sgt
TG	Jinkens, Billy B., S/Sgt
WG	Rydquist, Roy K., S/Sgt
BT	McGinley, James E., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #44-6516 My Darling**

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P	Hallum, Bertrand, Jr., 1Lt
CP	Romstad, Alfred M., 2Lt
NAV	Rudolph, Gabriel, 2Lt
BOM	Fetzko, John, Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Young, Horace B., S/Sgt
RO	Botkin, Jack S., S/Sgt
BT	Ax, Heinz R., Sgt
TG	Sauer, George N., S/St
WG	Stroud, George E., Jr., Sgt

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

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P	Baehr, Kenneth C., 1Lt
CP	Losiewicz, Benjamin, 2Lt
NAV	Conklin, James M., 2Lt
BOM	Smith, William H., 1Lt
ENG	Keipper, Carl E., S/Sgt
BT	Decker, Bruce O., S/Sgt
RO	Ploeger, Jesse, T/Sgt
TG	Prince, Kirkland T., S/Sgt
WG	Baldwin, Kenton F., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31055 Aloha**

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P	Gravrock, Howard C., 2Lt
CP	King, John E., 2Lt
NAV	Klanian, Charles S., 2Lt
BOM	Downey, Francis G., 2Lt
ENG	Levine, Raymond, T/Sgt
RO	Engleman, George B., T/Sgt
BT	Relford, Robert R., Sgt
TG	Hensel, Phillip W., Sgt
WG	Elliott, John C., S/Sgt

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

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P	Kallet, Sidney, 2Lt
CP	Lovell, Brook H., 2Lt
NAV	McCarty, Mike D., 2Lt
BOM	Harrison, Lewis S., 2Lt
ENG	Lewis, William J., Sgt
RO	Clarke, Frank W., Sgt
BT	Macy, Edward J., Sgt
TG	Terreri, Joseph, Sgt
WG	Killelea, Raymond J., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38191 Shasta**

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P	Mosel, Arnold, 2Lt
CP	Francis, John R., 2Lt
NAV	Mundell, William K., 2Lt
NAV	Edwards, Frank A., 1Lt
BOM	Campbell, Sanders H., 2Lt
ENG	Conley, Donald H., S/Sgt
RO	Means, Robert D., T/Sgt
BT	Crawford, Frank J., Sgt
TG	Lovold, Ole, 2Lt
WG	Bialobrzkeski, Joseph C., Sgt
WG	Koshar, Jerome J., Sgt



## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P Newton, George C., 2Lt  
CP Raley, Stonewall J., 2Lt  
NAV Rusk, Donald M., 2Lt  
BOM Smoleroff, Theodore L., 1Lt  
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 #42-107099 *Old 99***

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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  
BT Morin, Donald P., S/Sgt  
RO Nash, Leslie G., S/Sgt  
TG DeLiso, Vincent A., S/Sgt  
WG Koch, Edwin H., Sgt

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

---

P Van Antwerp, Robert G., 2Lt  
CP Rose, Jack W., 2Lt  
NAV Russo, William D., 2Lt  
BOM Nazarian, John K., 2Lt  
TT Dyson, Flake S., Sgt  
BT Brinkley, Lynn M., Sgt  
RO Harper, Hiram C., Sgt  
TG McCall, Lamar H., Sgt  
WG Cottle, Clyde J., Jr., Sgt

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

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P Morrow, John E., 2Lt  
CP Roberts, Ingersall J., 1Lt  
NAV Clark, Floyd L., F/O  
BOM Long, Lloyd I., F/O  
BT Carlson, Harold A., Sgt  
TT Riveland, Alf, Sgt  
RO Renzi, Frank, Sgt  
TG Barber, Albert P., Sgt  
WG Campbell, Gerald R., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird (359BS)***

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P Eisenwinter, Philip D., 1Lt  
CP Waggoner, Richard C., 2Lt  
NAV Norman, Frederick J., 2Lt  
BOM Campbell, Robert C., 2Lt  
TT Simone, S.P., Sgt  
BT Veljkov, Paul, Sgt  
RO Islava, Joseph O., T/Sgt  
TG Grossman, Howard A., Sgt  
WG Sutton, Marvin A., S/Sgt

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

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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

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

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

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P	Gano, Frederick, 2Lt
CP	Flanders, Wesley J., 2Lt
NAV	Maniscalco, John B., 2Lt
BOM	Natoli, Sam J., 2Lt
TT	Anthony, George E., Sgt
BT	Coyle, Arthur J., Sgt
RO	Scaglione, Joseph, Sgt
TG	Nelson, Edward F., Sgt
WG	Clare, Donald T., Sgt

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

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P	Healy, Richard F., 1Lt
CP	Bliss, Robert P., 1Lt
NAV	Stuart, Norman L., 2Lt
BOM	Coughlin, George A., 1Lt
MN	Caldwell, Walter D., F/O
TT	Robertson, Joseph J., T/Sgt
BT	Leal, Raymond T., Sgt
RO	Smith, Phillip E., T/Sgt
TG	Harris, John R., 2Lt
WG	Whitlow, Zane O., S/Sgt

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

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P	Brown, Tracy D., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Smith, Donald R., 2Lt
NAV	Jenkins, John I., 2Lt
BOM	Lewis, Willard L., Jr., 2Lt
TT	Duffek, Francis T., S/Sgt
BT	Born, Robert S., Sgt
RO	Bridge, Howard R., T/Sgt
TG	Blim, Raymond C., Sgt
WG	Fisher, Clelland F., S/Sgt

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

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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., S/Sgt
BT	Johnson, Charles H., S/Sgt
RO	Pope, Lester L., S/Sgt
TG	Delcher, M.S., S/Sgt
WG	Smirnes, E. "Nick", Jr., S/Sgt