

# 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 259

18 October 1944

Target: Ford Motor Plant at Cologne, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 28

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 30 minutes

Bomb Load: 6 x 500 lb G.P. M43 & 6 x 500 lb M17 Incendiaries

Bombing Altitudes: 26,800 & 25,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 490 rounds

Cologne was again the target. Clouds over the city and flak guns still were present. The primary target was the Ford Motor Plant and secondary, if PFF bombing were required, was military installations. One aircraft failed to take off: #42-102411 *Miss Lace*, 427BS (Lt. **Mickle**). Two Fortresses returned early when over the Harrington Buncher: #43-38451 (*No Name*), 360BS (Lt. **Twomey**) - Sgt. Martin **Johnson**, ball turret gunner, developed acute appendicitis and was admitted to the 303rd BG(H) Station Hospital; #42-97861 *Iza Vailable III*, 360BS (Lt. **Arwood**) - The ball turret was improperly operated.

The lead 359BS aircraft left the formation after bombing due to a gas shortage. The Deputy Leader, 1Lt. Patrick H. **Brabant**, took over. Aircraft #44-8318 (*No Name*) 360BS (2Lt. **Lutz**) flew and bombed with the 379BG from Kimbolton.

Seventeen aircraft of the low and high Squadrons dropped 96 500-lb. G.P. M43 and 96 500-lb. M17 incendiary bombs on the primary target from 26,800 and 25,500 ft. Eight lead Squadron B-17s dropped 44 500-lb. M43 and 48 500-lb. M17 bombs on the secondary target by PFF equipment when the GEE-H equipment malfunctioned. Bombing results were believed to have been very poor. In the target area, there were 9/10 low clouds with tops at 18,000 ft.

Anti-aircraft fire at the target was moderate and generally inaccurate, with a few accurate bursts. Some meager to moderate, but inaccurate, fire was encountered at Koblenz and along the Mosele River. One aircraft sustained major and six, minor battle damage. Chaff seemed to have some beneficial effect. No enemy aircraft were seen and 38 P-47s provided good escort service.

There were no casualties and all aircraft returned safely. Five aircraft landed away from base:

#44-8137 (*No Name*), 358BS (Lt. **Mainwaring**), at Brussels

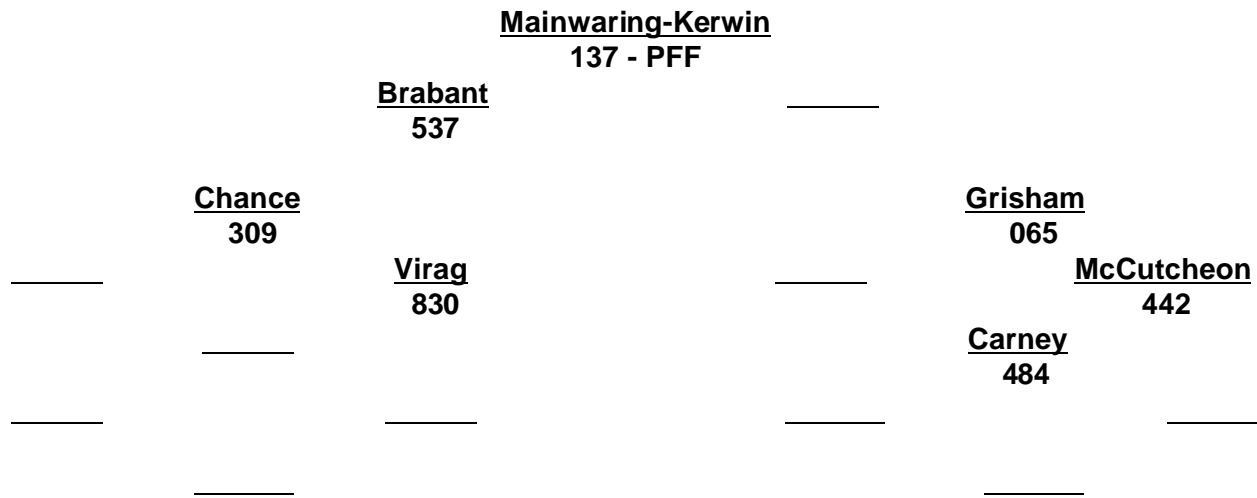
#43-38563 *Jackie*, 360BS (Ft. **Foley**), at Brussels

#42-102484 *Heller's Angel*, 359BS (Lt. **Carney**), at Brussels

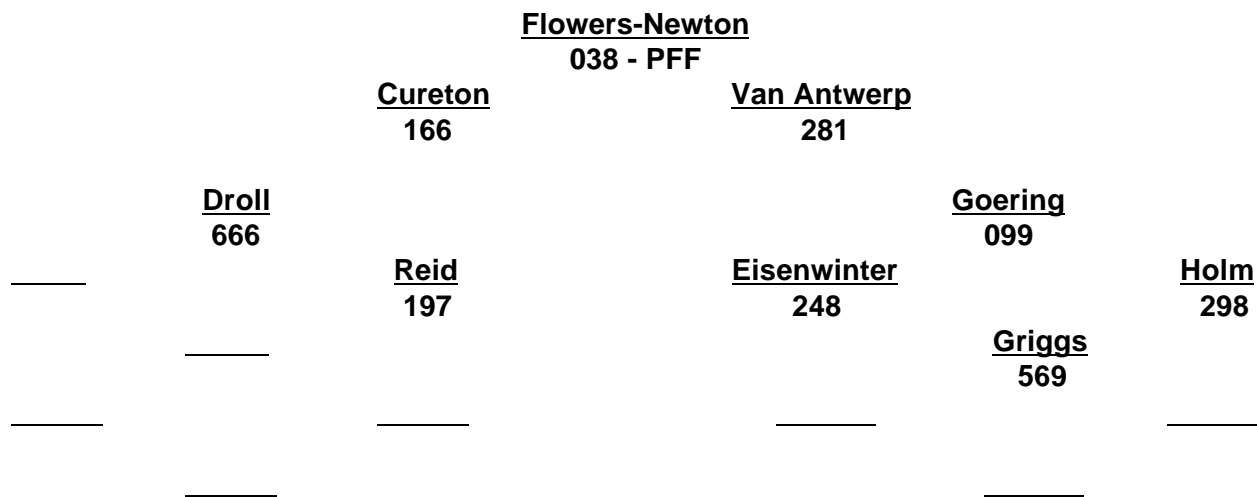
#44-6309 *Duchess' Granddaughter*, 360BS (Lt. **Chance**) at Martlesham-Heath

#43-38705 (*No Name*), 360BS (Lt. **Juns**), at Framingham.

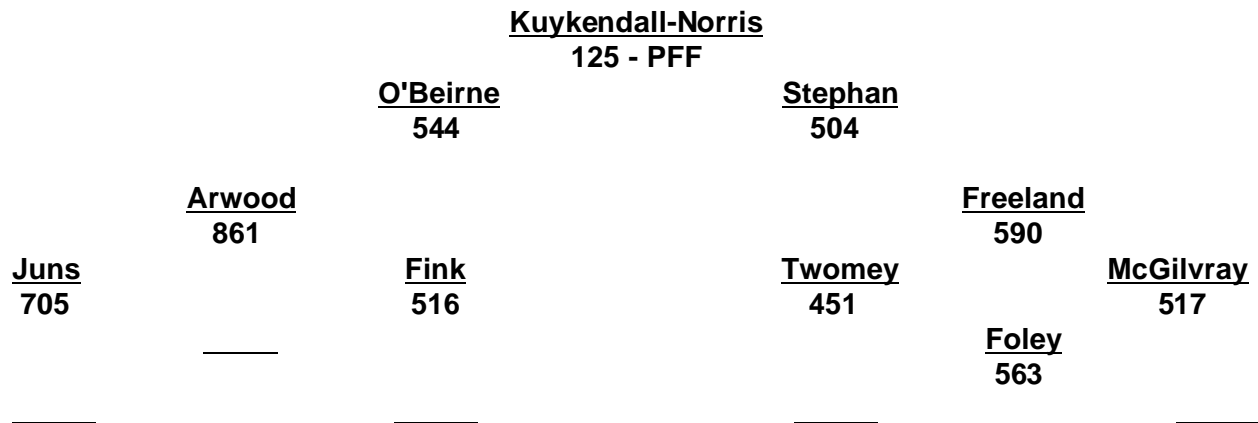
## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A



## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B



## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C



*1Lt William H. Cox, 1Lt Ben Starr and 1Lt Jack P. Rencher taken in late October 1944 at Molesworth. Their Nissen Hut is in the background.*

### 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 #43-38065 *Princess Pat 2***

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P	Grisham, Rufus M., 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 #42-97298 *The Floose***

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P	Holm, Maurice M., 1Lt
CP	Fletcher, Harold D., F/O
NAV	Howard, Paul A., 2Lt
TOG	Splawn, Elzie B., T/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 #43-38442 (No Name)**

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P	McCutcheon, George E., 1Lt
CP	Petersen, John N., 2Lt
NAV	Starr, Ben, 2Lt
TOG	Severson, Jack O., T/Sgt
ENG	Burcham, Johnnie O., T/Sgt
WG	Foulk, Donald H., S/Sgt
RO	Alexander, John C., S/Sgt
BT	Aberdeen, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Kinsman, George R., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38451 (No Name)**

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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
BT	Johnson, Morrin T., Sgt
RO	Bzik, Paul J., S/Sgt
WG	Martin, Jack E., Sgt
TG	Hammond, Walter H., Sgt

(Abortive)

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

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P	Goering, Werner G., 1Lt
CP	Rencher, Jack P., 2Lt
NAV	Markt, Rex H., F/O
BOM	Davis, Edward A., 2Lt
ENG	Gustafson, Orall R., S/Sgt
RO	Brodzinski, Chester, S/Sgt
BT	LaPerch, William J., S/Sgt
WG	Houseman, Clarence W., Sgt
TG	Mahan, Weldon T., Sgt

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

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P	Freeland, Troit D., 1Lt
CP	Prudhoe, Louis J., 2Lt
NAV	Kosta, Alexander, 2Lt
BOM	Nugent, Robert F., 1Lt
ENG	Abernathy, Wylie C., S/Sgt
WG	Kedzierski, Edward P., Sgt
RO	Wilson, Clarence K., S/Sgt
TG	Dyzel, Bernard J., Sgt
BT	Cerzosimo, Bernard P., Sgt

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

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P	McGilvray, Richard L., 2Lt
CP	Thompson, John A., 2Lt
NAV	Fearn, Charles L., 2Lt
BOM	Conder, Bill F., 2Lt
ENG	Eckert, Raymond C., Sgt
WG	McGreevy, James, Sgt
RO	Johnson, Paul B., Sgt
BT	Garza, David, Sgt
TG	Smith, Gardner B., Sgt

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P Chance, Arthur F., 1Lt  
CP Johnson, Robert H., 2Lt  
NAV McCarver, Eugene D., 2Lt  
TOG McKinley, A.B., Sgt  
ENG Menasco, Elmer W., T/Sgt  
RO Miller, Albert, T/Sgt  
BT Moss, Shirley L., Sgt  
TG Hejna, Dennis R., Sgt  
WG Torre, Leo A., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-31830 *Marie***

P Virag, Andy R., 1Lt  
CP Beck, Edward R., 2Lt  
NAV Durkin, James A., 1Lt  
TOG Clubine, Frederick D., Sgt  
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 #43-37537 *Queen of Hearts***

P Brabant, Patrick H., 1Lt  
CP Judy, Ira J., 2Lt  
NAV Koran, William C., 2Lt  
BOM Schulze, William A., 2Lt  
ENG Hodge, Dana A., T/Sgt  
RO Carman, Nolan W., S/Sgt  
TG Millek, John P., S/Sgt  
WG Valentine, Robert J., S/Sgt  
BT Marquez, Robert P., S/Sgt

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

P Carney, Walter J., 1Lt  
CP Hickey, James A., 2Lt  
NAV Goettman, Andrew T., 2Lt  
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

### **B-17G #44-8318 (*No Name*)**

P Lutz, John R., 2Lt  
CP Frazier, Eugene C., 2Lt  
NAV Carriere, Lawrence C., F/O  
TOG Cottrell, Bert, S/Sgt  
ENG Candito, Christopher A., Sgt  
RO Lovelock, Edward N., Sgt  
BT Kapczynski, Paul B., Sgt  
TG Bailey, John R., Sgt  
WG Bates, Roger K., Sgt

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

P Mainwaring, Charles O., 1Lt  
CP Kerwin, Charles E., Maj  
NAV Kelly, Thomas N., 1Lt  
NAV Montone, Neil A., 2Lt  
MN Garrett, Robert M., 2Lt  
BOM Roode, William A.T., 1Lt  
ENG Gauthier, Leon C., S/Sgt  
RO Tognetti, Paul A., S/Sgt  
TG Ward, Duane G., 2Lt  
WG Angeloff, James P., S/Sgt

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **B-17G #43-38705 (No Name)**

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P	Juns, Frank, 1Lt
CP	Johnson, Walter E., 2Lt
NAV	Harding, Warren G., 2Lt
BOM	Thomas, Edward H., 2Lt
ENG	Girard, Louis P., T/Sgt
RO	Wimer, Maurice H., T/Sgt
BT	Oberly, Eldridge C., S/Sgt
TG	Englis, Hiram E., S/Sgt
WG	Branin, James J., S/Sgt

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

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P	Fink, Marvin P., 2Lt
CP	Reeves, Howard E., 2Lt
NAV	Subkowsky, Harry, 2Lt
BOM	Hand, Robert A., 2Lt
ENG	Holder, Jack E., Sgt
RO	Dahl, Robert F., Sgt
BT	Albright, Richard M., Sgt
TG	Garcia, Cyprian M., Sgt
WG	Peter, Robert C., Sgt

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

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P	O'Beirne, Nelson B., 1Lt
CP	Clingler, John R., 2Lt
NAV	Edwards, Frank A., 1Lt
BOM	Cummins, James E., 2Lt
ENG	Clippinger, Robert E., S/Sgt
RO	Schneider, Dale E., T/Sgt
BT	Evans, Ralph V., S/Sgt
TG	Bur, Robert D., S/Sgt
WG	Koppes, Carl A., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8125 Sparky - PFF**

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P	Kuykendall, Roger L., 1Lt
CP	Norris, Loy R., 2Lt
NAV	Shipp, Gene K., 1Lt
NAV	Beyeler, Earl R., 2Lt
BOM	Rape, Sylvester H., 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

### **B-17G #43-38563 Jackie**

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P	Foley, Norment, 1Lt
CP	Hatch, Logan B., 2Lt
NAV	Levin, Albert, 2Lt
BOM	Hackler, Maurice G., 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	Odegaard, Duane J., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-6504 (No Name)**

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P	Stephan, Paul C., 2Lt
CP	House, Frederick L., 2Lt
NAV	Lewis, Harold G., F/O
BOM	Tapley, Thomas W., Cpl
ENG	Phillips, Dwight A., Cpl
RO	Ladurini, Raymond R., Cpl
BT	Keyes, Stanton W., Cpl
TG	Harris, Edgar P., Jr., Cpl
WG	Sorensen, Robert J., Cpl

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

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P	Arwood, Joe B., 2Lt
CP	Beasley, Roland C., 2Lt
NAV	Fowler, William C., 2Lt
BOM	Counsell, Clarence L., F/O
ENG	Power, Thomas B., Cpl
RO	Curry, Paul A., Cpl
BT	Marchiondo, Guido P., Cpl
TG	Sanchez, Crespín E., Cpl
WG	Linn, James B., Cpl

(Abortive)

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Flowers, Selwyn D., Capt
CP	Newton, George C., 1Lt
NAV	Stuart, Norman L., 1Lt
MN	Caldwell, Walter D., F/O
BOM	Webster, Charles M., 1Lt
TT	Kiely, Joseph P., T/Sgt
BT	McCormick, Lewis J., S/Sgt
RO	Kopriva, Charles P., S/Sgt
TG	Harris, John R., 2Lt
WG	Howell, Charles E., S/Sgt

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

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P	Reid, Clair P., 2Lt
CP	Bean, John R., 2Lt
NAV	Rogge, Richard W., 2Lt
BOM	Natoli, Sam J., 2Lt
TT	Arnott, David H., Sgt
BT	Casciola, Benedict L., Sgt
RO	Foell, Charles R., Sgt
TG	Lowe, Joseph W., Sgt
WG	Ganson, Howard H., Sgt

### **B-17G #42-97281 Queenie**

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P	Van Antwerp, Robert G., 2Lt
CP	Pursel, Stanley E., 2Lt
NAV	Cecce, Joseph A., Jr., F/O
BOM	Sutton, Marvin A., S/Sgt
TT	Kling, John E., Sgt
BT	Schoch, Phillip M., Sgt
RO	Stockman, Kenneth H., Sgt
TG	Hannah, Robert G., Sgt
WG	Fugazzi, Gildo, Sgt

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

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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., S/Sgt
WG	Sears, William A., S/Sgt

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

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P	Cureton, Peter F., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Lawrenson, George C., 2Lt
NAV	Spooner, Ramon L., 1Lt
BOM	Sandhagen, Paul R., 1Lt
TT	Bourlier, Donald W., T/Sgt
BT	Burford, Joseph A., Sgt
RO	Ellis, James A., S/Sgt
WG	Schulz, Paul H., S/Sgt
TG	Celichowski, Ervin M., Sgt
VI	Hassler, Paul H., S/Sgt

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

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P	Griggs, John C., 1Lt
CP	Eisenhart, Oliver T., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, William A., 2Lt
BOM	Olson, William E., 2Lt
TT	Monnig, Alvin R., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Duffel, Robert L., S/Sgt
RO	Benning, Joseph F., Jr., S/Sgt
WG	Means, Henry H., Jr., Sgt
TG	Barnes, Charlie, T/Sgt

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

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P	Droll, Louis P., 2Lt
CP	Callahan, Charles A., Capt
NAV	Dye, Carl J., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Drew, William F., 2Lt
TT	Erdmann, Robert A., Sgt
BT	Johnson, Gene W., Sgt
RO	Kamen, Roland K., Sgt
TG	Dorner, Alvin W., Sgt
WG	Robins, James B., Sgt