

## 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 280

30 November 1944

Target: Synthetic Oil Refinery at Zeitz, Germany and  
Leuna Synthetic Oil Refinery at Merseburg, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 39

Length of Mission: 7 hours, 35 minutes

Bomb Load: 20 x 250 lb H.E. M57 bombs

Bombing Altitudes; 26,700, 25,100 & 27,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 500 rounds

**T**hirty-nine aircraft from this Group were dispatched this date to attack the synthetic oil plant at Zeitz, Germany. The secondary target was the Leuna synthetic oil plant at the dreaded Merseburg. Last resort targets were the small arms plants at Fulda and Suhl, Germany. Two aircraft returned with mechanical defects: #42-102411 *Miss Lace*, 427BS (Lt. **Schlecht**) and #42-97546 *Idaliza*, 360BS (Lt. **St. Julien**)

The lead 358BS dropped 268 250-lb. H.E. M57 bombs on Merseburg, the secondary target, by PFF with visual assistance. Bombs hit in the northern part of the target area. The low 359BS and high 360BS dropped 452 500-lb. bombs and 10 leaflet units on the primary target at Zeitz. Bombing was visual, but results were generally unobserved because of the smoke that obscured the target. Target weather was 6/10 to 7/10 high cirrus clouds with dense and persistent contrails at the bombing altitudes.

There was no enemy aircraft opposition and 357 P-51s provided excellent support to 1st BD bombers. Chaff had no effect and flack was moderate to intense and accurate at both targets. Eleven aircraft sustained major battle damage and 22 minor damage. Two men were wounded.



*Sgt Kenneth W. Jencks, 360BS Armament*

The attacks on the synthetic oil refineries since Spring, 1944, reduced production by 75%. In a desperate effort to protect their dwindling oil supply, the Germans steadily reinforced the 40-square-mile area by moving anti-aircraft batteries into the area from all parts of the Reich. An estimated 506 guns were in position by November. Merseburg was one of the most heavily defended targets in Germany.



*Flak Filled Sky*

Most crewmen grew to fear the black, ugly flak bursts much more than enemy fighters. These bursts left crews with a helpless, numb feeling. All they could do was bravely endure the barrage and hope that the gunners' bursts would not be lucky enough to hit Allied aircraft, especially their own. Pilots could not close their eyes since 100% intense concentration was required throughout the flak zones.

Most pilots broke out in a cold sweat when going through the flak barrages—many still sweat 50 years later whenever they think about it.



**CLARENCE J. GOODBERLET CREW - 358th BS**

**(crew assigned 358BS: 14 Nov 1944)**

(Back L-R) 1Lt Clarence J. Goodberlet (P), 1Lt Charles A. Mott (B),  
F/O Peter E. Mylonas (N), 2Lt Malcolm J. Magid (CP)

(Front L-R) T/Sgt William J. Cotter (E), T/Sgt Stephen M. Baloga, Jr. (R),  
S/Sgt James M. Walling (BT), S/Sgt Frederick W. Schultz (TG), Sgt Matthew J. Karash (WG)

# Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - A

## Mackin-Bergeron

439 - PFF

Holm

554

McGilvray

191

McKinley

462

Goodberlet

530

Gobrecht

590

Heckendorf

316

Grisham

065

Freeman

298

Gmernicki

427

Woodson

006

McCutcheon

949

Snider

238



(No Name) #44-8439 (360BS) PFF PU-Z

41st CBW-A Lead (358BS) - Pilot Maj G.T. Mackin / CoPilot Capt W.H. Bergeron

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Mosel-Francis</u> 125 - PFF		
	<u>Weaver</u> 860		<u>Connelly</u> 842	
		<u>McCutchan</u> 532		
	<u>Hardin</u> 672		<u>Beasley</u> 516	
	<u>Gravrock</u> 523			<u>Hatch</u> 563
<u>St. Julien</u> 546		<u>Fink</u> 517	<u>Norris</u> 544	<u>Kallet</u> 451
			<u>Arwood</u> 861	
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## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

		<u>Kerwin-Bach</u> 256 - PFF		
	<u>Frazier</u> 206		<u>Mickle</u> 058	
		<u>Haynes</u> 609		
	<u>Embrey</u> 289		<u>Tasker</u> 645	
	<u>Underdown</u> 682			<u>Carney</u> 764
<u>Holmes</u> 619		<u>Gates</u> 050	<u>Proffitt</u> 608	<u>Rybaltowski</u> 944
			<u>Schlecht</u> 411	
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### 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 WG - Waist Gunner LWG - Left Waist Gunner RWG - Right Waist Gunner GUN - Gunner VI - Voice Interpreter OBS - Observer	PAS - Passenger PHO - Photographer Y - Y-Operators (YRO,YO) RCM - Radio Cntr Measures SJ - Spot Jammer  <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 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 #42-97949 (No Name)**

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P	McCutcheon, George E., 1Lt
CP	Hower, Frederick C., 2Lt
NAV	Starr, Ben, 2Lt
TOG	Day, Keith E., 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 #43-38462 Teddy's Rough Riders**

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P	McKinley, Ralph C., 1Lt
CP	Harwick, James A., 2Lt
NAV	Long, Donald C., Jr., 2Lt
TOG	Rowe, Thomas M., S/Sgt
ENG	Jones, Burlen, T/Sgt
WG	Devaney, Thomas J., S/Sgt
RO	Moll, Richard S., T/Sgt
BT	Clark, Woodrow E., Sgt
TG	Soule, Evan R., Sgt

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

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P	Grisham, Rufus W., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Cox, William H., 2Lt
NAV	Hartel, Gale E., 2Lt
BOM	Finn, Russell C., F/O
ENG	Scheuermann, Edwin P., S/Sgt
BT	Loessin, Gerhard W., Jr., S/Sgt
RO	Post, Harry R., T/Sgt
WG	Buie, Ben M., S/Sgt
TG	Willis, Arnold, Sgt

### **B-17G #44-6316 (No Name)**

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P	Heckendorf, Marvin H., 2Lt
CP	Erickson, Robert L., 2Lt
NAV	Fearn, Charles L., 2Lt
TOG	Weaver, Robert J., Sgt
ENG	Gallman, Hubert W., T/Sgt
WG	Barris, Robert L., Sgt
RO	Windle, Bill, T/Sgt
TG	Koerner, David M., Sgt
BT	Lary, Raymond W., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8427 Henn's Revenge**

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P	Gmernicki, Richard H., 1Lt
CP	Judd, Chester G., 2Lt
NAV	Jones, William M., 2Lt
TOG	Denning, Glenn J., Sgt
ENG	Griffith, Elwood A., Sgt
WG	McClymont, John W., S/Sgt
RO	Calenberg, Raymond N., Sgt
BT	Greenberg, Bernard, Sgt
TG	Henn, Thomas A., Sgt

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

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P	Woodson, William H., 2Lt
CP	Lanigan, Harold A., F/O
NAV	Birkenseer, Donald L., 2Lt
TOG	Stevenson, John L., Sgt
ENG	Brown, Richard A., Sgt
WG	Riley, Lloyd S., Sgt
RO	Gramiak, Victor J., Sgt
BT	Burnette, R.L., Sgt
TG	Farrell, Peter J., Sgt

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

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P	McGilvray, Richard L., 1Lt
CP	Thompson, John A., 2Lt
NAV	Kaufman, Seymour, F/O
BOM	Davis, Edward A., 2Lt
ENG	Eckert, Raymond C., Sgt
WG	Martin, David S., Sgt
RO	Johnson, Paul B., T/Sgt
BT	Garza, David, Sgt
TG	Smith, Gardner B., S/Sgt

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

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P	Gobrecht, Harry D., 2Lt
CP	Eby, Joe M., 2Lt
NAV	McDonald, Walter H., 2Lt
TOG	Miller, Robert J., Sgt
ENG	Benefield, Lenville H., Sgt
WG	Mays, Thomas G., Sgt
RO	Quick, Edgar H., Sgt
BT	McGrory, William P., S/Sgt
TG	Buske, Phillip R., Sgt

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

### **B-17G #43-38530 (No Name)**

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P	Goodberlet, Clarence J., 2Lt
CP	Magid, Malcolm J., 2Lt
NAV	Mylonas, Peter E., F/O
BOM	Mott, Charles A., 2Lt
ENG	Cotter, William J., Sgt
WG	Karash, Matthew J., Sgt
RO	Baloga, Stephen M., Sgt
BT	Walling, James M., Sgt
TG	Schultz, Frederick W., Sgt

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

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P	Holm, Maurice M., 1Lt
CP	Fletcher, Harold D., F/O
NAV	Howard, Paul A., 2Lt
BOM	Kedzierski, Edward P., Sgt
ENG	Compton, M.C., T/Sgt
WG	Huck, Robert L., Sgt
RO	Dale, John A., T/Sgt
BT	Ebert, Preston P., S/Sgt
TG	Putney, Norman W., S/Sgt

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

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P	Freeman, Clyde E., 1Lt
CP	Canning, Glenn R., 2Lt
NAV	Goldstein, Sheldon, 2Lt
TOG	Foster, William D., S/Sgt
ENG	Fleck, Peter J., S/Sgt
TG	Caporusso, Frank J., Sgt
RO	VanLier, Donald E., S/Sgt
WG	Cooper, Ray R., Sgt
BT	Chesney, Alan D., Sgt

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

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P	Snider, Harley D., 2Lt
CP	Kunkel, Joe T., 2Lt
NAV	McCorkle, Robert W., F/O
BOM	Feezel, Ralph S., 2Lt
ENG	Work, John R., S/Sgt
BT	Kudder, Edward P., Sgt
RO	Ludington, Robert S., S/Sgt
WG	Wade, Murray W., S/Sgt
TG	Gibson, James, Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8439 (No Name) - PFF**

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P	Mackin, George T., Maj
CP	Bergeron, Willard H., Capt
NAV	Kaiser, James M., Capt
NAV	Jacobsen, Norman N., Capt
NAV	Lifshus, Lawrence J., 1Lt
BOM	Gorham, Raymond H., 1Lt
ENG	Nelson, James B., S/Sgt
WG	Barteau, Edward L., S/Sgt
RO	LaPerch, William J., T/Sgt
TG	Ross, James V., 2Lt

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Mickle, James D., 1Lt
CP	Clarke, Loren M., F/O
NAV	O'Dell, Benjamin L., 2Lt
BOM	Stone, Leonard, 1Lt
ENG	Humphrey, William B., S/Sgt
RO	Eagon, Dennis G., S/Sgt
TG	Van Zile, Raymond J., Sgt
BT	Garcia, Leonard A., Sgt
WG	Wentz, Robert D., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38608 *Lucille***

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P	Proffitt, John S., 2Lt
CP	Ogborn, Maurice E., 2Lt
NAV	Finke, John C., 2Lt
TOG	Goudy, William F., S/Sgt
ENG	Young, James W., Sgt
RO	Norris, Cornie, Jr., Sgt
BT	Bechtold, Robert E., Sgt
TG	O'Neal, Howard F., Sgt
WG	Rose, G.L., Sgt

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

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P	Rybaltowski, Vincent, 2Lt
CP	Olson, John A., 2Lt
NAV	Moon, Richard Y., 2Lt
BOM	McLeod, Harry A., 2Lt
ENG	Perlowitz, Murray A., Sgt
RO	Capps, Douglas M., Sgt
BT	Hollingsworth, Donald M., Sgt
TG	Reseigh, John R., Sgt
WG	Vitiritto, Joseph A., Sgt

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

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P	Haynes, Charles D., 1Lt
CP	McClurg, Galt L., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, Roy P., F/O
BOM	Dando, Charles A., 2Lt
ENG	Sherrill, Elliotte W., Sgt
RO	Deen, Oscar A., S/Sgt
BT	Freese, Paul D., Sgt
WG	Hrych, Robert C., Sgt
TG	Ipsen, Allen L., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38619 (No Name)**

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P	Holmes, Alfred M., 2Lt
CP	Haynes, Eugene, 2Lt
NAV	Albertson, Edward, F/O
BOM	Donovan, Thomas A., 2Lt
ENG	Sprague, Wendell P., Jr., Sgt
RO	Prehatny, Joseph R., S/Sgt
BT	Vowels, Donovan E., Sgt
TG	Bartkowski, Edward L., Sgt
WG	Hejna, Dennis R., S/Sgt

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

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P	Gates, Cecil J., 2Lt
CP	Zapora, Theodore T., 2Lt
NAV	Elliott, Harold F., 2Lt
BOM	McKinley, A.B., Sgt
ENG	Wysocki, Walter, Sgt
RO	Lovelock, Edward N., Sgt
BT	Schilling, Lawrence E., Sgt
TG	Erdody, Joseph, S/Sgt
WG	Wallis, Elton E., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38645 (No Name)**

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P	Tasker, Richard E., 2Lt
CP	Francis, Angelito, 2Lt
NAV	Meadows, Clyde, F/O
BOM	McDonnell, John J., 2Lt
ENG	Toon, William D., Sgt
RO	Minnix, Glenn A., Sgt
BT	Reider, Enrique M., Sgt
TG	Driver, Arthur H., Sgt
WG	Van Ornum, Charles S., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38682 (No Name)**

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P	Underdown, Sidney L., 1Lt
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., S/Sgt
TG	Stevens, Richard G., Sgt
WG	Botton, Pius L., Sgt

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

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

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P Frazier, Eugene C., 1Lt  
CP Campbell, Laurie H., 2Lt  
NAV Goettman, Andrew T., 2Lt  
BOM Barlow, Richard B., 2Lt  
ENG Borges, Gilbert C., T/Sgt  
RO Trainor, Donald W., S/Sgt  
BT Charron, Raymond H., Sgt  
TG McCullough, Luther, Jr., S/Sgt  
WG Anderson, Eston R., Sgt

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

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P Embrey, Henry C., 1Lt  
CP Sharp, Bryant M., 2Lt  
NAV Jones, Clayton C., F/O  
TOG Connor, Joseph C., Sgt  
ENG Miller, Harry C., T/Sgt  
RO Zellar, Donald W., S/Sgt  
BT Kapczynski, Paul B., Sgt  
TG Gavin, William E., Sgt  
WG Peters, Arthur R., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38764 (*No Name*)**

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P Carney, Walter J., 1Lt  
CP Hickey, James A., 2Lt  
NAV Carriere, Lawrence C., F/O  
BOM Cooney, Thomas E., 2Lt  
ENG Turner, Harold L., T/Sgt  
RO Foster, Albert A., T/Sgt  
BT Zielinski, William J., S/Sgt  
TG Howe, Clarence H., S/Sgt  
WG Encinas, William S/Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8256 *Yankee Girl* - PFF**

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P Kerwin, Charles E., Maj  
CP Bach, Harold J., 2Lt  
NAV Hamond, Raymond D., 1Lt  
NAV Weil, Frank P., 2Lt  
BOM Schulze, William A., 1Lt  
ENG Popovich, William G., T/Sgt  
RO Cohen, Seymour T., T/Sgt  
TG Christensen, Lawrence A., 1Lt  
WG Lainson, Colin C., Sgt



## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Fink, Marvin P., 1Lt
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 #44-6523 (No Name)**

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P	Gravrock, Howard C., 1Lt
CP	Losiewicz, Benjamin, 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 #43-38451 (No Name)**

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P	Kallet, Sidney, 1Lt
CP	Muth, Clifford F., 2Lt
NAV	Harrison, Lewis S., 2Lt
BOM	Darland, William G., Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Lewis, William J., S/Sgt
RO	Clarke, Frank W., S/Sgt
BT	Macy, Edward J., Sgt
TG	Terreri, Joseph, Sgt
WG	Killelea, Raymond J., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38672 (No Name)**

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P	Hardin, Thomas H., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Brown, William W., 2Lt
NAV	Hiebeler, George E., 2Lt
BOM	Driver, Henderson M., Jr., S/Sgt
ENG	Mikulich, Stanley, T/Sgt
RO	Kasper, Raymond H., S/Sgt
BT	Hulterstrum, Joseph P., Sgt
TG	Rohrer, Elbert R., Sgt
WG	Sersland, Paul V., Sgt

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

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P	McCutchan, Eugene R., 1Lt
CP	Schuchard, Virgil R., 2Lt
NAV	McCarty, Mike D., 2Lt
BOM	Bays, Gordon C., 2Lt
ENG	Kress, Richard H., T/Sgt
RO	Frey, Alan E., T/Sgt
BT	Scott, Howard E., S/Sgt
TG	Wherry, Robert E., S/Sgt
WG	Pearson, George D., S/Sgt

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

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P	Beasley, Roland C., 2Lt
CP	Telford, Donald R., F/O
NAV	Harding, Warren G., 1Lt
BOM	Thomas, Edward H., 1Lt
ENG	Girard, Louis P., T/Sgt
RO	Wimer, Maurice E., T/Sgt
BT	Oberly, Eldridge G., S/Sgt
TG	Englis, Hiram E., S/Sgt
WG	Branin, James J., S/Sgt

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

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P	Hatch, Logan B., 2Lt
CP	Holtorf, Ernest H., 2Lt
NAV	Divine, Fred H., 2Lt
BOM	Friedlander, Henry, F/O
ENG	Fuczka, Peter, Sgt
RO	Broughton, Averell M., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Buchanan, Paul A., Sgt
TG	Patterson, Charles A., Sgt
WG	Bialobrzkeski, Joseph C., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #42-38842 (No Name)**

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P	Connelly, Ben L., 1Lt
CP	House, Frederick L., 2Lt
NAV	Levin, Albert, 1Lt
BOM	Shelley, David R., 1Lt
ENG	Asplund, Carl L., T/Sgt
RO	Schneider, Dale E., S/Sgt
TG	Bur, Robert D., Sgt
BT	Evans, Ralph V., S/Sgt
WG	Koppes, Carl A., S/Sgt

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

### **B-17G #42-97546 *Idaliza***

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P	St. Julien, John D., 2Lt
CP	Newell, Richard M., 2Lt
NAV	Kiehlkopf, George, 2Lt
BOM	Carney, Felix A., 2Lt
ENG	Mitchell, William E., Sgt
RO	Flanigan, John J., Sgt
BT	Farthing, Richard M., Sgt
TG	Evans, Marlin D., Sgt
WG	McLellan, Raymond L., Sgt

(Abortive)

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

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P	Arwood, Joe B., 1Lt
CP	Johnson, Walter E., 2Lt
NAV	Fowler, William C., 2Lt
BOM	Gerstel, Charles L., S/Sgt
ENG	Power, Thomas B., S/Sgt
RO	Curry, Paul A., S/Sgt
BT	Crawford, Frank J., S/Sgt
TG	Sanchez, Crespín E., Sgt
WG	Linn, James B., Sgt
VI	Elkin, Samuel, Sgt

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

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P	Norris, Loy R., 2Lt
CP	Geiger, James E., 2Lt
NAV	Emery, Roy F., 2Lt
BOM	Prince, James R., 1Lt
ENG	Stockman, Leonard G., S/Sgt
RO	Licht, Wilfred L., S/Sgt
BT	Wentz, Roland L., Sgt
TG	Germanine, Joseph R., Sgt
WG	Doctor, Gordon C., Sgt

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

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P	Mosel, Arnold, 1Lt
CP	Francis, John R., 1Lt
NAV	Mundell, William N., 1Lt
NAV	Wilson, Thomas E., 2Lt
BOM	Rudolph, Gabriel, 1Lt
ENG	Conley, Donald H., T/Sgt
RO	Groth, Gerald J., T/Sgt
TG	Lovold, Ole, 1Lt
WG	Koshar, Jerome J., S/Sgt

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

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P	Weaver, Jack W., 2Lt
CP	Chalmers, John D., F/O
NAV	Polkabra, William J., 2Lt
TOG	Giancola, James V., S/Sgt
ENG	Murphy, Jason, Sgt
RO	Cole, Robert L., Sgt
BT	Lardie, Thomas D., Sgt
TG	Yepes, William J., Sgt
WG	Bailey, Arthur L., Sgt

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew List

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

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P	Schlecht, Walter J., 2Lt
CP	Ferrari, William J., 2Lt
NAV	Tanner, Merlin A., 2Lt
TOG	Grove, John W., S/Sgt
TT	Hedison, Ara H., Sgt
BT	Hocknell, Raymond A., Sgt
RO	Hradiskey, Joseph R., Sgt
TG	Herod, William J., Sgt
WG	Warburton, Arlis F., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)