

# 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 284

9 December 1944

Target: Airfield at Stuttgart/Echterdingen, Germany and  
Railroad Station at Stuttgart, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 42

Length of Mission: 8 hours, 10 minutes

Bomb Load: 38 x 100 lb H.E. M30 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 25,200 & 24,700 ft

Ammo Fired: 600 rounds

**W**hile 1Lt. Jack W. **Rose** was taxiing out to take off for the mission in #43-38197, 427BS, his aircraft skidded on the "S" turn between the Control Tower and the No. 1 hanger. He crashed into the hanger and also into two trucks. The B-17's brakes failed due to low batteries that provided insufficient power to run the hydraulic pressure motors. Pilots were warned at briefing that the perimeter track was extremely slippery and was covered with frost and ice in some places. The B-17 was extensively damaged. Lt. **Rose** and his crew transferred to a spare aircraft and completed the combat mission.

Assigned targets were in Stuttgart. The primary was an airfield and secondary the railway station with no last resort target designated. No aircraft returned early. Twenty-five lead and low Squadron Fortresses bombed the secondary, dropping 937 100-lb. H.E. M30 bombs from 25,200 and 24,700 feet. Bombing was by PFF with a visual assist during the last few seconds of the bomb run. Results were unobserved, but photos indicated hits about 1,000 yards northeast of the railway station. GEE-H equipment failed in both Squadrons. The high Squadron dropped 480 100-lb. M30 bombs on the primary with unobserved results. One B-17 failed to bomb.



*Paul V. Connors - Stars &  
Stripes Correspondent*

In the target area there were 8/10 to 10/10 clouds with tops at 20,000 to 25,000 feet, with occasional tops to 30,000 feet and some breaks. There were dense, persistent contrails from 23,000 to 25,000 feet. Lead ship co-pilot, Lt. Hugh **Johnson**, flying his 20th mission, and navigator Lt. Earl D. **Metko**, had all kinds of soup and cloud banks to contend with. Lt. **Metko**, known as the crew "character" and Lt. William D. **Sachau**, bombardier, spent a portion of the return trip entertaining Paul V. **Connors**, a Stars and Stripes writer who was in the lead B-17 as a passenger, with their unprofessional rendition of "Roll Me Over."

The Luftwaffe utilized the primary target, the Stuttgart airfield, to launch attacks against Gen. **Patch's** 7th Army in southern France. The Luftwaffe failed to appear, despite the fact that their airfield was being bombed. Good support was provided by 247 P-51s. The high Squadron encountered no flak at the primary target, but the other Squadrons that bombed the secondary had moderate and accurate flak with six aircraft sustaining major battle damage and nine, minor damage. Two crewmen were wounded.

# Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

## Schulstad-Johnson

439 - PFF

Holm  
554

McGilvray  
065

Heckendorf  
316

McCutcheon  
949

Garrett  
427

Goering  
462

Rose  
842

Woodson  
006

Mayer  
530

Schlecht  
411

Smith  
311

Goodberlet  
590



(No Name) #44-8439 (360BS) PU-Z  
41st CBW-B Lead - Pilot Maj L.M. Schulstad / CoPilot 1Lt H.B. Johnson

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Hatch-Stouse</u> 125 - PFF		
		<u>Connelly</u> 318		<u>Middlemas</u> 516
			<u>McCutchan</u> 861	
		<u>App</u> 504		<u>Weaver</u> 523
	<u>Duffield</u> 060			<u>Reid</u> 248
<u>Geiger</u> 298		<u>Arwood</u> 532	<u>Ackerman</u> 734	<u>Barrios</u> 099
	_____			<u>Fink</u> 517

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

		<u>Mickle-Bach</u> 038 - PFF		
		<u>Harding</u> 050		<u>Haynes</u> 609
			<u>Carney</u> 764	
		<u>Tasker</u> 645		<u>Hickey</u> 682
	<u>Frazier</u> 206			<u>Roberts</u> 763
<u>Gates</u> 502		<u>Knudson</u> 767	<u>Gano</u> 689	<u>Barrat</u> 597
	_____			<u>Rybaltowski</u> 944

### KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CREW POSITIONS</b>	TOG - Toggler	PAS - Passenger	POW - Prisoner of war
CMP - Command Pilot	BT - Ball Turret Operator	PHO - Photographer	DOW - Died of wounds
P - Pilot	TT - Top Turret Operator	Y - Y-Operators (YRO,YO)	EVD - Evaded the enemy
CP - Co-Pilot	TG - Tail Gunner	RCM - Radio Cntr Measures	REP - Repatriated
NAV - Navigator	WG - Waist Gunner	SJ - Spot Jammer	RES - Rescued
ANV - Ass't. Navigator	LWG - Left Waist Gunner		ESC - Escaped
MNV - Mickey Navigator	RWG - Right Waist Gunner	<b>RESULTS OF MISSION</b>	BO - Bailed out
ENG - Engineer	GUN - Gunner	KIA - Killed in action	DCH - Ditched
BOM - Bombardier	VI - Voice Interpreter	WIA - Wounded in action	CR-L - Crashed on land
RO - Radio Operator	OBS - Observer	MIA - Missing in action	CR-S - Crashed at sea

## 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
BOM	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 #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., S/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 #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	Moran, George J., S/Sgt

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

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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 #43-38530 (No Name)**

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P	Mayer, Walter J., 1Lt
CP	Castillo, Joseph L. A., Jr., F/O
NAV	Celich, Nicholas J., 2Lt
TOG	Brown, James L., Sgt
ENG	McGreevy, James, Sgt
WG	Stevenson, John L., Sgt
RO	Tuescher, Ernest, S/Sgt
TG	Withers, Frederick J., S/Sgt
BT	Gendron, Ernest J., S/Sgt

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

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P	Woodson, William H., 2Lt
CP	Lanigan, Harold A., F/O
NAV	Boland, Anthony J., 2Lt
TOG	Cox, Lyle H., 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

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

### **B-17G #43-38462 *Teddy's Rough Riders***

P Goering, Werner G., 1Lt  
CP Rencher, Jack P., 1Lt  
NAV Hartel, Gale E., 2Lt  
BOM Finn, Russell C., F/O  
ENG Gustafson, Orall R., T/Sgt  
RO Brodzinski, Chester, S/Sgt  
WG Reimche, George K., S/Sgt  
BT Houseman, Clarence W., S/Sgt  
TG Mahan, Weldon T., Sgt

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

P McGilvray, Richard L., 1Lt  
CP Thompson, John A., 2Lt  
NAV Markt, Rex H., 2Lt  
BOM Conder, Bill F., 2Lt  
ENG Eckert, Raymond C., Sgt  
WG Frazier, Victor L., Sgt  
RO Johnson, Paul B., T/Sgt  
BT Garza, David, Sgt  
TG Smith, Gardner B., S/Sgt

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

P Garrett, Charles E., 2Lt  
CP Judd, Chester G., 2Lt  
NAV Magner, John H., Jr., F/O  
BOM Reed, Andrew T., 2Lt  
ENG Hohstadt, Hollis H., Sgt  
WG Prudhoe, Charles E., Sgt  
RO Henson, Jessey B., Sgt  
BT Walczak, John, Sgt  
TG Van Cleave, Joseph A., Sgt

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

P Schulstad, Louis M., Maj  
CP Johnson, Hugh B., 1Lt  
NAV Metko, Earl D., 1Lt  
NAV Zarelli, Michael L., 1Lt  
MN Beyeler, Earl R., 1Lt  
BOM Sachau, William D., 1Lt  
ENG Edwards, Eugene F., T/Sgt  
WG Beck, Harold P., S/Sgt  
RO Carter, Robert D., T/Sgt  
TG Ross, James V., 2Lt  
PAS Connors, Paul V., Correspondent

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **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	Peters, John W., Sgt
WG	Anderson, Eston R., Sgt

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

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P	Carney, Walter J., 1Lt
CP	McClurg, Galt L., 2Lt
NAV	Taylor, Albert R., 2Lt
BOM	Cooney, Thomas E., 2Lt
ENG	Turner, Harold L., T/Sgt
RO	Foster, Albert A., S/Sgt
BT	Garcia, Leonard A., T/Sgt
TG	Lainson, Colin C., S/Sgt
WG	Wentz, Robert D., S/Sgt

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

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P	Gates, Cecil J., 2Lt
CP	Zapora, Theodore T., 2Lt
NAV	Elliott, Harold F., 2Lt
TOG	Dittman, Robert J., Sgt
ENG	Wysocki, Walter, Sgt
RO	Maurer, Charles E., Sgt
BT	Reese, Dale G., Sgt
TG	Erdody, Joseph, Sgt
WG	Wallis, Elton E., Sgt

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

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P	Harding, Lawrence T., 2Lt
CP	Force, James G., 2Lt
NAV	Garvey, Richard J., 2Lt
TOG	Otto, Kenneth, Jr., Sgt
ENG	O'Brien, William J., Sgt
RO	Cornelius, Russell B., Sgt
BT	Lammers, Roger G., Sgt
TG	Johnson, Robert O., Sgt
WG	Holden, Robert R., 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	Rogers, Clem W., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, Roy P., F/O
BOM	Dando, Charles A., 2Lt
ENG	Sherrill, Elliotte W., S/Sgt
RO	Deen, Oscar A., S/Sgt
BT	Freese, Paul D., Sgt
WG	Hrych, Robert C., Sgt
TG	Ipsen, Allen L., S/Sgt

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

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

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)**

P	Hickey, James A., 2Lt
CP	Fravel, Harold L., 2Lt
NAV	Lewtas, Ralph A., 1Lt
TOG	Roberts, James P., Sgt
ENG	Belcher, Ruben W., S/Sgt
RO	Hinnershots, Bruce H., Sgt
BT	Schilling, Lawrence E., Sgt
TG	Foster, Delbert E., Sgt
WG	Schoonover, Howard D., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38767 (No Name)**

P	Knudson, Darwin D., 2Lt
CP	Heitman, David E., 2Lt
NAV	Davis, Daryl W., 2Lt
TOG	Wilson, Johnnie R., Sgt
ENG	Hurdle, Robert E., Sgt
RO	Jones, Walter N., Jr., Sgt
BT	Meichtry, Leo R., Sgt
TG	McDonald, Billy L., Sgt
WG	Tarnava, Christopher, Jr., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)

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

P	Mickle, James D., 1Lt
CP	Bach, Harold J., 2Lt
NAV	Hammond, Raymond D., 1Lt
NAV	Malerich, Earl J., 2Lt
MN	Weil, Frank P., 2Lt
BOM	Schulze, William A., 2Lt
ENG	Humphrey, William B., S/Sgt
RO	Eagon, Dennis G., S/Sgt
WG	Van Zile, Raymond J., Sgt
TG	Christensen, Lawrence A., 1Lt



**DARWIN D. KNUDSON CREW - 359th BS**

(crew assigned 359BS: 22 Nov 1944 - photo: 21 Mar 1945)

(Back L-R) 2Lt Daryl W. Davis (N), 2Lt Darwin D. Knudson (P), 2Lt David E. Heitman (CP),  
Sgt Robert E. Hurdle (E) - (Front L-R) Sgt Leo R. Meichtry (BT), Sgt Billy L. McDonald (TG),  
Sgt Johnnie R. Wilson (TOG), Sgt Walter N. Jones (R)

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Geiger, James E., 2Lt
CP	Telford, Donald R., 2Lt
NAV	Emery, Roy F., 2Lt
BOM	Dubin, Martin M., S/Sgt
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 #44-6517 *Old Cock***

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P	Fink, Marvin P., 1Lt
CP	Reeves, Howard E., 2Lt
NAV	Hand, Robert A., 2Lt
BOM	Prince, James R., 1Lt
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 #43-38532 (No Name)**

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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	Bostick, George F., T/Sgt
RO	Curry, Paul A., S/Sgt
BT	Hulterstrum, Joseph F., Sgt
TG	Sanchez, Crespín E., Sgt
WG	Linn, James B., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-6523 (No Name)**

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P	Weaver, Jack W., 2Lt
CP	Chalmers, John D., F/O
NAV	Polkabila, William J., 2Lt
BOM	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

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

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P	App, Robert G., 1Lt
CP	Kyle, George A., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Dennis, Walter F., 2Lt
BOM	Dee, Martin R., F/O
ENG	Leach, Norman L., S/Sgt
RO	Matlock, Austin M., S/Sgt
BT	Brady, Gene F., Sgt
TG	Patterson, Charles A., Sgt
WG	Polaski, Duane L., Sgt

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

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P	Middlemas, Arthur B., 1Lt
CP	Schultz, John W., 2Lt
NAV	Cooley, Royal D., 2Lt
BOM	Durfee, James B., S/Sgt
ENG	Marshall, Leroy H., Sgt
RO	Avenia, James J., Sgt
BT	Parrish, George K., Sgt
TG	Cranshaw, John A., Sgt
WG	Maurer, John L., Sgt



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

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

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P	Duffield, Richard B., 1Lt
CP	Beasley, Roland C., 2Lt
NAV	Harding, Warren G., 1Lt
BOM	Odegaard, Duane J., S/Sgt
ENG	Clippinger, Robert E., S/Sgt
RO	Wimer, Maurice E., T/Sgt
BT	Oberly, Eldridge C., S/Sgt
TG	Englis, Hiram E., S/Sgt
WG	Branin, James J., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8318 (*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

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

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P	Hatch, Logan B., 2Lt
CP	Stouse, Harold L., Capt
NAV	McCarty, Mike D., 2Lt
NAV	Dimick, Donald L., F/O
NAV	Wilson, Thomas E., 2Lt
BOM	Downey, Francis G., 2Lt
ENG	Fuczka, Peter, Sgt
RO	Broughton, Averell M., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Buchanan, Paul A., Sgt
TG	Lovold, Ole, 1Lt
WG	Free, Ennis B., Jr., Sgt

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

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P	McCutchan, Eugene R., 1Lt
CP	Schuchard, Virgil R., 2Lt
NAV	Conard, Willard G., 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

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **B-17G #43-38763 (No Name)**

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P	Roberts, Ingersall J., 1Lt
CP	Bluethenthal, Arthur, 2Lt
NAV	Blessing, Gerald D., 2Lt
BOM	Hansen, Harley L., 2Lt
WG	Carlson, Harold A., Sgt
TT	Riveland, Alf, Sgt
RO	Renzi, Frank, Sgt
TG	Barber, Albert P., Sgt
BT	Campbell, Gerald R., Sgt

### **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	Warner, Vester 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

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

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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	Clare, Donald T., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38842 (No Name)**

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P	Rose, Jack W., 2Lt
CP	Cornyn, T. John, 2Lt
NAV	Russo, William D., 2Lt
BOM	Nazarian, John K., 2Lt
TT	Dyson, Flake S., Sgt
BT	Brinkley, Lynn M., Sgt
RO	Scaglione, Joseph, T/Sgt
WG	Veljkov, Paul, Sgt
TG	Cottle, Clyde J., Jr., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38689 (No Name)**

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P	Gano, Frederick, 1Lt
CP	Flanders, Wesley J., 2Lt
NAV	Maniscalco, John B., F/O
TOG	Ganson, Howard H., S/Sgt
TT	Anthony, George E., S/Sgt
BT	Coyle, Arthur J., S/Sgt
RO	Elling, Myron A., S/Sgt
TG	Nelson, Edward F., Sgt
WG	Sears, William A., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38734 Cheshire Cat**

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P	Ackerman, Stewart S., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Shaughnessy, William J., F/O
NAV	Oswald, Alois G., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Proper, George M., S/Sgt
TT	Creaghan, Robert E., S/Sgt
BT	Highfill, Thomas W., S/Sgt
RO	Ribesky, John V., Jr., S/Sgt
TG	Wienczek, Edward J., Sgt
WG	Schulz, Paul H., S/Sgt

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

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

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P Barrios, Alfred R., 2Lt  
CP Turinsky, George, 2Lt  
NAV Witchey, Francis M., F/O  
TOG Renaud, Robert K., Sgt  
TT Wismer, Donald E., Sgt  
BT Newman, Harold E., Sgt  
RO Breedlove, Edwin N., T/Sgt  
TG Witcher, Marvin E., Sgt  
WG Ray, Paul, Sgt

### **B-17G #43-37597 *Earthquake McGoon***

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P Barrat, Robert J., 2Lt  
CP Eisenhart, Oliver T., 2Lt  
NAV Best, Shirl P., F/O  
BOM Karp, William T., Sgt  
TT Reiss, Raymond F., Sgt  
BT Linhart, Louis N., Sgt  
RO Lazarowicz, Matthew, Sgt  
TG Delcher, Merlin S., S/Sgt  
WG Link, Herbert D., Sgt

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

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P Smith, Donald R., 2Lt  
CP Richter, George K., 2Lt  
NAV Thompson, John M., 2Lt  
BOM Stephens, Walton M., Jr., 2Lt  
TT Bates, Grover P., T/Sgt  
BT Smith, Donald S., Sgt  
RO Kemmerer, Alfred G., Sgt  
TG Chisholm, Robert E., Sgt  
WG Vernon, James D., Sgt  
YP Yates, Warren G., Sgt