

# 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 296

3 January 1945

Target: Tactical Target at St. Vith, Belgium

Crews Dispatched: 39

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 10 minutes

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

Bombing Altitudes: 23,400, 23,000 & 24,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 940 rounds

**M**ajor Charles E. **Kerwin** took charge of the 39 Group B-17s as they attacked German strong points in the St. Vith area of the Ardennes salient in direct support of ground troops. No aircraft returned early. Four 303rd BG(H) B-17Gs were loaned to other Bomb Groups with 303rd BG(H) GEE-H navigators:

To 381BG at Ridgewell #44-8238, 360BS, Lt. Harold A. **Orenstein**

(This B-17 aborted the mission when the No. 1 engine failed.)

To 306BG at Thurleigh #44-8125, 360BS, Lt. Donald L. **Dimick**

To 305BG at Chelveston #44-8351, 358BS, Lt. **Clark**

To 398BG at Nuthampstead #44-8256, 359BS, Lt. Earl J. **Malerich, Jr.**



*"A" Group on the bomb run.*

In the target area there were 10/10 low clouds with tops at 7,000 to 8,000 feet, making visual bombing impossible. Aircraft dropped 741 250-lb. H.E. M57 bombs and five units of leaflets on the target using GEE-H equipment from 23,400, 23,000 and 24,000 feet. One aircraft bombed with the 351BG and another with a 3rd AD Group. One B-17 jettisoned its bombs.

There was no enemy opposition and 145 P-51s provided good support. No flak was encountered, there were no casualties and all aircraft returned to Molesworth.

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Kerwin-Haynes</u> 038 - PFF		
	<u>Fravel</u> 206		<u>Knutzen</u> 058	
		<u>Knudson</u> 309		
	<u>Bixby</u> 258		<u>Tasker</u> 645	
	<u>Gates</u> 502		<u>Kallet</u> 318	
<u>Harding</u> 944		<u>Rogers</u> 878	<u>St. Julien</u> 532	<u>Hardin</u> 672
			<u>Bailey</u> 682	



(No Name) #44-8038 (427BS) PFF GN-Z  
 41st CBW-B (359BS) - Pilot Maj C.E. Kerwin / CoPilot 1Lt C.D. Haynes  
 (Back L-R) 2Lt Maurice E. Ogborn (TG), 1Lt William A. Schulze (B), 1Lt Charles D. Haynes (CP),  
 Maj Charles E. Kerwin (P), 1Lt Frank F. Forve (N) - (Front L-R) T/Sgt Elliotte W. Sherrill (E),  
 T/Sgt Oscar A. Deen (R), S/Sgt Allen L. Ipsen (WG), 1Lt William C. Koran (N), 1Lt Rufus S. Charlton (N)

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

		<u>Fielder-Dorsett</u> 166		
		<u>Snider</u> 999		<u>Milman</u> 238
			<u>Woodson</u> 554	
		<u>McCutcheon</u> 462		<u>Gobrecht</u> 006
	<u>Grisham</u> 065			<u>App</u> 647
<u>Garrett</u> 945		<u>Greenbaum</u> 191		<u>Armfield</u> 861
				<u>Weaver</u> 563
				<u>Gmernicki</u> 427

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

		<u>Newton-Wallace</u> 281		
		<u>Gano</u> 597		<u>Rose</u> 621
			<u>Schlecht</u> 411	
		<u>Wertz</u> 734		<u>Turinsky</u> 885
	<u>Hewitt</u> 763			<u>Geiger</u> 544
<u>Richter</u> 311		<u>Barrat</u> 689		<u>Jones</u> 860
				<u>Lovell</u> 546
				<u>Smith</u> 248

### 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 #43-38554 *Bouncing Betty III***

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P Woodson, William H., 2Lt  
CP Lanigan, Harold A., F/O  
NAV Finn, Russell C., F/O  
BOM Feezel, Ralph S., 2Lt  
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 #43-38065 *Princess Pat 2***

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P Grisham, Rufus W., Jr., 1Lt  
CP Cox, William H., 2Lt  
NAV Hartel, Gale E., 2Lt  
TOG Rowe, Thomas M., S/Sgt  
ENG Scheuermann, Edwin P., T/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 #43-38191 *Shasta***

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P Greenbaum, Richard D., 2Lt  
CP Balkcom, Robert E., 2Lt  
NAV Boland, Anthony J., 2Lt  
TOG Brown, James L., S/Sgt  
ENG Bruce, Leonard F., Sgt  
TG Hawes, Kenneth D., Sgt  
RO Dalton, Denver, Sgt  
BT Dooley, Patrick, Sgt  
WG Armstrong, Henry L., 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  
BOM Guerrieri, Joseph C., F/O  
WG McClymont, John W., S/Sgt  
ENG Griffith, Elwood A., T/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 Gobrecht, Harry D., 2Lt  
CP Eby, Joe M., 2Lt  
NAV McDonald, Walter H., 2Lt  
TOG Miller, Robert J., Sgt  
ENG Benefield, Lenville H., Sgt  
BT Mays, Thomas G., Sgt  
RO Quick, Edgar H., Sgt  
WG McGrory, William P., S/Sgt  
TG Buske, Phillip R., Sgt

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

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P Garrett, Charles E., 2Lt  
CP Castillo, Joseph L.A., 2Lt  
NAV Magner, John H., Jr., F/O  
BOM Kedzierski, Edward P., S/Sgt  
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

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

### **B-17G #43-38999 *Emma***

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P Snider, Harley D., 2Lt  
CP Thompson, John A., 2Lt  
NAV Kaufman, Seymour, 2Lt  
BOM Kruckemeyer, Thomas J., 2Lt  
ENG Work, John R., T/Sgt  
BT Kudder, Edward P., Sgt  
RO Ludington, Robert S., T/Sgt  
WG Wade, Murray W., S/Sgt  
TG Johnson, Morrin T., S/Sgt

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

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P McCutcheon, George E., 1Lt  
CP Hower, Frederick C., 2Lt  
NAV Goldstein, Sheldon, 2Lt  
TOG Cooper, Ray A., Sgt  
ENG Fleck, Peter J., T/Sgt  
WG Johnson, Vernon W., Sgt  
RO Van Lier, Donald E., T/Sgt  
BT Clark, Woodrow E., Sgt  
TG Caporusso, Frank J., S/Sgt

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

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P Milman, Jerome, 2Lt  
CP Geile, Thomas A., 2Lt  
NAV Heiser, Kenneth, 2Lt  
BOM Chambers, Rex, 2Lt  
ENG Eygabroad, Robert J., Sgt  
WG Ready, William C., Sgt  
RO Noble, Neal W., Sgt  
BT Fox, Raymond H., Jr., Sgt  
TG Johnson, Jack W., Sgt

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

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P Fielder, George H., 1Lt  
CP Dorsett, John D., 2Lt  
NAV Kaiser, James M., Capt  
BOM Ford, Wilson, 2Lt  
ENG Cavagnaro, James E., T/Sgt  
WG Barteau, Edward L., S/Sgt  
RO Buie, Neil C., T/Sgt  
TG Hopkins, Harry F., 2Lt

## 359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

### **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	Schilling, Lawrence R., Sgt
TG	Driver, Arthur H., Sgt
WG	Van Ornum, Charles S., Sgt

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

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P	Bailey, Jack W., 2Lt
CP	Hall, Merwin G., 2Lt
NAV	Swenson, Glen R., 2Lt
BOM	Johnson, David E., 2Lt
ENG	Muller, Carl A., Sgt
RO	Darden, Elwyn J., Sgt
BT	Geng, Donald F., Sgt
TG	Eckert, Merle W., Sgt
WG	McGuire, William E., Sgt

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

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P	Bixby, Kenneth E., 2Lt
CP	Burns, James S., 2Lt
NAV	Jones, Clayton C., 2Lt
TOG	Goudy, William F., S/Sgt
ENG	Young, James W., S/Sgt
RO	Krumwiede, Leland J., Sgt
BT	Reese, Dale G., Sgt
TG	Peters, John W., Sgt
WG	Erdody, Joseph, S/Sgt

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

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P	Knutzen, Owen A., 2Lt
CP	Bitler, Hower E., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, Roy P., 2Lt
BOM	Elliott, Harold F., 2Lt
ENG	Klym, Michael, Sgt
RO	Jobe, Andrew K., Jr., Sgt
BT	Kennedy, Jack B., Sgt
TG	Hartmann, Alexander, T/Sgt
WG	Tarnava, Christopher, Jr., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38878 (No Name)**

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P	Rogers, Clem W., 2Lt
CP	Powlus, Vernon F., F/O
NAV	Simon, Albert, 2Lt
BOM	Kraft, Arthur C., 2Lt
ENG	Reese, Bobbie B., Sgt
RO	Wysocki, John F., Sgt
BT	Simpson, James A., S/Sgt
TG	Palsa, Rudolph, Sgt
WG	Westfall, Byron D., Sgt

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

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P	Knudson, Darwin D., 2Lt
CP	Heitman, David E., 2Lt
NAV	Davis, Daryl W., 2Lt
BOM	Donovan, Thomas A., 2Lt
ENG	Lainson, Colin C., S/Sgt
RO	Jones, Walter N., Jr., Sgt
BT	Charron, Raymond H., S/Sgt
TG	McDonald, Billy L., Sgt
WG	Palm, Kenneth A., Sgt

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

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

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P	Gates, Cecil J., 2Lt
CP	Zapora, Theodore T., 2Lt
NAV	Christenson, LeRoy P., 2Lt
TOG	Wilson, Johnnie R., Sgt
ENG	Wysocki, Walter, S/Sgt
RO	Maurer, Charles E., S/Sgt
BT	Duerr, Richard B., Sgt
TG	Faubion, Winfred E., Sgt
WG	Wallis, Elton E., S/Sgt
Y	Krenkel, Karl K., Sgt

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

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P	Kerwin, Charles E., Maj
CP	Haynes, Charles D., 1Lt
NAV	Forve, Frank F., 1Lt
NAV	Koran, William C., 1Lt
NAV	Charlton, Rufus S., (360th), 1Lt
BOM	Schulze, William A., 1Lt
ENG	Sherrill, Elliotte W., T/Sgt
RO	Deen, Oscar A., T/Sgt
TG	Ogborn, Maurice E., 2Lt
WG	Ipsen, Allen L., S/Sgt

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

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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 #42-107206 *Old Black Magic***

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P	Fravel, Harold L., 2Lt
CP	Tarvid, Arthur J., 2Lt
NAV	Hudson, Glenn V., 2Lt
BOM	Webber, Gale M., 2Lt
ENG	Jenkins, Maurice L., Sgt
RO	Root, Carmen W., Sgt
BT	Muchmore, Gale F., Sgt
TG	Dimick, Richard D., Sgt
WG	Carlson, Dale H., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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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., S/Sgt
RO	Flanigan, John J., Sgt
BT	Farthing, Richard M., Sgt
TG	Evans, Marlin D., Sgt
WG	McLellan, Raymond L., Sgt

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

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P	Weaver, Jack W., 2Lt
CP	Chalmers, John D., F/O
NAV	Polkabla, 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 #42-102544 Sack Time**

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P	Geiger, James E., 2Lt
CP	Telford, Donald R., 2Lt
NAV	Emery, Roy F., 2Lt
BOM	Friedlander, Henry, 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 #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., T/Sgt
BT	Kaber, Harvey N., Sgt
TG	Bur, Robert D., S/Sgt
WG	Sersland, Paul V., Sgt

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

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P	Kallet, Sidney, 1Lt
CP	Muth, Clifford F., 2Lt
NAV	Divine, Fred H., 2Lt
BOM	Harrison, Lewis S., 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 #44-8647 (No Name)**

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P	App, Robert G., 1Lt
CP	Marten, Dudley V., 2Lt
NAV	Stewart, James L., 2Lt
BOM	Mishtal, Theodore W., 2Lt
ENG	Lemon, James M., Jr., Sgt
RO	Haynes, Donald L., Sgt
BT	Elliott, Richard D., Sgt
TG	Davis, Jesse W., Sgt
WG	Goggin, Edward F., Sgt



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

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

P	Lovell, Brook H., 2Lt
CP	Cambron, Richard H., 2Lt
NAV	Dee, Martin R., 2Lt
BOM	Odegaard, Duane J., S/Sgt
ENG	Bird, Harry G., T/Sgt
RO	Christ, Donald R., T/Sgt
BT	Miller, Donald E., Sgt
TG	Johnson, David T., S/Sgt
WG	Weems, Thomas L., S/Sgt

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

P	Jones, William E., Capt
CP	Juns, Frank, 1Lt
NAV	Prince, James R., 1Lt
TOG	Valdes, George J., T/Sgt
ENG	Perry, Robert N., T/Sgt
RO	Birkenholz, Irving, T/Sgt
BT	McNeel, Morgan L., Sgt
TG	Cie zadlo, Eugene F., Sgt
WG	Marchionda, Guido P., Sgt

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

P	Armfield, John M., 2Lt
CP	Marten, Dudley V., 2Lt
NAV	Stewart, James L., 2Lt
BOM	Mishtal, Theodore W., 2Lt
ENG	Lemon, James M., Jr., Sgt
RO	Haynes, Donald L., Sgt
BT	Elliott, Richard D., Sgt
TG	Davis, Jesse W., Sgt
WG	Goggin, Edward F., Sgt



**JOHN M. ARMFIELD CREW - 360th BS**

(crew assigned 360BS: 01 Dec 1944)

**B-17G *Idaliza* #42-97546 (PU-E)**

(Back L-R) 1Lt Theodore W. Mishtal (B), 2Lt James L. Stewart (N), 2Lt Dudley V. Marten (CP),  
2Lt John M. Armfield (P) - (Front L-R) Sgt Donald L. Haynes (R), Sgt Edward F. Goggin (WG),  
Sgt Richard D. Elliott (WG), Sgt James M. Lemon, Jr. (FE), Sgt Jesse W. Davis (TG)

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P Turinsky, George, 2Lt  
CP Smith, Donald R., 1Lt  
NAV Witchey, Francis M., F/O  
BOM 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 #42-97311 *Shoo Shoo Baby***

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P Richter, George K., 2Lt  
CP McMullen, Robert A., 2Lt  
NAV Natoli, Sam J., 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

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

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P Barrat, Robert J., 2Lt  
CP Harvey, Dean, 2Lt  
NAV Morrison, Martin, 2Lt  
BOM Karp, William T., Sgt  
TT Reiss, Raymond F., Sgt  
BT Linhart, Louis N., Sgt  
RO Lazarowicz, Matthew, Sgt  
TG Emerson, George H., Sgt  
WG Link, Herbert D., Sgt

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

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P Smith, Grafton N., 1Lt  
CP Alderman, Melvin, 2Lt  
NAV Gardner, Edward W., Jr., 2Lt  
BOM Dohm, William F., F/O  
TT Hardin, Joe A., Sgt  
BT Miller, Raymond M., Sgt  
RO Howell, Melvin, Sgt  
TG Parker, George F., Sgt  
WG Dussliere, Albert L., Sgt

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

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P Gano, Frederick, 1Lt  
CP Flanders, Wesley J., 2Lt  
NAV Maniscalco, John B., F/O  
BOM Blessing, Gerald D., 2Lt  
TT Garrett, Joe W., T/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 #42-102411 *Miss Lace***

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P Schlecht, Walter J., 1Lt  
CP Ferrari, Walter J., 2Lt  
NAV Tanner, Merlin A., 2Lt  
BOM Hansen, Harley L., 2Lt  
TT Hedison, Ara H., S/Sgt  
BT Casciola, Benedict L., S/Sgt  
RO Hradiskey, Joseph R., Sgt  
TG Herod, William J., Sgt  
WG Warburton, Arlis F., Sgt

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

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

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P	Wertz, Robert M., 1Lt
CP	Durst, Melvin A., 2Lt
NAV	Hitt, Kenneth S., F/O
BOM	Leavell, Adelbert D., Jr., 2Lt
TT	Warne, Ralph W., Sgt
BT	Jensen, Kenneth E., Sgt
RO	Giering, Edward J., Sgt
TG	Bennett, Kenneth A., Sgt
WG	Campbell, Walter C., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38621 *50 Ragged***

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P	Rose, Jack W., 1Lt
CP	Cornyn, T. John, 2Lt
NAV	Newbert, Marshall A., Capt
BOM	Lewis, Willard L., Jr., 1Lt
TT	Dyson, Flake S., S/Sgt
BT	Brinkley, Lynn M., S/Sgt
RO	Scaglione, Joseph, T/Sgt
TG	Hester, Lloyd D., S/Sgt
WG	Cottle, Clyde J., Jr., S/Sgt
VI	Hassler, Paul H., Sgt

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

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P	Hewitt, Donald I., 2Lt
CP	Wilson, Jack G., 2Lt
NAV	Russo, William D., 2Lt
BOM	Leas, Harry D., S/Sgt
TT	Sabo, Stephen R., S/Sgt
BT	Kohlmayer, Garth G., Sgt
RO	Schmidt, Elmer J., S/Sgt
TG	Agrifoglio, Benjamin M., Sgt
WG	Delcher, Merlin S., S/Sgt

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

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P	Newton, George C., 1Lt
CP	Wallace, Walstein W., 1Lt
NAV	Katz, Edwin Harold, 1Lt
NAV	McMahon, William F., 2Lt
BOM	Prusha, Elmer E., 1Lt
TT	Schneider, Joseph R., T/Sgt
RO	Corn, Byron D., S/Sgt
TG	Karr, Leslie E., S/Sgt
WG	Simon, Lawrence E., S/Sgt
WG	Hartog, Samuel S., S/Sgt