

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 304

20 January 1945

Target: Railroad Bridge at Mannheim, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 39

Crewmembers Wounded or Killed: Lt. James Burns - DOW

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 40 minutes

Bomb Load: 5 x 1,000 lb RDX bombs

Bombing Altitudes; 26,000, 23,700, & 27,800 ft

Ammo Fired: 0 rounds

Thirty-nine Fortresses were dispatched to attack a railway bridge at Mannheim, Germany – primary (visual or GEE-H) and secondary (PFF). B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*, 359BS (Lt. **Barrat**), returned early with mechanical problems.



Nose Art on B-17G #44-8427 *Henn's Revenge* 358BS (VK-E)

Thirty-seven aircraft dropped 180 1,000-lb. RDX bombs and ten units of leaflets by PFF from 26,000, 23,700 and 27,800 feet. Results were unobserved. The GEE-H equipment on lead Squadron B-17 failed.

In the target area, there were 8/10 clouds with tops at 28,000 feet, 3/10 hazy clouds from 22,000 to 26,000 feet, and dense, persistent contrails above 20,000 feet.

There was no enemy air opposition. Although none of the 224 1st AD escorting P-51s were seen by any crews, especially on the way to the target, the support was as briefed. The lack of sighting was caused by poor visibility. Meager to moderate and generally inaccurate flak was encountered at the target. Two aircraft sustained minor battle damage and one, major damage.



2Lt James S. Burns

Fortress #43-38258 *Forget Me Not Oilly*, 358BS, piloted by 1Lt. Kenneth E. **Bixby**, 359BS, landed on the Continent. His co-pilot, 2Lt. James S. **Burns**, was badly wounded and later died of injuries in the 30th British General Hospital on 21 January 1945.

Due to a heavy snow storm at Molesworth at the time of landing, nine low Squadron aircraft were diverted to other Bases. The snow storm started as the other aircraft were landing. There were no casualties on the returning aircraft.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

Rosser-Schulstad

351- PFF

Walter
590

Snider
999

Woodson
065

Poole
238

Garrett
530

Heckendorf
316

Hewitt
281

Greenbaum
462

Walker
427

Schlecht
411

Richter
734

McLeod
006



WALTER J. SCHLECHT CREW - 427th BS

(crew assigned 427BS: 26 Oct 1944 - photo: Drew Field, FL, Sep 1944)

(Back L-R) Sgt Arlis F. Warburton (TG), 2Lt Harley L. Hansen (B),
Sgt Joseph R. Hradiskey (R), 2Lt Merlin A. Tanner (N), 2Lt Walter J. Schlecht (P)
(Front L-R) 2Lt Walter J. Ferrari (CP), Sgt Ara H. Hedison (E),
Sgt William J. Herod (WG), Sgt Raymond A. Hosknell (BT)

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

Mosel-Duffield
125 - PFF

Gravrock
842

Statton
563

Kallet
318

Middlemas
516

St. Julien
523

Hardin
672

Petersen
763

Armfield
517

App
647

Ayers
546

Bluethenthal
860

Telford
544

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

Embrey-Knutzen
256 - PFF

McClurg
608

Knudson
058

Holmes
619

Proffitt
878

O'Donnell
767

Bixby
258

Wertz
621

Harding
944

Tarvid
609

Barrat
050

Demian
248

Bailey
645

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<p>CREW POSITIONS</p> <p>CMP - Command Pilot P - Pilot CP - Co-Pilot NAV - Navigator ANV - Ass't. Navigator MNV - Mickey Navigator ENG - Engineer BOM - Bombardier RO - Radio Operator</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>PAS - Passenger PHO - Photographer Y - Y-Operators (YRO,YO) RCM - Radio Cntr Measures SJ - Spot Jammer</p> <p>RESULTS OF MISSION</p> <p>KIA - Killed in action WIA - Wounded in action MIA - Missing in action</p>	<p>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</p>
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358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Garrett, Charles E., 2Lt
CP	Castillo, Joseph L.A., F/O
NAV	Boland, Anthony J., 2Lt
TOG	Brown, James L., 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

B-17G #43-38999 Emma

P	Snider, Harley D., 1Lt
CP	Sims, Allen R., 2Lt
NAV	Fearn, Charles A., 2Lt
BOM	McCall, John W., 1Lt
ENG	Work, John R., T/Sgt
WG	Kudder, Edward P., Sgt
RO	Ludington, Robert S., T/Sgt
WG	Wade, Murray W., S/Sgt
TG	Smith, Gardner B., S/Sgt

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

P	Walter, Donald R., 2Lt
CP	Thornton, Everett H., 2Lt
NAV	Wyman, Asa H., F/O
TOG	Gibson, James, S/Sgt
ENG	Schroeder, Karl T., Sgt
TG	Hudler, Billie E., Sgt
RO	Kasik, Robert F., Sgt
BT	Sexton, Norman R., Sgt
WG	Meade, Joseph J., Sgt

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

P	Greenbaum, Richard D., 2Lt
CP	Balkcom, Robert E., 2Lt
NAV	Nicastro, John J., F/O
TOG	Stevenson, John 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 #43-38065 Princess Pat 2

P	Woodson, William H., 2Lt
CP	Lanigan, Harold A., F/O
NAV	Finn, Russell C., F/O
BOM	Mott, Charles A., 2Lt
ENG	Brown, Richard A., T/Sgt
WG	Riley, Lloyd S., S/Sgt
RO	Gramiak, Victor J., T/Sgt
BT	Burnette, R.L., S/Sgt
TG	Farrell, Peter J., Sgt

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

P	Poole, Lawrence E., 2Lt
CP	Cannon, Harley E., 2Lt
NAV	Mylonas, Peter E., F/O
TOG	Smith, Donald P., Sgt
ENG	Pullen, Rayford E., Sgt
WG	Kinsland, Harry D., Sgt
RO	Hoke, Marvin L., Sgt
BT	Kampa, Vernon L., Sgt
TG	Dickinson, Morris L., 2Lt

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	McLeod, William S., 2Lt
CP	Elkins, Richard A., 2Lt
NAV	Hopkins, William B., 2Lt
TOG	Cooper, Ray A., T/Sgt
ENG	DeWillers, Edgar, Sgt
WG	Rafferty, William A., Sgt
RO	Guenin, Wayne E., T/Sgt
BT	Nichols, William A., Jr., Sgt
TG	James, Frank M., Sgt

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

P	Walker, Barton F., 2Lt
CP	Smith, Orville H., F/O
NAV	Das, Mitchell C., 2Lt
TOG	Magyar, Frank, Sgt
ENG	Wilhelm, Raymond G., Sgt
BT	Diaczynski, Andrew J., Sgt
RO	Jasut, Stanley, Sgt
WG	Frazier, Victor L., S/Sgt
TG	Massey, Ray N., Sgt

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

P	Heckendorf, Marvin H., 1Lt
CP	Erickson, Robert L., 2Lt
NAV	McCorkle, Robert W., F/O
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 #44-8351 (No Name) - PFF

P	Rosser, Samuel E., Capt
CP	Schulstad, Louis M., Maj
NAV	Jacobsen, Norman N., Capt
NAV	Beyeler, Earl R., 1Lt
NAV	O'Brien, William D., 2Lt
BOM	McCormick, James C., Maj
ENG	Eckert, Raymond C., T/Sgt
RO	Rowe, Ollice Z., T/Sgt
TG	Garza, David, S/Sgt
WG	Douglass, Earl B., 1Lt



358th BS Headquarters Building - March 1945

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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 #43-38619 (No Name)

P	Holmes, Alfred M., 2Lt
CP	Haynes, Eugene, 2Lt
NAV	Albertson, Edward, F/O
TOG	Dittman, Robert J., S/Sgt
ENG	Sprague, Wendell P., Jr., Sgt
RO	Prehatny, Joseph R., S/Sgt
BT	Vowels, Donovan E., S/Sgt
TG	Bartkowski, Edward L., Sgt
WG	Westfall, Byron D., Sgt

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

P	Tarvid, Arthur J., 2Lt
CP	Grandwilliams, Louis C., F/O
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

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

P	Bailey, Jack W., 2Lt
CP	Hall, Merwin G., 2Lt
NAV	Swenson, Glen R., 2Lt
TOG	Connor, Joseph C., T/Sgt
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 Olly*

P	Bixby, Kenneth E., 1Lt	
CP	Burns, James S., 2Lt	DOW
NAV	Jones, Clayton C., 2Lt	
BOM	Moss, Henry G., 2Lt	
ENG	Robichaux, John B., T/Sgt	
RO	Minnix, Glenn A., S/Sgt	
BT	Reese, Dale G., S/Sgt	
TG	Peters, John W., S/Sgt	
WG	Erdody, Joseph, S/Sgt	

B-17G #43-38608 *Lucille*

P	McClurg, Galt L., 2Lt
CP	Fravel, Harold L., 2Lt
NAV	Christenson, LeRoy P., 2Lt
TOG	Roberts, James P., Sgt
ENG	Belcher, Rubin W., S/Sgt
RO	Hinnershots, Bruce H., S/Sgt
BT	Schilling, Lawrence E., Sgt
TG	Driver, Arthur H., Sgt
WG	Schoonover, Howard D., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Proffitt, John S., 1Lt
CP	Ogborn, Maurice E., 2Lt
NAV	Finke, John C., 2Lt
TOG	McKinley, A.B., T/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
(Abortive Sortie)	

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

P	Embrey, Henry C., 1Lt
CP	Knutzen, Owen A., 2Lt
NAV	Carriere, Lawrence C., 2Lt
MN	Gennaro, Louis T., 2Lt
GHN	Heiser, Kenneth, 2Lt (358th)
BOM	Dodson, Jasper C., 1Lt
ENG	Miller, Harry C., T/Sgt
RO	Zellar, Donald W., T/Sgt
TG	Sharp, Bryant M., 2Lt
WG	Peters, Arthur R., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97058 Scorchy II

P	Knudson, Darwin D., 1Lt
CP	Heitman, David E., 2Lt
NAV	Davis, Daryl W., 2Lt
BOM	Johnson, David E., 2Lt
ENG	Lainson, Colin C., S/Sgt
RO	Jones, Walter N., Jr., Sgt
BT	Meichtry, Leo R., Sgt
TG	McDonald, Billy L., Sgt
WG	Gavin, William E., S/Sgt
Y	Conrad, Joseph, S/Sgt

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

P	O'Donnell, Thomas M., 2Lt
CP	Goulding, Traymun D., 2Lt
NAV	Jardarian, Zaven, 2Lt
BOM	Crawford, Raymond C., 2Lt
ENG	Fischer, Norbert G., Sgt
RO	Portney, Sol, S/Sgt
BT	Gaumer, Billy A., Sgt
TG	Hoffman, George F., Sgt
WG	Redhage, Louis H., Sgt



THOMAS M. O'DONNELL CREW - 359th BS
(crew assigned 359BS: 11 Dec 1944)

(Back L-R) 1Lt. Thomas M. O'Donnell (P), 2Lt Traynum D. Goulding (CP), 2Lt Zaven Jardarian (N),
2Lt Raymond C. Crawford (B) - (Front L-R) Sgt George F. Hoffman (TG), Sgt Billy A. Gaumer (BT),
Sgt Louis H. Redhage (WG-TOG), T/Sgt Sol Portney (RO), Sgt Norbert G. Fischer (E)

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #44-8647 (No Name)

P	App, Robert G., 1Lt
CP	Hardy, James H., F/O
NAV	Dennis, Walter F., 2Lt
BOM	Valdes, George J., S/Sgt
ENG	Leach, Norman E., T/Sgt
RO	Matlock, Austin M., T/Sgt
BT	Brady, Gene F., S/Sgt
TG	Nabors, Herschell F., Sgt
WG	Polaski, Duane L., S/Sgt

B-17G #44-6516 My Darling

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

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

P	Kallet, Sidney, 1Lt
CP	White, Raymond E., 2Lt
NAV	Divine, Fred H., 2Lt
BOM	Mishtal, Theodore W., 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 #44-6517 Old Cock

P	Armfield, John M., 2Lt
CP	Marten, Dudley V., 2Lt
NAV	Stewart, James L., 2Lt
BOM	Elliott, John C., S/Sgt
ENG	Lemon, James M., Jr., Sgt
RO	Haynes, Donald L., Sgt
BT	Miller, Donald E., Sgt
TG	Bialobrzkeski, Joseph C., S/Sgt
WG	Goggin, Edward F., Sgt

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

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	Kaber, Harvey N., Sgt
TG	Bur, Robert D., S/Sgt
WG	Sersland, Paul V., Sgt

B-17G #42-102544 Sack Time

P	Telford, Donald R., F/O
CP	House, Frederick L., 2Lt
NAV	Dee, Martin R., 2Lt
BOM	Cie zadlo, Eugene F., 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

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	St. Julien, John D., 1Lt
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
WG	Daniel, James W., Sgt

B-17G #43-38563 Jackie

P	Statton, Roy F., 2Lt
CP	Schroll, David A., 2Lt
NAV	Donahue, Thomas R., 2Lt
BOM	Woods, Heiber J., Sgt
ENG	Rhodes, William H., Sgt
RO	Knowles, Charles D., Sgt
BT	Koci, Robert W., Sgt
TG	Alexander, John P., S/Sgt
WG	Maxson, Gordon H., Sgt

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

P	Gravrock, Howard C., 1Lt
CP	Weaver, Jack W., 1Lt
NAV	Klanian, Charles S., 2Lt
BOM	Hackler, Maurice G., 1Lt
ENG	Bostick, George F., T/Sgt
RO	Lillis, Joseph D., T/Sgt
BT	Gilbert, James E., S/Sgt
TG	Carter, James O., Sgt
WG	Wotanis, Leo F., Sgt
Y	Zimmerman, H.A., Sgt (427th)

B-17G #44-8125 Sparky - PFF

P	Mosel, Arnold, 1Lt
CP	Duffield, Richard B., 1Lt
NAV	Mundell, William K., 1Lt
GH	Dimick, Donald L., 1Lt
BOM	Puryear, James L., 1Lt
PFF	Gibson, Cater M., 1Lt
ENG	Conley, Donald H., T/Sgt
RO	Groth, Gerald J., T/Sgt
BT	Crawford, Frank J., S/Sgt
WG	Koshar, Jerome J., S/Sgt
TG	Moody, William S., 2Lt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Petersen, William H., 1Lt
CP	Candido, Anthony N., 2Lt
NAV	Bason, William A., 2Lt
BOM	Prince, John B., T/Sgt
TT	Zarella, Anthony A., S/Sgt
BT	Hartog, Samuel S., S/Sgt
RO	Whitely, Cull W., Jr., S/Sgt
TG	Karr, Leslie E., S/Sgt
WG	Tanner, Loyd H., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-38734 Cheshire Cat

P	Richter, George K., 2Lt
CP	McMullen, Robert A., 2Lt
NAV	Stephens, Walton M., Jr., 2Lt
BOM	Gray, Paul A., S/Sgt
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 #43-38248 Jigger Rooche II

P	Demian, Julius C., F/O
CP	Weatherby, Earl R., F/O
NAV	Tractman, Bernard L., F/O
BOM	Rubins, William R., F/O
TT	Leach, Harry L., Sgt
BT	Wilson, Alfred D., Sgt
RO	Lombardi, Donato J., Sgt
TG	Buford, Thomas A., Sgt
WG	Ross, Joseph M., Jr., Sgt

B-17G #42-97546 Idaliza

P	Ayers, Roger D, 2Lt
CP	Danna, Joseph, 2Lt
NAV	Wagner, Charles D., 2Lt
BOM	Cohen, Leonard, F/O
TT	Rys, Valentine J., Sgt
BT	Bailey, George E., Sgt
RO	Morris, Allen L., Sgt
TG	Turkovich, Charles J., Sgt
WG	Clarkson, Robert T., Sgt

B-17G #42-97281 Queenie

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

B-17G #42-102411 Miss Lace

P	Schlecht, Walter J., 1Lt
CP	Ferrari, Walter J., 2Lt
NAV	Tanner, Merlin A., 2Lt
BOM	Fabian, William J., S/Sgt
TT	Hedison, Ara H., S/Sgt
BT	Hocknell, Raymond A., 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 #43-38621 50 Ragged

P Wertz, Robert M., 1Lt
CP Durst, Melvin A., 2Lt
NAV Leavell, Adelbert D., Jr., 2Lt
BOM Ganson, Howard H., S/Sgt
TT Warne, Ralph W., Sgt
BT Jensen, Kenneth E., Sgt
RO Giering, Edward J., Sgt
TG Warner, Vernon W., T/Sgt
WG Campbell, Walter C., Sgt

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

P Bluethenthal, Arthur, 2Lt
CP Turinsky, George, 2Lt
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 #42-38050 Thunderbird

P Barrat, Robert J., 2Lt
CP Harvey, Dean, 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 Emerson, George H., Sgt
WG Link, Herbert D., Sgt
(Abortive)