

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 309

29 January 1945

Target: Railroad Marshalling Yard at Siegen, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 26

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 52 minutes

Bomb Load: 12 x 500 lb H.E. M43 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 23,950 & 22,850 ft

Ammo Fired: 970 rounds

The 303rd BG(H), largely recovered from previous battle damage, was only able to dispatch 26 aircraft instead of the usual 39 on this mission. One aircraft, #43-38608 *Lucille*, 359BS (Lt. **Rogers**), returned early due to mechanical trouble.

Target weather included 8/10 to 10/10 clouds with tops at 8,000 feet and contrails at 25,000 feet. Twenty-five aircraft dropped 283 500-lb. H.E. M43 bombs and ten units of leaflets on the primary target. Bombing was GEE-H from 23,950 and 22,850 feet, and results were unobserved.

There was no enemy opposition, flak or fighters. A large force of 235 P-51s provided good support. All aircraft returned safely to Molesworth with no casualties.



Group "A" Formation over the England countryside on the way home. Easily identified is 360BS B-17G #44-6516 My Darling (PU-Q), flown by 2Lt John M. Armfield. Other identified B-17s are: #44-8351 (VK-Z, Cole), #43-38451 (PU-D, Arwood), #43-38609 (BN-F, Knudson), #43-38563 (PU-H, Statton) and #44-6523 (PU-A, Edmunds).

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

Cole-Knutzen
351 - PFF

Richeson
764

Embrey
545

Knudson
609

Bixby
050

Rogers
608

Fink
544

Arwood
451

Stiver
842

Armfield
516

Edmunds
523

Statton
563

Harding
944

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

Newton-Aagesen
125 - PFF

Richter
885

Reid
281

Wertz
411

Ayers
763

Demian
248

Heckendorf
427

Goodberlet
999

Walker
462

Erickson
238

Greenbaum
191

Gobrecht
590

McLeod
949

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

CREW POSITIONS 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 RESULTS OF MISSION 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 #43-38462 *Teddy's Rough Riders*

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 Atkinson, Gerald V., Sgt
 TG Massey, Ray N., Sgt

B-17G #43-38191 *Shasta*

P Greenbaum, Richard D., 2Lt
 CP Balkcom, Robert E., 2Lt
 NAV Nicastro, John J., F/O
 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 Johnson, Vernon W., Sgt

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

P Gobrecht, Harry D., 1Lt
 CP Eby, Joe M., 2Lt
 NAV McDonald, Walter H., 2Lt
 BOM Miller, Robert J., S/Sgt
 ENG Benefield, Lenville H., S/Sgt
 WG Mays, Thomas G., Sgt
 RO Quick, Edgar H., S/Sgt
 BT McGrory, William P., S/Sgt
 TG Buske, Phillip R., Sgt

B-17G #43-38999 *Emma*

P Goodberlet, Clarence J., 2Lt
 CP Greene, Robert E., 1Lt
 NAV Mylonas, Peter E., F/O
 TOG Reece, Robert H., T/Sgt
 ENG Cotter, William J., T/Sgt
 WG McClymont, John W., S/Sgt
 RO LaPerch, William J., T/Sgt
 BT Walling, James M., S/Sgt
 TG Schultz, Frederick W., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97949 (No Name)

P McLeod, William S., 2Lt
 CP Elkins, Richard A., 2Lt
 NAV Hopkins, William B., 2Lt
 TOG Stevenson, John L., 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 Heckendorf, Marvin H., 1Lt
 CP Gordon, Joseph, 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 #43-38238 (No Name)

P Erickson, Robert E., 2Lt
 CP Cunningham, Neil E., 2Lt
 NAV Guerrieri, Joe C., F/O
 TOG Quig, Francis X., Sgt
 ENG McGreevy, James, T/Sgt
 WG Ready, William C., Sgt
 RO Ennis, Charles S., Sgt
 BT Carter, William J., Sgt
 TG Johnson, Jack W., Sgt

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 #44-8545 (No Name) - PFF

P	Embrey, Henry C., 1Lt
CP	Sharp, Bryant M., 2Lt
NAV	Malone, Roy P., 2Lt
MN	Gennaro, Louis T., 2Lt
BOM	Johnson, David E., 2Lt
ENG	Miller, Harry C., T/Sgt
RO	Zellar, Donald W., T/Sgt
TG	Gavin, William E., S/Sgt
WG	Peters, Arthur R., S/Sgt

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

P	Knudson, Darwin D., 1Lt
CP	Heitman, David E., 2Lt
NAV	Davis, Daryl W., 2Lt
BOM	Barger, Donald T., 2Lt
ENG	Lainson, Colin C., S/Sgt
RO	Jones, Walter N., Jr., Sgt
BT	Meichtry, Leo R., Sgt
TG	Hartman, Alexander, T/Sgt
WG	Schoonover, Howard D., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-38608 *Lucille*

P	Rogers, Clem W., 2Lt
CP	Powlus, Vernon F., F/O
NAV	Simon, Albert, 2Lt
TOG	Wilson, Johnnie R., S/Sgt
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

(Abortive)

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P	Bixby, Kenneth E., 1Lt
CP	Bitler, Hower E., Jr., 2Lt
NAV	Jones, Clayton C., 2Lt
BOM	Moss, Henry G., 2Lt
ENG	Robichaux, John B., T/Sgt
RO	Krumwiede, Leland J., S/Sgt
BT	Reese, Dale G., S/Sgt
TG	Peters, John W., S/Sgt
WG	Erdody, Joseph, S/Sgt

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

P	Richeson, Marvin G., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Heller, Emerson E., 2Lt
NAV	Herrmann, Robert H., 2Lt
TOG	Benge, Charlie W., Sgt
ENG	Gray, Alexander W., S/Sgt
RO	Mahoney, Denis J., Sgt
BT	Ortega, Jesus F., Sgt
TG	Hoxie, Charles R., Sgt
WG	Cassino, Julian R., Sgt

B-17G #44-8351 (No Name) - PFF

P	Cole, Richard H., LtCol
CP	Knutzen, Owen A., 2Lt
NAV	Kelly, Thomas N., 1Lt
GHN	Quinlan, Thomas E., Jr., 2Lt
MN	Lifshus, Lawrence, 1Lt
BOM	Schulze, William A., 1Lt
ENG	Ela, Lyman E., T/Sgt
RO	Carman, Nolan W., T/Sgt
TG	Christensen, Lawrence, 1Lt
WG	Garcia, Leonard A., S/Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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	McNeel, Morgan L., Sgt
TG	Odegaard, Dwayne J., S/Sgt
WG	Maxson, Gordon H., Sgt

B-17G #44-6516 My Darling

P	Armfield, John M., 2Lt
CP	Marten, Dudley V., 2Lt
NAV	Stewart, James L., 2Lt
BOM	Clippinger, Robert E., T/Sgt
ENG	Lemon, James M., Jr., Sgt
RO	Haynes, Donald L., Sgt
BT	Brady, Gene F., S/Sgt
TG	Nabors, Herschell F., S/Sgt
WG	Goggin, Edward F., Sgt

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

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., Sgt
RO	Curry, Paul A., T/Sgt
BT	Hulterstrum, Joseph F., Sgt
TG	Sanchez, Crespín E., Sgt
WG	Linn, James B., Sgt
WG	Clafin, Aaron R., Sgt
VI	Brenner, Seymour, Sgt (Hqts)

B-17G #42-102544 Sack Time

P	Fink, Marvin P., 1Lt
CP	Reeves, Howard E., 2Lt
NAV	Hand, Robert A., 2Lt
BOM	Bays, Gordon C., 2Lt
ENG	Holder, Jack E., Sgt
RO	Dahl, Robert F., Sgt
BT	Albright, Richard M., S/Sgt
TG	Garcia, Cyprian M., Sgt
WG	Kress, Richard R., T/Sgt

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

P	Stiver, Merrill M., 2Lt
CP	Kacus, Alexander, F/O
NAV	Beasley, Leon O., 2Lt
BOM	Hight, Basil D., 2Lt
ENG	Auer, Kenneth R., Sgt
RO	Godley, Walter M., Sgt
BT	Pilgrim, Robert W., Sgt
TG	Cie zadlo, Eugene F., S/Sgt
WG	Marchionda, Guido P., S/Sgt

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

P	Edmunds, Robert E., 2Lt
CP	Bristol, Clarence D., 2Lt
NAV	Lofquist, Gordon B., 2Lt
BOM	Valdes, George J., S/Sgt
ENG	Hammel, Norman D., Sgt
RO	Polo, Matthew N., Sgt
BT	Farnham, Gordon W., Sgt
TG	Rumberger, Frank C., Sgt
WG	King, Raymond H., Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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	Simon, Lawrence E., S/Sgt
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 #43-38763 (No Name)

P	Ayers, Roger D, 2Lt
CP	Danna, Joseph, 2Lt
NAV	Wagner, Charles D., 2Lt
BOM	Leas, Harry D., S/Sgt
TT	Rys, Valentine J., Sgt
BT	Bailey, George E., Sgt
RO	Morris, Allen L., Sgt
TG	Turkovich, Charles J., Sgt
WG	Sears, William A., S/Sgt

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

P	Newton, George C., 1Lt
CP	Aagesen, Donald C., 1Lt
NAV	Neubert, Marshall A., Capt
MN	Mylan, William G., 2Lt
GHN	O'Brien, William P., 2Lt
BOM	Burket, Wallace A., 1Lt
TT	Schneider, Joseph R., T/Sgt
RO	Corn, Byron D., S/Sgt
TG	McKeon, Preston W., 2Lt
WG	Karr, Leslie E., S/Sgt
WG	Hartog, Samuel S., S/Sgt

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

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

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

P	Richter, George K., 2Lt
CP	McMullen, Robert A., 2Lt
NAV	Witchey, Francis M., F/O
TOG	Ganson, Howard H., 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 #42-97281 *Queenie*

P	Reid, Clair P., 1Lt
CP	Bean, John R., 2Lt
NAV	Rogge, Richard W., 2Lt
BOM	Lewis, Willard L., 1Lt
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
VI	Elkin, Samuel, Sgt

Eighteen Halifax bombers of the RCAF 6 Group were diverted to Molesworth after bombing Stuttgart, Germany the night of January 28 and 29. The bombers and crews stayed at Molesworth for three days and put quite a strain on base liquor supplies. The 303BG airmen could not keep up with the French Canadian Airmen when engaged in "Colonel Puff" and other English and French drinking games. Fortunately, the Group stood down on January 30 and 31 since many crewmen were in no condition to fly.