

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 327

1 March 1945

Target: Marshalling Yard at Bruchsal, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 39

Length of Mission: 8 hours, 27 minutes

Bomb Load: 8 x 500 lb H.E. M43 & 4 x 500 lb M17 Incendiaries

Bombing Altitudes: 21,000, 20,000, & 21,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 0 rounds

As Allied troops started the push to drive the Germans east of the Rhine, 39 Group bombers were dispatched to bomb the marshalling yard at Bruchsal, Germany (visual or GEE-H). The secondary target was Heidelberg (visual or PFF), and last resort, Donau Eschingen. No aircraft returned early.

Thirty-eight Fortresses dropped 294 500-lb. H.E. M43, 146 500-lb. M17 incendiary bombs and 10 leaflet units from 21,000, 20,000 and 21,500 feet. There were 6/10 low clouds with tops at 7,000 to 8,000 feet with no contrails. Cloud breaks were sufficient to permit visual bombing of the primary target with good results.



LLOYD J. FLANIGAN CREW - 427th BS

B-17G Better Do'Er #44-6977 427BS (GN-C)

(crew assigned 427BS: 15 Feb 1945)

(Back L-R) F/O Edward J. Heaney (N), 2Lt Lloyd J. Flanigan (P), F/O James T. Wokersien (CP), 2Lt Clifford Steinberg (B) - (Front L-R) Sgt Delbert A. Safely (BT), Cpl Charles B. Gourley (R), Sgt John J. Neiswender (TG), Sgt Francis E. McDonald, Jr. (WG), S/Sgt Beresford B. Gilkes (E)

There was no enemy air opposition, flak, battle damage or casualties. Friendly fighter support by 92 P-51s was fair.

The city of Heidelberg, with its distinguished museums and art galleries and ancient university, was spared destructive bombing during WWII. Heidelberg first appeared on a target list for the mission of 1 March 1945 as the secondary target. The lead bombardiers arrived at the primary target and found it cloud-covered. The target suddenly appeared through the Norden bombsight for about 15 seconds, permitting a visual drop on the Bruchsal marshalling yard. If the cloud break hadn't occurred, the 303rd BG(H) bombers would have dropped 74 1/2 tons of bombs on the venerable university city

through the overcast using PFF radar to locate the target. The next day Heidelberg was scratched from the target lists after being spared by this critical 15-second cloud break.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

Callahan-Ashwell

038 - PFF

Flanigan

311

Hewitt

537 - PFF

Kahler

220

Chuba

977

Denison

763

Walder

011

St. Julien

050

Demian

248

Turinsky

937

Shields

516

Lacker

860

Richardson

958



FRANCIS B. CHUBA CREW - 427th BS

B-17G #44-6977 Better Do'er 427BS (GN-C)

(crew assigned 427BS: 11 Feb 1945 - photo: 19 March 1945)

(Back L-R) S/Sgt Francis H. Ayers (E), 2Lt Ennis L. Rogers (CP), 1Lt Francis B. Chuba (P),
2Lt Robert J. Wolf (N) - (Front L-R) Sgt Dale R. Anderson (WG), S/Sgt Charles I. Harkey (R),
Sgt Richard C. Malmo (TOG), Sgt Harvey H. Huckabay (TG), Sgt Uhlo J. Paananen (BT)

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

Goering-Walker
710 - PFF

	<u>Milman</u> 999	<u>McKimmie</u> 462	
		<u>Poole</u> 554	
	<u>Greenbaum</u> 191		<u>Woodard</u> 096
	<u>Gobrecht</u> 160		<u>Statton</u> 842
<u>Taub</u> 006		<u>Tyler</u> 544	<u>Smith</u> 532

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

Knutzen-Burgess
552 - PFF

	<u>Beasley</u> 309	<u>Knudson</u> 609	
		<u>Rogers</u> 734	
	<u>Stocks</u> 883		<u>Henning</u> 875
	<u>Richeson</u> 127		<u>Edmunds</u> 451
<u>Moore</u> 767	<u>Towne</u> 289	<u>Fowler</u> 517	<u>Breslin</u> 870
			<u>Peterson</u> 891

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 #43-39160 *G for George*

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

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

P	Bohle, Loren W., 2Lt
CP	Silver, Jack, F/O
NAV	Gerhardstein, Eugene M., F/O
BOM	Swift, Jonathan S., 2Lt
ENG	Bigelow, Robert F., Sgt
RO	Genter, Norman, Sgt
BT	Aldous, George C., Sgt
TG	Smith, Jack C., Sgt

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

P	Poole, Lawrence E., 1Lt
CP	Cannon, Harley E., 2Lt
NAV	Smith, Harold S., F/O
BOM	Jones, George W., 2Lt
ENG	Pullen, Rayford E., Sgt
RO	Hoke, Marvin L., Sgt
BT	Sexton, Norman R., Sgt
TG	Kindred, Beryl E., Sgt

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

P	Greene, Robert E., 1Lt
CP	Parson, Jerome G., 2Lt
NAV	Milligan, William J., 2Lt
BOM	Oettinger, George F., 2Lt
ENG	Rollinger, Joseph C., Sgt
RO	Thompson, Joe C., Sgt
BT	Covert, John L., Sgt
TG	Jobe, Milton L., Sgt

B-17G #43-38999 *Emma*

P	Milman, Jerome, 2Lt
CP	Geile, Thomas A., 2Lt
NAV	Wilhelm, Frederick H., 2Lt
BOM	Kruckemeyer, Thomas J., 2Lt
ENG	Eygabroad, Robert J., Sgt
RO	Noble, Neal W., S/Sgt
BT	Fox, Raymond H., Jr., Sgt
TG	Johnson, Jack W., Sgt

B-17G #43-39096 *Sky Demon*

P	Woodard, John M., 2Lt
CP	Laubhan, Bob, 2Lt
NAV	Moeller, Floyd E., 1Lt
TOG	Jackson, Thomas W., Sgt
ENG	Walley, Glen B., Sgt
BT	Sloan, Walter E., Sgt
RO	Foreman, Dennis E., Sgt
TG	Johnson, Robert H., Sgt

358th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P Taub, Francis R., 2Lt
CP Cooper, John T., 2Lt
NAV Johnson, Charles P., 2Lt
TOG Dugan, Michael A., Sgt
ENG Chrisman, Warren F., Sgt
RO Maluchnik, Chester S., S/Sgt
BT Hollowell, James L., Sgt
TG Spencer, James P., Sgt
WG McWilliams, Elmer D., Sgt

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

P McKimmie, William L., 2Lt
CP Sims, Allen B., 2Lt
NAV Wyman, Asa H., F/O
TOG Rafferty, William A., Sgt
ENG Farmer, Evert L., Sgt
RO Kilroy, Robert E., Sgt
BT Kampa, Vernon L., Sgt
TG Mogusar, John F., Sgt
WG Roberts, Thomas M., Sgt

B-17G #44-8710 *Idle Wheel* - PFF

P Goering, Werner G., 1Lt
CP Walker, Barton F., 2Lt
NAV Kaiser, James M., Capt
MN Foltz, Leon P., F/O
BOM Ford, Wilson, 1Lt
ENG Eckert, Raymond G., T/Sgt
WG Blinebury, Joseph A., S/Sgt
RO Johnson, Paul B., T/Sgt
TG Hopkins, Harry F., 1Lt

B-17G #43-38191 *Shasta*

P Greenbaum, Richard D., 1Lt
CP Balkcom, Robert E., 2Lt
NAV Nicastro, John J., F/O
TOG Day, Keith E., Sgt
ENG Bruce, Leonard F., T/Sgt
TG Hawes, Kenneth D., Sgt
RO Dalton, Denver, Sgt
BT Dooley, Patrick, Sgt
WG Frazier, Victor L., S/Sgt
VI Hassler, Paul H., S/Sgt (303rd)

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #43-38891 *Blues in the Night*

P Peterson, Robert C., 2Lt
 CP Kirkpatrick, Roy A., 2Lt
 NAV Mollman, Charles A., 2Lt
 TOG Wilson, Robert P., Sgt
 ENG Reed, Denver E., Sgt
 RO Strigle, Paul C., Sgt
 BT Hunsucker, John E., S/Sgt
 TG Borsody, William L., Sgt

B-17G #43-38875 *Redwing*

P Henning, Clyde H., 2Lt
 CP Bauer, Donald R., F/O
 NAV Garvey, Richard J., 2Lt
 TOG Wilson, Johnnie R., S/Sgt
 ENG Grant, Gilbert D., Sgt
 RO Ferche, Joseph P., Sgt
 BT Harper, Richard F., Sgt
 TG Barnett, Raymond L., Sgt

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

P Towne, Harvey E., 2Lt
 CP Ligaard, Warren K., 2Lt
 NAV West, Alonzo, III. 2Lt
 TOG Boucher, Henry C., S/Sgt
 ENG Dritz, Arthur, Sgt
 RO Fiore, Thomas, Sgt
 BT Syler, Allen B., Sgt
 TG McCurdy, Lewis M., Sgt

B-17G #43-39127 *(No Name)*

P Richeson, Marvin G., Jr., 2Lt
 CP Heller, Emerson E., 2Lt
 NAV Herrmann, Robert H., 2Lt
 TOG Bengel, Charlie W., Sgt
 ENG Gray, Alexander W., S/Sgt
 RO Mahoney, Denis J., Sgt
 TG Hoxie, Charles R., Sgt
 WG Davidson, Dyle K., Sgt

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

P Beasley, William M., 2Lt
 CP Rich, Richard H., 2Lt
 NAV Welsh, Harry A., 2Lt
 TOG Zielinski, William J., S/Sgt
 ENG Gornto, Jacob R., Sgt
 RO Terrill, Jack W., Sgt
 TG Gracida, Henry J., Jr., Sgt
 BT Thomas, David W., Sgt

B-17G #44-8734 *Hell's Cargo*

P Rogers, Clem W., 1Lt
 CP Powlus, Vernon F., F/O
 NAV Jardarian, Zaven, 2Lt
 BOM Mabary, George D.L., F/O
 ENG Reese, Bobbie B., Sgt
 RO Wysocki, John F., Sgt
 BT Simpson, James A., S/Sgt
 TG Westfall, Byron D., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P	Moore, Thomas L., 2Lt
CP	Barnett, James M., 2Lt
NAV	Johnson, Herbert G., 2Lt
TOG	Weise, William A., Sgt
ENG	Ogurchak, Joseph T., Sgt
RO	Brookstra, William, Sgt
BT	Kohan, Frederick, Sgt
TG	Pesta, Clarence A., Sgt
WG	Jeandrevin, Robert R., Sgt

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

P	Knudson, Darwin D., 1Lt
CP	Heitman, David E., 2Lt
NAV	Simon, Albert, 2Lt
BOM	Elliott, Harold P., 2Lt
ENG	Lainson, Colin C., T/Sgt
RO	Jones, Walter N., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Meichtry, Leo R., Sgt
TG	McDonald, Rilly L., Sgt
WG	Hrych, Robert C., S/Sgt
RCM	Reider, Enrique M., Sgt

B-17G #43-38883 Lady Beth

P	Stocks, Jack E., 2Lt
CP	Marsh, John F., 2Lt
NAV	Mieslich, Morris, F/O
BOM	Steineman, Jams T., 2Lt
ENG	Copp, Edmond D., Sgt
RO	Fiore, John, Sgt
BT	Hamilton, John W., Sgt
TG	Jones, John V., Sgt
WG	Harrigfeld, Thomas E., Sgt

B-17G #44-8552 (No Name) - PFF

P	Knutzen, Owen A., 1Lt
CP	Burgess, William T., 2Lt
NAV	Moon, Richard Y., 1Lt
MN	Harrouff, Kelly F., 2Lt
BOM	Mitchell, Robert C., 1Lt
ENG	Candito, Christopher A., T/Sgt
RO	Lovelock, Edward N., T/Sgt
TG	Schopplein, Orin N., 2Lt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Fowler, Robert R., 2Lt
CP	Boyles, Kenneth L., 2Lt
NAV	Sarkis, George A., F/O
TOG	Bice, Lowell E., Sgt
ENG	Bryson, Emil M., S/Sgt
RO	Ahland, Walter F., Sgt
BT	Henager, Rudolph M., Sgt
TG	King, Marvin O., Sgt
VI	Fegette, Iva L., T/Sgt

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

P	Lacker, Howard C., 2Lt
CP	Johnson, Arthur E., 2Lt
NAV	O'Neil, James B., 2Lt
BOM	Runnels, Billy L., 2Lt
ENG	Bratcher, Francis E., Sgt
RO	Foster, Lane, Sgt
BT	Reynolds, Robert R., Sgt
TG	Garbarino, Louis V., Jr., Sgt
WG	Mooneyham, Clarence, Jr., Sgt

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

P	Tyler, Samuel L., 2Lt
CP	Hamm, Burwell J., 2Lt
NAV	Rinish, James M., F/O
BOM	Bachhuber, Raymond A., 2Lt
ENG	Reed, Richard S., Sgt
RO	Snell, John K., Sgt
BT	Gilmore, Dean D., Sgt
TG	Edwards, Robert D., Sgt

B-17G #43-38870 (No Name)

P	Breslin, Jack D., 2Lt
CP	Bischofs, Hans, 2Lt
NAV	Fitzpatrick, Donald, 2Lt
TOG	Perry, Gordon W., Sgt
ENG	Moore, Harley E., Sgt
RO	Daugherty, John S., Jr., Sgt
BT	Kaber,, Harvey N., Sgt
TG	Barlow, Grover C., Sgt
WG	Johnson, Wilfred B., Sgt

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

P	Smith, Samuel W., 2Lt
CP	Shanafelt, Arthur S.C., 2Lt
NAV	Knudsen, Russel A., F/O
TOG	Geyer, Walter A., Sgt
ENG	Zenick, Thomas E., Sgt
RO	Bridgman, Robert A., Sgt
BT	Kucab, Michael J., Sgt
TG	Jensen, Jens C., Sgt
WG	Lawson, Earl K., Sgt

B-17G #42-38050 *Thunderbird*

P	St. Julien, John D., 1Lt
CP	Newell, Richard M., 1Lt
NAV	Carney, Felix A., 1Lt
TOG	McLellan, Raymond L., S/Sgt
ENG	Mitchell, William E., T/Sgt
RO	Kasper, Raymond H., T/Sgt
BT	Buchanan, Paul A., S/Sgt
TG	Evans, Marlin D., S/Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

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

P Statton, Roy F., 1Lt
CP Schroll, David A., 2Lt
NAV Donahue, Thomas R., 2Lt
TOG Woods, Heiber J., S/Sgt
ENG Rhodes, William H., Sgt
RO Knowles, Charles D., Sgt
BT McNeel, Morgan L., S/Sgt
TG Maxson, Gordon H., Sgt

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

P Edmunds, Robert E., 2Lt
CP Bristol, Clarence D., 2Lt
NAV Lofquist, Gordon B., 2Lt
TOG Giancola, James V., T/Sgt
ENG Hammel, Norman D., Sgt
RO Polo, Matthew N., S/Sgt
BT Farnham, Gordon W., Sgt
TG Rumberger, Frank C., Sgt

B-17G #44-6516 My Darling

P Shields, Emerson H., 2Lt
CP Hamm, John, 2Lt
NAV Young, Charles C., Jr., 2Lt
BOM Weise, Gerald W., 2Lt
ENG Brian, Carville J., Sgt
RO Prestage, John L., Sgt
BT Hebert, Nolan, Sgt
TG Hansen, Calvin K., Sgt

(Scouter Aircraft)

B-17G #42-31055 Aloha

P Sipes, William C., LtCol (41st CBW)
CP Holtorf, Ernest H., 1Lt
NAV Illgen, F.J., Maj (Hdqs, 41st)
ENG Power, Thomas B., T/Sgt
RO King, Raymond C., T/Sgt
TG Nabors, Herschell F., S/Sgt
WG Patterson, Charles A., S/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Callahan, Charles A., Capt
CP	Ashwell, Silas B., 1Lt
NAV	Pandy, Bert J., 1Lt
MN	Mylan, William G., 1Lt
GHN	Hitt, Kenneth S., F/O
BOM	Long, Lloyd I., 1Lt
TT	Erdmann, Robert A., T/Sgt
RO	Kamen, Roland K., T/Sgt
TG	Kipfer, James F., 2Lt
WG	Robins, James B., Sgt

B-17G #42-97311 Shoo Shoo Baby

P	Flanigan, Lloyd J., 2Lt
CP	Wilson, Jack G., 2Lt
NAV	Heaney, Edward J., F/O
BOM	Steinberg, Clifford, 2Lt
TT	Gilkes, Beresford B., Sgt
BT	Safley, Delbert A., Sgt
RO	Gourly, Charles B., Sgt
TG	McDonald, Francis E., Jr., Sgt
WG	Neiswender, John J., Sgt
Y	Conrad, Joseph, Sgt

B-17G #43-38248 Jigger Rooche II

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

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

P	Denison, William A., 2Lt
CP	Haynes, Charles H., 2Lt
NAV	Zabelicky, John E., F/O
TOG	Mack, William H., Sgt
TT	Eckert, Clair E., S/Sgt
BT	Conyer, Roy, Jr., Sgt
RO	Kiggens, William P., Sgt
TG	O'Hearn, Walter D., Sgt
WG	McComb, Harold A., Sgt

B-17G #43-38958 Green Hill Belle

P	Richardson, Thomas W., 2Lt
CP	Ayling, Peter D., 2Lt
NAV	Slauson, Leon H., 2Lt
TOG	Hardin, Joe A., S/Sgt
TT	Calderon, Reuben J., Sgt
BT	Graves, John M., Sgt
RO	Grossman, Howard A., S/Sgt
TG	Wakefield, Richard E., Sgt

B-17G #43-39011 (No Name)

P	Walder, Wilfred M., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Roche, John E., F/O
NAV	Wolansky, John, 2Lt
TOG	Leas, H.D., S/Sgt
TT	Engelhardt, Roy H., Sgt
BT	Doles, David, Jr., Sgt
RO	Gibbons, Francis M., Sgt
TG	Mitchell, Donald C., Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists - Cont'd.

B-17G #44-6937 *El Sereano*

P Turinsky, George, 2Lt
CP Shaughnessy, William J., F/O
NAV Witchey, Francis M., F/O
TOG Renaud, Robert K., Sgt
TT Wismer, Donald E., S/Sgt
BT Newman, Harold E., Sgt
RO Foell, Charles R., S/Sgt
TG Witcher, Marvin E., Sgt

B-17G #44-6977 *Better Do'er*

P Chuba, Francis B., 2Lt
CP Rogers, Ennis L., 2Lt
NAV Wolf, Robert J., 2Lt
TOG Malmo, Richard C., Sgt
TT Ayers, Francis H., Sgt
BT Paananen, Uhlo J., Sgt
RO Harkey, Charles I., Sgt
TG Huckabay, Harvey H., Sgt

B-17G #43-39220 *Smilie Jack*

P Kahler, Thoms F., 2Lt
CP Cotton, Lewis, F/O
NAV Tractman, Bernard L., F/O
BOM Short, Arthur E., F/O
TT Lowery, Lloyd, Sgt
BT Broughton, William A., S/Sgt
RO Latz, Leslie L., Sgt
TG Dorner, Alvin W., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-37537 *Queen of Hearts - PFF*

P Hewitt, Donald I., 2Lt
CP Bagstad, Charles W., Maj
NAV Smith, Charles W., 2Lt
GHN Kraft, Arthur C., 2Lt (359th)
BOM Keese, Thomas R., 1Lt
TT Robertson, Joseph J., T/Sgt
RO Schmidt, Elmer J., T/Sgt
TG Agrifoglio, Benjamin M., S/Sgt
WG Mussi, James L., Sgt