

# 303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 338

17 March 1945

Target: Synthetic Oil Plant at Bohlen, Germany  
& Marshalling Yard and Rail Bridge at Erfurt, Germany

Crews Dispatched: 39

Length of Mission: 9 hours, 46 minutes

Bomb Load: 18 x 250 lb H.E. M57 & 2 x 100 lb M47 Incendiaries

Bombing Altitudes: 27,000, 26,500, & 27,500 ft

Ammo Fired: 0 rounds

**M**ajor Robert J. **Hullar** flew a weather B-17 #44-8710 *Idle Wheel* 427BS. The assigned targets for the 39 dispatched aircraft were: Bohlen, Germany – synthetic oil plant (visual, first and H2X, second); Jena, Germany – Carl Zeiss works (visual, first and H2X, second); Weimer, Germany – marshalling yard (visual) or military objectives (fifth); Erfurt, Germany – marshalling yards and rail bridge over road bridge (visual or H2X, sixth).

Thirteen lead Squadron aircraft dropped 237 250-lb. H.E. M57 and 25 100-lb. M47 incendiary bombs on the sixth priority target at Erfurt by H2X. Two bomb runs were made on the second priority target. On the first run, the IP was overshot, and on the second run

a fuse burned out on the Mickey equipment. A gas shortage prevented further runs. A good run was made on the sixth priority target with unobserved results.



*View from the Molesworth Control Tower – (photo taken in 1955)*

The high and low Squadrons bombed the second priority target at Bohlen by H2X. Mickey equipment worked well, but results were unobserved. There were 10/10 low clouds over the target with dense, persistent contrails at the bombing altitudes.

There were no enemy aircraft sighted and 266 P-51s provided good support. Flak was moderate and inaccurate at Bohlen and meager and inaccurate at Erfurt. One aircraft received major battle damage and Sgt. Edward G. **Eschinger**, waist gunner on the Lt. **Thomas** crew, had frostbite on his ear.

Four aircraft landed away from Molesworth:

#43-39011 (*No Name*), 427BS (Lt. **Fredrickson**), landed on the Continent

#44-8647 (*No Name*), 360BS (Lt. **Juns**), landed at airfield #B-58, Florennes, Belgium.

#43-38842 (*No Name*), 360BS (Lt. **Bentzlin**), landed at airfield #B-54 on the Continent.

#43-38870 (*No Name*), 360BS (Lt. S. **Smith** 427BS), landed at #B-58 and #B-54 on the Continent and RAF Detling, England.

# Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group A

		<u>Stouse- Hardy</u> 564 - PFF		
	<u>Rapp</u> 860		<u>Weaver</u> 439 - PFF	
		<u>Armfield</u> 544		
	<u>Austin</u> 532		<u>S. Smith</u> 870	
	<u>Stiver</u> 563		<u>Tyler</u> 672	
<u>Fowler</u> 517		<u>Juns</u> 647	<u>Scott</u> 523	<u>Vail</u> 318
	<u>Bentzlin</u> 842		_____	



B-17G #44-8564 (No Name) PFF 359BS (GN-Z)  
41st CBW-B (360BS) - Pilot Capt H.L. Stouse / CoPilot F/O J.H. Hardy

## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

Ashwell-Ayers  
545 - PFF

	<u>Walder</u> 281	<u>Fredrickson</u> 011	
	<u>Denison</u> 885		
	<u>Krohn</u> 763	<u>Thomas</u> 411	
<u>Cassels</u> 921			<u>Kahler</u> 958
<u>Flanigan</u> 621	<u>Grob</u> 597	<u>Chuba</u> 977	<u>G. Smith</u> 248
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## Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group C

Walter-Nye  
484 - PFF

	<u>Cunningham</u> 462	<u>McKimmie</u> 999	
	<u>Nester</u> 554		
	<u>Bohle</u> 160	<u>Greenbaum</u> 191	
<u>Poole</u> 949			<u>Garrett</u> 096
<u>Greene</u> 590	<u>Griffith</u> 883	<u>Perkins</u> 878	<u>Murray</u> 427
_____			<u>Taub</u> 006

### 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 #43-39096 *Sky Demon***

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P	Garrett, Charles E., 2Lt
CP	Castillo, Joseph L., F/O
NAV	Feezel, Ralph S., 2Lt
TOG	Prudhoe, Charles E., T/Sgt
ENG	Hohstadt, Hollis H., Sgt
TG	Van Cleave, Joseph A., Sgt
RO	Henson, Jessey B., Sgt
BT	Walczak, John, Sgt

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

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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

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

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P	Perkins, Morton C., 2Lt
CP	Kamstra, Walter W., 2Lt
NAV	Wallace, Robert J., 2Lt
TOG	Allen, Arlan R., Sgt
ENG	Carlson, Charles F., S/Sgt
RO	Little, Gerald G., Sgt
BT	McDonald, John T., Sgt
TG	Beckwith, Walter D., Sgt

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

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P	Nester, Harry E., 2Lt
CP	Craig, Fred, 2Lt
NAV	Rainey, John L., 2Lt
BOM	Swift, Jonathan S., 2Lt
ENG	Kappardaki, Kermit P., Sgt
RO	Strouse, Jacob J., Sgt
BT	Bovey, Charles D., Sgt
TG	Edleman, Robert W., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38883 *Lady Beth***

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P	Griffith, Rudolph L., 2Lt
CP	Smith, Lawrence S., 2Lt
NAV	Besharian, Joseph, F/O
BOM	Correale, Fortunato, F/O
ENG	Wilson, Warren J., Sgt
RO	Ruff, Merle H., Sgt
TG	Jarrett, Robert W., Sgt
BT	Hogan, Walter B., Sgt

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

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P	McKimmie, William L., 2Lt
CP	Sims, Allen R., 2Lt
NAV	Triebes, Earl E., 2Lt
BOM	McCall, John W., 1Lt
ENG	Farmer, Evert L., Sgt
RO	Kilroy, Robert E., Sgt
BT	Kampa, Vernon L., Sgt
TG	Mogusar, John F., Sgt

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

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

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

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P	Murray, Robert I., 2Lt
CP	Boardman, Robert, F/O
NAV	Leonhirth, Junius, F/O
TOG	Hammarlund, Carl O., Sgt
ENG	Brunale, Vito J., Sgt
RO	Bates, Theodore A., Sgt
BT	Rodock, Nicholas, Sgt
TG	Rennie, Robert P., Sgt
WG	Dantzler, John R., Sgt
SJ	Morrill, Charles K., Sgt

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

### **B-17G #43-39160 *G for George***

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P Bohle, Loren W., 2Lt  
CP Gordon, Joseph, 2Lt  
NAV Gerhardstein, Eugene M., F/O  
TOG Sproule, Wayne O., Sgt  
ENG Bigelow, Robert F., Sgt  
RO Genter, Norman, Sgt  
BT Aldous, George C., Sgt  
TG Smith, Jack C., Sgt  
SJ Scott, William R., S/Sgt

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

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P Greene, Robert E., 1Lt  
CP Parson, Jerome G., 2Lt  
NAV Milligan, William J., 2Lt  
TOG Williams, Ira J., Sgt  
ENG Rollinger, Joseph C., Sgt  
RO Thompson, Joe C., Sgt  
BT Covert, John L., Sgt  
TG Jobe, Milton L., Sgt  
WG Mills, Joe J., Sgt

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

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P Cunningham, Neil E., 2Lt  
CP Thornton, Everett H., 2Lt  
NAV Wyman, Asa H., F/O  
TOG Quig, Francis X., Sgt  
ENG Sprinkles, Leburn D., Sgt  
WG Boone, Kenneth E., Sgt  
RO Baloga, Stephen M., T/Sgt  
BT Carter, William J., Sgt  
TG Crigger, Richard S., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38191 *Shasta***

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P Greenbaum, Richard D., 1Lt  
CP Balkcom, Robert E., 2Lt  
NAV Guerrieri, Joe C., F/O  
TOG Miller, Robert J., T/Sgt  
ENG Bruce, Leonard F., T/Sgt  
TG Hawes, Kenneth D., Sgt  
RO Dalton, Denver, Sgt  
BT Dooley, Patrick, Sgt  
WG Hudler, Billie E., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8484 (*No Name*) - PFF**

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P Walter, Donald R., 1Lt  
CP Nye, Robert M., Maj  
NAV Metko, Earl D., 1Lt  
MN Bannowsky, Lonvell A., 2Lt  
BOM Reed, Andrew T., 2Lt  
ENG Schroeder, Karl T., S/Sgt  
WG Meade, Joseph J., S/Sgt  
RO Kasik, Robert F., S/Sgt  
TG Silver, Jack, F/O

## 360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

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P	Stiver, Merrill M., 2Lt
CP	Kacus, Alexander, F/O
NAV	Beasley, Leon O., 2Lt
TOG	Valdes, George J., T/Sgt
ENG	Auer, Kenneth R., Sgt
RO	Godley, Walter M., Sgt
BT	Pilgrim, Robert W., Sgt
TG	Marchionda, Guido P., S/Sgt

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

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P	Armfield, John M., 1Lt
CP	Marten, Dudley V., 2Lt
NAV	Dwyer, Marion J., 2Lt
BOM	Grezzo, Anthony D., 2Lt
ENG	Lemon, James M., Jr., S/Sgt
RO	Haynes, Donald L., S/Sgt
BT	Goggin, Edward F., S/Sgt
TG	Davis, Jesse W., Sgt

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

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P	Rapp, John W., 2Lt
CP	Judd, Dudley F., 2Lt
NAV	McCollum, Clodius M., 2Lt
TOG	Unger, Frank W., Sgt
ENG	Cie zadlo, Eugene F., Sgt
RO	Turner, John R., Sgt
TG	Rasmussen, Gerald G., Sgt
WG	Evans, William A., Sgt

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

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P	Juns, Frank, 1Lt
CP	Lacker, Howard C., 2Lt
NAV	O'Neil, James B., 2Lt
TOG	Mooneyham, Clarence, Jr., Sgt
ENG	Bratcher, Francis E., Sgt
RO	Foster, Lane, Sgt
BT	Reynolds, Robert R., Sgt
TG	Garbarino, Louis V., Jr., Sgt
VI	Gilbert, Robert A., Sgt

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

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P	Bentzlin, Bertil V., 2Lt
CP	Briley, Dewey E., 2Lt
NAV	Andrzejczyk, Walter A., F/O
TOG	Friery, James R., Sgt
ENG	Rodgers, Walter D., Sgt
RO	Sole, John A., Sgt
BT	Henderson, Clarence J., Sgt
TG	Joneson, Leonard B., Sgt

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

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P	Austin, Charles A., 1Lt
CP	Johnson, Arthur E., 2Lt
NAV	Kokoska, Florian T., 2Lt
TOG	Stuckey, Edward C., Sgt
ENG	Ingles, Howard L., Sgt
RO	Kummer, Burnell R., Sgt
BT	Danielsen, Stanley K., Sgt
TG	Krouse, Thomas R., Sgt

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

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P	Scott, John, 2Lt
CP	Weinandt, Bernard M., 2Lt
NAV	Bergvall, Otis A., 2Lt
TOG	Morris, Robert W., Sgt
ENG	Hart, Leroy M., Sgt
RO	Gentry, John M., Sgt
BT	Wright, Donald M., Sgt
TG	Woolpert, John C., Sgt

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

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P	Vail, Robert F., 2Lt
CP	Tremelling, Claude C., 2Lt
NAV	Blake, Mark, Jr., F/O
TOG	Kiddie, Darrell A., Sgt
ENG	Larson, Arnold B., S/Sgt
RO	Siegel, Edwin, Sgt
BT	Seats, Burton E., Sgt
TG	Ramaika, Joseph J., Sgt
WG	Capps, Everett, Sgt

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

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

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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
WG	Jones, William P., Sgt
VI	Reider, Enrique M., Sgt (359th)

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

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P	Tyler, Samuel L., 2Lt
CP	Hamm, Burwell J., 2Lt
NAV	Rinish, James M., F/O
TOG	Faulkner, Leroy, Sgt
ENG	Reed, Richard S., Sgt
RO	Snell, John K., S/Sgt
BT	Gilmore, Dean D., Sgt
TG	Edwards, Robert D., Sgt
VI	Brenner, Seymour, S/Sgt (427th)

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

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P	Weaver, Jack W., 1Lt
CP	Chalmers, John D., F/O
NAV	Polkabla, William J., 1Lt
MN	Foltz, Leon P., 2Lt (358th)
BOM	Hight, Basil D., 2Lt
ENG	Murphy, Jason, S/Sgt
RO	Cole, Robert L., S/Sgt
BT	Lardie, Thomas D., Sgt
TG	Bailey, Arthur L., Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8564 (No Name) - PFF**

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P	Stouse, Harold L., Capt
CP	Hardy, James H., F/O
NAV	McCarty, Mike D., 1Lt
MN	Gibson, Cater M., 1Lt
BOM	Downey, Francis G., 1Lt
ENG	Bostick, George F., T/Sgt
RO	Lillis, Joseph D., T/Sgt
TG	Hamm, John, 2Lt
WG	Wotanis, Leo F., Sgt
WG	Peter, Robert C., Sgt

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

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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

### **Scouter Aircraft**

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

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P	Raper, William S., Col (303rd)
CP	Lucien, Ralph A., 2Lt
NAV	Cheney, James, Maj (303rd)
BOM	McCormick, James E., Maj (303rd)
ENG	Fleming, James A., Sgt
RO	Kirtner, Billy L., Sgt
BT	Beckman, Charles W., Sgt
TG	Moore, Bill A., Sgt
WG	Mulqueen, John J., Sgt

## 427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P Grob, Emil E., Jr., 2Lt  
 CP Vanderhei, Vivian S., 2Lt  
 NAV Slauson, Leon H., 2Lt  
 TOG Allen, Herrold H., Sgt  
 TT Loy, Vernon C., Sgt  
 BT Apel, Charles W., Sgt  
 RO Mullen, John P., Sgt  
 TG Nutting, Rufus R., Sgt

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

P Denison, William A., 2Lt  
 CP Haynes, Charles H., 2Lt  
 NAV Zabelicky, John E., F/O  
 BOM Steinberg, Clifford, 2Lt  
 TT Eckert, Clair E., S/Sgt  
 BT Conyer, Roy, Jr., Sgt  
 RO Kiggins, William P., Sgt  
 TG O'Hearn, Walter D., Sgt

### **B-17G #43-38958 *Green Hill Belle***

P Kahler, Thomas F., 2Lt  
 CP Cotton, Lewis, F/O  
 NAV Wagner, Charles D., 2Lt  
 TOG Fogarty, Richard T., Jr., Sgt  
 TT Lowery, Lloyd, Sgt  
 BT Broughton, William A., S/Sgt  
 RO Latz, Leslie L., Sgt  
 TG Turkovich, Charles J., Sgt

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

P Smith, Grafton N., 1Lt  
 CP Alderman, Melvin, 2Lt  
 NAV Cohen, Leo, F/O  
 TOG Anderson, Dale R., Sgt  
 TT Calderon, Reuben J., S/Sgt  
 BT Miller, Raymond M., Sgt  
 RO Parker, George F., S/Sgt  
 WG Dussliere, Albert L., Sgt

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

P Demian, Julius C., F/O  
 CP Weatherby, Earl R., F/O  
 NAV Tractman, Bernard L., F/O  
 TOG Ross, Joseph M., Jr., S/Sgt  
 TT Leach, Harry L., S/Sgt  
 BT Wilson, Alfred D., S/Sgt  
 RO Lombardi, Donato J., S/Sgt  
 TG Buford, Thomas A., 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 #44-6921 *(No Name)***

P Cassels, James C., 2Lt  
 CP Larkin, Clayton E., 2Lt  
 NAV Bonanno, Joseph, F/O  
 TOG Porter, Ellery G., Sgt  
 TT Mason, Jack F., Sgt  
 BT Plant, Billy C., Sgt  
 RO Dragon, George O., Sgt  
 TG Phillips, John E., Sgt

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

P Walder, Wilfred M., Jr., 2Lt  
 CP Roche, John E., F/O  
 NAV Wolansky, John, 2Lt  
 BOM Short, Arthur E., F/O  
 TT Engelhardt, Roy H., Sgt  
 BT Doles, David, Jr., Sgt  
 RO Gibbons, Francis M., Sgt  
 TG Mitchell, Donald C., Sgt  
 WG Dorner, Alvin W., S/Sgt  
 Y Conrad, Joseph, T/Sgt



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

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

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P	Krohn, Robert W., 2Lt
CP	Kindig, Paul B., 2Lt
NAV	Christen, Louis M., 2Lt
TOG	O'Sullivan, Henry T., Sgt
TT	Minoff, John, Sgt
BT	Peterson, Norman D., Sgt
RO	McKenzie, Malcolm L., Sgt
TG	Marozas, Arthur A., Sgt
WG	Monyok, Joseph R., Sgt
SJ	Palm, Kenneth A., Sgt (359th)

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

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P	Fredrickson, Carl A., 2Lt
CP	Goetz, Harold W., F/O
NAV	Herman, Arthur L., F/O
BOM	Bitter, John R., F/O
TT	Bates, Grover P., T/Sgt
BT	Buonpane, Vincent A., Sgt
RO	Stewart, John R., Sgt
TG	Milliman, Harold R., Sgt
WG	Farrell, Charles M., Sgt

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

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P	Thomas, Blaine E., 2Lt
CP	Bartholomew, Max R., 2Lt
NAV	Lacey, W.L., 2Lt
BOM	Lee, Roger C., 2Lt
TT	Haynes, Harry W., Jr., Sgt
BT	Contreras, Luis L., Sgt
RO	Smith, Walter E., Sgt
TG	Carlson, Melvin C., Sgt
WG	Eschinger, Edward G., Sgt

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

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P	Flanigan, Lloyd J., 2Lt
CP	Wokersien, James T., F/O
NAV	Heaney, Edward J., F/O
TOG	Mack, William H., Sgt
TT	Gilkes, Beresford, Sgt
BT	Safley, Delbert A., Sgt
RO	Gourly, Charles B., Sgt
TG	Neiswender, John J., Sgt
WG	McDonald, Francis E., Jr., Sgt
SJ	Hendrix, Frank H., S/Sgt

### **B-17G #44-8545 (No Name) - PFF**

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P	Ashwell, Silas B., 1Lt
CP	Ayers, Roger D., 2Lt
NAV	Hoida, Donald J., 2Lt
MN	Perry, Franklin W., 2Lt
BOM	Keese, Thomas R., 1Lt
TT	Rys, Valentine J., S/Sgt
RO	Islava, Joseph O., T/Sgt
TG	Shaughnessy, William J., F/O
WG	Clarkson, Robert T., S/Sgt