

358th Bombardment Squadron

303rd Bombardment Group (H)
Molesworth, England
1942-1945

The 358th Bombardment Squadron Ground Echelon arrived at Molesworth, England on 12 September 1942, and joined the other Squadrons in trying to get the operation moving without any materials or equipment. But soon, things started arriving and the B-17's began to appear. The original aircraft were: *Hell's Angels*, *Sky Wolf*, *Hunga Dunga*, *Hellcat*, *Jersey Bounce*, *Spook*, *One O'Clock Jump*, *Leapin Liz* and *Werewolf*.



These aircraft were a matter of pride to the men on the ground, and they worked around the clock to prepare them for the next day's raid. Several of the 358th Bomb Squadron ground echelon distinguished themselves. M/Sgt Carino Colancecco, M/Sgt Fabian S. Folmer, M/Sgt Everett W. Emery, and M/Sgt William C. Woodman were awarded the Legion of Merit for their outstanding job of getting their Fortresses in the air when they were so badly needed. In addition, several men in the Squadron were awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service after putting in long hours in all kinds of weather to make certain that their planes could fly the next day.



Wood Carving by William F. Adams

The Squadron's first Commanding Officer was Major Clemens K. Wurzbach, who was a West Pointer and went on to become a Colonel in Command of another Bomb Group. He was succeeded by Major Kirk R. Mitchell, who lead the 358th on some of their roughest bombing missions.

Major George T. Mackin succeeded Major Mitchell on 30 March 1944 and served until he completed his tour in January 1945. Major Glynn F. Shumake commanded the Squadron until he was shot down and became MIA and a POW on Mission #348 to Bremen, on March 30, 1945. The Squadron was temporarily commanded by Captain Willard H. Bergeron until Major Robert M. Nye was given command. He served until the war was over in May 1945.

The organization of the 358th Bombardment Squadron followed the normal Table of Organization for Army Air Force Units. This coverage of the Squadron will concentrate on the Ground Support Personnel, as the air echelon will be covered many times in the individual write-ups of the separate missions flown by the 358th. The major functions were S-1 (Personnel); S-2



358th BS Headquarters Building Sign

(Intelligence); S-3 (Operations); and S-4 (Maintenance & Supply). There were several supporting functions that included the Adjutant, Communications, Armament, Ordnance, Chemical, Transportation and Utilities.



358th BS Headquarters Building (photo taken March 1945)

Everyone on Molesworth was dedicated to the success of the mission, and everyone who served in the Ground Support Echelon set high standards to make sure that all the required tasks were performed in a timely manner. Because of their untiring dedication, this coverage of the 358th Bombardment Squadron has been prepared in their honor.

358th Bomb Squadron Headquarters Personnel

Mackin, George T.	Major	Kalman, Bernard (nmi)	Major
Nye, Robert N.	Major	Shumake, Glynn F.	Major
Wurzbach, Clemens K.	Major		
Simms, John F. Jr.	Capt	Thrasher, John P.	Capt
Bentley, Jack L.	1/Lt	Carter, Alfred S.	1/Lt
Curren, Arthur T.	1/Lt	Discher, Ephriam	1/Lt
Luker, Harrison M.	1/Lt	Schnabel, Ralph D.	1/Lt
Thompson, Bernard	1/Lt	Bohler, William D.	2/Lt
Bunn, Beverly R.	2/Lt	Dingman, James M. Jr.	F/Sgt
Morrow, James D.	F/Sgt	Kever, William I.	Sgt
Kendall, William H.	Cpl	Speer, Louis E.	Cpl
Heintz, Paul G.	Pfc		

358th Bomb Squadron S-2 Section Personnel

Johnson, Claes E.	Major	Kalman, Bernard	Major
Gabbert, Thomas A.	Capt	Boxall, George W.	1/Lt
Lamb, Karl M.	M/Sgt	Whitson, Claud B.	S/Sgt
Grinroth, Raymond E.	Sgt	Evans, William H.	Cpl
Kastenbaum, Bernard M.	Pfc		

358th Bomb Squadron Communications Section Personnel

Higbee, William W.	Capt	Clark, George B.	1/Lt
Droege, Donald R.	2/Lt		
Dolan, Lee E.	M/Sgt	Holland, Raymond E.	M/Sgt
Frisbie, George W.	S/Sgt	Kray, Anthony R.	S/Sgt
Meyers, Raymond	Sgt	Neilson, Harry B.	Sgt
Steen, Joseph L.	Sgt	Wisocky, Theodore	Pfc
Harkins, Owen F.	Pvt		

358th Bomb Squadron S-3 (Operations) Section Personnel

Moore, Bruce K.	Capt	Wise, Calder L.	Capt
Disher, Raymond T.	1/Lt	Hargrove, Quentin W.	2/Lt
White, Van R.	S/Sgt		

358th Bomb Squadron S-4 (Maintenance & Engineering) Section Personnel

Newell, Bergen P.	Capt	Robinson, Joseph G.	Capt
Higbee, William W.	Capt	Edwards, Richard W.	2/Lt
Howard, John M.	2/Lt	Porter, David F.	2/Lt
Calancecco, Carino	M/Sgt	Emery, Everett W.	M/Sgt
Folmer, Fabian S.	M/Sgt	Fox, Albert C.	M/Sgt
Harrelson, Thomas K. Jr.	M/Sgt	Maple, Charles S.	M/Sgt
McDermott, Paul B.	M/Sgt		
Simpson, John H.	M/Sgt	Erickson, John E.	T/Sgt
Ham, George W.	T/Sgt	Hambree, William T.	T/Sgt
Hyman, George L.	T/Sgt	Keahey, Harold V.	T/Sgt
Kolstad, Jerome S.	T/Sgt	Lesner, Edward H.	T/Sgt
Oberman, Glenn H.	T/Sgt	Penn, Victor A.	T/Sgt
Roberteille, Delbert E.	T/Sgt	Thompson, George L.	T/Sgt
West, Edward A. Jr.	T/Sgt	Barteau, Edward L.	S/Sgt
Berger, Donald E.	S/Sgt	Castagnola, Warren J.	S/Sgt
Christoff, Christ M.	S/Sgt	Fairfield, Wilson F.	S/Sgt
Kiser, Raymond K.	S/Sgt	Knauff, Theodore J.	S/Sgt
Krank, Anton D.	S/Sgt	Mohr, Carl L.	S/Sgt
Rabassa, Robert P.	S/Sgt	Schick, Charles R.	S/Sgt
Schoener, Oscar H.	S/Sgt	Touhy, Ernest H.	S/Sgt
Weaver, William R.	S/Sgt		
Zawaski, Eugene L.	S/Sgt	Coyle, Thomas E.	Sgt
Gaich, Mike (nmi)	Sgt	Goar, Gilbert (nmi)	Sgt
Kirkendall, Jack E.	Sgt		
Kosilla, John R.	Sgt	Modlinski, Leonard T.	Sgt
Previn, Walter C.	Sgt	Rydell, Arthur H.	Sgt
Sahli, Othmar P.	Sgt	Strouse, W. Roger	Sgt
Tingley, Loy E.	Sgt		
Tracy, Robert C.	Sgt	Wegrzyn, Kasmer	Sgt
Whitson, Robert C.	Sgt	Aldrich, Kenneth R.	Cpl
Almon, Alfonso (nmi)	Cpl	Bailey, George P.	Cpl
Heafey, Leonard F.	Cpl	Honeychuck, Francis S.	Cpl
McNeal, Norton B.	Cpl	Newland, Frederick J.	Cpl

Olexa, John J.	Cpl	Salisbury, Ival B.	Cpl
Soule, Alton L.	Cpl	Sperando, Chester J.	Cpl
Torretto, Louis F.	Cpl	Uhls, W. Joseph	Cpl
Weddington, William E.	Cpl	Brudzinski, Henry J.	Pfc
Melnick, Stanley	Pfc	Orth, Albert J.	Pfc
Smith, Richard C.	Pfc	Masters, James R.	Pvt
O'Brien, Eugene J.	Pvt		

358th Bomb Squadron Armament Section Personnel

Durgess, John C.	1/Lt	Stevens, David M.	2/Lt
Wintner, Bernard G.	2/Lt	Goldfarb, Wallace	S/Sgt
Schultz, Lumir E.	S/Sgt	Steinmetz, Harry G.	Sgt
Derr, Ray E.	Cpl	Lehto, Norman A.	Cpl
McClain, Charles L.	Cpl	Spears, Ben R. Jr.	Cpl
Hall, Harry J.	Pfc	Kelly, George C.	Pvt

358th Bomb Squadron Supply Section (S-4) Personnel

Turnipseed, Felix M.	Capt		
Robbins, Carl W. Jr.	1/Lt	Winter, Gilbert H.	1/Lt
McWilliams, Major H.	2/Lt	Wheeler, Billy J.	2/Lt
Anderson, Clarence E.	T/Sgt		
Lanaan, William J.	Sgt	Smith, Cloyd M.	Sgt

358th Bomb Squadron Ordnance Section (S-4) Personnel

Kass, John K.	Capt		
Lynch, Andrew P. Jr.	Sgt	Besanach, George J.	Cpl
Blue, Thomas R.	Cpl	Collom, Edwin E.	Cpl
Dearden, Harold	Cpl	Ferranto, Joseph R.	Cpl
Kinsfather, Leo A.	Cpl	Krieger, Harry C.	Cpl
Kruse, Stanley E.	Cpl	Mann, Lowell J.	Cpl
McClain, Charles L.	Cpl	Niesser, Gerard A.	Cpl
Partridge, William K.	Cpl	Pratt, Leslie C.	Cpl
Jarrett, Hugo A.	Pfc	Johnson, William B.	Pfc
Merridith, Reed M.	Pfc	Wojcieschowski, John J.	Pfc
Eaves, Elmer L.	Pfc	Hanna, Paul C.	Pfc
McGavin, Keith L.	Pfc		

358th Bomb Squadron Transportation Section Personnel

Bartels, Donald G.	Pfc	Von Behren, Gilbert F.	Pvt
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358th Bomb Squadron Equipment (Supply) Section Personnel

Miller, Thomas F.	1/Lt	Fink, Frances J.	S/Sgt
McLachlen, Archie	Cpl		

358th Bomb Squadron Chemical Section Personnel

Rahmn, Wilfred R.	Sgt	Montrasti, Raymond E.	Cpl
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358th Bomb Squadron Refueling Unit Personnel

Rees, Emil R.	Sgt
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358th Bomb Squadron Medical Section 358th Bomb Squadron

Lame, Louis A.	Capt	Benigno, Peter A.	S/Sgt
Bohms, Clarence B.	Cpl	Fennesy, William J.	Cpl
Labelle, Thomas A.	Pfc	Meeks, Elmer L.	Pfc
Davison, Porter A.	Pvt	Tarrusa, Rosario	Pvt

358th Bomb Squadron Utilities Section Personnel

Kaull, Grasson W.	Capt	Stone, Benjamin J. Jr.	2/Lt
Duwe, Charles A.	Cpl	Keller, Arthur ?	Cpl
Lowry, Earnest R.	Cpl	Suprese, Robert J.	Cpl

All of the men listed above, as well as others listed in the *Index of Support Personnel*, were responsible for everything that happened in the 358th Bombardment Squadron in carrying out their mission of getting their flying crews in the air. They housed them, fed them, transported them, advised them, provided them with guns and bombs and flyable aircraft on many of the most dangerous missions flown by the 303rd Bomb Group.

358th Bomb Squadron B-17s

<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Assigned</u>	<u>Fate</u>	<u>Missions</u>
41-24526	Leapin Liz	19 Sep 42	MIA 3 Jan 43 (Clark)	4
41-24539	Jersey Bounce	19 Sep 42	Trfd to Bovington 27 Jul 43	15*
41-24541	Spook	18 Sep 42	MIA 16 Feb 43 (Dunnica)	12
41-24558	Hunga Dunga	16 Sep 42	MIA 18 Mar 43 (Austin)	10
41-24562	Sky Wolf	16 Sep 42	MIA 11 Jan 43 (Emerson)	54*
41-24577	Hell's Angels	18 Sep 42	Returned to US 20 Jan 44	48
41-24580	Hell Cat	24 Oct 42	MIA 23 Jan 43 (O'Connor)	6
41-24582	One O'Clock Jump	13 Sep 42	MIA 12 Dec 42 (Frost)	3
41-24606	Werewolf	18 Sep 42	C/L 23 Jan 43 (Ox rider)	4*
41-24629	(No Name)	25 Sep 43	MIA 20 Oct 43 (Hendry)	4
42-3064	Star Dust	7 May 43	C/L 26 Nov 43 (Fort)	13
42-3192	G-for-George	16 May 43	MIA 19 Aug 43 (Nix)	12
42-5052	Mizpah	25 Sep 43	MIA 22 Feb 44 (Moffat)	19
42-5264	Yankee Doodle Dandy	1 Feb 43	Damaged 11 Jan 44 (Ames)	33
42-5360	War Bride	8 Jan 43	MIA 11 Jan 44 (Schwaebe)	35
42-5432	The Hunting Club	25 Feb 43	MIA 22 Jun 43 (Jess)	18
42-5792	The Mugger	8 Apr 43	MIA 4 Jul 43 (O'Connor)	10
42-29477	Joan of Arc	25 Sep 43	MIA 14 Oct 43 (Sanders)	4
42-29524	Meat Hound	2 Mar 43	CR 1 Nov 44 (Watson)	25

42-29571	Charley Horse	6 Apr 43	MIA 20 Oct 43 (Hartigan)	32
42-29573	Two Beauts	6 Mar 43	C/L 31 Mar 43 (Dunn)	4
42-29629	Connecticut Yankee	26 Mar 43	Trfd to Bush Field	12
42-29635	Augerhead	26 Mar 43	MIA 27 Aug 43 (Monahan)	18
42-29656	The Terrible Ten			10*
42-29664	Jersey Bounce, Jr.	21 Mar 43	Ditched 20 Dec 43(Henderson)	34*
42-29791	Memphis Blues	17 Jun 43	Ditched 14 Jul 43 (Swaffer)	7*
42-30865	(No Name)	18 Oct 43	MIA 11 Jan 44 (Campbell)	9
42-31224	Hell in the Heavens	13 Jan 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Smithy)	48
42-31239	(No Name)	18 Nov 43	MIA 24 Feb 44 (M L Smith)	18
42-31562	(No Name)	13 Jan 44	MIA 24 Feb 44 (Henderson)	9
42-31574	Old George			50*
42-31669	Shoo Shoo Baby	15 Feb 44	MIA 24 Apr 44 (Hofman)	20
42-31739	Pugnacious Peter	15 Feb 44	MIA 11 Oct 44 (Price)	85
42-32037	(No Name)	28 Feb 44	MIA 21 Jun 44 (Way)	38
42-37893	Bam Bam	18 Nov 43	CR 10 Jun 44 (Oliver)	42
42-37927	(No Name)	18 Nov 43	Ditched 3 Feb 44 (White)	11
42-38041	Hell's Angels II	18 Jan 44	M/Air Col 22 Feb 44 (Stourner)	9
42-38154	(No Name)	18 Feb 44	B/O 25 Jun 44 (Vermeer)	13
42-39785	Thru Hel'en Hiwater	18 Oct 43	MIA 22 Apr 44 (Larson)	28
42-39787	Wanton Woman	18 Oct 43	Trfd Ferry Command	5
42-39794	(No Name)	10 Oct 43	MIA 11 Jan 44 (DaShiell)	10
42-39810	Big "A" Bird	19 Nov 43	C/L 11 Feb 44 (Worthey)	7
42-97085	(No Name)	6 May 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Charnick)	51
42-97298	The Floose	21 May 44	C/L 24 Dec 44 (92nd BG)	102
42-97498	Padded Cell II	14 Jan 44	MIA 6 Feb 44 (Bass)	6*
42-97509	Old Hickory	28 Feb 44	MIA 2 Mar 44 (Elder)	1
42-97557	Mercy's Madhouse	7 Aug 44	Trfd Kingman, AZ	22
42-97617	(No Name)	23 Feb 44	MIA 13 Apr 44 (Viets)	12
42-97622	Paper Dollie	23 Feb 44	C/L 23 Jul 44 (Miller)	46
42-97787	(No Name)	22 Apr 44	Ditched 24 May 44 (Worthey)	14
42-97949	(No Name)	19 Jun 44	Trfd Kingman, AZ	62
42-97972	(No Name)	6 Jul 44	MIA 26 Nov 44 (Jamieson)	36
42-102453	Princess Pat	30 Apr 44	Land Accid't 25 Jul 44 (Larson)	16
42-102680	(No Name)	2 Jun 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Cathey)	37
42-102945	Sweet Pea	2 Jun 44	C/L 10 Feb 45 (Gordon)	45*
42-107002	Mairzy Doats	24 Mar 44	MIA 21 Jun 44 (Morningstar)	42
42-107028	(No Name)	8 Apr 44	MIA 28 May 44 (Determan)	15
42-107200	(No Name)	23 Apr 44	MIA 24 Apr 44 (Stewart)	1
43-37590	Neva - The Silver Lady	7 Jun 44	Trfd Kingman, AZ	126
43-37838	Fearless Fosdick	27 Jun 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Litman)	19
43-38065	Princess Pat II	28 Jul 44	C/L 15 Feb 45 (Poole)	61
43-38176	Bouncing Betty II	16 Aug 44	MIA 28 Sep 44 (Mayer)	5
43-38186	(No Name)	16 Aug 44	MIA 28 Sep 44 (Gillespie)	4
43-38191	Shasta	16 Aug 44	Tax Acdt 25 Apr 45 (Baily)	45
43-38999	Emma	17 Dec 44	Trfd Kingman, AZ 25 Nov 45	45
43-39096	Sky Demon	28 Jan 45	To Walnut Ridge,AR 1 Apr 45	32
43-39160	"G" for George	4 Feb 45	MIA 20 Mar 45 (Taub)	18
43-39233	(No Name)	10 Apr 45	Trfd Kingman, AZ	2
43-39285	(No Name)	11 Apr 45	Trfd Kingman, Az	2
43-39450	(No Name)	10 Apr 45	To Phillips Field, MD	2
44-6006	(No Name)	30 Apr 44	Trfd Kingman, AZ	102
44-6086	My Blonde Baby	27 May 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Larson)	50
44-6291	(No Name)	26 Jul 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Smith)	14
44-6316	(No Name)		C/L 12 Sep 44 (Lay)	54*
44-6503	Lady Alta	17 Oct 44	MIA 21 Nov 44 (Glass)	14*

44-8326	(No Name)	10 Sep 44	Salvaged 21 Oct 44	8*
44-8351	(No Name)	12 Nov 44	Salvaged 10 May 45	33
44-8427	Henn's Revenge	23 Oct 44	MIA 10 Apr 45 (Murray)	69
44-8484	(No Name)	5 Jan 45	MIA 30 Mar 44 (Shumake)	3
44-8568	(No Name)	22 Jan 45	Trfd Walnut Ridge, AR	13
44-8590	(No Name)	17 Jan 45	C/L 16 Feb 45 (Goering)	0
44-8868	(No Name)	?	? 1 Feb 45	6
44-8876	(No Name)	2 Apr 45	Trfd Walnut Ridge, AR	6*

Abbreviations Used:

* Missions Flown and Aborts
MIA Missing in Action
C/L Crash Landing
CR Crashed
LOC Landed on the Continent
B/L Belly Landing