

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 240

11 September 1944

Target: Synthetic Oil Plant at Lutzkendorf, near Halle, Ger.

Crews Dispatched: 26

Length of Mission: 7 hours, 32 minutes

Bomb Load: 10 x 500 lb G.P. M43 bombs

Bombing Altitudes: 27,900 & 26,800 ft

Ammo Fired: 31,155 rounds

The 303rd BG(H) again dispatched a small number of B-17s to attack the Lutzkendorf synthetic oil plant. The secondary target, the aero-engine works at Eisenbach, last resort Erfurt Airfield and PFF target military installations in Merseburg. Aircraft #42-107206 *Old Black Magic*, 359BS (Lt. **Akers**) turned back over Stamford due to a supercharger problem.



Molesworth Lady by Keith Hill

*Mercy's Madhouse B-17G #42-97557 (358BS) VK-X
Village of Molesworth can be seen in the misty background.*

The primary target was bombed with 240 500-lb. G.P. M43 bombs from 27,900 and 26,800 ft. with fair results. A 5/10 low cloud cover, with tops at 7,000 ft., permitted visual bombing, but clear results were obscured by the clouds. One aircraft dropped 10 500-lb. bombs on Grouzberg as a target of opportunity. Another dropped 10 500-lb. bombs on an unidentified German target of opportunity. Moderate contrails obscured visibility at the

bombing altitude. A few enemy aircraft were seen (FW-190s and ME-410s) with no attacks on the 303rd BG(H). Fighter support, consisting of 164 P-38s and P-51s, was good. A little meager and inaccurate flak was encountered at several points. Major battle damage was sustained by five B-17s and five had minor damage.

Aircraft #42-38057 (*No Name*), 427BS (Lt. **Brown**), landed at an airfield near Paris. The crew was uninjured. All other aircraft returned safely to Base with no casualties.

Eighth Air Force fighters had the highest losses and enemy fighter claims to date. Seventeen P-51s were lost. Enemy aircraft claims were 115 destroyed, 7 probables and 23 damaged in the air and 42 destroyed and 3 damaged on the ground—a total of 230 claims.

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - A

<u>Cole-Mainwaring</u>				
137-PFF				
	<u>Akers</u>		<u>Whitlock</u>	
	206		557-PFF	
	<u>Baltes</u>			<u>Mayer</u>
	484			574
<u>Chance</u>		<u>McDavid</u>	<u>Grisham</u>	<u>Heleen</u>
177		289	176	200
	<u>Freeland</u>			<u>White</u>
	065			316
<u>Holm</u>		<u>McConnell</u>	_____	_____
590		238		
	_____			_____

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point - Group B

<u>Flesh-Singleton</u>				
311				
	<u>Eisenwinter</u>		<u>Gano</u>	
	197		099	
	<u>Brown</u>			<u>Shields</u>
	057			340
<u>Drewry</u>		<u>Newton</u>	<u>Hallum</u>	<u>Bennett</u>
597		411	546	124
	<u>Crawford</u>			<u>Michaelis</u>
	861			329
<u>Foley</u>		<u>Railing</u>	_____	_____
860		893		
	_____			_____

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

<u>CREW POSITIONS</u> 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 NG - Nose Gunner RG - Radio Gunner WG - Waist Gunner LWG - Left Waist Gunner RWG - Right Waist Gunner GUN - Gunner	VI - Voice Interpreter OBS - Observer PAS - Passenger PHO - Photographer <u>RESULTS OF MISSION</u> KIA - Killed in action WIA - Wounded in action MIA - Missing in action POW - Prisoner of war	DOW - Died of wounds EVD - Evaded the enemy INT - Interned in neu cntry 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 #42-31574 *Ole George*

P	Mayer, Walter J., 1Lt
CP	Gradle, Raymond B., 2Lt
NAV	Poehlman, Robert L., 2Lt
BOM	Bohannon, Jackson R., 2Lt
ENG	Hicks, Douglas E., S/Sgt
WG	Withers, Frederick J., Sgt
RO	Tuescher, Ernest, S/Sgt
BT	Vanderhoff, Grant W., Sgt
TG	Gendron, Ernest J., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-38176 *Bouncing Betty II*

P	Grisham, Rufus W., Jr., 2Lt
CP	Cox, William H., 2Lt
NAV	Hartel, Gale E., 2Lt
BOM	Celich, Nicholas J., 2Lt
ENG	Scheuermann, Edwin P., S/Sgt
BT	Loessin, Gerhard W., Jr., Sgt
RO	Post, Harry R., Sgt
WG	Buie, Ben M., Sgt
TG	Willis, Arnold, Sgt

B-17G #43-38065 *Princess Pat 2*

P	Freeland, Troit D., 1Lt
CP	Prudhoe, Louis J., 2Lt
NAV	Kosta, Alexander, 2Lt
BOM	Nugent, Robert F., 2Lt
ENG	Abernathy, Wylie C., S/Sgt
WG	Moran, George J., Sgt
RO	Wilson, Clarence K., S/Sgt
TG	Dyszal, Bernard J., Sgt
BT	Cerzosimo, Bernard P., Sgt

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

P	Holm, Maurice M., 2Lt
CP	Fletcher, Harold D., F/O
NAV	Howard, Paul A., 2Lt
BOM	Davis, Edward A., 2Lt
ENG	Compton, M.C., Sgt
WG	Huck, Robert L., Sgt
RO	Dale, John A., Sgt
BT	Ebert, Preston P., Sgt
TG	Copeland, George E., Sgt

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

P	White, Franklin F., 2Lt
CP	Petersen, John N., 2Lt
NAV	Kaufman, Seymour, F/O
BOM	Ross, Robert M., 2Lt
ENG	Adams, William J., S/Sgt
WG	Hein, Monroe C., Sgt
RO	Vesely, Henry L., S/Sgt
BT	Gilman, Frederick S., S/Sgt
TG	Campbell, James R., Sgt

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

P	McConnell, John, 1Lt
CP	Twomey, John M., 2Lt
NAV	Atwood, Thomas M., 2Lt
BOM	Bennett, Robert W., 2Lt
ENG	Johnson, Jack M., S/Sgt
WG	Schneider, Lawrence J., Sgt
RO	Rego, Charles J., S/Sgt
TG	Krebs, Henry R., Sgt
BT	Messerich, Jerome P., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-38200 *(No Name)*

P	Heleen, Carl M., 2Lt
CP	Davidson, Stanley V., 2Lt
NAV	Hodenus, Frank L., 2Lt
BOM	Cummings, Grover C.H., 2Lt
ENG	Hahn, Charles L., Sgt
WG	Brown, Jennings G., Sgt
RO	Gast, William H., Sgt
BT	Gaudette, Charles W., Sgt
TG	Dunford, Jefferson H., Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-102484 *Heller's Angel*

P Baltes, George E., 1Lt
 CP Marble, Robert A., 2Lt
 NAV Prince, Alan M., 1Lt
 BOM Stone, Leonard, 2Lt
 ENG Stenger, John J., Jr., S/Sgt
 RO Giltenboth, Charles L., S/Sgt
 BT Kanz, Milton C., Sgt
 TG Posluszny, Branislav B., Sgt
 WG Godsey, Austin C., Sgt

B-17G #42-31177 *Lonesome Polecat*

P Chance, Arthur F., 1Lt
 CP Johnson, Robert H., 2Lt
 NAV McCarver, Eugene D., 2Lt
 BOM Couch, William M., 2Lt
 ENG Menasco, Elmer W., Sgt
 RO Miller, Albert, Sgt
 BT Moss, Shirley L., Sgt
 TG Hejna, Dennis R., Sgt
 WG Torre, Leo A., Sgt

B-17G #42-107206 *Old Black Magic*

P Akers, Robert O., 1Lt
 CP Giddings, Leslie W., 2Lt
 NAV Montone, Neil A., 2Lt
 TOG Cappucci, Joseph R., S/Sgt
 ENG Shanker, Herbert, S/Sgt
 RO Meyer, Gerald E., S/Sgt
 BT Saam, Donal W., Sgt
 TG Vogel, Cletus H., Sgt
 WG Meyer, Fulton R., Sgt
 (Abortive)

B-17G #42-97557 *Mercy's Madhouse* - PFF

P Whitlock, Garland M., 1Lt
 CP Bergeron, Arthur A., 2Lt
 NAV Macaulay, Edward H., 2Lt
 NAV Lifshus, Lawrence, 2Lt
 BOM Glover, Fred E., 2Lt
 ENG Harwat, Edward D., S/Sgt
 RO Pomicter, Stanley, Jr., S/Sgt
 WG Boyle, Francis L., Jr., Sgt
 TG Gremillion, Raymond L., S/Sgt

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

P McDavid, Philip H., 2Lt
 CP Beeman, Richard, 2Lt
 NAV King, Robert L., 2Lt
 TOG Wolfe, Ralph E., S/Sgt
 ENG Hall, Thomas M., S/Sgt
 RO Sikkema, Wilfred J., Sgt
 BT Johnson, Ralph R., Sgt
 WG Linville, Warren N., Sgt
 TG Welch, John R., S/Sgt

B-17G #44-8137 *(No Name)* - PFF

P Cole, Richard H., LtCol
 CP Mainwaring, Charles O., 2Lt
 NAV Hogan, Paul G., 1Lt
 NAV Hammond, Raymond D., 2Lt
 NAV Estes, Keith E., 1Lt
 BOM Hoover, William L., 1Lt
 ENG Gauthier, Leon C., S/Sgt
 RO Tognetti, Paul A., S/Sgt
 TG Scheibman, Herman B., 2Lt
 WG Angeloff, James P., Sgt

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Foley, Norment, 1Lt
CP	Rowe, Robert A., 2Lt
NAV	Conklin, James M., 2Lt
BOM	Littlefield, Robert I., 2Lt
ENG	Snell, Edward A., S/Sgt
RO	Johnson, Vernelle V., S/Sgt
TG	Stewart, Charles R., Sgt
BT	Waltmire, Harrel A., Jr., Sgt
WG	Rice, Charles G, Jr., S/Sgt

B-17G #44-6124 (No Name)

P	Bennett, Paul K., 2Lt
CP	Goff, Lloyd E., 2Lt
NAV	Lane, Elwin A., F/O
BOM	Singular, William H., 2Lt
ENG	Gonshor, Edmund A., S/Sgt
RO	Shulan, Gerald M., S/Sgt
BT	Jones, Charles E., Sgt
TG	Essig, Charles G., Sgt
WG	Marucco, Leroy N., Sgt

B-17G #42-97893 *Minnie the Moocher*

P	Railing, Charles F., Jr., 2Lt
CP	McCarl, Howard D., 2Lt
NAV	Leibovitz, Meyer, 2Lt
BOM	Willson, Louis H., 2Lt
ENG	Mellon, James B., Jr., Sgt
RO	Hanna, William M., Sgt
BT	Burgeson, Lawrence L., Sgt
TG	Barber, Ralph K., Sgt
WG	Cole, Lorne R., Sgt

B-17G #42-31340 *Miss Liberty*

P	Shields, Edward F., 2Lt
CP	Cooter, William M., 2Lt
NAV	Mundell, William K., F/O
BOM	Sudderth, Ralph M., 1Lt
ENG	Nagel, Leeland J., S/Sgt
RO	Dennerle, Almo W., S/Sgt
BT	Horwitz, Charles, Sgt
TG	Skubal, Joseph J., Sgt
WG	Sheehan, Arthur E., Jr., Sgt

B-17G #42-97861 *Iza Vailable III*

P	Crawford, William C., 1Lt
CP	Kidd, Warren D., 2Lt
NAV	Wade, Robert E., 2Lt
BOM	Woodbury, Benton R., 2Lt
ENG	LeRoux, Lyle W., T/Sgt
RO	Miller, William L., T/Sgt
BT	Whitney, Daniel F., S/Sgt
WG	Ellis, Richard R., T/Sgt
TG	Barder, Emmett R., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97546 *Idaliza*

P	Hallum, Bertrand, Jr., 2Lt
CP	Romstad, Alfred M., 2Lt
NAV	Olson, Charles F., 2Lt
BOM	Fetzko, John, Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Young, Horace B., S/Sgt
RO	Botkin, Jack S., S/Sgt
BT	Ax, Heinz R., Sgt
TG	Clippinger, Robert E., S/Sgt
WG	Stroud, George E., Jr., Sgt

B-17G #42-97329 *Flak Hack*

P	Michaelis, Arthur D., 1Lt
CP	Huckins, Earl R., 2Lt
NAV	Lillig, Thomas J., 2Lt
BOM	Schobert, William A., Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Jones, Donald E., S/Sgt
RO	Jensen, Dale E., S/Sgt
BT	Barth, Harry W., Sgt
TG	Healy, Edward P., Sgt
WG	Hlavac, George A., Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

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

P	Newton, George C., 2Lt
CP	Raley, Stonewall J., 2Lt
NAV	Jenkins, John I., 2Lt
BOM	Lewis, Willard L., Jr., 2Lt
TT	Schneider, Joseph R., Sgt
BT	Hartog, Samuel S., Sgt
RO	Corn, Byron D., Sgt
TG	Karr, Leslie E., Sgt
WG	Simon, Lawrence E., Sgt

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

P	Drewry, James A., 1Lt
CP	Schneider, Richard H., 2Lt
NAV	Mayo, Archie W., 2Lt
BOM	Burke, James D., 2Lt
TT	Dorrah, Walter R., S/Sgt
BT	Morin, Donald P., S/Sgt
RO	Nash, Leslie G., S/Sgt
TG	Gude, R.D., S/Sgt
WG	Koch, Edwin H., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-107099 *Old 99*

P	Gano, Frederick, 2Lt
CP	Flanders, Wesley J., 2Lt
NAV	Maniscalco, John B., 2Lt
BOM	Blessing, Gerald D., 2Lt
TT	Anthony, George E., Sgt
BT	Coyle, Arthur J., Sgt
RO	Meixner, Edward M., Sgt
TG	Nelson, Edward F., Sgt
WG	Burkermer, Robert F., Sgt

B-17G #43-38197 *(No Name)*

P	Eisenwinter, Philip D., 1Lt
CP	Waggoner, Richard C., 2Lt
NAV	Norman, Frederick J., 2Lt
BOM	Campbell, Robert C., 2Lt
TT	Jones, Jesse T., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Veljkov, Paul, Sgt
RO	Murphy, William A., S/Sgt
TG	Delcher, Merlin S., S/Sgt
WG	Hiibner, Okey L., S/Sgt

B-17G #43-38057 *(No Name)*

P	Brown, Tracy D., Jr., 1Lt
CP	Van Antwerp, Robert G., 2Lt
NAV	Rusk, Donald M., 2Lt
BOM	Sandhagen, Paul R., 2Lt
TT	Duffek, Francis T., S/Sgt
BT	Born, Robert S., Sgt
RO	Islava, Joseph O., S/Sgt
TG	Blim, Raymond C., Sgt
WG	Fisher, Clelland F., S/Sgt

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

P	Flesh, William R., 1Lt
CP	Singleton, Daniel H., 2Lt
NAV	Tollack, Howard V., 1Lt
BOM	Coughlin, George A., 1Lt
TT	Garrett, Joe W., T/Sgt
BT	Tambe, Angelo J., T/Sgt
RO	Bridge, Howard R., S/Sgt
TG	Noah, Norbert O., S/Sgt
WG	Price, John B., S/Sgt