

303rd BG (H) Combat Mission No. 127

24 March 1944

Target: City area, Frankfurt, Germany (PFF)

Crews Dispatched: 20 + 2 spares

Length of Mission: 6 hours, 50 minutes

Bomb Load: 42 x 65 lb M47A1 Incendiary bombs

Bombing Altitude: 23,000 ft

Ammo Fired: 1,310 rounds

Major **Mitchell**, flying his 30th and last combat mission, led twenty-two Group aircraft, including two spares, to bomb the Kugelfischer ball bearing works in Schweinfurt, Germany, with the Dunlap rubber works at Hamm as the secondary target. An airdrome at Bonn, Germany, was designated the last resort target. A late supplement to the field order specified that Frankfurt, Germany, would be the PFF target if the other targets could not be bombed visually.

The two spare aircraft returned early as ordered. Lt. **Seddon**, in #42-38154 (*No Name*) 358BS, returned after approximately three hours of flying when his No. 3 engine failed and No. 4 engine ran away.

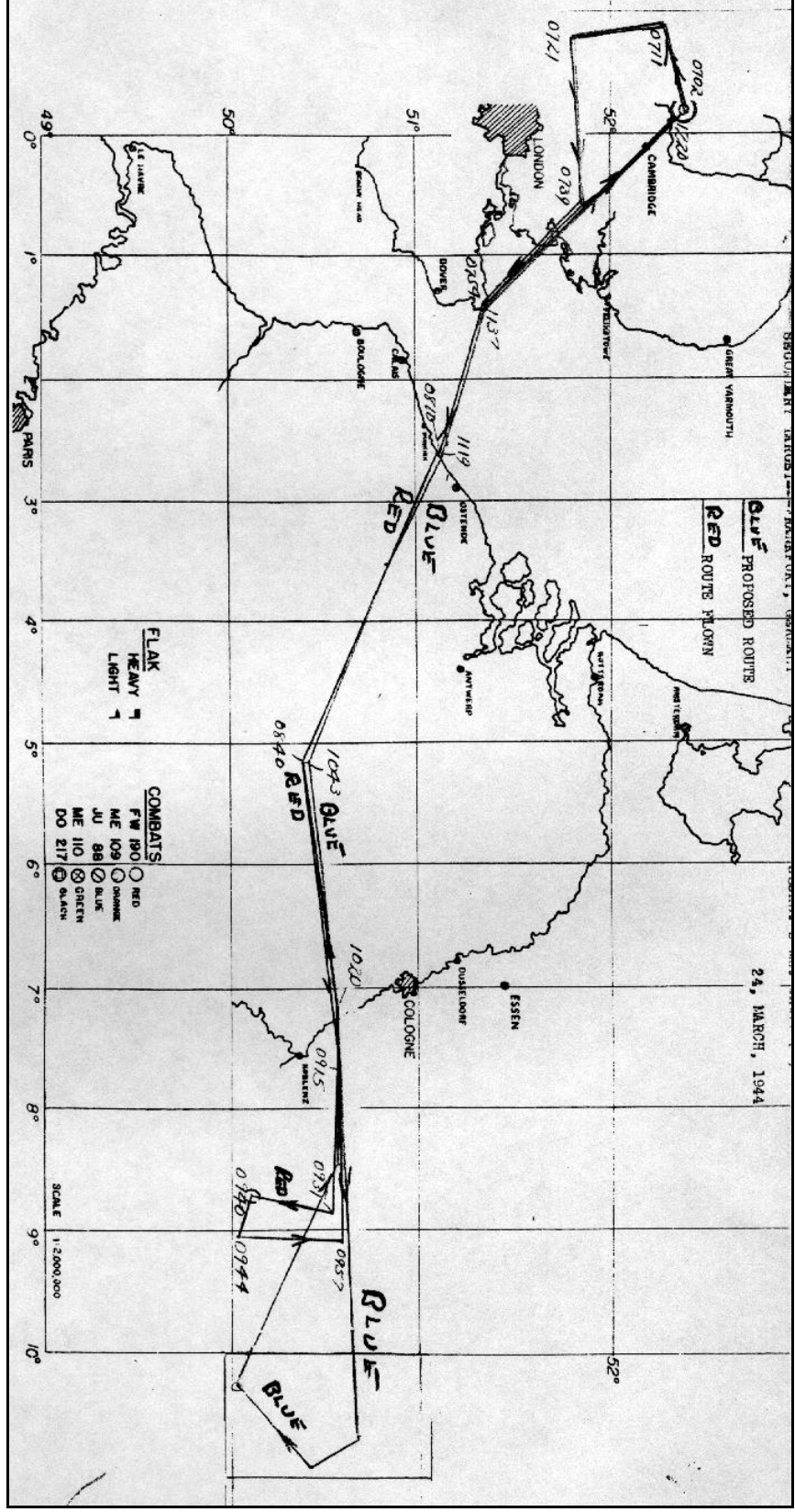
Nineteen B-17s dropped a total of 798 65-lb. M47A1 incendiary bombs from 23,000 feet on Frankfurt, the PFF target. Through a small hole in the almost total cloud cover, hits could be seen on the north side of the river in the walled area of the old city. Some bombs hit in the river. Apparently these were bombs of the other Groups, the bursts from the 303rd BG(H) incendiary bombs could not be seen.

No enemy aircraft were observed. There were no attacks or claims. Moderate accurate flak was seen at three other points. A heavy and excellent escort of P-38s, P-47s and P-51s accompanied the bombers all the way to the target and back. There were no casualties and all aircraft returned safely. Only seven aircraft had minor flak damage.

Major **Mitchell** said, "We had a hell of a lot of fighter escort, but no fighter opposition. I didn't see enough flak to bother to take evasive action. I was rather disappointed, as I expected some opposition. We bombed Frankfurt, but we couldn't see much of the results through the little hole in the clouds." Sgt. Richard S. **Brooks**, tail gunner said, "It wasn't very exciting. The flak didn't bother us any and we didn't see any German fighters at all."

803
 3-24-44
 121 FRANKFURT
 T-739

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12756, SECTION 3.3, 745005
 BY VSW MAR. DATE 5/18/88



Route Map

Mission 127 - 2

Aircraft Formation at Assembly Point

<u>Mitchell-Packard</u>				
574				
	<u>Hofmann</u>		<u>Larson</u>	
	617		622	
	<u>Worthley</u>			
	739			
	<u>Ferguson</u>		<u>Seddon</u>	
	177		154	
	<u>Wilson</u>		<u>Flesh</u>	
	432		241	
<u>Stevens</u>		<u>Thomas</u>		<u>Jones</u>
590		204		885
	<u>Glass</u>		<u>Mars</u>	
	841		423	
			<u>Sullivan</u>	
			027	
<u>Lynch</u>		<u>Eisele</u>		<u>Wood</u>
754		552		200
	<u>Savage</u>		<u>Shope</u>	
	483		060	
			<u>Estes</u>	
			051	
				<u>Hybert</u>
				Spare - 830
				<u>Assenheimer</u>
				Spare - 386

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 #42-97617 (No Name)

P	Hofmann, Raymond, 2Lt
CP	Brothers, Calvin S., 2Lt
NAV	Levy, Herbert E., 2Lt
BOM	Israelson, Elmer P., 2Lt
ENG	Blakeney, William R., Jr., S/Sgt
BT	Crenshaw, Ollie G., Sgt
RO	Berman, Seymour, S/Sgt
LWG	Miller, David I., Sgt
LWG	Lawson, Tracy W., S/Sgt
TG	Hendin, Bernard J., Sgt

B-17G #42-97622 Paper Dollie

P	Larson, Roy A., 2Lt
CP	Duncan, Ronald E., 2Lt
NAV	Mikulich, Louis F., 2Lt
BOM	Wilson, Claud, Jr., 2Lt
ENG	Campbell, Thomas J., Sgt
BT	Stone, Robert L., Jr., Sgt
RO	Culp, Everett E., Sgt
LWG	Schinker, Arthur W., Sgt
TG	Hodge, Herman L., Sgt
RWG	Gamon, Edward J., Sgt

B-17G #42-38154 (No Name)

P	Seddon, John R., 2Lt
CP	Burks, Charles D., 2Lt
NAV	Fitzpatrick, George M., 2Lt
BOM	Meldrich, Walter A., 2Lt
ENG	Rogers, Edward E., S/Sgt
LWG	Nemchick, John, Sgt
RO	Hess, John C., S/Sgt
RWG	Holcomb, I.L., Sgt
TG	Mummery, William T., Sgt
BT	Maloney, Donald F., Sgt

(Abortive Sortie)

B-17G #42-31177 Lonesome Polecat

P	Ferguson, Wendell Z., 2Lt
CP	Moody, James D., 2Lt
NAV	Brown, James F., 2Lt
BOM	Schmid, Ralph D., 2Lt
ENG	Matthews, David R., Sgt
LWG	Smithson, Clyde E., Sgt
RO	Phillips, Robert B., S/Sgt
RWG	Rogers, Thomas J., Sgt
TG	Brooks, Richard S., Sgt
BT	Rhodes, Kenneth G., Sgt

B-17G #42-31739 Pugnacious Peter

P	Worthley, Joe R., 1Lt
CP	Moreau, Joseph A., 2Lt
NAV	Kelly, William T., 2Lt
BOM	Larson, Albert W., 2Lt
ENG	Rossmann, Carl H., Sgt
RWG	Tate, Royce G., Sgt
RO	Lowe, Gareth W., Sgt
LWG	Tomasini, Michael, Sgt
TG	Fox, Howard E., Sgt
BT	Ross, Ben A., Sgt

B-17G #42-31574 Ole George

P	Mitchell, Kirk R., Maj
CP	Packard, Peter L.M., Capt
NAV	Worthan, Lawrence C., 1Lt
BOM	Armstrong, Charles C., 1Lt
ENG	Haggerty, Jerome J., T/Sgt
LWG	White, James I., 1Lt
RO	Rumpf, Charles W., T/Sgt
BT	Chaddick, Neal T., S/Sgt
TG	Stender, Francis H., T/Sgt
RWG	Schmeltzer, Charles S., S/Sgt

359th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-31830 Marie

P Hybert, Arthur J., 1Lt
CP Calwell, Lucien B., 2Lt
NAV Carey, William D., 2Lt
BOM Kelly, James H., Jr., 2Lt
ENG Broderick, George V., S/Sgt
RO Ratford, Edward V., S/Sgt
RWG Gilcrease, Roland L., Sgt
BT Jaehne, Charles R., S/Sgt
TG Barmak, Paul J., S/Sgt
LWG Neathery, Ralph P., S/Sgt
(Spare)

B-17G #42-31483 Bonnie B

P Savage, John N., 1Lt
CP Marsh, Richard K., 2Lt
NAV Walsh, Myles J., 2Lt
BOM Joyce, John D., 2Lt
ENG Davis, Eugene B., S/Sgt
RO Minks, George A., S/Sgt
BT Munson, James E., S/Sgt
TG Moessner, Raymond J., S/Sgt
LWG Rogers, Warren G., Sgt
RWG Dean, Raymond N., Sgt
PHO Mahaffey, William D., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-31386 Sky Duster

P Assenheimer, Edwin H., 2Lt
P Sassone, Joseph C., 2Lt
NAV Brooks, James, 2Lt
BOM Livermore, William D., 2Lt
ENG Fouss, Howard E., T/Sgt
RO Mouser, Lloyd C., T/Sgt
RWG Robichaud, Joseph E., S/Sgt
LWG Jones, Derrell S., S/Sgt
BT Franceschini, James V., Sgt
TG Robb, Charles W., S/Sgt
(Spare)



B-17G #42-31386 Sky Duster 359BS (BN-W)

360th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-31754 (No Name)

P	Lynch, Robert J., 2Lt
CP	Cohl, Jules R., 2Lt
NAV	Sbrolla, Emilio M., 2Lt
BOM	Merz, Dick W., 2Lt
ENG	Roszell, Thomas M., Sgt
RO	Schuler, Frank H., Sgt
BT	Chudej, Josef R., Sgt
TG	Krogh, Kenneth R., Sgt
LWG	Schoonmaker, Elwood, Jr., Sgt
RWG	Pleasanton, Kenneth H., Sgt

B-17G #42-97552 The Road Back

P	Eisele, Roy, 2Lt
CP	Girard, Louis F., 2Lt
NAV	Schenker, Murray, 2Lt
BOM	Gladstone, Melvin, 2Lt
ENG	Cowley, Louis M., S/Sgt
RWG	Bell, Richard L., Sgt
RO	Millard, Ralph, S/Sgt
LWG	Butler, Raymond, S/Sgt
BT	Longoria, Efrain, Sgt
TG	Vallee, Edward J., S/Sgt

B-17F #42-37841 Banshee

P	Glass, Henry F., 1Lt
CP	McMahan, Eugene A. 2Lt
NAV	Pepe, Nicholas A., 2Lt
BOM	Robrock, Paul A., 2Lt
ENG	Carbillano, Dominick J., Sgt
LWG	Stellato, Francis A., S/Sgt
RO	Miller, Gordon R., T/Sgt
RWG	Patrone, Frank, S/Sgt
BT	Michael, David O., S/Sgt
TG	Roberts, James E., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-97590 Virgin Mary

P	Stevens, Joseph E., 2Lt
CP	Earhart, Amon E., 2Lt
NAV	Fleming, Samuel P., 2Lt
BOM	Finley, Robert A., 2Lt
ENG	Brewster, John L., T/Sgt
RO	Deerfield, Eddie, Sgt
BT	Schultz, Melvin E., S/Sgt
TG	Edwards, Marvin R., Sgt
RWG	Fitko, Marion F., S/Sgt
LWG	Cole, Edgar C., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-38204 (No Name)

P	Thomas, Earl N., 1Lt
CP	Williams, John T., 2Lt
NAV	Walenta, Clarence V., 2Lt
BOM	Scott, Harold L., 2Lt
ENG	Mason, John W., T/Sgt
RWG	Flenniken, William, S/Sgt
RO	DeWitte, Victor W., S/Sgt
TG	Harvey, Roy D., S/Sgt
BT	Johnston, Harold A., Sgt
LWG	Books, Carl O., Sgt

B-17G #42-31432 Old Glory

P	Wilson, Fred F., 1Lt
CP	Bowen, James W., 2Lt
NAV	Przybyszewski, Henry S., Lt
BOM	Fahlbusch, Joseph F., 2L
ENG	Hubleby, Warren G., S/Sgt
RO	Mirkin, Herman H., T/Sgt
LWG	Petree, Wendell R., S/Sgt
BT	Webbink, Elvin F., S/Sgt
TG	Roads, Dwight W., Jr., S/Sgt
RWG	Goland, Harry, T/Sgt

427th Bombardment Squadron Crew Lists

B-17G #42-31060 *Poque Ma Hone*

P Shope, George W., Jr., 1Lt
 CP Jenkins, Elton L., 2Lt
 NAV Cronin, Ernest L., 1Lt
 BOM Meagher, Robert W., 2Lt
 TT Relyea, Ralph R., T/Sgt
 RO Kuehl, Fred T., T/Sgt
 BT Plante, Royal F., S/Sgt
 TG Smith, Nyle F., S/Sgt
 LWG Doyle, Robert V., S/Sgt
 RWG Hadley, Owen W., S/Sgt

B-17G #42-31423 *Jigger Rooche*

P Mars, Charles W., 2Lt
 CP Dallas, William J., 2Lt
 NAV Landry, Robert J., 2Lt
 BOM Kersch, Conrad J., T/Sgt
 TT Weed, Lowrey A., Jr., T/Sgt
 BT King, Earl J., S/Sgt
 RO McGinnis, Eddie, S/Sgt
 TG Angione, Vincent A., S/Sgt
 RWG Senechal, Albert J., Sgt
 LWG Nivens, Delbert S., Sgt

B-17G #42-32027 *Betty Jane*

P Sullivan, Francis X., 1Lt
 CP Brangwin, Kenneth R., 2Lt
 NAV Halligan, Robert W., 2Lt
 BOM Bawol, Walter S., 2Lt
 TTG Frey, James L., S/Sgt
 BT Latta, Thomas B., T/Sgt
 RO Sullivan, James J., T /Sgt
 TG Stone, Vernon W., S/Sgt
 RWG Swanson, Charles A., S/Sgt
 LWG Keely, Eugene F., S/Sgt

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

P Jones, Wilbur H., 2Lt
 CP Wallace, Walstein W., 2Lt
 NAV Skarsten, Albert B., 2Lt
 BOM Kennedy, William J., 2Lt
 TT Klunk, James A., T/Sgt
 BT Calnon, Frederick N., S/Sgt
 RO Kosher, Albert J., Sgt
 TG Kenney, Horace S., Jr., Sgt
 LWG Thompson, Frederick A., Sgt
 RWG Dimowitz, Morris, Sgt

B-17G #42-31241 *Spirit of Wannette*

P Flesh, William R., 1Lt
 CP Cotham, Willie C., 2Lt
 NAV Peacock, Lawrence A., 1Lt
 BOM Wallen, George A., 1Lt
 TT Souder, Lee F., Jr., Sgt
 RO Murphy, John J., T/Sgt
 BT McMahan, Bonnar P., S/Sgt
 TG McLaughlin, Jesse W., S/Sgt
 LWG Kossin, Jack, S/Sgt
 RWG Rider, Wilbert, Sgt

B-17G #42-38051 *My Yorkshire Dream*

P Estes, Shirley W., Lt
 CP Byers, Ballard T., Lt
 NAV Shemwell, John T., 2Lt
 BOM Minter, Thomas W., Lt
 TT Price, Jack J., S/Sgt
 BT Wiley, Nathan H., Sgt
 RO Wagner, Wayne, S/Sgt
 TG Ross, S.C., S/Sgt
 RWG Silrum, Orvis K., Sgt
 LWG Ford, Thomas P., Sgt

B-17G #42-31200 *Old Crow*

P Wood, Vere A., 1Lt
 CP Greenwood, Ernest G., 2Lt
 NAV Pinnette, William S., Lt
 BOM Brown, Thomas G., 2Lt
 TT Tevis, John E., S/Sgt
 BT Grant, Thomas V., S/Sgt
 RO Brooks, Winnie R., S/Sgt
 RWG Heathershaw, Charles L., S/Sgt
 TG Helton, Edward, S/Sgt
 LWG Fontaine, Clifford F., Sgt