

**2nd Lt Leonard G Wisniewski was assigned as Navigator (N) to 327th Bomb Squadron on 6 September 1944 to 2nd Lt Clyde L Wren Crew**

CREW AJ-92 (E0900LJ/16297LJ-1/1)		327TH BOMB SQ (E)
2D LT CLYDE L. WREN 0764104 (P)	2D LT EDWARD (NMI) CONDON 0763957 (CP)	
2D LT LEONARD G. WISNIEWSKI 0717933 (N)	2D LT JOHN R. SAUER 0723180 (B)	
Cpl (757) JOHN B. KAMINSKY 33605271	S/Sgt (748) WILLIAM E. HART 34087313	
Sgt (748) TROY D. BLASSINGAME 38341279	Cpl (612) EDWIN J. PRESSLER 37521743	
Cpl (611) JAMES E. SAUER 35879607	Cpl (611) WILBREN W. STANTEEN, JR 18232142	

2nd Lt Clyde L Wren 0764104 (P)  
 2nd Lt Leonard G Wisniewski 0717933 (N)  
 Cpl John B Kaminsky 33605271  
 Sgt Troy D Blessingame 38341279  
 Cpl James E Sauer 35879607

2nd Lt Edward (NMI) Condon 0763957 (CP)  
 2nd Lt John R Sauer 0723180 (B)  
 S/Sgt William E Hart 34087313  
 Cpl Edwin J Pressler 37521743  
 Cpl Wilbrew W Stanteen, Jr 18232142

Missing name for Bombardier I believe would be 2nd Lt Leonard G Wisniewski. He flew both Navigator and Bombardier position as you will see in the following missions he is included on.



Wren Crew Photo & IDs Provided by Damian Usry in 327th FB Page Post

1ST ROW LEFT TO RIGHT  
 SGT TROY D. BLESSINGAME UPPER GUN  
 CPL WILBREN W. STANTEEN TAIL "  
 CPL JAMES R. SAUER BALL "  
 CPL EDWIN J. PRESSLER ARMOR "  
 CPL JOHN E. KAMINSKY RADIO "  
 SSGT WILLIAM E. HART ENGINEER  
 2ND ROW  
 2ND LT CLYDE L. WREN - PILOT  
 " JOHN R. SAUER - NAVIGATOR  
 " BOMBARDIER  
 " EDWARD CONDON CO PILOT  
 JULY 31, 1944

## 13 September 1944

**Pilot 2nd Lt Clyde L Wren flew as Co-Pilot and 2nd Lt John R Sauer as Navigator with 1st Lt Harry W Eck and were MIA on 13 September 1944. I don't believe that Lt. Wisniewski ever got the chance to fly a mission with his assigned Pilot and this appears that it may have been Lts Wren and Sauer's first mission. (Parts of the September 1944 Loading Lists are not legible but it seems likely.)**

13th September, 1944. Mission # 194 to Merseburg, Germany; Altenburg Oil Refineries; 4 lost. T/Sgt. Theodore C. Franklin – 327th Sq - RO - awarded Soldiers' Medal for rescuing T/Sgt. Wm. A. Sanderson - F/E - from burning plane, although severely wounded. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, "The Route as Briefed" - John S. Sloan, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"It was another rough mission. Flak was moderate but accurate, fighters left us pretty much alone. The 327th lost 4—2nd Lt Warren D. Stallings [42-31995 (327th) MACR 8885, lost an engine over the target but made it to Dubendorf, Switzerland, where the crew was interned. 1st Lt Harry W. Eck, [42-31250 (327th) MACR 8882], hit by flak, crashed at Neustadt, Germany—8 KIA, 1 POW. 1st Lt Jack A. Peck, [42-97848 (327th) MACR 10286], also damaged by flak, crashed at Altenburg, Germany—7 KIA, 2 POW. 1st Lt Howard C. Donlon [43-38389 (327th) MACR 8889, was blasted by flak about 10 miles due east of Merseburg, the aircraft breaking in two with fire blazing from the radio room to the tail. He slid out of formation, dropping to about 22,000 feet, where the aircraft blew up, according to five eyewitnesses. The ship landed at Brandis, Germany—8 KIA, 2 POW.

1st Lt E. E. Hendrickson 44-6158 (327th) MACR 8881], made it back to England after being hit in the bomb bay/radio room area. Seriously damaged, he made an emergency landing at RAF Woodbridge—1 KIA, 1 WIA and 1 MIA. The aircraft was salvaged a few days later. Note: The missing crewman was T/Sgt. William B. Post, radio operator/gunner, who was blown from the aircraft—his 23rd mission. His parachute had only one snap onto his harness, which held when his canopy, full of holes, deployed. He was found by a group of angry German civilians who were restrained by a soldier. Badly wounded, he was hospitalized, then became a POW, returning to the US after the war." (Turner).

Appendix A: MERSEBURG, 13 September, 1944—Donlon, Howard C; Ruckman, Robert L; Gburczyk, Julius W; Vicars, Henry C; Christenson, Orin E; Turner, Robert G; Matlock, John D; Marino, Joe R; Butler, Wayne F; Krause, Gustave W; Peck, Jack A; McMahan, Gilbert E, Jr.; Yaksh, Edwin; Reynolds, Robert E; Martin, Richard E; Greene, James A; Pemberton, Robert G; Eck, Harry W; Wren, Clyde L; Sauer, John R; Wasilewski, Emil T; Hogan, John E; Keeney, Clifford E; Bono, John J; Clark, George F; Deitman, Thomas G; Stallings, Warren D; McGovern, James M; O'Connell, John P; Matthews, Harold H; Beattie, Thomas J; Lasco, Melvin; Hensley, Frank E; Katainen, Rudolph A; Schnaebele, Ernest F.



# SECRET

## APPENDIX B

### CREW MISSING IN ACTION

#### 328th Squadron

8 Sept 1944

2nd Lt Harold V. Shaw	N
Leon C. Linden	B
Sgt Harold L. Brouette	R
Gilbert A. Schnauffer	E
William B. Mooney	WG
Thomas G. Hughes	TG
Cpl Jesus P. Ortiz	BT

(7 crew members bailed out over Metz area. Pilot and CP later landed A/C in France)

#### 326th Squadron

11 Sept 1944

1st Lt John E. Glasco	P
Moses J. Lovenstein	CP
Aarne C. Karvonen	N
Albert P. Knight	B
T/Sgt Robert D. Heare	R
Ernest M. Heidt	E
S/Sgt Charles J. Wild	BT
Chester S. Hinds	WG
Glenn E. Edwards	TG

22 Sept 1944

2nd Lt Maurice J. Sample	P
Ralph Peters	CP
Eugene W. McCready	N
Anthony A. Kulikowski	B
T/Sgt John A. Kisgen	R
S/Sgt Raymond J. Reiersen	E
Sgt Ferwin S. Knutson	BT
Joseph F. Gullen	WG
Harvey F. Rueschman	TG

#### 327th Squadron

11 Sept 1944

2nd Lt Max W. Cook	P
Robert V. Willett	CP
Francis P. McDonough	N
Salvatore T. Critelli	B
Sgt Leroy L. Mohr	R
Charles E. Smith	E
William L. Young	BT
Billie L. Miller	WG
Robert E. Hostutler	TG

13 Sept 1944

1st Lt Howard C. Donlon	P
Robert L. Ruckman	CP
Julius W. Gburczyk	N
2nd Lt Henry C. Vicars	N
Orin E. Christenson	B
T/Sgt Robert G. Turner	R
John D. Matlock	E
Joe R. Marino	BT
Wayne F. Butler	WG
1st Lt Gustave W. Krause	TG

13 Sept 1944

1st Lt Harry W. Box	P
2nd Lt Clyde L. Wren	CP
John R. Sauer	N
Emil T. Wasilewski	B
S/Sgt John E. Hogan	R
Clifford E. Keeney	E
John J. Bono	BT
George F. Clark	WG
Thomas G. Daitman	TG

13 Sept 1944

2nd Lt Warren D. Stallings	P
James H. McGovern	CP
John P. ...	N

(continued)

## 19 September 1944 – A/C #42-107181? - Pilot Erwin Foote – Flew as Bombardier

1st Lt.	Erwin H. Foote	1	0-704817
1st Lt.	Robert J. Benjamin	2	0-704818
1st Lt.	John P. Anderson	3	0-704819
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Sienkowski	4	0-717511
1st Lt.	Norman J. ...	5	38488744
1st Lt.	Robert ...	6	18092317
1st Lt.	Paul ...	32	19331921
1st Lt.	George ...	33	19173539
1st Lt.	Alfred ...	34	19321507

19th September, 1944. Mission # 196 to Unna, Germany; Ordnance depot / storage. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"Unna's ordnance storage facility was the Group's target on 19th September. An 09:45 hours take-off in heavy ground fog was accomplished without incident. Bombing was by PFF through cloud cover, but fires and explosions were seen on strike photos. On return our aircraft landed away from base due to the fog in the Podington area. Crews spent the night wherever they landed."

## 22 September 1944 – Bombardier on Erwin Foote Crew

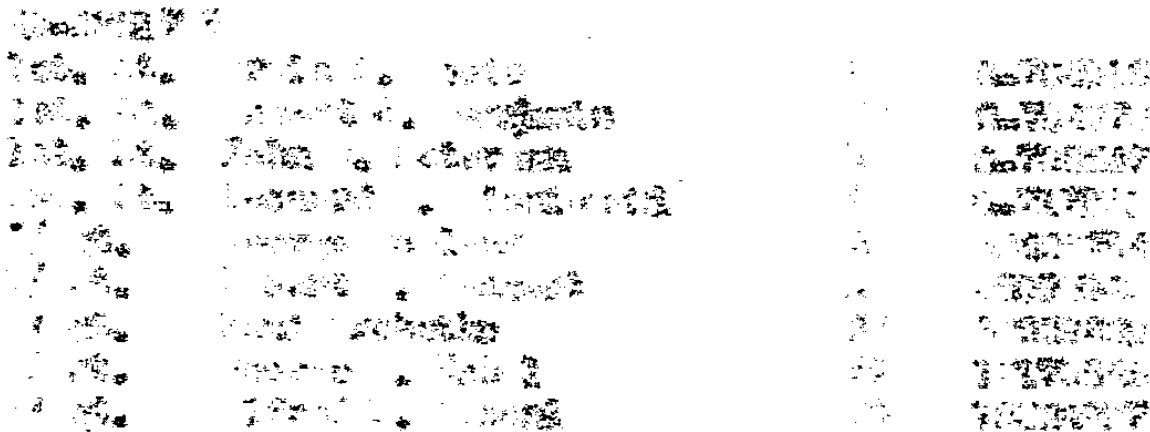
1st Lt.	Erwin H. Foote	1	0-704817
1st Lt.	Robert J. Benjamin	2	0-704818
1st Lt.	John P. Anderson	3	0-704819
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Sienkowski	4	0-717511
1st Lt.	Norman J. ...	5	38488744
1st Lt.	Robert ...	6	18092317
1st Lt.	Paul ...	32	19331921
1st Lt.	George ...	33	19173539
1st Lt.	Alfred ...	34	19321507

22nd September, 1944. Mission # 197 to Kassel, Germany; Henschel Armor Plant; 1 lost. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"PFF bombing was used. Moderate flak, very accurate at target—no fighter attacks—P-51 escort of over 200. 326th lost 1 crew—2nd Lt Maurice J. Sample, [43-37535 (326th) MACR 9371], hit by AA, crashed near Trier, Germany. 1 KIA, 8 POW."

Appendix A: KASSEL, 22 September 1944—Sample, Maurice J; Peters, Ralph; McCready, Eugene W; Kulikowski, Anthony A; Kisgen, John A; Reiersen, Raymond J; Knutson, Perwin S; Cullen, Joseph F; Rueschman, Harvey F.

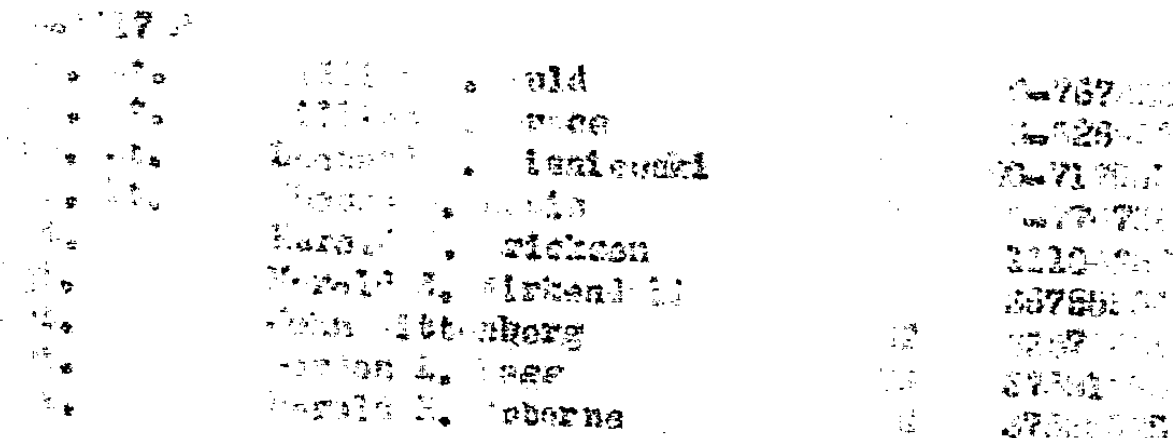
## 26 September 1944 – Pilot Erwin Foote



26th September, 1944. Mission # 199 to Osnabrück, marshalling yards. 1 Lt. William J. Gustafik – 326th Squadron - Navigator - rec'd Soldiers Medal for rescuing bombardier 2 Lt. W. C. Edwards, Jr. after tire blew out on t/o, a/c crashed. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

“Major Hardin with 1st Lt Henry were leading in a PFF aircraft, however bombing was done visually with only fair to good results. The 326th had a take-off accident, when an aircraft caught a cross wind, hooked an engineering tent with the wing. Unable to correct and pancaked on the grass. Lt Gustafik, Navigator, pulling the dazed bombardier, Lt Edwards, out of the nose section, returning to the burning aircraft disregarding the danger of the bombs on board.”

## 2 October 1944 – Flew as Navigator with William Auld Crew



: 2nd October, 1944. Mission # 203 to Kassel, Germany; Ordnance depot. 2 a/c collided during assembly; crews safe, with 2 casualties, 2 cows killed. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, “The Route as Briefed” - John S. Sloan, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

“On 2nd October we hit Kassel with a PFF attack on an industrial target, in our case an Ordnance Depot. Flying a PFF ship were 1st Lt Clay with 1st Lt Losee and Captain Michelson as Bombardier. The target was hit satisfactorily, as shown by PRU photos. A mid-air marred the operation, when Lt's Fischer [42-97227 (326th)] and Foote (43-38510 (326th)) collided during assembly. Foote, attempting to get into proper place, came up under Fischer's aircraft, severely damaging it. Fischer crashed near Stratford-on-Avon, while Foote made it back to base.” (Turner).

“A mid-air collision during assembly on the Honeybourne Buncher marred an otherwise perfect day: The aircraft piloted by 2nd Lt Robert E. Fischer of the 326th Squadron, crashed into the plane piloted by 1st Lt Erwin Foote of the 327th Squadron, shearing off part of the tail section and part of the rudder of the latter ship. The accident occurred when the high squadron cut over the lead squadron. Lt Foote returned to base, but Lt Fischer's aircraft was so badly damaged that he ordered a bail-out and the ship crashed and burned near Wellesbourne Mountford. Casualties: 2nd Lt William J. Gustafik, navigator, whose arm was broken in the collision and whose parachute had to be affixed by crew members, and Sgt. John Clear, Jr., engineer, each hospitalized for several days at Stratford-on-Avon.” (Sloan).

### 3 October 1944 – Flew as Navigator on William Auld Crew

42-97870 Y	William A. Auld	1	0-787455
2nd Lt.	William A. Grace	38	0-986986
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	1	0-717988
2nd Lt.	Thomas D. Lewis	3	0-776702
Sgt.	Harold H. Erickson	3	11104838
Sgt.	Howard M. Kirkendall	2	36755854
Sgt.	Robert G. Anderson	51	17147761
Sgt.	Gordon I. Hagg	70	37861295
Sgt.	Harold A. Osborne	71	37878220

3rd October, 1944. Mission # 204 to Nürnberg, Germany; motor transport facilities. 2 lost (collided after target); 1 casualty. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, "The Route as Briefed" - John S. Sloan, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"Major Hardin flying with 1st Lt Seigle headed the 40th "A" CW with the 92nd contingent. Again it was bombing by PFF on a second run. A break in the clouds showed very good hits. There was moderate flak. Another mid-air—1st Lt's Nielson, [43-38445 (325th) MACR 9346], and Dornburgh, [43-38396 (327th) MACR 9344] flying deputy lead and lead, collided after the target, just north of Frankfurt. Nielson crashed at Neuhof, 8 KIA, 1 POW, while Dornburgh crashed near Geissen, 7 KIA, 2 POW." (Turner)

"Initial disaster came next day, October 3rd, again as the result of a mid-air collision, but this time it was over enemy territory. The aircraft involved were piloted by 1st Lt's Edmund L. Dornburgh of the 327th Squadron and Niels R. Nielsen of the 325th Squadron, flying as lead and deputy lead of the high element, respectively. The collision came after the target and north of the Frankfurt area, and Lt Dornburgh's plane was seen to spin down out of control with a hole in the right wing. It was believed to have exploded after falling below cloud cover. Lt Nielsen's aircraft went down out of control with its tail section sheared off. This same mission resulted fatally for Sgt. Melvin R. Grover of the 325th Squadron, waist gunner of 2nd Lt Harry H. Batey, Jr.'s crew, who was killed when a flak fragment penetrated his helmet." (Sloan)

Appendix A: NURNBERG, 3 October, 1944—Dornburgh, Edmund L; Jay, Morris D; Bengson, Wallace W; Walter, Charles, R Jr; Barrett, William T; Boisseau, John E; Chiofilo, Philip L; Carter, Frederick W; Chappell, Laurence W; Nielsen, Niels R; Saylor, Clyde H, Jr.; Granata, Rudolph J; LaPlante, Kenneth D; Garrison, Howard C; Stretton, William C; Raber, Harry W; Adams, Franklin W, Jr.; Mohr Leonard F.

### 6 October 1944 – A/C #42-97870 – Pilot William Auld

42-97870 Y			
2nd Lt.	William A. Auld	1	0-787455
2nd Lt.	William A. Grace	38	0-986986
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	1	0-717988
2nd Lt.	Thomas D. Lewis	3	0-776702
Sgt.	Harold H. Erickson	3	11104838
Sgt.	Howard M. Kirkendall	2	36755854
Sgt.	Robert G. Anderson	51	17147761
Sgt.	Gordon I. Hagg	70	37861295
Sgt.	John A. Carr	71	36878220

6th October, 1944. Mission # 206 to Stargard, Poland; air base. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few – Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (sources).

"A long haul to Stargard, Poland, the airdrome was target for 199 B-17's of the 1st Division escorted by 180 P-51's. A moderate amount of heavy flak was encountered, but only 1 attacking aircraft was lost."

## 7 October 1944 – Flew with Pilot William Auld as Navigator

44-1979			
1st Lt.	William A. Auld	1	12757481
2d Lt.	William A. Bruce	3	2-828128
3d Lt.	Leonard J. Winiowski	3	02-717300
4th Lt.	Thomas B. Lewis	3	0-776724
Sgt.	Harold M. Erickson	4	11004801
Sgt.	Howard A. Kirkendall	7	48753484
Sgt.	Robert C. Anderson	30	17147761
Sgt.	Wilbert A. Stanteen	10	16228143
Sgt.	Harold R. Osborne	20	7532428

7th October, 1944. Mission # 207 to Zwickau, Germany; Marshalling yards; 1 lost. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 92nd Mission List from - <http://92ndma.org/missions.html> and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

“Another loss when Lt Kerr went down. This mission was briefed for an oil target at Ruhland as Primary, with Dresden as a PFF target and the airdrome at Zwickau a T/O. Thirty six (36) aircraft including 3 PFF began taking-off at 06:55 hours for assembly on Honeybourne Buncher. These were the Lead, High and Low squadrons of the 40th “A” Wing. 1st Lt Garrison, 325th, with Major McLaughlin headed the Lead squadron with 1st Lt Raup as deputy lead. Captain Klyza with 1st Lt Clay led the High and 1st Lt Kerr the Low squadron. Departure from buncher and flight over England was as briefed, with an excellent Division assembly. The Group flew to Control Point #4 and not having heard from the weather scout, went toward the PFF target Dresden. While en route the WX scout reported the Primary as open. A 270 degree turn was accomplished and a visual run started; however, heavy ground haze made it impossible to locate the target. Departing Ruhland, a course to Zwickau was taken and the railroad complex was bombed visually from 24,310 feet at 13:22 hours. Route home was as briefed.

Lt Kerr [43-38434 (327th) MACR 9345] leading the Low squadron was hit by flak before the target at Ruhland, losing #3 and #4 engines. After calling for fighter escort, he was told that none was available; then he advised that he was heading for Brussels, Belgium. When he passed south of Osnabruck at 7,000 ft, it was agreed among the crew that whenever they were at 3,000 ft, the ship would be abandoned. Coming into Holland, northeast of their goal the German AA batteries at Lobeth put up a barrage just as the bailouts began. Lt Kerr, last to leave, landed in the town square of Millingen aam Rhine; the aircraft landed in the Rhine. All 5 officers were POW. No trace of the enlisted has ever been found. Another aircraft flown by 1st Lt Williams, 326th, landed on the continent, so damaged it was salvaged. 1st Lt Darlington landed there also, remained overnight, got fuel and came home. There was 1 abort.”

Appendix A: ZWICKAU, 7 October 1944—Kerr, Charles; Vogler, George L; Cummings, William H; Draud, Leroy R L; Barrett, Joseph S; Devaney, Robert E; Benjamin, Dwight O; Salazar, Albert M; Moshier, Robert L; McCray, William W.

## 14 October 1944 – Pilot William Auld as Navigator

44-1979			
1st Lt.	William A. Auld	1	12757481
2d Lt.	William A. Bruce	3	2-828128
3d Lt.	Leonard J. Winiowski	3	02-717300
4th Lt.	Thomas B. Lewis	3	0-776724
Sgt.	Harold M. Erickson Jr.	4	11004801
Sgt.	Howard A. Kirkendall	7	48753484
Sgt.	Robert C. Anderson	30	17147761
Sgt.	Wilbert A. Stanteen	10	16228143
Sgt.	Harold R. Osborne	20	7532428

14th October, 1944. Mission # 209 to Cologne, Germany; Marshalling yards. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

“The first of 3 missions to Cologne, bombing the marshalling yards by PFF and led by 1st Lt Garrison, 325th. Results unknown. Lots of inaccurate flak. Only 2 losses Division-wide or not quite 1% of the attacking force, escorted by 105 P-51's.”

**15 October 1944 – A/C #42-107181 - Pilot William Auld-Lt Wisniewski as Navigator**

**A/C #42-107181**

1st Lt.	William Auld	Pilot	42-107181
2nd Lt.	William Auld	Navigator	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Copilot	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Navigator	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Copilot	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Navigator	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Copilot	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Navigator	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Copilot	42-107181
1st Lt.	Robert E. Anderson	Navigator	42-107181



**A/C #42-107181 – Back Aircraft**

15th October, 1944. Mission # 210 to Cologne, Germany; Industrial center. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

“On the 15th a smaller force of 127 went back going after industry. This time the flak while moderate, was accurate. 4 losses in the Division.”



## 17 October 1944-A/C 42-97479?-With Conrad Thorall crew as Navigator

1st Lt.	Conrad G. Thorall		0-770017
2nd Lt.	Alan Gordon	SP	0-770018
3rd Lt.	Leonard C. Heinemann		0-770019
4th Lt.	Thomas B. Lewis		0-770020
1st.	Harold B. Erickson	B	11104018
2nd.	Howard H. Kirkendall		30751884
3rd.	John Wittenberg	SP	30751889
4th.	Gordon J. Sage	SP	30751890
5th.	Harold G. Osborne	SP	30751891
6th Lt.	Warren P. Ledlittle		0-770024

17th October, 1944. Mission # 211 to Cologne, Germany; Marshalling yards. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"Then on the 17th, a force of 400+ went after the marshalling yards again. It was another PFF exercise—few fighters—light flak and 247 escorting P-47's and 51's."

## 25 October 1944 – With Pilot George O'Halloran- flew as Bombardier

1st Lt.	George O'Halloran		0-770025
2nd Lt.	Belvin G. Miller		0-770026
3rd Lt.	John W. Nelson		0-770027
4th Lt.	Lawrence G. Hinkle		0-770028
1st.	Paul W. Berry Jr.		11104019
2nd.	Walter J. Jones		11104020
3rd.	William W. Horn		11104021
4th.	Frank W. Abbott		30751892
5th.	Charles W. Bost		30751893

25th October, 1944. Mission # 214 to Hamburg, Germany; Oil reserve complexes. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"In poor weather the Group took off for Hamburg on the 25th. The Division effort of 286 went after 2 oil reserve complexes in the Hamburg area. Again, PFF was used through 10/10 cloud cover. Flak was less than usual and inaccurate." (Turner).

"The mission of October 25th to Hamburg marked the beginning of a second tour for T/Sgt Charles M. Few of the 326th Squadron, perhaps the oldest enlisted combat man, in point of time, in the ETO. Sgt Few's first mission was the 92nd Group's first—the "kindergarten" raid on Meaulte, on September 6th, 1942. The veteran engineer had participated in several historic events: the famous raid on Schweinfurt on August 17th, 1943, and, as a member of the crew of Major Blair Belongia, had twice ditched in the English Channel. Finishing his tour early in 1944, he had been gunnery instructor." (Sloan).

## 30 October 1944-A/C #42-97870 - Lt Wisniewski flew as Bombardier with Lt George O'Halloran Crew

42-97870 1			
2nd Lt.	George B. O'Halloran	P	0-768645
2nd Lt.	Melvin B. Miller	CP	0-768631
2nd Lt.	John A. Nelson	R	0-2061031
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-717933
Sgt.	Fred R. Berry Jr.	R	17016051
Sgt.	Edgar J. Hess	B	39577166
Sgt.	William F. Brown	BT	35807917
Sgt.	Frank H. Santelli	TG	36757763
Sgt.	Chris (SMI) Chrest	WG	19190774

30th October, 1944. Mission # 216 to Münster, Germany; Marshalling yards.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"We missed the mission to Münster on the 28th where visual bombing was accomplished. But on the 30th we went to the marshalling yards, there using—PFF."

## 2 November 1944 – A/C #42-97870 - Flew Bombardier with Lt George O'Halloran

42-97870 1			
2nd Lt.	George B. O'Halloran	P	0-768645
2nd Lt.	Melvin B. Miller	CP	0-768631
2nd Lt.	John A. Nelson	R	0-2061031
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-717933
Sgt.	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXX</del>	R	<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>
Sgt.	Fred R. Berry Jr.	R	17016051
Sgt.	Edgar J. Hess	B	39577166
Sgt.	William F. Brown	BT	35807917
Sgt.	Frank H. Santelli	TG	36757763
Sgt.	Chris (SMI) Chrest	WG	19190774

2nd November, 1944. Mission # 217 to Merseburg, Germany; Leuna oil complex; led division. Col. James W. Wilson, Group CO, mission commander, rec'd oak leaf cluster to Silver Star. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, "The Route as Briefed" - John S. Sloan, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"On the 2nd we trek back to Merseburg, to the Leuna oil complex owned by the I. G. Farben industries. Leading the Air Division was a "select" crew—Major Hardin, Pilot; Lt Colonel Wilson, Co-pilot; Captain Hall, Navigator; Captain Michelson, Bombardier; 1st Lt Faboc, Group Radar Navigator; 1st Lt Knoble, Co-Navigator; 1st Lt Staples, regular Co-pilot, as tail gunner/observer; Technical Sergeant Few, Engineer; Technical Sergeant Goldstein, Radio; and Staff Sergeant Robert L. Davidson, waist gunner. Also on board, 2nd Lt Palmer, Stars and Stripes correspondent. They flew "Satan's Lady II" 44-8215 (327th) MACR 10780. Things went well until just after bomb release. They flew through a hell of flak—2 engines knocked out—6 men injured. Everything except guns and ammo started to go overboard. With a host E/A in the area, sanctuary was sought in the clouds at around 8000 feet. Ice began forming on the wings; then came a spin. Hardin ordered 'bail out'—both navigators and the observer went before control was regained - two thousand feet lost. Now over the Channel guns and ammo went. The nearest airfield was RAF Woodbridge and then they discovered the landing gear and flaps were out. Major Hardin "floated" the "Lady" into a landing described by the Flying control Officer as the best crash he had ever seen. The "Lady" was salvaged. Flak overall was moderate, intense at the target, and accurate. Better than half of our aircraft suffered moderate or better battle damage." (Turner)

"Leading the First Air Division on that day was an especially selected veteran crew of the 326th Squadron, with Col. James W. Wilson, Group CO, as Air Division Commander and co-pilot. Major Ernest C. Hardin, Jr, CO of the 326th Squadron, was the pilot; Capt. Stanley E. Hall and Capt. Erro A. Michelson, Squadron Navigator and Bombardier, respectively, were in those positions, and 1st Lt Frank L. Fabec, Group Radar Navigator, operated the PFF equipment. Other crew members included 1st Lt George J. Knoble, co-navigator; 1st Lt John J. Staples, usually Major Hardin's co-pilot, who flew as tail gunner; T/Sgt. Charles

M. Few, veteran engineer who had flown on the Group's first mission in the early fall of 1942; T/Sgt. Monroe E. Goldstein, radio operator, and S/Sgt. Robert L. Davidson, waist gunner. Additionally, 2nd Lt Herb Palmer, Stars and Stripes correspondent, who had been on the base for 10 days to gather a special feature story, flew as waist gunner. The total missions flown by members of this crew was 364. Their collective experience was extensive. The latter factor stood the crew in good stead, for their Fortress, "Satan's Lady," showed an unfortunate predilection toward living up to her name, carrying through a hell of flak bursts over the target, generally regarded as the most heavily defended in the Reich. Just after bombs away, two engines were knocked out. Almost simultaneously, six members of the crew were injured, although none seriously enough to cause incapacitation. In an effort to maintain flying speed, all jettisonable equipment except guns and ammunition was disposed of: despite this, with two engines gone, the aircraft lost altitude steadily and was soon flying alone. The position was unenviable in the extreme; intelligence reports had indicated that 400 enemy fighters were in the vicinity, and it was decided to fly above and in a cloud layer at about 7,000 to 8,000 feet. It was at this point that the airmanship, discipline and experience of the select crew proved most valuable.

Col. Wilson and Major Hardin skillfully nursed the ship along. A short distance from the Dutch border, ice began collecting on the wings and controls, and under this additional handicap, "Satan's Lady" staggered on. Suddenly the aircraft went into a spin, and in accordance with a previously-discussed plan, Major Hardin ordered a bail-out. Capt. Hall, Lt Staples and Lt Knoble parachuted before the two pilots regained control of the aircraft and the order could be rescinded. Two thousand feet of altitude had been lost. Over the English Channel at last, guns and ammunition were jettisoned. Circling the airfield at Woodbridge, it was discovered that the undercarriage and flap controls had been knocked out and that a crash landing was necessary. Crew members went to crash stations and Major Hardin "floated" the plane into what the RAF flying control officer at Woodbridge described as the best crash landing he had ever seen." (Sloan)

Appendix A: MERSEBURG, 2 November 1944—Hall, Stanley E; Staples, John J; Knoble, George J.



**A/C #42-97870 "Miss Malicious"**

6 November 1944 – A/C #42-97870-Bombardier with O'Halloran Crew

**SECRET**

49-97870 Y

2nd Lt.	George H. O'Halloran	P	0-768645
2nd Lt.	Melvin G. Miller	OP	0-768631
2nd Lt.	John W. Nelson	N	0-2061021
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-717933
Sgt.	Fred R. Berry Jr.	R	17016051
Sgt.	Edgar J. Hess	S	39577155
Sgt.	William F. Brown	ST	35807317
Sgt.	Frank H. Santelli	TS	36757753
Sgt.	Chris (NMI) Christ	WG	19190774

6th November, 1944. Mission # 220 to Hamburg, Germany; Harburg oil complex.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few – Turner. (source)

“On the 6th, back to the Hamburg complex, except this time there were 4 losses—none for us. A repeat of the previous mission, Lt Broman, 327th, had a unique, unpleasant incident, flak had knocked out 2 engines on the way in and he trailed the formation by 20 miles. He bombed and on the way out 4 FW's appeared, they had been scarce all month, for a period of time they flew parallel, just out of range, being tracked with no firing. As the FW's began their attack—10 Mustangs suddenly appeared – FW's fled, fact is all his .50's were “dead” - jammed with ice.”

8 November 1944 – A/C #42-9727?-Bombardier with O'Halloran Crew

42-9727? Y

2nd Lt.	George H. O'Halloran	P	0-768645
2nd Lt.	Melvin G. Miller	OP	0-768631
2nd Lt.	John W. Nelson	N	0-2061021
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-717933
Sgt.	Fred R. Berry Jr.	R	17016051
Sgt.	Edgar J. Hess	S	39577155
Sgt.	William F. Brown	ST	35807317
Sgt.	Frank H. Santelli	TS	36757753
Sgt.	Chris (NMI) Christ	WG	19190774

8th November, 1944. Mission # 221 to Merseburg, Germany; Leuna oil complex.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources)

“A repeat to Merseburg / Luena facilities, again using PFF, and unobserved results. Division losses 3; more than 700 escort fighters.”

## 16 November 1944 – A/C #42-39520 - Bombardier on Lt Hugh Stiles Crew

42-39520 B			
1st Lt.	Hugh W. Stiles	P	0-715255
2nd Lt.	Edwin (M1) Condon	CP	0-762787
1st Lt.	Raymond L. Calkoun	B	0-1335205
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-770973
/1st.	John F. Luchschaiter	R	38812064
/1st.	Charles L. Cherryholmes	L	39407523
/1st.	Paul H. Laughlin	BB	37473029
1st.	Thomas L. Davis	TD	18161975
/1st.	John (M1) Conko	AD	16833003

16th November, 1944. Mission # 223 to Eschweiler, Germany; Tactical support of major ground offensive.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

“A tactical mission on the 16th to Eschweiler, with 48 of ours dropping frags by PFF on gun positions east of Aachen, as a prelude to a ground forces push. Deteriorating weather forced landing away from home at Barford St. John. Captain McKelvy, 325th Engineering Officer, and 28 enlisted men spent 36 hours repairing battle damage and moving the aircraft mired in the mud. Most crews remained away for the second day, some not returning until the 19th.”

## 21 November 1944 – A/C #43-38524? – Flew as bombardier with Lt Douglas H Anderson

43-38524 W			
2nd Lt.	Douglas H. Anderson	P	0-770513
2nd Lt.	Eugene L. Stock	CP	0-775163
2nd Lt.	Stanley J. Gressotti	B	0-2064831
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-717937
Sgt.	Truman J. Freeman	B	35529294
Sgt.	Harry R. Martin	R	12155367
1st.	William L. Schneider Jr.	BT	38444792
Sgt.	Weldon O. Rodgers	TD	38481394
Sgt.	Vincent V. Quick	TD	37620550

21st November, 1944. Mission #224 to Hersfeld / Hunsfeld, Germany; marshalling yards / tactical support (T/O's); Hamburg (Primary).

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) (Sources).

“On the 21st, the 326th was the lead high squadron of “C” Wing to Hersfeld, Hunsfeld marshalling yards and the Hersfeld autobahn, in support of ground troops. Excellent results observed. Moderate, accurate flak caused 1 aircraft to land away, low on fuel because of a punctured tank.”

**25 November 1944 – A/C #42-107181 – Lt Wisniewski Flew Bombardier on 2nd Lt Douglas H Anderson Crew**

42-107181 X			
2nd Lt.	Douglas H. Anderson	P	0-770513
2nd Lt.	Eugene L. Stock	CP	0-775183
2nd Lt.	Stanley J. Cressotti	H	0-2064531
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-776933
Sgt.	Truman W. Freeman	R	38529294
Sgt.	Harry R. Martin	E	12155667
Sgt.	William L. Schneider Jr.	BT	32440792
Sgt.	Weldon C. Rodgers	TG	38481394
Sgt.	Vincent V. Quick	WG	37629558

25th November, 1944. Mission # 225 to Merseburg, Germany; Leuna oil complex.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"Merseburg / Leuna oil spread was our target on the 25th. The 1st Division had 356 B-17's on the mission, with escort provided by 380 Mustangs. For a change bombing was visual, with fair to very good results. Some of our returning crews were diverted to Memburg due to weather. Flak was moderate, but very accurate. E/A seen, but no serious attacks."

**29 November 1944 – A/C #42-97479 – Flew as "B" with 1st Lt Donald I Greene**

42-97479 L			
1st Lt.	Donald I. Greene	P	0-823353
2nd Lt.	John B. McCabe Jr.	CP	0-826247
2nd Lt.	Melvin M. Engel	H	0-725059
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B	0-717933
S/Sgt.	Mervin Y. Mellinger	R	13091449
S/Sgt.	Harry (EMI) Gray	E	32767525
S/Sgt.	Fred (EMI) Basden Jr.	BT	38567179
S/Sgt.	Everett J. Wilkins	TG	19149508
S/Sgt.	Veronon A. Mapei	WG	37535932

29th November, 1944. Mission # 227 to Misburg, Germany; Oil refinery.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources)

"Another abandoned mission, 29th November, with the 92nd headed for Bremen. Eighteen aircraft and crews were alerted, loaded, briefed and took-off in accordance with the Field Order. The 92nd, as the Combat Wing lead, rendezvoused with the 306th Group and the Composite Group along the first assembly leg. Four miles north of Spalding, on a northerly heading with limited visibility, 2 Combat Wings met head-on. The 40th CW split up and circled, attempting to reassemble. Splasher #4 was reached at 12:22 hours at 15,000 feet. Scheduled flight plan was followed until 14:07 hours at 27,000 feet 54 20'No5 10'E, the 1st Air Division Commander radioed that he was abandoning the mission. The 92nd returned to base at 16:00 hours. There were 3 aborts. Gee was used throughout the flight, with no reported jamming."

30 November 1944 – A/C #44-6539? – Bombardier with 1st Lt Paul K Bupp

44-6539 B		
1st Lt.	Paul K. Bupp	P 0-764205
1st Lt.	John M. Cox Jr.	CP 0-1823114
1st Lt.	Thomas D. Dandler	H 0-1804449
2nd Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	B 0-717932
W/Sgt.	John L. Houk	B 15120274
W/Sgt.	Troy D. Blasingame	M 38541279
W/Sgt.	Jack (HAI) Spratt	BT 15329656
W/Sgt.	Leslie G. Spillman	TG 35708824
W/Sgt.	John P. Hensley	WG 39274330

**SECRET**

30th November, 1944. Mission # 228 to Merseburg, Germany; Leuna oil; 1 lost.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources)

"Bombing visually from 28,000 feet with fair results. We lost 1: 1st Lt A. M. Smith, 43-38611 (326th) MACR 11042, flying the low spot of "C" Wing, took a flak hit that started a fire between #3 and #4, reported that the wing outboard of #4 broke away. He was last seen in a flat spin. The aircraft crashed near Merseburg—2 KIA, 7 POW." (Turner)

Appendix A: MERSEBURG, 30 November 1944—Smith, Arthur M; Shelton, Earnest R; Ashley, Charles E; Darling, Frank F, Jr.; Garrison, Julian O, Jr.; Huguley, Woodford E; Rodriguez, Oday J, Jr.; Talbert, John M, Jr; Drabbels, Hubert.

## 2nd Lt Leonard G Wisniewski Promoted to 1st Lieutenant – November 1944

### APPENDIX D

#### Promotion of Officers

##### Lt Colonel to Colonel

James W. Wilson, O-22174

##### Major to Lt Colonel

William H. Nelson, O396301  
James K. McLaughlin, O789398

##### Captain to Major

Charles H. Beynon, Jr, O735161  
Leroy E. Fake, O434439  
John C. Prosch, O854055

##### 1st Lieutenant to Captain

Allen B. Campbell, O818272  
Donald H. Allen, O757441  
Vincent P. Durcell, O809489  
Frank L. Fabec, O688012  
Elvin E. Hendrickson, O757197  
Robert E. Williams, O817315  
Victor A. Cherbak, Jr, O25818  
Jack S. Gross, O752566  
Raymond V. Clay, O760786  
Martin R. Hertz, O434329  
Robert E.E. Harris, O708459  
Robert A. Kralik, O815506  
William G. Coone, O760577  
Walter Kirkbride, O815502

##### 2nd Lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant

Robert N. Naifeh, O583434  
Leonard G. Wisniewski, O717933  
John A. Luhman, O766303  
Allan V. White, O717931  
Charles C. Manzi, O744168  
Roy J. Dunavant, O761057  
Joseph B. McConnell, O684015  
Herbert C. Klinger, O700810  
Laurence Moore, O706628  
Fred F. Tilden, O1996079

##### 2nd Lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant

James P. Corrigan, O1542376  
Morton Kamm, O767263  
Robert J. Owen, O716939  
Charles F. Horky, O717794  
Donald J. Mathews, O772066  
Herbert R. Rumminger, O708103  
Robert M. Solomon, O719778  
Norman E. Dybdahl, O723532  
Melvin M. Engel, O723039  
Stanley Green, O723066  
Raymond S. Griffith, O723067  
Dean E. Haas, O770902  
William B. Hammer, Jr, O723071  
Robert C. Hirsch, O714701  
Rex S. Hungerford, O825882  
Clifford R. Jack, O723090  
James B. Kane, Jr, O723370  
Bernard Kantor, O723098  
John R. Kershaw, O767828  
Troy H. Kimbrough, Jr, O723099  
Donald M. Klakring, O823630  
John E. Lawlor, Jr, O714717  
Fred W. Neer, O555822  
John A. White, Jr, O714240  
James C. Alexander, O769241  
W.C. Edward, Jr, O718087  
Herbert A. Gray, Jr, O2056580  
Ray L. Krewet, Jr, O768596  
Joseph W. Navarre, O535134  
Stanley R. Straus, O723905  
Michael J. Dunford, O705011  
Francis V. Gelbke, O718094  
Joseph H. Hirtz, O771930  
Robert K. MacNeary, O776479  
Floyd W. Offhaus, Jr, O824329  
William R. Thorstenson, O764832

**SECRET**



Lt Wisniewski flew his remaining missions as Navigator on 2nd Lt Edwin (NMI) Condon Crew who was the Co-Pilot on the loading list of his assigned crew, as well as other crew members from the original assigned crew (Kaminsky, Hart, Sauer, Pressler) (Stanteen on 3 of them until he was KIA on 24 December 1944 flying Bombardier with 2nd Lt Donald K Lathrum crew)

#### 4 December 1944 – A/C #43-37627

43-37627 H			
2nd Lt.	Edwin (NMI) Condon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	N	0-717933
1st Lt.	Phillip L. Newsom	B	0-706474
S/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
S/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
S/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
S/Sgt.	John P. Wise	TG	37701637
Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37521743

4th December, 1944. Mission # 229 to Kassel, Germany; Marshalling yards.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"On the 4th, Lt Colonel Riordan flying with Captain Clay, 326th, led the 40th "A" Combat Wing to Kassel. The H2X became inoperable and the deputy lead did the PFF work, with unobserved results. Flak was light, no E/A and excellent escort. All 48 of the 92nd's aircraft, including the 12 of the screening force, returned safely."

#### 6 December 1944 – A/C #43-37627

43-37627 H			
2nd Lt.	Edwin (NMI) Condon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	N	0-717933
S/Sgt.	Wilbron E. Stanteen Jr.	B	18232142
S/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
S/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
S/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
S/Sgt.	Joseph H. Grady	TG	13173210
Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37521743

6th December, 1944. Mission # 230 to Merseburg, Germany; Leuna oil.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) (Source).

"A routine mission to Merseburg / Luena was flown on the 6th using the H2X technique with no losses."



A/C #43-37627 with Disney Bombs

11 December 1944 – A/C #38624?

43-38624 W			
2nd Lt.	Edwin (NMI) Condon	P	0-765207
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CR	0-776889
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wieniewski	H	0-717933
S/Cpt.	Wilbron A. Stanteen Jr.	H	18222142
S/sgt.	John D. Kozinsky	K	38608271
S/Cpt.	William B. Hart	N	84097818
S/Ordn.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
Sgt.	Thomas L. Davis	TG	18163875
Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37521743

11th December 1944, Mission Number 232 to Frankfurt am Main marshalling yards & bridges; 1 lost, crew returned .

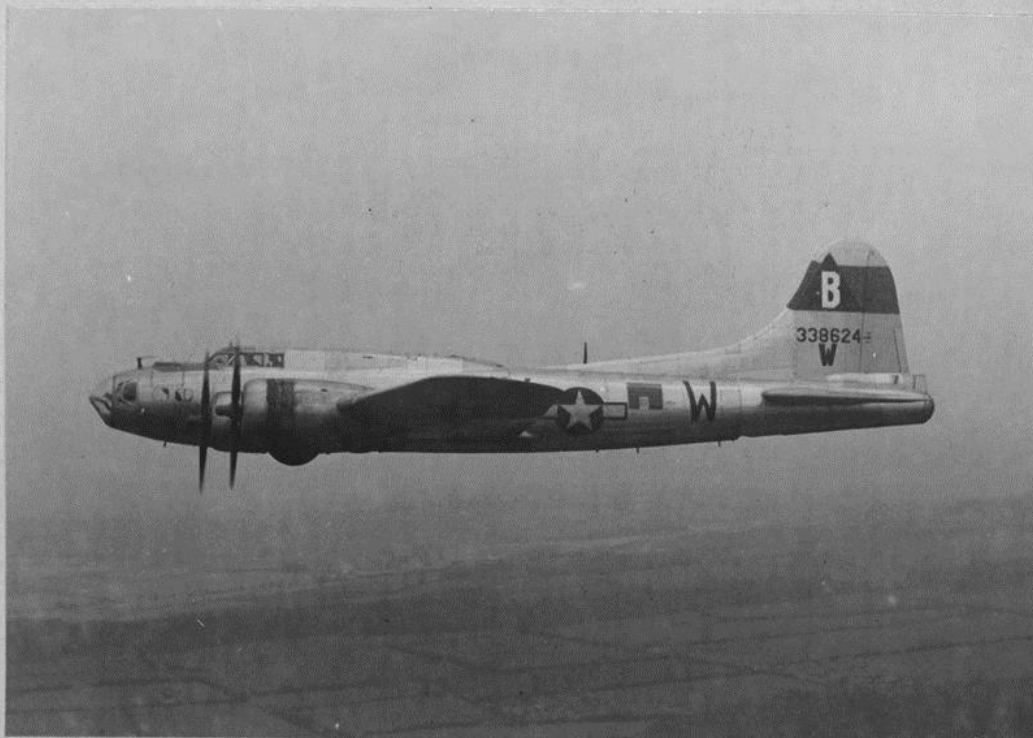
92nd Bomb Group Fames Favored Few-Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster (Sources):

“On the 11th the railroad system and bridges at Frankfurt got our attention as part of the 321 aircraft force of the 1st Division. It was blind bombing using H2X and GH and no observed results. We had no losses on our specific target the marshalling yard. 2nd Lt Ralph K. Rollins, 407th, 43-37912 was severely hit by flak over the target. He headed for neutral territory and with 3 engines out ordered bail-out near Metz, the aircraft crashing in an open field. Crew all returned to duty. Aircraft 43-37912 was salvaged on 8 February 1945.”

Ralph Rollins Crew-P Bill Reel-C Robert Paulson-N Robert Michael-E Carl Green-RG John Metzinger-WG Eddie Etzel-BTG  
Bob Martin-TG Sandy Self-TG

War Theatre #23 (Pacific) AIRPLANES

Print rec'd 12 June 1945 from RFR, (Air Forces Group). "Certified as having been passed by SHAEF Censor".



*Bomb B-17*

*A44685*

UNRECORDED

*Copy neg attached*

**A/C #43-38624**

## 15 December 1944- A/C #44-6461 (Sweet Chick w-a Lick)

44-6461 G			
2nd Lt.	Edwin (NMI) Condon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Donald K. Lathrun	CP	0-935208
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	N	0-717935
S/Sgt.	Wilbren W. Stanteen Jr.	B	18232142
S/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
S/Sgt.	Williams E. Hart	E	34087313
S/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	TG	37675466
Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37521742

15th December, 1944. Mission # 233 to Kassel, Germany; marshalling yards; led 8 AF.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"All did not go well, 2nd Lt Lyle Ruka, 407th, 43-38455 on take-off was having instrument trouble—no airspeed indicator. Electing to abort the take-off, he was unable to stop and crashed off the end of the runway, bursting into flames. The crew got out okay before the ship exploded. A nearby parked aircraft was damaged beyond repair. But the crew just didn't walk away, here's the story of the toggler from the nose:

\*"I was slightly stunned but conscious of someone shaking my shoulder. Then I was on my feet and out of there. As the escape hatch was already crowded, I opt to go back and out the waist hatch. In full flying clothes I got hung up in the bomb bay. The port fuel tanks had ruptured and were afire; the port wall of the bay was beginning to melt and my parka collar to smolder. I finally broke free and dropped into the rut we had plowed. I saw the MP's loading the crew into a truck—all except Lyle, he was halfway back to the plane, trying to run in the mud wearing clumsy flying boots. He had made a quick head count and found one missing. He was returning to that blazing inferno that was about to blow sky high, looking for me. We both made it to the truck and got away before the entire load detonated."

\*This above paragraph is an excerpt from a letter to Mrs. Ruka many years later and after Lyle's demise.

18 December 1944 – A/C #44-6017

44-6017 P			
2nd Lt.	Edwin (WMI) Condon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	OP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	N	0-717933
Sgt.	Charles H. Chambers	B	38008506
S/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
S/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
S/Sgt.	James E. Bauer	BT	35879607
Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	TG	37675466
Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37521743

18th December, 1944. Mission # 234 to Kaiserslautern, Germany; communications center.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org)(Sources).

"On the 28th, the "B" Group of the 40th CW hit Kaiserslautern with 78 aircraft. It was another PFF (H2X) mission, with light flak, good escort and no losses."



*La Forteresse volante de la fagne Saint-Remacle*  
(Coll. Jean-Marie Remacle)

**A/C #44-6017**

## 24 December 1944 – A/C #43-38624

43-38624 W			
1st Lt.	Edwin Gandon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Sam W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	N	0-717933
Sgt.	Charles R. Chambers	B	33008505
E/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
S/Sgt.	William L. Hart	SS S	34087213
W/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	SS BT	35879507
S/Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	SS TG	37675466
S/Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	SS WO	37521743

24th December, 1944. Mission # 236 to Frankfurt am Main; Giessen Luftwaffe complex; 6 lost.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"Deep fog enveloped the base, surely there's no flying today; then the order came down—MAXIMUM EFFORT. We could normally generate 36 aircraft, but the order called for everything flyable. The war weary ones were readied along with the newest—today we had 53 ready to go. The so-called Russian High had cleared the skies over the continent, but the UK was still fog bound. Crews stumbled through the fog, having difficulty in even locating their aircraft. Then it came time to taxi. Aircraft inched out of their parking slots and lined up ready for take-off. Surely it will be scrubbed. A green flare and we're off. It was 100% instrument take-off with visibility about 60 feet. Once airborne. . . it was but seconds, through the overcast and into brilliant sunshine. General Fred Castle with the 487th Group led the entire Eighth Air Force while our effort was led by Major Albert Cox, CO 325th squadron. After form up and rendezvous we're on our way to Giessen airdrome near Frankfurt. There are aircraft everywhere—really a crowded sky. As the first of the armada penetrates German airspace, the last have yet to depart England. On the bomb run the ugly black flak erupts ahead. A strange B-17 joins the rear of the formation and flak becomes very accurate, then at release time the aircraft disappears. Not for 2 days do we know our losses—6 crashing; 1 on take-off, 1 on landing and four in the target area.

1st Lt Donato Yanitelli, 325th, 43-38601 crashed near Lille, minor injuries, 2 engines out; 2nd Lt Robert K. Seeber, 327th, [42-38101] on take-off, 6 KIA, 3 injured; 2nd Lt Harry G. Williams, Jr., 327th, 44-6017 with 2 on fire, hit by AA at 10,000 feet—2 more out, bailed crew at 4,000, aircraft crashed—salvaged; 2nd Lt Joe B. Spencer, 327th, [303rd A/C 42-31574 borrowed; MACR 11112] hit by AA, crashed in Luxemburg, 4 KIA, 5 POW. 2nd Lt Donald K. Lathram, 327th, [42-97870 (327th)] crashed and burned at Bury St Edmonds—8 KIA—tail gunner survived; 1st Lt Joseph B. McConnell, 407th, 44-8022 crashed near O'Hay—3 KIA, 6 returned to duty."

Appendix A: GIESSEN, 24 December 1944—Spencer, Joe B; Rock, Philip J; Powell, Roy H; Savage, James J; Parks, Harland B; Sheddy, Donald L; Krajcik, John L; Garrison, Charles M; Utz, Charles R, Jr.; Lathrum, Donald K; Berry, Robert R; Burrows, William T; Stateen, Wilbron W, Jr.; Greco, Angelo, V; Bryan, James W; Goodman, Myron W; Isbell, Jack P; Hardy, Edwin; Northington, Robert R; Kemler, Harold L; Knarr, Carl L; Dollman, Robert E; Reising, Edward C.

Note Regarding bravery of 325th Squadron Equipment Officer 1st Lt Charles H. Nesbit in responding to 2nd Lt Seeber's crash upon take-off:

"The aircraft piloted by 2nd Lt Robert K. Seeber of the 327th Squadron, a new pilot, took-off in fog which prevented a clear view of the trees about 200' yards to the left of the runway at it's end. Lt Seeber began to turn to get on course before much elevation was attained, encountered prop wash, and losing altitude, crashed into the treetops. The burning aircraft exploded about two minutes later. Due to the heavy fog and the position of the aircraft, deep in the woods known locally as Roberts Farm, it was not immediately located by the ambulances and crash crew. 6 crew members were killed; the 3 survivors were Lt Seeber, 2nd Lt William H. McQuinn, co-pilot, and Sgt. William J. Brockmeyer, engineer.

1st Lt Charles H. Nesbit, Equipment Officer of the 325th Squadron, distinguished himself by his coolness and courage in carrying several crew members out of the wreckage, heedless of the possibility of further bomb explosions. Unfortunately, the three men rescued by Lt Nesbit were too seriously injured to survive, even with the medical attention afforded them. On one occasion during the morning, Lt Nesbit was within 100 feet of a bomb when it exploded, and miraculously escaped injury or death by dropping to the ground."

28 December 1944 – A/C #43-38624

43-38624 #			
1st Lt.	Edwin (MI) Condon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	H	0-717933
Sgt.	Charles H. Chambers	B	38009506
T/Sgt.	John A. Kaminsky	R	32806271
S/Sgt.	William J. Hart	S	34087313
S/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
S/Sgt.	Robert G. Walte	TC	37875466
Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37521743

28th December, 1944. Mission #237 to Koblenz, Germany; Bullay railroad bridge; marshalling yards.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org)(Sources).

"Our next was to Koblenz area on the 28th. Using PFF (GH), 38 aircraft bombed the Bullay railroad bridge with unknown results, but apparently not good enough - because 74 were bombing it on the 29th."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal – 28th December, 1944:

"Commendation for mission on 23rd came through today.

30 December 1944

<del>44-97479 #</del>			
<del>1st Lt.</del>	<del>Edwin (MI) Condon</del>	<del>P</del>	<del>0-763957</del>
<del>2nd Lt.</del>	<del>Delvin A. Miller</del>	<del>CP</del>	<del>0-769001</del>
<del>1st Lt.</del>	<del>Leonard G. Wisniewski</del>	<del>H</del>	<del>0-717933</del>
<del>S/Sgt.</del>	<del>Allen J. Feinblum</del>	<del>B</del>	<del>34707603</del>
<del>T/Sgt.</del>	<del>John A. Kaminsky</del>	<del>R</del>	<del>32806271</del>
<del>S/Sgt.</del>	<del>William J. Hart</del>	<del>S</del>	<del>34087313</del>
<del>S/Sgt.</del>	<del>James R. Sauer</del>	<del>BT</del>	<del>35879607</del>
<del>S/Sgt.</del>	<del>Robert G. Walte</del>	<del>TC</del>	<del>37875466</del>
<del>Sgt.</del>	<del>Edwin J. Pressler</del>	<del>WG</del>	<del>37521743</del>

30th December, 1944. Mission # 238 to Koblenz, Germany; Bullay Railroad bridge. Col. Wilson led the mission. Aircraft piloted by 2nd Lt Joseph M. Van Stratton of the 327th aborted due to engine failure, decided to land at an RAF base at East Kirby, Lincolnshire. One engine out and poor visibility, overshot the runway and started another circuit in the traffic pattern. A second engines prop windmilling, the plane was pulled up to clear a hill and stalled. The aircraft crashed and burned. All crewmembers were killed.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org), and B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"Attacking today were 72 B-17's of the 1st Division, 2nd Lt Joseph M. Van Stratton, 327th, 42-97479 (327th)] aborted with engine trouble. Returning to base he was ordered to jettison his bombs in The Wash. He decided to land at an RAF base at East Kirby, Lincolnshire. One engine out, he overshot, started a go-around when a second prop ran away. He pulled up to crest a hill, stalled, crashed and burned. All 9 KIA.

Appendix A: BULLAY, 30 December 1944—Van Stratton, Joseph M; Porter, Edward A, Jr.; Cowan, John J; Chambers, Charles H; Estrada, Arthur R; Standish, Thomas G, Jr.; Barner, Harold R; White, William D; Bedard, Wilfred A.

31 December 1944

42-3708a			
1st Lt.	Edwin (MI) Condon		0-752017
2nd Lt.	Frank S. Uhro	01	0-777822
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Mieniewski	0	0-717301
s/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	0	04707500
1/Sgt.	John S. Kaminsky	0	03005271
s/Sgt.	William G. Hart	0	04087313
s/Sgt.	James E. Bauer	01	03079507
s/Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	02	07075400
Sgt.	Edwin J. Prossler	00	07021740

31st December, 1944. Mission # 239 to Kordel, Germany; Ehrang / Kordel Railroad network.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster (Sources):

"The final mission for 1944 came on the 31st going to Kordel, Germany. Target the Ehrang / Kordel railroad network. Bombing was again by PFF (GH), no observed results. 2nd Lt Eugene Lietman, 327th, having engine trouble landed at A-89, LeCulot, Belgium, a fighter base. All crew members and aircraft returned to base."

### 1 January 1945 – A/C #44-6451

44-6451			
1st Lt.	Edwin (MI) Condon	0	0-752957
2nd Lt.	Erwin P. Schmidt	01	0-820045
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Mieniewski	0	0-717305
s/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	0	04707500
1/Sgt.	John S. Kaminsky	0	03005271
s/Sgt.	William G. Hart	0	04087313
s/Sgt.	James E. Bauer	01	03079507
s/Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	02	07075400
Sgt.	Edwin J. Prossler	00	07021740

1st January 1945, Mission Number 240 to Kassel tank factory (secondary target); (Magdeburg primary); 1 lost; at least 1 casualty

e/a encountered first time in weeks

92nd Bomb Group Fames Favored Few-Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster (Sources):

"Colonel Mustoe, 40th Wing C.O. flying with 1st Lt Pilliod, 325th, led the 1st Division attack on the tank works at Kassel. Of the 451 effective Division aircraft 292 attacked Kassel, 11 at Magdeburg, oil; and 15 at Dillingburg, T/O. More than 350 Mustangs provided escort. A screening force of 12 provided by the 92nd and 305th had some rough going in the Magdeburg area. Being 8 minutes late for escort they were meat for 15-20 FW 190s. Of our 3 only 1 got to the target then home.

2nd Lt Ralph K Rollins, A/C 43-38932 (407th) MACR 11371, was knocked out of the formation by AA and exploded. Aircraft crashed near Stendal—9 KIA. 1st Lt John W Priestly, 326th, lost 2 engines landed at Brussels, crew and aircraft returned to Group next day. Claims 2 destroyed, 1 probable.

The main force came through a little better as all came home. Some E/A were encountered and some flak—accurate doing class "A" battle damage to 19 aircraft. One casualty, Technical Sergeant Leo A McClenning, engineer of the 2nd Lt David C Wagner crew, 407th, a flak fragment penetrated his helmet, killing him instantly."

Appendix A: MAGDEBURG, SCR. FORCE, 1 January 1945—Rollins, Ralph K; Reel, Billy B; Meyenberg, Anthony J; Curran, Thomas J; Easton, William H; Michael, Robert L; Etzel, Edward, Jr; Montgomery, Ellis K; Martin, Robert F.



2 January 1945 – A/C #43-38624

42-38624 W			
1st Lt.	Edwin (SMI) Condon	F	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	H	0-717933
3/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	B	34707628
1/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
3/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
3/Sgt.	Robert G. Wolt	BT	35879607
3/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	CG	16129486
Sgt.	Maurice O. Kuesch		
2nd Lt.	Robert B. Chesterfield	HN	0-754867

**SECRET**

2nd January 1945, Mission # 241 to Bitburg, Ger highway junction/communications center  
92nd Bomb Group (H)-Sloan, 92ndma.org (Source)

“...36 aircraft attacked a highway junction and communications center at Bitburg, bombing visually with excellent results.”

5 January 1945 – A/C #43-38658?

42-38658 J			
1st Lt.	Edwin (SMI) Condon	F	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	H	0-717933
3/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	B	34707628
1/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
3/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
3/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
3/Sgt.	Robert G. Wolt	CG	16129486
Sgt.	Edward W. Bartley Jr.	WG	13141078

5 January 1945, Mission # 242 to Niederbresig, Ger air base

92nd Bomb Group (H)-Turner, Mission List from 92ndma.org (Source)

“...a force of 124 aircraft bombed the Niederbresig airdrome using GH and H2X techniques. A milk run—no losses for the whole Division—there were 190 fighters escorting.”

7 January 1945-A/C #43-38624

42-38624 W			
1st Lt.	Edward J. Condon	F	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Lloyd R. McCreer	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	H	0-717933
3/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	B	34707628
1/Sgt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	33605271
3/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
3/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
3/Sgt.	Robert G. Wolt	CG	16129486
1/Sgt.	Edwin J. Pressler	WG	37621743

7 January 1945, Mission # 244 to Euskirchen, Ger bridges/marshalling yards

92nd Bomb Group (H)-Sloan, Mission List from 92ndma.org (Source)

“On the 7th we go to Euskirchen, bridges and highway junctions. The total 1st Division force against this type of target was 351 B-17s with only 75 on Euskirchen. There were again no losses Divisionwide. Escort force was 159 Mustangs.”

8 January 1945 – A/C #43-38624

43-38624			
1st Lt.	Edwin (EMI) Condon	P	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	J	0-717933
S/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	S	34707628
T/Sgt.	John S. Kaminsky	R	33605271
T/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
S/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
S/Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	TG	37675466
S/Sgt.	Edwin J. Fressler	NO	37521748

8 January 1945, Mission Number 245 to Wissembourg, Ger bridges/marshalling yards

1 lost, crew returned

92nd Bomb Group Fames Favored Few-Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster (Sources):

“.....we were alone with our 36 aircraft. Lt. Eugene F Wheeler, 325th, (407th A/C #43-37872) lost the cowling on #3, tried 4 times to feather the prop, then ordered bail-out over Rheims. Crew all landed safely and the aircraft crashed nearby. As this happened in friendly territory it did not count as a loss for the Division. So far all bombing has been by PFF.”

10 January 1945 – A/C #43-38477

**SECRET**

43-38477			
1st Lt.	Edward J. Condon	J	0-763957
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	CP	0-775899
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	J	0-717933
S/Sgt.	Allen J. Feinblum	S	34707628
T/Sgt.	John S. Kaminsky	R	33605271
T/Sgt.	William E. Hart	E	34087313
S/Sgt.	James R. Sauer	BT	35879607
S/Sgt.	Robert G. Welte	TG	37675466
S/Sgt.	Edwin J. Fressler	NO	37521748

10 January 1945, Mission Number 246 to Gymnich air base; at least one casualty

4 bailed, including S/Sgt. Jn. H. Carter 327 Sq - WG - for second consecutive mission; 3 returned

92nd Bomb Group Fames Favored Few-Turner, 92nd Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster (Sources):

“Our force bombed visually, but had a bad drop by the low squadron on a T/O, later determined to be behind the Allied lines. The aircraft flown by 1st Lt O’Halloran, A/C 44-8450 (325th) and Major Bideganeta caught a heavy flak burst on the way in that destroyed #3 and damaged the wing. On the first run over the target the oil line on #4 was cut and a little later #2 became inoperative. They fell out of formation, heading for friendly territory. They encountered the 88 type flak where the shell carried multiple smaller shells, which then showered the area with shards. The aircraft looked like a sieve. A fuel line in the bomb bay was severed allowing gas to run through the radio room into the waist. They still had the bombs aboard—opened the doors and dumped them. Heading toward Liege, O’Halloran located a level area—started down with only visibility through the open side window. All four were windmilling—sort of a 4-engine glider—wheels up landing in the snow—sliding uncontrolled, stopped with only one man hurt, wounded through the calf. Aircraft salvaged 23-Jan-45.

On the same mission, 1st Lt Hirsch, A/C 42-102396 (325th) lost #1 to flak on the first run, on the next run he lost #2, and the bombardier did not identify the target. Regrouping Hirsch began a third run and just at bombs away flak got both remaining engines. He got #1 back into operation and dumped his bombs on an unidentified target and headed to friendly territory. He too spotted a field near Liege, with 3 engines out, bomb bay doors jammed open, the ball pointing down; he landed without injury to the remaining crew. At 300 feet, for some reason, the waist gunner bailed out and was killed.”



A/C #43-38477

13 January 1945 – A/C #43-38517

A/C #43-38517

1st Lt.	Edward J. Condon	P	0-750587
2nd Lt.	Ben W. Hopson Jr.	GP	0-770259
1st Lt.	Leonard G. Wisniewski	N	0-711931
1st Lt.	Allen J. Feinblum	B	54707818
1st Lt.	John E. Kaminsky	R	54603271
1st Lt.	William E. Hart	S	54067518
1st Lt.	James R. Sauer	ST	55070607
1st Lt.	Robert J. Walto	TC	37370465
1st Lt.	Edwin J. Frenzier	44	27521740

13 January 1945, Mission # 247 to Karlsruhe Maximiliansau bridge

92nd Bomb Group (H)-Turner, Mission List from [92ndma.org](http://92ndma.org) (Source)

“Major Smyrl led the Group on the 13th’s raid to Karlsruhe’s Maximiliansau railroad bridge. Bombing was visual with very good results as shown by strike photos. We had no losses.”

# SECRET

## APPENDIX C

### TOURS OF DUTY COMPLETED

Capt Victor D'Ortona Raymond V. Clay Walter E. White Raymond L. Kolman Alfred E. Johnson	T/Sgt Gerhard L. Bilstad Ramon Dunham George W. Delaney Charles L. Jordan Harold Manevitch Shearrell Vincent
1st Lt Herbert A. Gray, Jr. James B. Neal Troy H. Kimbrough, Jr. Bernard J. Masson Charles A. Barrett Robert C. Buescher Frederick P. Keene Leonard G. Wisniewski Rhoten A. Smith, Jr. Kenneth F. Parker Thomas P. Tuvim Jack Blair James C. Alexander Leland S. Stickel Mack E. Clarke Walter W. Goff, Jr. John W. Priestly, Jr. Edward H. Osman John A. Luffman James P. Corrigan Theodore L. Knebel William F. Stayton John A. Clausen	S/Sgt Jim D. Pulliam Stanley F. Zaleski Glen L. Hansen Andrew J. Perry, Jr. Joe A. Figg Bento D. Coute George J. Owen Donald R. Keniston Herbert F. Nuetzmann David L. Whittemore Robert L. Poole Robert J. Mills Gerald R. Dykes Glenn R. Smith Stanley J. Urbeck John V. Hahn John H. Hartman Philip A. Bear Vern F. Hammond Jack Fromkin
F/O Nelson E. Nuckoles	
T/Sgt Alfredo G. Arrieta Robert C. Fisher Keith L. MacPhee Donald R. Duranceau Milton H. Schang Stanley M. DeBoit Robert P. Sokup Elwood R. Brown Sidney C. Smith Bernard A. Brady, Jr. Joseph C. Brost Samuel J. Armour Harold P. Grunow Alfred Scarcella John D. O'Hara	

-1-

**JOHN KAMINSKY**, born Jan. 26, 1924, Larksville, PA. Worked as a machinist before enlisting on May 19, 1943. He attended Radio School at Scott Field; Gunnery at Yuma, AZ; and was assigned to the 8th AF, 92nd BG, 327th BS in England. He flew 35 missions with several crews, two being the crews of Dick Haffeman and Ed Condon. Discharged on Oct. 27, 1945, with the rank of technical sergeant. He was awarded the Air Medal with five OLCs.

Started his own business in 1958, Midway Tool Engineering Co., Inc. and sold it in 1994. Married Jean and after 36 years in business he is living the good life of retirement, golfing and traveling, etc.

