



# 20<sup>th</sup> Air FORCE WEST FIELD, TINIAN, MARIANAS ISLANDS AUGUST 1945 THE BIG PUSH HAS RUN ITS COURSE



# HEADQUARTERS 468<sup>TH</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP (VH) – AUGUST 1945

August needs no introduction. Rather, for us it was the finale, the last days of the 468th Bombardment Group in its role against Japan.

The last days of the war were hectic beyond all comprehension. Before the greatest sweat-out of all time (the week in which surrender negotiations bounced back and forth across the world) the Group ran four highly successful bombing missions. Three of these were incendiary strikes against the urban areas of secondary Japanese cities. The fourth and last mission of the war was a daylight precision attack against the Hikari Naval Arsenal. Bombing results were excellent – among the best jobs of the war.

Since the surrender the Group has been busily preparing to adjust to a peacetime basis. The great majority of personnel are eligible, or soon will be eligible, for return to the US and separation from the service. By month's end, two shipments had left the Group for Saipan and staging to the Zone of the Interior.

During the month of August the 468<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group flew four long-range bombing missions, one "display of power" mission, and one POW supply mission in which rations were dropped in six Prisoner of War camps on Kyushu Island.

A narrative of individual missions follows:

Field Order No. 30 Hachioji Urban Area 1-2 August 1945

The first mission to be flown during the month was a maximum effort incendiary strike against the urban area of Hachioji on the night of 1-2 August. The 468<sup>th</sup> had 45 strike aircraft airborne and furnished one additional aircraft for RCM purposes. All except one aircraft bombed the Primary Target with excellent results. Cloud cover varied considerably (3/10 to 10/10) but 22 aircraft had enough visibility to release visually. The remaining aircraft bombed by radar.

Air opposition was rated from nil to weak with 7 Crews reporting attacks – all by single engine fighters. A total of 74 enemy aircraft were sighted. Skookum 44 received slight damage from one attack. One possible "Baka" followed one of our aircraft, Skookum 23, 70 miles out to sea. Flak gave no trouble, but was reported meager and inaccurate at the target. Up to 10 searchlights were observed in the Primary Target area. All aircraft returned safely to Base. There were no casualties, and the only damage done was that mentioned above with regard to Skookum 44.

Field Order No. 31 Saga Urban Area 5-6 August

Three days later on the night of 5-6 August, the Group scheduled a "normal effort" of 33 aircraft (plus 1 Wind Aircraft, 1 Super Dumbo) in the incendiary strike against Saga. 32 of the 33 strike aircraft hit the Primary Target. Results were poor. Without any attempt at excuses, the target was a very poor set-up for radar bombing.



There was no air opposition on the mission. Flak varied according to the time the formations were over the target. The first three formations reported meager gradually increasing to moderate as the final formation came over. Although upwards to 100 bursts were counted by the last formation, no aircraft were hit. Our lone aircraft bombing the Target of Opportunity at Nobeoka reported moderate flak. It received one hit, which caused minor damage. Friendly fighters were seen in the general target area, which probably accounted for the lack of enemy air opposition.

All aircraft returned safely with no casualties.

The month closed with the Group partaking in several missions termed "Display of Power" in which aircraft of the 20<sup>th</sup> Air Force joined to cover the Surrender Operations in the Tokyo Bay area. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, aircraft of the 468<sup>th</sup> Group took part in missions dropping supplies to Prisoner of War camps throughout the Japanese Empire.

The greatest event of the month was the ending of the war. Sitting out here on a small island of the Pacific when the news was announced, we were overwhelmed completely. For nearly a week each man had sweated out the peace with an intensity never before equaled. Radios ran 24 hours a day and eager GI's clustered about them weighing each word of the deliberations carefully in their own minds. When the great day finally did arrive, it was almost beyond comprehension. So much had happened in such a short time! Russia entered the war. The atomic bomb was dropped. Before either could be fully appreciated, the end of the war came.

One thing, however, was fully understood, and that was the prospect of returning home. No longer was Uncle Sugar Able a distant hope for the future. The war was over and we had seen long service. If any fair plan for returnees was set, we certainly should be on our way in the near future. For several days speculation ran unchecked. Rumors of all sorts sped about. Shortly, however, the official plan was announced whereby the point system would be used, and that settled matters temporarily.

During the month the Group released a small number of men with 115 points or more. The first large batch to leave, however, came on 28 August when 44 Enlisted Men departed this organization on order to WPC (Western Pacific Command) Personnel and Casual Depot at Saipan, for transfer to separation centers in the United States. At month's end another large group was alerted to stand by for the same operation.

### The Last Summon

Without question, the primary contribution of the 468<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group in winning the air war against Japan is found in its pioneer work with the B-29 aircraft. As one of the original Very Long Range Groups of the 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing and the XXth Bomber Command in India and China, the 468<sup>th</sup> did a major share of the operational and combat testing of an aircraft hitherto unproven and rightly labeled as the "hottest ship" ever developed. The modifications arrived at from these tests made the B-29 the aircraft we know today, the most potent weapon of the Army Air Forces.

It was only just that the 468<sup>th</sup> should be in on the triumph of our air power as exemplified in these last weeks of war. The Group was proud of its record in the early days, and proud of the fact that it could serve through all the stages in the development of the B-29.



Perhaps it is best expressed in the words of an old Crew Chief as he watched the aircraft return recently from an 800 aircraft raid over the Empire. "By God!" he exclaimed in pride as aircraft after aircraft passed overhead, "I can remember when 60 planes over a target was a big day!" That is the answer. An average bombardment group might weigh heavily its contributions on the basis of their performance at this target or in the burning of that city. We were on there. There is no debate in our minds. Certainly our bombing record is amongst the highest in the Air Force – our CE remarkable. We'll match performance records with anyone. That, however, is not the important thing. It was the end, the ultimate objective, yes, but the contributions that made these measures possible came in the beginning. It was the brains, blood and guts put out in those early days that set up the goal and enabled future forces to attain the success.

### Factors affecting the living conditions and morale

Due to the many changes of station experienced by the Group, this question must necessarily be divided into the problems peculiar to the separate geographical locales. A breakdown follows:

### <u>India</u>

- (1) Climate extremes of heat and rainfall
- (2) Health every disease known to man, plus a few unknown
- (3) Sanitation always at a minimum
- (4) Food poor to fair
- (5) Recreation facilities poor
- (6) Post Exchange poor to fair, very irregular supply

Those items listed are no mere idle gripes. Each was a definite problem of considerable magnitude. Under health, for example, our medics could fill several thousand pages (and probably will). It will suffice to here to state under one small category that everyone in the Group suffered acute dysentery at least once – and generally a dozen or more times. Undoubtedly the effects of India on the men will continue to manifest itself through the years to come. On Tinian, the hospitals showed a large preponderance of 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing personnel, nearly all of whom are confined with maladies that can be attributed to the stay in India.

### China

<u>Supply.</u> That one word was the key to our troubles in China. It was the biggest problem and the one which affected all living conditions. Because of the tremendous distance involved, and especially because of the lack of transportation facilities, our basic operations had to be close by scheduled to fit what we could obtain. We lived off the land. Such things as PX's, etc., were pretty much unheard of.

<u>Tinian.</u> This was a luxury compared to our former stations. The only problem arose in the turn of events with the favorable progress of the war. With long service under Air Force standards, the men wanted some promise or hope for the day they expect to get home. In the months just prior to surrender, the morale sagged considerably due to the indecision and lack of understanding of this in higher headquarters.



All the men wanted was some definite word. Would they be rotated in 2 years? 4 years? Or what? Since V-J Day it has nearly been all alleviated. Now everyone will be quite happy if the promises of early return come true.

### Organization.

The 468<sup>th</sup> is a normal "Very Heavy" Bombardment Group in structure.

# 792<sup>ND</sup> BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON – AUGUST 1945

August finds the 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron in high spirits and with most of it personnel looking forward toward San Francisco. The surrender of Japan came as a surprise to most people, but they quickly recovered and spent the latter part of the month waiting for the occupation of Japan.

Five missions were pulled this month in which the 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron participated. Three night incendiary raids, one high explosives raid, and one Prisoner of War supply mission.

August 2, 1945 a maximum effort 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing mission was run against the city of Hachioji on the island of Honshu. This was a night incendiary raid. A few enemy interceptors were sighted and flak was meager and inaccurate.

The pilots and planes participating are as follows:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	Target Bombed	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Murphy, C.	Primary Target	
2	Kurzenberger, G.	Primary Target	
4	Welsh, T.	Primary Target	
5	Keathley, H.	Primary Target	
6	Oldenburg, C.	Primary Target	
7	Wildman, A.	Primary Target	
8	Wallace, E.	Primary Target	
9	Hokanson, J.	Primary Target	
10	Stavin, I.	Primary Target	
11	Lippincott, H.	Primary Target	
12	Garland, W.	Primary Target	
14	Shafer, E.	Primary Target	
15	Risher, J.	Primary Target	
16	Nebbeb, W.	Primary Target	
17	Pope, B.	Primary Target	
18	Dargan, H.	<b>Primary Target</b>	

August 6, 1945 a maximum effort 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing mission hit the city of Saga on the island of Honshu. This was a night incendiary mission with twelve aircraft participating. Results are unusual with "zero" percent of the city destroyed. This was partly due to Saga being a poor radar target. There was no enemy interception and flak was meager and inaccurate.





The pilots and aircraft of the participating Squadron follows:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	Target Bombed	<u>Remarks</u>
4	Welsh, T.	Primary Target	
5	Keathley, H.	Primary Target	
6	Oldenberg, C.	Primary Target	
9	Hokanson, J.	Primary Target	
10	Maxwell, K.	Primary Target	
11	Burdick, R.		Early return, #3 swallowed valve
12	Garland, W.	Primary Target	•
14	Shafer, E.	Primary Target	
15	Risher, J.	Primary Target	
16	Nebben, W.	Primary Target	
17	Pope, B.	Primary Target	
18	Freeman, C.	, <u> </u>	Wind aircraft

August 9, 1945 a night incendiary mission was flown against Fukuyama on the island on Honshu with three Groups of the 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing participating. There was no enemy fighter interception and flak was meager. 73.3% of the city was destroyed.

Pilots and aircraft of participating Squadron follows:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	Target Bombed	<u>Remarks</u>
4	Welsh, T.	Primary Target	
5	Pope, B.	Primary Target	
6	Oldenberg, C.	Primary Target	
9	Hokanson, J.	Primary Target	
10	Maxwell, K.	Primary Target	
11	Lippencott, H.	Primary Target	
12	Murphy, C.	Primary Target	
14	Shafer, E.	Primary Target	
15	Martin, J.	Primary Target	
16	Nebben, W.	Primary Target	
18	Freeman, C.	Primary Target	

On August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1945 a maximum effort 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing mission was run against Hikari Naval Arsenal located on the southern tip of Honshu Island. This was a daylight high explosive strike with Capt. Welsh leading in Skookum #4. The weather was unusually good, with visibility unlimited, and all Crews reported the bombing excellent. No enemy fighters were sighted and flak was meager to moderate and inaccurate to accurate. This was the last combat strike for the 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron.

The pilots and aircraft of this Squadron who participated are as follows:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	Target Bombed	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Miller, E.	Primary Target	
2	Kurtzenberger, C.	Primary Target	





4	Welsh, T.	<b>Primary Target</b>
5	Pope, B.	Primary Target
6	Oldenberg, C.	Primary Target
7	Dargan, H.	Primary Target
8	Wallis, E.	Primary Target
9	Hokanson, J.	<b>Primary Target</b>
10	Maxwell	<b>Primary Target</b>
11	Murphy, C.	Primary Target
12	Schnell, E.	<b>Primary Target</b>
14	Shafer, E.	<b>Primary Target</b>
15	Risher, J.	<b>Primary Target</b>
16	Nebben, W.	Primary Target
17	Wildman, A.	Primary Target
18	Freeman. C.	<b>Primary Target</b>

August 30, 1945 the first mission was flown to drop supplies to Prisoner of War camps in Japan. Steel barrels loaded with clothing, food, cigarettes and medical supplies were dropped from low altitudes into the camp areas.

The 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron dropped supplies at the Prisoner of War camps located on the island of Kyushu in the vicinity of Fukuoka. Although the weather was not good and ceilings were low in some of the target areas, all the aircraft were able to drop their loads in the target area.

Pilots and aircraft of the 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron participating are as follows:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	Mission Area	<u>Remarks</u>
2	Kurzenberger, C.	Fukuoka #23	Flew mission on 31 August
6	Burdick, R.	Fukuoka #22-23	
7	Wildman, A.	Fukuoka #1	
8	Freeman, C.	Fukuoka #1	
10	Lippencott, H.	Fukuoka #22	
3	Harms, H.	Fukuoka #574	Weather strike in the Tokyo area

The 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron finished the last month of combat flying with an excellent operational record. During the month only one aircraft failed to hit the Primary Targets briefed, there were no injuries to personnel and no aircraft were lost.

Capt. Welsh and Crew flew their first and last mission as the Lead Crew and did an excellent job on the Hikari Naval Arsenal. The Hikari strike was a credit to the 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron. All aircraft scheduled were airborne and hit the Primary Target. The Squadron formation had each aircraft in its position as scheduled, and all returned safely.

With the official announcement that Japan's desire to surrender had been accepted, the 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing stood by to do any air transport jobs it was ordered. The 792<sup>nd</sup> Bomb Squadron took the lull in operations to get all aircraft cleaned and remove all the excess gear that had been necessary on a combat strike. "P.W. Supplies" was painted in large block letters on the underside of the wings.



No P.W. supply missions were flown until the last few days of August.

On the afternoon of 25 August 1945, a group parade was staged in the 468<sup>th</sup> Group Headquarters area on the flight line. All Squadrons participated and a large number of awards and decorations were presented to personnel by Col. James V. Edmundson, the Group Commander.

In the last few days of August, construction of a new pre-fab was completed. It is located north of the mailroom and will house the Squadron Supply.

Since the combat phase has ended, more of the men are finding time to participate in athletics. Baseball teams have been organized within the Squadron and have been playing other teams in the Wing and at this time have been doing OK.

The following men completed 35 missions and were returned to the USA:

Capt. H.G. Clark	S/Sgt. S.M. Klasovsky
Capt. H.L. Keathley	S/Sgt. F.J. Muraco
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. E. J. Ahiers	S/Sgt. A.D. Ingle
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. J.B. Richardson	S/Sgt. Romeo Buccini
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. W.R. West	S/Sgt. R.B. Mogle
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. W.A. Garland	S/Sgt. J.G. Carlson
T/Sgt. B. Patterson	S/Sgt. J.C. Lenau
S/Sgt. J.M. Black	Sgt. I.K. Blanton

Capt. Edwin Zaidlicz completed 38 missions and returned to the USA for a 30-day leave.

The following men completed 30 missions and were returned to the USA:

Sgt. R.O. Guthrie	Sgt. C.W. Beck
Sqt. W.H. Corley	Sqt. D.W. Walters

793<sup>RD</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP (VH) – AUGUST 1945

Little indication was evident in the first days of August that this was to be such a historic month.

On the first of August our aircraft continued their low level night incendiary attacks against the secondary cities on Japan by striking at Hachioji, an important dispersal manufacturing town on the outskirts of Tokyo. The largest Wing force yet put into the air went after this target with our Squadron having sixteen over the Primary. From Crew reports it was assumed that results were poor whereas actual photoreconnaissance photos revealed that 80% was destroyed. The following Crews participated:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>
26	Weaver	31	Patton
35	Jennings	34	Troyer
36	Cobb	30	Burggraf
24	Sullivan	29	Camarena





		354	
32	Boland	21	Forsythe
28	Cooper	23	Caricato
25	Greenwald	22	Sturgis
27	Bowerman	33	Shobert

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of August we were assigned the prefectural capital town of Saga on Kyushu. This one was really small and the results were proportional to its size. "Zero point zero zero percent" of Saga was destroyed. The following Crews had this tough radar bomb problem:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>
32	Forsythe	27	Burggraf
36	Woolsey	28	Cooper
24	Sullivan	29	Camarena
34	Troyer	35	<b>Tobison</b>
31	Patton	22	Sturgis

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of August it started. The 509<sup>th</sup> Composite Bomb Group of the 313<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing that had pulled into Tinian a few months ago had been veiled in secrecy beyond anything dreamed of by the ordinary S-2. Now it was out, they were carriers of the world-shaking atomic bomb – the weapon that the allies had raced to produce before Germany and Japan. The effect on the future of the world in the release of atomic energy left all of us stunned and praying that it would have immediate results on the end of the war. Let's record the events as they happened in those trying days.

It started on the 6<sup>th</sup> with the dropping of the first atomic bomb. We knew very little about the whole thing but the rumors were rampant. We had long been wondering why we had not been assigned Hiroshima, this was an adequate explanation. The gimmick having left dear old Tinian we felt very close to it and wondered its outcome.

The results were so cataclysmic we started thinking of the finale even as so must have the Japanese; but the next day we were scheduled for Yawata, the "Big Y" – our China based bugaboo. It was a terrible strain to be assigned that little number after the world-shaking events of the past day. The end of that story is sort of a *denouement*. Due to operational difficulties our Group did not get off that night, so we had sort of a free ride. Nevertheless to miss this show, while it gave us relief, it marred our pride that we didn't get our licks at our old enemy. To make up for this our Group was scheduled on the night of the 9<sup>th</sup> to hit Fukuyama, which we did, scoring excellent results knocking 73% of that city to hell and back.

When the Crews returned we had all sorts of news that started the beginning of the big sweat. Russia had declared war and the second atomic bomb had been dropped on our old China based target Nagasaki, but still there was no let up. We had all day of the 10<sup>th</sup> to think and then we had to brief at 6 pm that evening for a daylight strike against a factory east of Nagoya. The takeoff was for 3 am and 11 pm that evening we heard the unconfirmed announcement of the Japanese proposal to accept the Potsdam Ultimatum by their Emperor. Then a fine film of perspiration began to appear. It was finally given some teeth when at the very last minute, and I mean last minute, our mission was cancelled and everybody went back to the sack with a prayer on their lips. On



Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> we heard the radio tell of the civilian reaction thru polls, on the question of accepting Japan's proposal. This did not sit well and there was much gnashing of teeth and full bloom cursing on this expression of opinion. It was not appreciated and many of the men will carry it back with them. To bring this to a head, we were alerted and ordered to give a briefing covering the Hikari Naval Arsenal at six that evening. It was a terrible let down after the mission had been called off the night before, but perhaps it would be cancelled. The Crews went to bed without getting much sleep, you can well imagine. Everyone hung around S-2 pacing the floor, smoking cigarettes, talking and shoving an ear right up against the speaker. Then finally we got the news. The Japanese proposal had been accepted with the role of the Emperor clearly defined. The wire arrived from 20<sup>th</sup> Air Force Headquarters that the mission was cancelled.

All day Sunday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, there was nothing to do but wait and wait. Peace or war? The radio could say nothing but "The war goes on!" Then we got word to unload the aircraft, to take the bombs out of the bays and to hunt up all of our cargo platforms. Then we received the news that a major US Naval unit had just been hit off Okinawa and the Third Fleet was striking Tokyo. Monday we were told to stand by. At noon, told to reload, but given no target, no briefing time or takeoff time. We went to bed not knowing what. It was no good; by 11:00 everybody was up having coffee at the mess halls. Then the blow struck. Briefing at three for the Hikari Arsenal mission again. What was the delay in the Japanese reply? It was a hard thing to send Crews out thinking that peace could come momentarily. There were a variety of expressions of opinion. Some wanted to wait and not endanger another life, others wanted to drop a few more "persuaders", while others said we shouldn't even let the bastards surrender. Our aircraft took off. Tuesday morning we heard the ridiculous cry of the Japanese that they had just received the note.

Back at Base we paced the floor wondering and waiting for the "bombs away" message on Hikari. The message finally came through and indicated perfect visual bombing. Towards late afternoon the word started getting around that Domei had reported the acceptance of the Potsdam Ultimatum. We didn't know whether to believe it or not. After an interminable time our aircraft started to land late that night. It was the night of Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of August. About 10:00 as we were in the heat of interrogations we accounted for all of our aircraft and breathed a sigh of relief. The sweat started all over again, but the bright shiny morning of the 15<sup>th</sup> revealed it was true. The war was over!!

The mission of Fukuyama was a success with the following Crews participating:

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>
27	Bowerman	33	Troyer
25	Greenwald	37	Camarena
36	Cobb	34	Shobert
35	Jennings	32	Cooper
23	Caricato	31	Patton

The following Super Dumbo missions were flown during the month, with Captain Joe Boland and Crew probably flying one of the last combat sorties of the war – hearing the final surrender announced on his Base leg landing at Iwo Jima.





<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Date</u>
30	Boland	5 August 1945
30	Boland	15 August 1945

Our last combat mission was against the Hikari Naval Arsenal southwest of Kure. It was a beautiful daylight strike with the results described as one of the best high altitude precision bombing jobs of the entire war. The Arsenal is now adjudged 100% inoperative.

Capt. Greenwald and Crew led, flying Skookum 25 with Lt. Edwards as Bombardier.

794<sup>TH</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP (VH) – AUGUST 1945

The strength of the 794<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron

OFFICERS – 145 ENLISTED MEN – 534

Following are the serial numbers of the aircraft in the Squadron

42-24893	44-71046
44-69660	44-61516
42-24719	44-70140
42-24892	44-61674
44-61816*	44-70042
42-24714 (DS)	44-61566
44-61695	44-87666
42-65275	44-61681
42-65279	44-61816

A/C 44-61816 arrived on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August credited with 66:00 flying hours. By the end of August the aircraft had 125:00 flying hours. One combat mission at Kukuyama and also took part in the Power Display on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August over Tokyo Bay.

A/C 42-24734 "Miss Lead" crash-landed at North Field on Tinian after the Saga mission (#31) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August. The Crew, piloted by Lt. Morris Kraines, came through the incident without injury. Their aircraft was low on gas over the runway and before the landing gears were down the plane lost all power and had to belly land. The aircraft has been transferred to the 313<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing as salvage. The aircraft had 12 missions during the month in the CBI and had 20 missions on Tinian making a total of 718:00 flying hours.

The total flying time for the month of August was 1275:00. Combat time: 911:15 Training time: 347:50

Miscellaneous and Administrative: 15:55 hours

The 794<sup>th</sup> participated in the following missions:

Hachijo	1 and 2 August	13 Scheduled, plus 1	RCM * 12 hit PT
Saga	5 and 6 August	11 Scheduled	11 hit PT
Fukuyama	8 and 9 August	11 Scheduled	11 hit PT



Hikari Naval Arsenal	14 August	14 Scheduled	13 hit PT (1 Early Return)
POW Supplies	30 August	5 Scheduled	5 airborne aborts **
Power Display	31 August	3 Scheduled	3
POW Supplies	31 August	2 Scheduled	2

<sup>\*</sup> RCM - Radar Countermeasures Mission

The Squadron received its fifth Battle Star for:

### BATTLE PARTICIPATION CREDIT CENTRAL BURMA CAMPAIGN

The men who received the Star were those who were assigned and/or attached to our Squadron (or this Group) while in India and it is worn on the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Ribbon.

### Other Goings on in the Squadron

Major Reitz had been on temporary duty in Washington to accept a position in the Personnel Affairs Section where he was to have set up a plan for aiding Air Corps Officers and Enlisted Men in selecting and finding business opportunities. His orders sent him to the Redistribution Center at Atlantic City.

Lts. Stanford Toups, Charles Abel and Warren Griffin made their captaincy this month.

Major Levi Goodrich, our Operations Officer, took an aircraft and Crew to Hawaii to pick up equipment for the Officer's Club and the Group Service Club. On board as passengers were Lt. Col. Andry, the Executive Officer of the 468<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group and 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Hutchinson.

The Squadron took part in a Group formation on the flight line on 25 August. Awards and Decorations were presented to men in the Group by the Commanding Officer, Colonel James V. Edmundson. The formation, presentation and review were very impressive and photographs were taken for the Group to be included in their monthly history. The Office Personnel who rarely see the sun and seldom get to the beach were easily identified the next day. Their foreheads were cut diagonally in half where the overseas cap half-protected them from the sun.

The major excitement of the month was, of course, the cessation of hostilities. Our Army life has been a series of sweating out sessions, but none equaled the ordeal of waiting for the final truce declaration. It may be recalled that at 22:10K (11:10 pm Tinian time), August 10<sup>th</sup>, a report reached San Francisco that the Japanese accepted the

<sup>\*\*</sup> These aircraft reached the target area but were unable to find the Prisoner of War camps, which were not properly marked. The Intelligence Group was unable to give them detailed information on locations, etc. The Crew stayed in the Target Area for two hours and during most of that time was battling poor weather and low visibility.



Potsdam Declaration providing their Emperor could retain his prerogative. The mission (Nagoya) scheduled for that night was cancelled and everyone was deliriously happy and supported the aid of whatever liquid refreshments were obtainable. The following days were nerve-wracking: Washington accepted, but said they would have to appoint a military governor to direct the activities of the Japanese Empire. Would they accept? It seemed they wouldn't because the hours passed and days before they even acknowledged having received our answer, they said they would have to decide. Our aircraft took off for the first time after the Japanese original peace offer and bombed the Hikari Naval Arsenal without loss of an aircraft. The following day, August 15<sup>th</sup>, the Public Address system at the Group announced that the Guam Radio had picked up an announcement by the Domei News Agency from Tokyo: "The Japanese accept, unconditionally, the Potsdam Ultimatum." During this sweating out period, record numbers filled the new Group Chapel for services. The Squadron News and Alert room opened after a month in the making to provide the latest news.

Since August 10<sup>th</sup>, the Group has been operating on a peacetime basis. Our working hours are 0700 to 1100 and 1300 to 1600 with Sundays free. Training missions, POW supply missions and a power display over Tokyo have kept the Flying Crews and Ground Men busy. On September 6<sup>th</sup> this new peacetime regime will be extended at which time censorship will cease.

The Squadron is anxiously awaiting word about the disposition of the 58<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing. Rumors are flying thick and thin. Most of them are optimistically concerned with our returning to the United States as soon as transportation is available. The men feel that the Wing should go home as a Unit because of its time overseas and operations in two theatres. August ends with more sweating it out – not an enemy but, going home...or not!





# **MISSIONS FLOWN FROM INDIA AND CHINA 1944-45**

# TACTICAL HISTORY – 468<sup>TH</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP

NO.	DATE	AIRCRAFT	TARGET	TIME OF	TYPE OF BOMBS
		AIRBORNE		ATTACK	
1	5 JUNE 44	26	Bangkok, Thailand	Daylight	High Explosive
2	15 JUNE 44	19	Yawata, Japan	Night	High Explosive
3	7 JULY 44	5	Sasebo, Japan	Night	High Explosive
4	29 JULY 44	27	Anshan, Manchuria	Daylight	High Explosive
5	10 AUG 44	13	Pladjoe, Palembang,	Night	Incendiary-High Ex
			Sumatra	_	
6	10 AUG 44		Nagasaki, Japan	Night	Incendiary – Frag
7	20 AUG 44	29	Yawata, Japan	Daylight	High Explosive
8	8 SEPT 44	27	Anshan, Manchuria	Daylight	High Explosive
9	26 SEPT 44	32	Anshan, Manchuria	Daylight	High Explosive
10	14 OCT 44	34	Okayama, Formosa	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
11	16 OCT 44	23	Heito, Formosa	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
12	17 OCT 44	30	Formosa	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
13	25 OCT 44	18	Omura, Japan	Daylight	Incendiary
14	3 NOV 44	12	Rangoon, Burma	Daylight	High Explosive
15	5 NOV 44	35	Singapore	Daylight	High Explosive
16	11 NOV 44	27	Omura, Japan	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
17	21 NOV 44	22	Omura, Japan	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
18	27 NOV 44	15	Bangkok, Thailand	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
19	7 DEC 44	31	Mukden, Manchuria	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
20	14 DEC 44	12	Bangkok, Thailand	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
21	18 DEC 44	30	Hankow, China	Daylight	Incendiary
22	19 DEC 44	5	Omura, Japan	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
23	21 DEC 44	14	Mukden, Manchuria	Daylight	Incendiary-High Ex
24	2 JAN 45	12	Bangkok, Thailand	Daylight	High Explosive



110	DATE	AIDODAET	TARRET	T114E 0E	TYPE OF BOURS
NO.	DATE	AIRCRAFT	TARGET	TIME OF	TYPE OF BOMBS
0.5	0 1401 45	AIRBORNE		ATTACK	
25	6 JAN 45	12	Omura, Japan	Daylight	Incendiary – High Ex
26	9 JAN 45	12	Heito, Formosa	Daylight	Incendiary – High Ex
27	11 JAN 45	12	Singapore	Daylight	Incendiary – High Ex
28	22 JAN 45	22	Kagi, Malaya	Daylight	Incendiary – High Ex
29	17 JAN 45	21	Shinchiku, Formosa	Daylight	Incendiary – High Ex
30	26/27 JAN 45		Saigon	Daylight	Laying Mines
31	26/27 JAN 45	26	Singapore	Night	Laying Mines
32	27 JAN 45		Saigon	Daylight	Laying Mines
33	1 FEB 45	29	Singapore	Daylight	High Explosives
34	7 FEB 45		Saigon	Daylight	Laying Mines
35	7 FEB 45	29	Bangkok, Thailand	Daylight	High Explosives
36	11 FEB 45	14	Rangoon, Burma	Daylight	Incendiary
			Mingaladon, Burma	, ,	-
37	19 FEB 45	29	Kuala Lumpur	Daylight	High Explosives
			Malaya Railway Shops		
38	24 FEB 45	29	Singapore	Daylight	Incendiary
39	27/28 FEB 45		Jahore Straits	Daylight	Laying Mines
40	2 MAR 45	20	Jahore Straits	Daylight	High Explosives
41	4/5 MAR 45	12	Yangtze River, Shanghai	Daylight	Laying Mines
			Taising Beach		
			Yellow Sea		
42	12 MAR 45		Singapore	Daylight	High Explosives
43	10 MAR 45	29	Kuala Lumpur	Daylight	High Explosives
44	17 MAR 45	23	Rangoon, Burma	Daylight	Fragmentation
45	22 MAR 45	15	Rangoon, Burma	Daylight	Fragmentation
46	28/29 MAR 45	10	Shanghai, China	Night	Laying Mines
47	28 MAR 45	18	Mytho and Seng Soirap	Night	Laying Mines
			Cam Ranh Bay		
			Cape St. Jacques		
			Saigon		
48	28/29 MAR 45		Singapore	Night	Laying Mines
49	30/31 MAR 45		Singapore	Night	Laying Mines

# THE BILLY MITCHELL GROUP IS ON THE WAY TO THE PACIFIC

### TO FINISH THE JOB THEY STARTED

MARCH - APRIL 1945

**SOURCE: VOL 7, 1962** 

**AMERICAN AVIATION HISTORICAL** 

**SOCIETY JOURNAL** 

**BY JIM PATTILLO** 





# **RECORD OF EACH AIRCRAFT** ASSIGNED TO 792<sup>ND</sup>

# IC = COMBAT-CBI. TC = TINIAN A= AUX. H = HUMP PR = PHOTO RECON

NO.	GAINED	LOST	REMARKS	MISSIONS	NAME
41-36961	1943	10-24-43	Crashed Salina, KS	None	None
42-6255	4-18-44	4-19-44	Abandoned enroute to A-7	None	None
42-6362	4-19-44	11-21-44	Take-off crash, IC 17	10 IC; 7 H	None
42-6389	4-21-44	7-12-44	Missing IC 19	8 IC; 5 H	Party Girl
42-6264	4-29-44	8-20-44	Missing IC 7	5 IC; 5 H	O'Reilly's
			· ·	,	Daughter
42-63353	5-2-44	1-15-45	War Weary to USA	12 IC; 1 A; 8 H	Juke Box
42-6230	5-4-44	6-15-44	Over Target IC 2	2 IC; 1 H	Limber Dugan
42-6271	5-5-44	6-7-44	Abandoned enroute A-7	1 H	Hellin' Helen
42-6356	5-9-44	8-20-44	Tanker missing – 20 <sup>th</sup>	20 H	Gusher
42-6243	5-11-44	8-10-44	Missing IC 6	3 IC; 6 H	Roger the
			_		Lodger
42-6408	6-25-44	8-21-44	Missing IC 6	3 IC; 5H	Reddy Teddy
42-24446	6-30-44	10-22-44	Photo. Crashed A-7	4 IC; 7 PR	None
42-24494	7-19-44	1-14-45	Crash on return IC 28	16 IC; 12 H	Mary Ann
42-24546	8-20-44	2-23-45	War Weary to USA	15 IC; 3 H	None
42-24471	8-27-44	7-4-45	War Weary to USA	16 IC; 15 TC; 3 H	Ramblin' Reck
42-6238	5-24-44	10-1-44	Tanker, missing	1 IC; 18 H	None
42-24504	8-27-44	10-25-44	Take-off crash IC 12	4 IC; 2H	Gunga Din
42-63395	9-15-44	12-7-44	Crash on return IC 19	7 IC; 1 H	None
42-63424	10-11-44	7-9-45	War Weary to USA	15 IC; 11 H; 15 TC	Hap's
			-		Characters
42-6217	5-3-44	12-25-44	War Weary to USA	10 IC; 6 H; 1 PR	Pepper
42-6232	4-21-44	11-25-44	War Weary to USA	2 IC; 37 H	Kickapoo II
42-6279	5-1-44	12-30-44	War Weary to USA	13 IC; 8 H	Postville
					Express
42-6411	8-26-44	12-30-44	War Weary to USA	8 IC; 4 H	None
42-63417	10-27-44	7-5-45	War Weary to USA	10 IC; 8 TC	Rushin'
					Rotashun
42-65277	11-20-44	9-17-45	Transfer to 444 <sup>th</sup> BG	10 IC; 18 TC	Lady Be Good
42-24703	12-5-44	6-5-45	Crash Iwo Jima, TC 11	14 IC; 6 TC	American
					Beauty
42-24691	12-12-44			11 IC; 17 TC	Fast Company
42-24678	12-13-44	3-2-45	Missing from IC 35	9 IC; 1 H	Kickapoo Lou
42-63500	12-23-44	7-3-45	Take-off crash TC 22	9 IC; 5 TC	Gravel Gertie
42-63536	1-12-45	5-26-45	Missing from TC 9	7 IC; 2 TC	Mammy Yokum
42-93877	1-13-45			4 IC; 23 TC	Snooky's Brat
42-24879	1-19-45			9 IC; 24 TC	Ready Betty
42-24895	1-28-45			7 IC; 27 TC	City of
					Pittsburgh
42-24858	2-1-45	7-13-45	Ditched on TC 25	6 IC; 18 TC	None
42-65315	2-12-45			6 IC; 17 TC	Limber Dugan II
44-61701	3-6-45			3 IC; 25 TC	None





NO.	GAINED	LOST	REMARKS	MISSIONS	NAME
42-61517	5-14-45			25 TC	None
42-61573	6-7-45	6-29-45	Missing TC 20 (Okayama)	7 TC	None
42-61562	6-9-45			16 TC	Chicago Sal
44-87668	6-27-45			15 TC	Papa's Tom Cabin
44-87661	7-2-45			13 TC	American Beauty II
44-87658	7-3-45			13 TC	None
44-61703	7-4-45			12 TC	O'Reilly's
					Daughter II
44-87671	7-4-45			12 TC	None
44-61708	7-8-45			9 TC	None
44-61640	7-11-45			8 TC	None
44-61807	8-4-45	9-21-45	Sent to 315 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing	4 Weather	None

# AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO 793<sup>RD</sup>

NO.	GAINED	LOST	REMARKS	MISSIONS	NAME
42-63355	4-19-44	1-3-45	War Weary USA	12 IC; 9 H	Bella Bortion
42-6370	4-20-44	11-5-44	Missing IC 15	8 IC; 5 H	Lethal Lady
42-6369	N/A	4-21-44	Crashed enroute at Karachi,	None	None
			India		
42-6333	4-27-44	11-24-44	Tanker sent to USA	46 H	Camel Caravan
42-6314	5-3-44	6-8-44	Lost on return to B-1	1 H	None
42-93826	5-3-44	6-15-44	Missing IC 2	1 IC; 1 H	None
42-63356	5-4-44	1-2-45	War Weary USA	8 IC; 16 H	Lassie/Georgia
					Peach/Valkyrie
42-6229	5-7-44	1-21-45	War Weary USA	2 H	None
42-6265	5-9-44	2-23-45	War Weary USA	12 IC; 7 H	Raiden Maiden
42-6454	6-28-44	1-15-45	War Weary USA	13 IC; 6 H	Totin' to Tokyo
42-24442	6-30-44	7-9-45	War Weary USA	12 IC; 8 H	Wichita Witch/
					Power Play
42-6397	7-6-44	12-15-44	War Weary USA	11 IC; 6 H	Million Dollar
					Baby
42-24487	7-23-44	7-9-45	War Weary USA	20 IC; 5 H; 15 TC	Bengal Lancer
42-6208	9-23-44	1-11-45	War Weary USA	3 IC; 1 H	Pioneer/
					Ron Queen
42-63415	10-17-44	3-2-45	Lost IC 41	17 IC; 1H; 12 TC	Jolly Roger
42-63354	5-8-44	7-4-45	War Weary USA	9 IC; 7 TC; 9 H	None
42-24469	9-6-44	1-11-45	Missing IC 27	17 IC; 6 H	Wham Bam
42-24525	8-22-44	2-15-45	War Weary USA	16 IC; 14 TC; 3 H	Mary K
42-24704	12-5-44			7 IC	The Gear Box
42-24737	12-6-44			2 IC	Pioneer II
42-63460	12-13-44			9 IC; 25 TC	Belle Ringer
42-63456	12-25-44			13 IC; 20 TC	Lassie Too
42-63534	1-1-45			10 IC; 27 TC	Pioneer III
42-65276	1-7-45			9 IC; 26 TC	Raiden Maiden II
42-65272	1-12-45			10 IC; 27 TC	Miss Shorty
42-63532	1-12-45			5 IC; 28 TC	Million Dollar
					Baby II
42-63530	1-15-45	9-17-45	Sent to 444 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Group	7 IC; 20 TC	Totin' to Tokyo II
42-69663	1-29-45			7 IC; 25 TC	Dragon Lady
	•	•			

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24-24909	2-4-45			6 IC; 22 TC	Flyin' Home/ Elitz Buggy
44-69665	2-10-45	6-5-45	Lost over Kobe, Japan TC 11	5 IC; 8 TC	None
44-69977	5-7-45			26 TC	Baby Sandy
44-70084	5-14-45	6-22-45	Lost over Kure, Japan TC 18	12 TC	
44-61521	6-12-45			15 TC	Convincer
44-61677	6-24-45			13 TC	Southern Bell
44-87647	6-26-45			15 TC	
44-87659	7-3-45			12 TC	Miss Sandy
44-61702	7-7-45			10 TC	Hero Heaters
44-87674	7-10-45			10 TC	Lady Chateau
44-61672	7-15-45			4 TC	None

# AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO 794TH

				1110010110	T
NO.	GAINED	LOST	REMARKS	MISSIONS	NAME
42-63357	N/A	4-21-44	Crashed at Karachi, India	None	None
42-6231	4-29-44	6-15-44	Crashed on return IC 2	1 IC; 3 H	None
42-6284	4-29-44	1-9-45	War Weary to USA	16 IC; 13 H	The Challenger
42-6365	4-29-44	11-11-44	Missing IC 16	12 IC; 11 H	General H. H.
<u></u>		<u> </u>			Arnold Special
42-6274	5-17-44	7-29-44	Missing IC 4	2 IC; 10 H	Lady Hamilton
42-6358	5-3-44	11-21-44	Missing IC 17	9 IC; 10 H	Ding How/
<u> </u>		<u> </u>		1.12	Ding Hao
42-6253	5-8-44	10-11-44	Belly landed A-7	4 IC; 8 H	Windy City
42-6242	5-15-44	11-24-44	Tanker to USA. Good job.	30 H	Esso Express
42-6235	6-10-44	6-26-44	Crashed and surveyed	None	None
42-6409	6-30-44	1-11-45	War Weary to USA	11 IC; 8 H	The Uninvited
42-24429	7-3-44	2-23-45	War Weary to USA	17 IC; 10 H	Blind Date
42-93828	7-5-44	12-15-44	War Weary to USA	4 IC; 6H	Monsoon Goon
42-24542	8-19-44	6-1-45	Missing from TC 10	22 IC; 5 TC	Lady Hamilton II
42-24486	9-6-44	7-9-45	War Weary to USA	22 IC; 5 TC	Windy City
42-65208	9-25-44	2-23-45	War Weary to USA	14 IC; 1 H	Andy's Dandy
42-6272	5-13-44	1-15-45	War Weary to USA	12 IC; 6 H	Old Campaigner/
					Miss Minette
42-6390	5-4-44	12-7-44	Lost over Mukden IC 19	10 IC; 5 H	Gallopin' Goose
42-6407	8-27-44	1-11-45	War Weary to USA	6 IC; 7 H	The Lucky
					Seven
42-24706	11-13-44	11-28-44	Lost on Halliday Island	None	None
42-24567	11-25-44	1-21-45	Transfer to Photo Unit A-7	1 PR	None
42-63464	12-4-44	7-5-45	War Weary to USA	9 IC; 13 TC	None
42-63445	12-5-44	12-21-44	Rammed over Mukden	1 IC	Craig Comet
<u> </u>		<u> </u>	IC 23		
42-24715	12-3-44	5-24-45	Missing after TC 7	18 IC; 3 TC	
42-24719	12-10-44	9-14-45	Transferred to 58 <sup>th</sup> BW	12 IC; 13 TC	The Uninvited II
42-24734	12-13-44	8-6-45	Crash landing TC 31	12 IC; 20 TC	Miss Lead
42-24714	12-23-44	9-18-45	Transferred to 40 <sup>th</sup> BG	13 IC; 14 TC; 10 A	Robert J. Wilson
42-65275	1-9-45			10 IC; 25 TC	Hi Stepper
42-63529	1-13-45	5-26-45	Missing after TC 8	11 IC; 5 TC	City of
					Burlington
42-65279				6 IC; 24 TC	My Buddy
42-24892	1-18-45			6 IC; 23 TC	Lil' Yutz
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42-24893	2-10-45		6 IC; 25 TC	Lil' Organ Annie
44-69660	2-3-45		6 IC; 24 TC	My Gal Sal
44-70042	5-12-45		21 TC	None
44-61516	6-5-45		20 TC	None
44-70140	6-5-45		20 TC	None
44-70146	6-7-45		20 TC	None
44-61566	6-9-45		20 TC	Jack's Hack
44-87666	7-2-45		7 TC	
44-61681	7-4-45		11 TC	
44-61674	7-3-45		11 TC	Johnny Rebel
44-61695	7-10-45	Sent to RAF 11/17/50 WF496 Delivered to WCU 6 Dec 50 (coded FB-N). To SAL for m&s 2 Aug 51 until removed from store 22 Feb 54 for return to USA. Returned to USA 22 Mar 54.	9 TC	
44-61816	8-5-45		3 TC	

# OLD 794<sup>TH</sup> BOMB SQUADRON

NO.	GAINED	LOST	REMARKS	MISSIONS	NAME
42-6368	5-4-44	8-21-44	Missing from IC 7	4 IC; 3 H	Calamity Sue
42-6334	5-4-44	8-21-44	Missing from IC 7	2 IC; 5 H	Gertrude C









We have this picture but without names for these gallant men. We put them on the book anyway – someone will know. There were a "Totin' to Tokyo" and a "Totin' to Tokyo II". 6454-No.1 arrived in India 6-28-44 and went home 1-21-45. 63530-No. 2 arrived in India 1-15-45 and flew missions also from Tinian. Both records are on page 251. 793<sup>rd</sup> Squadron.

Photo by Mrs. Robert Hildreth





# **LEST WE FORGET** LOSSES IN ACTION, APRIL 1944 THROUGH MARCH 1945 FROM INDIA AND CHINA BASES

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE	STATUS		
ERNEST L BLACKMORE	MAJOR	O-417681	4-21-44	KILLED		
RICHARD I McCHESNEY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-446529	4-21-44	KILLED		
PAUL W ENDLICH	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-861537	4-21-44	KILLED		
WILLIAM G LESTER JR	SGT	32464307	4-21-44	KILLED		
CHRISTOPHER D MONTAGNO	SGT	16169877	4-21-44	KILLED		
R M POTTOL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-864457	5-1-44	KILLED		
ERIC H TIDY	SGT	39021672	6-7-44	KILLED		
FRANCES P REED	SGT	12165680	6-8-44	KILLED		
DUSHAN D IVANOVIC	CAPT	O-662793	6-15-44	L		
CONLEY M McMICHAEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-684817	6-15-44	NL		
CARROLL A FISHER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-676038	6-15-44	L		
GUY A JOHNSON	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-729624	6-15-44	L		
ROBERT J HYMEL	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-865761	6-15-44	L		
HERBERT G LEVY	S/SGT	11095940	6-15-44	L		
RICHARD C ARNDS	SGT	39283177	6-15-44	<u> </u>		
AUGUST W DAVIS	S/SGT	17003658	6-15-44	NL		
JOSEPH C DUPIUS	SGT	11091512	6-15-44	L		
JAMES E GOODROE	M/SGT	6729208	6-15-44	NL		
DONALD W SIMONSON	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-540686	6-15-44	NL		
ROBERT W PILCHARD	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-1699479	6-16-44	KILLED		
RAI P STURGES	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-540686	6-16-44	KILLED		
JOHN T ROBERTS	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-673687	6-16-44	KILLED		
DONALD R MORTIMER	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-746597	6-16-44	KILLED		
JACK R BEVAN	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-861934	6-16-44	KILLED		
HAROLD B MYERS	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-863357	6-16-44	KILLED		
LAMBERT A PFEIFFER	CPL	36576513	6-16-44	KILLED		
DELBERT L GRIMES	S/SGT	39022767	6-16-44	KILLED		
ROBERT P SHARPLES	SGT	15323547	6-16-44	KILLED		
RALPH V FERRACANE	SGT	31158634	6-16-44	KILLED		
WILLIAM F QUIRKE JR	S/SGT	31081613	6-16-44	KILLED		
KENNETH L AKINS	MAJOR	O-372729	6-16-44	KILLED		
FLOYD E LUND	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	0-751167	6-16-44	KILLED		
SALVADOR MUNEZ JR	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-746737	6-16-44	KILLED		
PAUL R AEH	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-687135	6-16-44	KILLED		
TIMOTHY J BARRETT	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-860718	6-16-44	KILLED		
NORVEL G ROBERTSON	SGT	18138011	6-16-44	KILLED		
ARNOLD H MANN	SGT	12096479	6-16-44	KILLED		
HOMER B PACK JR	SGT	19084029	6-16-44	KILLED		
SIDNEY GILMAN	SGT	12194369	6-16-44	KILLED		
MEL WITCHER	SGT	34466672	6-16-44	KILLED		
WILLIAM H SORENSON	S/SGT	13042828	6-16-44	KILLED		
ROBERT T MILLS	CAPT	O-1699063	7-29-44	L		
RICHARD F WEHRLE	SGT	36427681	7-29-44	L		
FRANCIS S WALKER	S/SGT	36576724	7-29-44	L		
ROBERT S CLINKSCALES	LT COL	O-401370	8-20-44	KILLED		
DAVID A CASTLEBERRY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-684275	8-20-44	KILLED		
GILBERT KADINGER	CAPT	O-430069	8-20-44	KILLED		
STANLEY S SMYTH	CAPT	O-420420	8-20-44	KILLED		
I - LISTED IN APMY PECOPDS AS HAVING DIED OVERSEAS IN WWW II						

L = LISTED IN ARMY RECORDS AS HAVING DIED OVERSEAS IN WW II NL = NOT LISTED AND PRESUMED TO HAVE RETURNED ALIVE





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# LOSSES IN ACTION, APRIL 1944 THROUGH MARCH 1945

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE	STATUS
LOY F BAKER	M/SGT	38003075	8-20-44	KILLED
JAMES F COUTTS	T/SGT	16045330	8-20-44	KILLED
WALLACE RICHARDSON JR	M/SGT	17021574	8-20-44	KILLED
GEORGE W BELL	T/SGT	16070091	8-20-44	KILLED
PAUL S BROUILLARD	S/SGT	17156994	8-20-44	KILLED
JOHN T FITZPATRICK	T/SGT	6916890	8-20-44	KILLED
CLARENCE L McHENRY	M/SGT	19010401	8-20-44	KILLED
ORNELL J STAUFFER	CAPT	O-428386	8-20-44	L
JIMMIE WIND	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-750751	8-20-44	DIED
IRVING S NEWMAN	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-686122	8-20-44	NL - POW
BEN R BLOOM	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-739536	8-20-44	L L
AUGUSTINE C SHOTT	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-683156	8-20-44	NL – POW
WALTER A DANSBY	T/SGT	15099518	8-20-44	NL – POW
RAYMOND J KEELAN	SGT	33367106	8-20-44	L
CLINTON A MARTIN	S/SGT	34054497	8-20-44	<u> </u>
MICHAEL J KARLOVICH	S/SGT	12204196	8-20-44	ī
JAMES A O'BRIEN	S/SGT	35371241	8-20-44	<u> </u>
ROBERT R BONNER	T/SGT	13027041	8-20-44	L
LOUIE K WEDEL	CAPT	O-726095	8-20-44	L
WILLIAM A BECKHAM	T/SGT	20403054	8-20-44	L
WALTER W ANSPAUGH	T/SGT	35402887	8-20-44	-
GRANVILLE L ADAMS JR	S/SGT	33522614	8-20-44	L
JAMES P MEEHAN	S/SGT	35308915		NL – POW
ROLLIN B HEFFERNAN	T/SGT	06999780	8-20-44 8-20-44	_
	1/361 1 <sup>ST</sup> LT			L
R C GEYER ERNEST A PICKETT	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-855161 O-677559	8-20-44 8-20-44	NL – POW
WILLIAM R REWITZ	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT			NL – POW
HARRISON ROBINS	2 LT 2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-751195 O-743837	8-20-44 8-20-44	DIED
EDWIN S ROBERTS	2 LT 2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-743834	8-20-44	DIED
MARK S KENNARD	FO	T-192763	8-20-44	NL – POW
ROBERT M HUMPHREY	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-864212	8-20-44	NL – POW
CHARLES KAZARIAN	S/SGT			NL – POW
ROBERT C ARMSTRONG	S/SGT	19177278 18154205	8-20-44 8-20-44	NL – POW
RICHARD R BISHOP	S/SGT	31110647	8-20-44	NL – POW
SAMUEL M HENRY	S/SGT		8-20-44 8-20-44	_
		14138877		L
SAMUEL A NIXON WILLIAM C HUBBARD	S/SGT	17127975	8-20-44	L KILLED
EDDIE E WINKLER	S/SGT	15334500	9-26-44	KILLED
	CAPT 1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-724500	10-1-44	
ROBERT C PURVIS	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-808460	10-1-44	KILLED
JOHN M GEENE	2 LI 2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-685115	10-1-44	KILLED
EARL M THOMPSON	+	O-549549	10-1-44	KILLED
JOHN C MATTHEWS	MAJOR	O-417040	10-1-44	KILLED
THOMAS MAXWELL	CAPT	O-165788	10-1-44	KILLED
JACK A RAYMOND	T/SGT	15070108	10-1-44	KILLED
WARD N CLARK	T/SGT	16030476	10-1-44	KILLED
HENRY F EYERMAN	S/SGT	12041245	10-1-44	KILLED
SAMUEL C SPILLERS JR	T/SGT	34268256	10-1-44	KILLED
PAUL R LINDKE	CAPT	O-436520	10-21-44	KILLED
CHARLES F YOUMANS	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-751069	10-21-44	KILLED
ROY D HOWSER	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-685141	10-21-44	KILLED
MILTON W RAMSEY	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-549688	10-21-44	KILLED
DONALD V WAGNER	SGT	3534158	10-21-44	KILLED
WILLIAM R HAMPTON	SGT	38003075	10-21-44	KILLED





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# LOSSES IN ACTION, APRIL 1944 THROUGH MARCH 1945

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE	STATUS
CLAUDE D TUCKER	SGT	31281133	10/21/1944	KILLED
ARTHUR H STEIN	SGT	14065152	10/21/1944	KILLED
EDWARD E PARSONS	MAJOR	O-429440	10/21/1944	KILLED
HAROLD W BARBER	CAPT	O-662428	10/25/1944	KILLED
ARGYLE E HANSCOM	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT			KILLED
	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-673071	10/25/1944	
FRANKLIN J McDONALD	2 LI 2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-747047	10/25/1944	KILLED
BOYD W EBEL		O-550455	10/25/1944	KILLED
LOUIS L PFEIFFER	SGT	34044170	10/25/1944	KILLED
WALLACE E MARTIN	CPL	37494692	10/25/1944	KILLED
WARREN F WOOD	S/SGT	37468046	10/25/1944	KILLED
JOHN WESLEY FOWLER	S/SGT	37226524	10/25/1944	KILLED
PAUL H COBURN	T/SGT	39226239	10/25/1944	KILLED
RUBE E PUCKETT JR	S/SGT	34353971	10/25/1944	KILLED
TED S FAULKNER	COL	O-021593	11/5/1944	<u> </u>
MAURICE E EIGLER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-805796	11/5/1944	<u>L</u>
ROBERT T ARNOLDUS	MAJOR	O-412133	11/5/1944	L
HARVE H JOHNSON	MAJOR	O-402914	11/5/1944	L
EDWARD J KENNEDY	FO	T-192545	11/5/1944	L
HARRY H PETERSON	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-862249	11/5/1944	L
WILLIAM GLIBBON	SGT	36559274	11/5/1944	NL
HUBERT B GRUBER	S/SGT	18216279	11/5/1944	L
EMERALD T QUEEN	S/SGT	34243386	11/5/1944	L
BUSTER WESTBROOK	S/SGT	38293607	11/5/1944	L
WARD BIMLER	SGT	11079089	11/5/1944	NL
HARRY C MAISCH	CAPT	O-789070	11/20/1944	KILLED
OSBORN E WHITELY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-738523	11/20/1944	KILLED
PAUL J WESTBROOK	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-746775	11/20/1944	KILLED
FRANCIS E MEREDITH	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-686107	11/20/1944	KILLED
EDWIN R JOHNSON	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-394452	11/20/1944	KILLED
JAMES G CHRISTIE	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-580617	11/20/1944	KILLED
RICHARD J PETERSON	S/SGT	17153902	11/20/1944	KILLED
HARRY B JACKSON	SGT	36574871	11/20/1944	KILLED
RICHARD R BROWN	T/SGT	14032903	11/20/1944	KILLED
OTIS A PEGG	S/SGT	34306961	11/20/1944	KILLED
NORMAN E STIFFLER JR	T/SGT	13030165	11/21/1944	MISSING
PHILLIP F HENNIN	LT COL	O-370629	11/28/1944	KILLED
JOHN J SHEENAN	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-807525	11/28/1944	KILLED
OTIS O CAREY	CAPT	O-789450	11/28/1944	KILLED
ROSCOE E SCHULTZ	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-746759	11/28/1944	KILLED
MICHAEL KOWALSKY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-548548	11/28/1944	KILLED
WALTER BIANCO	S/SGT	37785122	11/28/1944	KILLED
PAUL R ROGUS	S/SGT	16150311	11/28/1944	KILLED
ROBERT WILSON	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-206142	11/28/1944	KILLED
GEORGE R TARR	REP	N/A	11/28/1944	KILLED
CALVIN L LYONS	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-751168	12/7/1944	KILLED
LAWRENCE SYBESMA	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT			KILLED
WALDO B SCHNEIDER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-825327 O-101315	12/7/1944	
	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT		12/7/1944	KILLED
JOHN A BUCHER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-739399	12/7/1944	KILLED
JAMES W SMITH		O-748040	12/7/1944	KILLED
NEUMAN A BODART	S/SGT	36271155	12/7/1944	KILLED
JOSEPH MICCICHE	S/SGT	12154715	12/7/1944	KILLED
WILLIAM B JACKSON	S/SGT	11072514	12/7/1944	KILLED
SISTO A ALDIERI	S/SGT	11095536	12/7/1944	KILLED

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# LOSSES IN ACTION, APRIL 1944 THROUGH MARCH 1945

LAVERN A FINK	S/SGT	37439735	12/7/1944	KILLED
RUSSELL W PETERS	S/SGT	35384149	12/7/1944	KILLED
ROGER E PARRISH JR	CAPT	O-424016	12/7/1944	NL
PATRICK E COLLINS	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-690371	12/7/1944	L
ROBERT H ROSELAND	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-811388	12/7/1944	<u>-</u> L
ADRIAN A WALTERS	1 ST LT	O-751215	12/7/1944	L L
				L L
JOHN LOPEZ	S/SGT	37341146 T 402046	12/7/1944	
WARREN M BARBOUR	FO	T-192916	12/7/1944	<u> </u>
FRED S MacISAAC	S/SGT	31307563	12/7/1944	Ŀ
JOSEPH A MOORHEAD JR	S/SGT	35561375	12/7/1944	L
ARNOLD G POPE	S/SGT	18188996	12/7/1944	NL-POW
ROBERT J TURNER	S/SGT	35092810	12/7/1944	<u> </u>
JOSEPH M CLARKE	SGT	32429705	12/7/1944	<u>L</u>
CHARLES C BENEDICT	CAPT	O-025437	12/21/1944	L
ROBERT M BAER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-806724	12/21/1944	L
WARREN D DAILEY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-673786	12/21/1944	L
TOM C EVANS	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-736765	12/21/1944	L
ARTHUR R MAHONEY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-750086	12/21/1944	L
JACK R ROBERTS	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-865092	12/21/1944	L
STANLEY J BERGER	S/SGT	12203745	12/21/1944	L
CARL L DRUMMOND	T/SGT	20805411	12/21/1944	L
ELBERT L EDWARDS	S/SGT	35627577	12/21/1944	NL-POW
ELMER JELGERHUIS	S/SGT	37263450	12/21/1944	MISSING
CHARLES A VARSAFSKY	S/SGT	33427611	12/21/1944	MISSING
DONALD J HUMPHREY	LT COL	O-403902	1/11/1945	WALKOUT
ROBINSON BILLINGS	LT COL	O-388871	1/11/1945	L
CARL A HANSMAN	CAPT	O-435513	1/11/1945	DIED
WILLIAM F DUFFY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-738969	1/11/1945	WALKOUT
ERNEST E SALTZMAN	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-862435	1/11/1945	WALKOUT
MICHAEL A KUNDRAT	T/SGT	33346964	1/11/1945	L
MARTIN J GOVEDNIK	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-863344	1/11/1945	NL-POW
JOHN A McDONALD	S/SGT	31289719	1/11/1945	NL-POW
RALPH C LINDLEY	T/SGT	37433361	1/11/1945	NL-POW
HAROLD D GILLETT	T/SGT	32476697	1/11/1945	NL-POW
ROULIER E SPRATT	S/SGT	15067634	1/11/1945	L
DONALD V IRBY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-747015	1/17/1945	KILLED
STANLEY E GRAY	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-865306	1/17/1945	KILLED
WILLIAM N SHAW	S/SGT	15334898	1/17/1945	KILLED
ROSCOE A WILSON	S/SGT	35694187	1/17/1945	KILLED
EDWARD F WILFINGER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-865264	2/1/1945	KILLED
EDWARD G MILLAR	CAPT	O-747015	3/2/1945	NL-POW
CARL F MOULTON	2 <sup>ND</sup> LT	O-775488	3/2/1945	NL-POW
ROBERT E PRESENDER	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-811740	3/2/1945	NL-POW
LUCIUS BEEBE JR	1 <sup>ST</sup> LT	O-685100	3/2/1945	NL-POW
BERNARD G FEIGENER	FO	T-192788	3/2/1945	NL
JASPER F BYERLY	S/SGT	18116846	3/2/1945	NL-POW
THOMAS GOODGER	S/SGT	38427006	3/2/1945	L L
JOHN S GIBSON	S/SGT	18119512	3/2/1945	NL
	T/SGT			L-POW
CLARENCE M NEWCOM		39255543	3/2/1945	
FRANK HILLEBRAND	S/SGT	32459844	3/2/1945	NL-POW
MORRIS J SHRADER	S/SGT	15336255	3/2/1945	NL-POW
DEAN C CLARK	S/SGT	19014465	3/2/1945	L

DIED = AS REPORTED BY FELLOW CREW MEMBERS

The Story of The "General Billy Mitchell Group" 468<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group (VH) – From the CBI to the Marianas



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ROBERT E. BECKER HAS SPENT MUCH TIME AND MONEY IN RESEARCHING ARMY RECORDS TO BRING YOU THIS UP-TO-DATE REPORT. THANK YOU, BOB BECKER.