

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

17 July 1944 – S/Sgt Charles L Jordan assigned to 2nd Lt Raymond V Clay Crew – 326th Bomb Sq

CREW NO. 120 (APO 16212 RJ 120)

2D LT RAYMOND V. CLAY
2D LT JAMES A. McATEER
S/Sgt(748) CHARLES L. JORDAN
Sgt(611) RALPH E. BRUHN
Sgt(612) MERVIN J. HAWTHORNE
CREW 121 (APO 16212 RJ 121)
2D LT MITCHELL J. BOSENBERRY

0760786
0719111
34652328
16135138
37721053

326TH BOMB SQ (H)

2D LT WILLIAM B. GOODALE 0709217
2D LT BERNARD J. MASSON 0772692
S/Sgt(757) LEONARD R. SPALDING 19099312
Sgt(611) LAWRENCE B. CROOK 35057336
Sgt(612) ROY E. JENSON 36826038

2nd Lt Raymond V Clay 0760786
2nd Lt James A McAteer 0719111
S/Sgt Charles L Jordan 34652328
Sgt Ralph E Bruhn 16135138
Sgt Mervin J Hawthorne 37721053

2nd Lt William B Goodale 0709217
2nd Lt Bernard J Masson 0772692
S/Sgt Leonard R Spalding 19099312
Sgt Lawrence B Crook 35057336
Sgt Roy E Jenson 36826038



Clay Crew

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

1 August 1944 – 582

42-102582		SECRET		(5)
Clay, Raymond	2nd Lt.			0-760686
Goodale, William	2nd Lt.			0-709217
Moltzer, James	2nd Lt.	B		0-719111
Mason, Bernard J.	2nd Lt.	B		0-772672
Spalding, Leonard	1st Lt.			1-099312
Jordan, Charles L.	1st Lt.			1-052522
Wright, Ralph	1st Lt.			1-010511
Conner, Ray	1st Lt.			0-720700
Southworth, Marvin	1st Lt.			1-772151



A/C 42-102582 – Canvass Back II with Lt Maltby Crew

1st August, 1944. Mission # 170 to Orleans / Bricey, Chateaudun, France; airbases. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"On 1st August, we potted the airdromes at Orleans and Chateaudun with good to excellent hits on both, as shown in strike photos. Opposition nil. Light inaccurate flak."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

"1st August, 1944.

Twelve crews bombed airfields in the Orleans-Chateaudun area; Lt. Utt - 848-M with Lt. McChesney, bombardier led the 40th "A"; reported very good visual bombing results; other crews:

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Shanks - 005-A
Gravelle - 614-H
Reifsteck - 217-L
Spencer - 847-C
Johnson - 697-N
Glasco - 156-E
Clay - 582-D
Cooke - 535-F
Lindstrom - 293-B
Smith - 121-G
McCormick - 848-S
227-P, 907-J flew with the 407th
Opposition nil; light, accurate flak."

3 August 1944-535



A/C 43-37535 "Baby Button" with Gravelle Crew

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

3rd August, 1944. Mission # 171 to Merkweiler, Germany; oil refinery; 2 lost. 42% of bombs within 550 ft. of aiming point (AP), 92% within 1,000 ft. One of most effective raids of war.

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

"Back to oil at Merkweiler on the 3rd with 39 aircraft, including 3 spares. Our contingent had 1st Lt Dame (327th) with Major Parkinson leading. As the lead was wasting time on the bomb run, Captain Michelson with Lt Utt cut across from the low position, bombed first with excellent results and finished up with 40. Unfortunately, both other squadrons missed the Primary, but bombed a T/O successfully.

Two losses—2nd Lt J. V. Hendrickson, [42-97293 (326th) MACR 7699] hit by flak near Aachen, turned back and was hit by a squadron of 109's, crashing at Lisch with 3 KIA—6 POW. Lt Neil L. Curtiss, [42-31408 [(407th) crew (325th) MACR 7698] after fighters attack crashed near Bruelingen—1 KIA, 8 POW. On return to base, on final, 2nd Lt Jack Crafton [42-107222 (325th)] had #2 on fire, 3 had bailed. He set it down so well ablaze that the fire department could only cool the wreck. The crew escaped. The rest of the landings were on the short runway. Lt Maltby brought his riddled aircraft home with 3 men slightly wounded—it was salvaged."

Appendix A: MERKWILLER, 3 August 1944—Hendrickson, John V; Swanson, Albert D; Dresner, Abraham J; Goade, William A; Haley, Barney M; Madden, Thomas J; Hoff, Otto M; Beaver, John W, Jr.; Mosher, William E; Curtiss, Neil L; Blanton, Robert L; Chester, George R; Hamblin, Eugene E; Schafer, James R; Haun, Earl W; Anthony, Richard A; Murray, Billy J; Damian, William.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal

"3rd August, 1944.

Target today: Merkwiller, Germany; synthetic oil plant; nine crews going:

Lt. Utt with Capt. Michelson, bombardier - 848-M

Gall - 614-H

Clay - 535-F

Reifsteck - 217-L

Johnson - 121-G

Brechbill - 847-C

Maltby - 582-D

D'Ortona - 848-S

Hendrickson - 293-B

Capt. Michelson finished up again with 40 missions, leading the low group; saw the lead group wasting time on the bomb run, cut his group across, bombed first with excellent results. You might say that he stole the target from the lead group in one sense of the word, but on the other hand, the mission was successful in as much as the other two groups in the Wing missed the target. Sweating the ships in out near the tower on the open bomb shelter around six o'clock; 325th ship was seen to have black smoke streaming from #2 engine, as four men bailed out on final leg. Pilot Lt Jack Crafton] stuck with ship [Mountaineer]; as it was settling down on runway it was apparent the ship well aflame and all bystanders were now sweating blood for the boys to escape as ship finally came to a stop. The remaining five men escaped in plenty of time. Fire department on the job, but were unable to slow up or stop the blaze; landings then started on the short runway. One ship ground-looped off the end. All crews of 326th returned today, with exception of Lt. Hendrickson (#293-B) reports from other crews say that three enemy fighters made desperate attacks, shooting the vertical fin from the ship, chutes seen coming from the damaged ship, but as always in the heat of battle, no one is able to calculate the exact number. General opinion was that all crew members had good possibilities. Lt. Maltby (#582-D) also hit by three fighters, coming back in such bad shape ship was salvaged. Ball turret had direct hit by 20 mm, but Sgt. Davidson able to walk away, only three men had minor injuries and considering amount of damage it is little less than a miracle."

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5 August 1944 – 907 Journal “unused spare returned”

5th August, 1944. Mission # 173 to Hannover; Germany. Langenhagen Airbase.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

“Langenhagen airdrome at Hannover was today's objective. The Load Order required 26 aircraft, 2 spares included, to each carry 10 x 500 pound M-43 GP's and 12 aircraft, spare included, to each carry 12 x 500 pound M-47-A-1 incendiaries. Captain Kirsner and Lt Colonel Griffith led our effort. One abort, with spare filling slot - so that 36 crossed the target. Good bombing by lead group, with ours adding to the fires. Moderate, accurate flak—fighters nil. Some moderate battle damage. Superior escort by all 3 types.” [38's, 47's & 51's].

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

“5th August, 1944.

Target for today is Langenhagen, near Hannover, Germany; Lt. Gall with Capt. Michelson, bombardier (848-M) led low group.

Hersha - 614-H

D'Ortona - 958-K

Johnson - 697-N

Spencer - 396-F

Reifsteck - 217-L

Bone - 156-E

Glasco - 848-S

Dunlavy - 005-A

and the unused spare, Clay, (907-J) returned, as no aborts occurred; even with the target afire from the lead group's bombs, Michelson pinpointed the target. Flak moderate, accurate, some ships came back with holes, fighter attacks nil. Fighter support on these last few months have been carried out by at least 2/3 in number of the bombers strength are of the three famous types—P-38 Lightning, P-47 Thunderbolt and the smaller P-51 Mustang, which has carried support into the heart of Germany, by percentage of opinion is the best fighter in the theater.”

6 August 1944 – 907

42-31907	J	(6)
Clay, Raymond V.	2nd Lt.	P 0-760686
Goodale, William B.	2nd Lt.	GP 0-709217
McTeer, James A.	2nd Lt.	H 0-719111
Nasson, Bernard L.	2nd Lt.	B 0-772692
Spalding, Leonard E.	1st Lt.	H 19099512
Jordan, Charles L.	1st Lt.	F 31652328
Brush, Ralph E.	1st Lt.	WT 16135138
Jenson, Roy H.	1st Lt.	WT 36826038
Hawthorne, Norvin J.	1st Lt.	WT 37721052

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A/C 42-31907 The Homesick Angel II

6th August, 1944. Mission # 174 Brandenburg, Germany; Me-109 assembly plant. (about 30 miles from Berlin). 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"Thirty (30) aircraft were loaded for a mission on the 6th to the airplane assembly plants in Brandenburg and led by Major Smyrl with Lt Gall. Twenty-four (24) made up the Lead Group of 40th "C" CW effort. Three from each of the 327th and 407th flew with the 305th as the "A" force of the Composite Wing. Very successful attack was made on the designated target. All aircraft passed over target, dropping their load. Flak moderate; no aircraft nor personnel damages."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

"6th August, 1944.

Beautiful weather this afternoon, with eleven crews going out hitting an aircraft assembly plant at Brandenburg, Germany, leading the 40th "C" force were:

Lt. Gall and Smyrl in PFF (42-97660-X) with -

Hersha - 848-M

Sargeant - 848-S

Thompson - 156-E

Thomas - 847-C

Reifsteck - 227-P

Dunlava - 535-F

Cooke - 217-L

Bone - 121-G

Clay - 907-J

Spencer - 697-N

Major Word was flown to Warton on his way home, for a thirty day rest period. Two new crews assigned today: Lt. Raymond L. Kolman, Lt. Walter E. Krostek; Lt. Klyza, crew returned after operating from Chelveston-- all future PFF crews leading this group will operate from Podington. Opposition today consisted of moderate flak, with no ship or personnel damages."

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7 August 1944-217

12-97217	1		(2)
Clay, Raymond F.	2nd Lt.	F	0-76736
Codomo, William H.	1st Lt.	OF	0-76917
McInteer, James A.	1st Lt.	F	0-71511
Hasson, Bernard J.	2nd Lt.	B	0-772692
Spalling, Donald H.	/1st.	B	1000931
Jordan, Charles L.	/Sgt.	B	3165392
Truitt, Ralph L.	1st.	BF	1613513
Jenson, Roy L.	Sgt.	W	3682605
Nawthorne, Ervin J.	Sgt.	W	2772105

7th August, 1944. Mission # 175 to Montbartier, Southern France; bridge / buried ammo or fuel dump near Bordeaux. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"After two postponements, the mission on the 7th to the Montbartier bridge got off. Of the 71 attacking, 36 were ours. The load was 5 x 1000 pound M-44 GP's. From 21,000 ft the bombing looked good—practically a 'milk run'."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

"7th August, 1944.

Nine crews flying high squadron off the other three squadrons, who fly the lead, low squadrons to form the Combat Wing –

Utt - 848-S

Gravelle - 907-J

Henry - 535-F

Maltby - 847-C

Cooke - 227-P

Clay - 217-L

Brechbill - 697-N

Thomas - 658-Z

Thompson - 156-E

Capt. McCormick, Lt. Rafferty, Lt. Duhamel, Sgt. Harding are part of a crew with 4 new bombardiers from other squadrons to go to Italy for practice bombing, where clear weather is available; Captains Stroud, Hall return from southern England, after spending an eight-day rest leave. No damage from today's bombing, hitting Montbartier, France, oil depot."

[Note: Target listed as "bridge" ... the 326th Daily Journal mentions an "oil depot" and this is backed up by the 325th's S/Sgt. Earl R. Dahlgren's account - that it was also a buried ammo or fuel dump.]

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8 August 1944 – 614

13-37634	H		(2)
Clay, Raymond V.	2nd Lt.	P	0-760686
Goodale, William B.	2nd Lt.	DT	0-709217
Kortewer, James A.	2nd Lt.	N	0-719111
Kasson, Bernard J.	2nd Lt.	S	0-772692
Spalding, Leonard M.	Sgt.	H	19097312
Jordan, Charles L.	Sgt.	S	34652328
Bruhn, Ralph E.	Sgt.	DT	16135138
Jensen, Ray E.	Sgt.	TC	36826038
Hawthorne, Horvin J.	Sgt.	G	37721053

8th August, 1944. Mission # 176 to Caen, France; attack on German lines. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"On 8th August, the target was the German lines in the Caen area. General Turner, 1st Division Commander, flew with Captain Koehler, bombing from 14,000 feet. Good results, except that one group released early when the leader was hit by flak. 25 Canadians kills, 131 wounded by shorts. All our aircraft performed as briefed and returned to base."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operation Journal:

"8th August, 1944.

Crews going out today to bomb the German lines at Bretteville-sur-Laize, [Sic] Bretteville-sur-Laize, on outskirts of Caen; British there have been fighting a standstill battle since American lines have cut-off Cherbourg, Brest Peninsulas.

Crews going were:

Gall-Gisriel - 848-M

Lindstrom - 535-F

Johnson - 848-S

Brechbill - 156-E

Reifsteck - 217-L

Clay - 614-H

Maltby - 697-N

Gravelle - 121-G

Smith - 847-C

They led the high group.

Captains Stroud, Hall and I flew with Capt. Seigle to Grafton-Underwood to visit an old friend, Capt. Stone, recently back from a leave in the states."

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14 August 1944 -227

A/C #42-97227		(2)
Clay, Raymond V.	2nd Lt.	75-856
Kalra, Raymond	2nd Lt.	819-217
Wolfeer, James	2nd Lt.	719-111
Johnson, Edward	2nd Lt.	713-691
Maldin, Leonard	1st Lt.	170-9112
Jordan, Charles	1st Lt.	165-328
Hersha, Ralph	1st Lt.	1413-513
Jensen, Roy	1st Lt.	16-26-95
Wentworth, Owen	1st Lt.	1772-352



A/C #42-97227 "Cookin' With Gas"

14th August, 1944. Mission # 180 to Trier, Germany; (T/O); Stuttgart; (Primary). 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"To Kaiserslautern on the 14th. The 407th was the lead squadron of the high group, heading for Stuttgart. Both they and the 325th carried 10 x 500 pound M-43's, while the 326th had 10 x 500 pound M-47-A-1 incendiaries. With 10/10's found there, the secondary of Kaiserslautern was tried—with little success—26 bombed. Trier was a T/O and the last 10 dropped there. On the way home, Lt Maltby had 2 engines out and low on fuel—stretched it to England. No aborts, but a couple of landing problems. 1st Lt. Dickerson (327th) had the landing gear collapse. 1st Lt. Kirkbride (327th) landing on 05 had the left brake fail and swerved into the 407th Engineering Hut. [Satan's Lady]. No losses."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

"14th August, 1944.

Flying lead squadron, high group, to primary target Stuttgart, were 9 crews. With it covered by 10/10 cloud, the secondary was bombed at Trier, Germany.

Johnson - 848-M
D'Ortona - 535-F
Reifsteck - 005-A
Thompson - 121-G
Hersha - 156-E
Clay - 227-P
Maltby - 299-R
Gravelle - 614-H
Sample - 907-J

Two ships from other squadrons made crash landings, one running into the 407th engineering hut. The other a wheels-up landing; on return trip Lt. Maltby in #299-R had two engines out, running low of fuel prepared to ditch, but made it back to English coast."

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16 August 1944 – 535

42-07035		(6)
Seigle, James T.	161-11	1-74-606
Krohek, Walter	211-11	1-74-9217
Kolman, James	211-11	1-71-111
Johnson, Bernard	211-11	1-77-1677
Cooke, Lawrence	211-11	1-75-7336
Jordan, Charles	211-11	1-65-0303
Turner, Alvin	211-11	1-61-3513
Johnson, James	211-11	1-72-0306
1st Lt. James T. Seigle	211-11	1-77-1052

16th August, 1944. Mission # 182 to Leipzig, Germany; Bohlen oil refinery (Primary); Naumburg, Tank storage depot. (Secondary).

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, Mission List From 92ndma.org, and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"Back to the Leipzig area, the oil facilities at Bohlen, 8 miles south of the city. Everybody carried 38 x 100 pound M-30's with release at 25,000 feet. Major Parkinson flying with Lt Seigle and Captain Michelson in a PFF aircraft led the 92nd's ship formation. The lead bombed Naumburg, a secondary, visually with good results. The second squadron bombed the primary, while the third squadron hit a bit of everything in the area.

Lt Kolman, 326th, crossed the target on three, brought the ship back on two, landing with only one functioning. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions. There were 3 aborts and 1 landing accident, aircraft over-ran, rolled into woods—wrecked."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

16th August, 1944.

"Nine crews out again today - leading the 40th "C" Combat Wing:

Seigle - 022-H, a PFF ship

Glasco - 614-H

Johnson - 801-Q

Cooke - 847-C

Thomas - 121-G

Krostek - 227-P

Sample - 005-A

Kolman - 958-K

Clay - 535-F

Target was a tank storage depot at Naumburg, Germany, hit with good results, visually, by Capt. Michelson. 958-K was landed at Waterbeach, R.A.F. base near Cambridge; Lt. Kolman took her over the bomb run on 3 engines, brought her back on 2, finally landed her with one running; he received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his feat."

25 August 1944 – 156 Unable to determine crew list report as pages very light and difficult to read

25th August, 1944. Mission # 185 to Peenemunde, V-2 plant complex; 4 lost. Led Division. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 92nd Mission List from 92ndma.org and 92nd B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources).

"At midnight, 24th August, Major McLaughlin received the bomb load of our next target—Peenemunde. A force of 22 B-17's plus 2 PFF aircraft, loaded with 10 x 500 pound clusters of M-17 incendiaries, plus a sky marker in the lead PFF. At

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Peenemunde the Primary target was the bearings and magnetic workshops. Lt Colonel Griffith flying with Captain Kirsner would be the Lead Group of the 40th Combat Wing and Captain Yakel with 1st Lt Pyska leading the Composite Wing. A briefing was scheduled for 04:30 hours, with first take-off at 07:45 hours. All aircraft assembled on the Podington Buncher at 8,000 feet, to form the Lead and Low groups with the lead departing at 08:57 in Wing formation, 305th in the High spot. Leaving the coast at 09:51:30 hours, the route over the North Sea was flown as briefed, except for a slight dog leg north of course, to make good the control time. At 11:53 hours the enemy coast was crossed. The Lead Group reached the IP at 13:02 hours, bombing visually from 23,200 feet at 13:11 hours. The Low Group did a 360, established a new IP and bombed visually from 22,140 feet at 13:23:30 hours. After bombs away, the Wing did not rally as the 3 Groups all returned individually along the briefed route. Low Group reached base at 17:04 and the High at 17:12 hours. Strike photos show good hits. No attacks, no leaflets, no claims, rounds used 750 APL, 120 AP and 150 APT. One abort due to crewman sickness. One aircraft, High Group, jettisoned on Pottbus after the target, a T/O, due to rack malfunction.

Flak claimed 4 aircraft in the target area. 1 Lt Lloyd J. Triche [42-97958 (407th) MACR 8277] and 1 Lt Richard E. Boye [43-37547 (325th) MACR 8274] ditched in the Baltic—all lost. [1 Lt C. H. Holcomb [43-37596 (327th) MACR 8275] and 2nd Lt A. A. Lindstrom [42-97121 (326th) MACR 8276] made it to Sweden, both landing at Sovde—all became internees.”

Appendix A: PEENEMUNDE, 25 August 1944—Boye, Richard E; Wood, Leonard L; Egan, Francis X; Tracy, Eugene M, Modafferi, Louis D; Bursleson, James M; Elliott, Ronald B; Holland, Carl C; Froelich, Rudolph E; Lindstrom, Ainer A; Davis, Garry; McGeary, Francis; Rosenkrantz, Milton I; Bovanizer, Kenneth; Jodoin, Leopold H; Dutton, Robert G; Lessard, Robert W; Jerome, Richard W, Jr.; Triche, Lloyd J; Anderson, Joel W; Cutter, William H; Bermingham, John J; Katz, Harvey M; Schlobohm, Leland R; Prather, John T; Gandy, C.M.; Keller, Wilfred E; Holcomb, Clifton H; Powers, Joseph D; Stull, Donald E; Koroly, John D; Fanning, William E; Lawruk, Stanley; Brewer, Floyd E; O'Donnell, John L; Minugh, Charles J.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

25th August, 1944.

“Six (6) crews flying as low, high squadrons of low group:

Clay - 156-E

Smith, R.A. - 369-D

Thomas - 614-H

Spencer - 559-N

D'Ortona - 535-F

Lindstrom - 121-G

Target was the hydrogen plant at Peenemunde; Lindstrom crew missing, last seen falling out of formation with all four engines turning over - other crew members: Davis, CP; McGeary, N;

Rosenkrantz, B; Bovanizer, R; Jodoin, E; Dutton, BT; Jerome, T; Lessard, W; no further report has been received.

8 September 1944 – 847

43-37547	C	(Low Group - High Sqn.)	(1)
Clay, Raymond V.	1st Lt.	P	0-760586
Goodale, William B.	2nd Lt.	CF	0-709217
McTeer, James A.	2nd Lt.	N	0-719111
Masson, Bernard J.	2nd Lt.	B	0-772692
Klegen, John A.	3/Sgt.	R	13103784
Jordan, Charles L.	3/Sgt.	E	34652328
Bruhn, Ralph E.	Sgt.	BT	16135138
Janson, Roy	Sgt.	TG	36826038
Hawthorne, Marvin J.	Sgt.	AC	37721052

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A/C #43-37847 "Hi Ho Silver"

8th September, 1944. Mission # 190 to Ludwigshafen, Germany; Oapu Oil Complex; 1 lost.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, "The Route as Briefed - John S. Sloan, 92ndma.org, and B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"Major Smyrl with Captain Boles in a PFF aircraft led our effort of 36 aircraft, each loaded with 6 x 1,000 pound M-44 GP's. Flak was light and inaccurate as reported by crews.

"There were 6 aborts—3 from the 326th; 2 from 327th and 1 from 407th. Two with problems completed the mission—Lt Kerr's top turret out and Lt Stalling's ball inoperative.

Bombing from 25,000 feet with good hits through 8/10 cloud, per strike pictures. One loss—Lt Thomas L. Havard Jr. [42-107071 (325th) MACR 8596] on fire, bailed his crew near the French border, then with his co-pilot rode it down, landing successfully." (Turner)

"The bail out of the seven members of the Havard crew occurred in the Metz area, and, although Lt Thomas L. Havard, Jr., and his co-pilot, 2nd Lt Hugh E. Waterman, managed to crash-land in France, the seven crew members were classed as missing in action. They were 2nd Lt's Harold V. Shaw and Leon C. Linden, Sgt's Harold L. Brouette, Gilbert A. Schnauffer, Thomas G. Hughes, William B. Mooney and Cpl. Jesus Ortiz." (Sloan)

Appendix A: LUDWIGSHAFFEN, 8 September 1944—Shaw, Harold V; Linden, Leon C; Brouette, Harold L; Schnauffer, Gilbert A; Ortiz, Jesus P; Mooney, William B; Hughes, Thomas G.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:
8th September, 1944.

"Nine crews out today to Ludwigshaffen [sic] again:

Cooke - 614-H
Sargeant - 227-P
White - 156-E
Clay - 847-C
D'Ortona - 697-N
Spencer - 299-R
Three aborts:
Williams 535-F
Kolman - 958-K
Glasco - 290-B

Flying as high squadron, today's mission carried no important facts other than another long haul. Flak light, inaccurate, no enemy fighters encountered; mechanicals caused the aborts. Several local flights out, in somewhat heavy weather."

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9 September 1944 – 614

1st Lt. Wallace	407th	75-000
Colonel, Allison	407th	75-000
1st Lt. Jacob	407th	75-000
1st Lt. Bernard	407th	75-000
1st Lt. John	407th	75-000
1st Lt. Charles	407th	75-000
1st Lt. Ralph	407th	75-000
1st Lt. Earl	407th	75-000
1st Lt. Marvin	407th	75-000

9th September, 1944. Mission # 191 to Mannheim, Germany; Marshalling yards. 92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, "The Route as Briefed" - Sloan, 92ndma.org, and B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"Thirty-six (36) aircraft plus 3 spares were loaded with 6 x 1000 pound M-44's and airborne. Bombing was by PFF from 25,000 feet. No observed results.

Two aborts..... One crash, Lt Wallace, 407th, 1 engine out, landed at Little Rissington and gear collapsed—salvaged. One crash landed on continent—Lt Joseph W. Navarre 42-31783 (407th), "Ready Teddy II" and was salvaged. (Turner).

Appendix A: MANNHEIM, 9 September, 1944—Navarre, Joseph W; Weis, Raymond C; Straus, Stanley R; MacNeary, Robert K; Galatis, Angelo P; Sprowls, Raymond T; Still? (sic) Stitt?, Merl B; Tuttle, Noah G; Madigan, Edward R.

[See photographs]

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

9th September, 1944.

"Mannheim today, our former Commanding Officer is flying in lead ship with Lt. Glasco; all the old personnel who came over to the ETO back in '42 with Colonel Sutton are hoping that he might again be the boss of the Group. Colonel Reid is supposed to go home; as are all combat officers who have been in the theater for 2 years.

PFF bombing today; crews going out were:

Klyza/McLaughlin - 660-X

Gravelle - 847-C

Glasco/Sutton - 767-N (see S/Sgt. Earl R. Dahlgren's diary entry, below)

Clay - 614-H

Williams - 279-G

Sargeant - 697-N

Dunlava - 290-B

White - 907-J

Krostek - 535-F

Beard - 958-K

A spare, Beard, returned early after flying to the channel, but no vacancy to fill in; we led the 40th "A" Group, with Captain Michelson doing the bombing. No observed results, moderate flak, no fighters.

A new ship assigned today, 44-8281; Lt. Sample's crew reported in, however, the radio operator, Sergeant Dempster, remained hospitalized with serious injuries.

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

11 September 1944 – 614

<u>43-37614</u>	<u>H</u>		<u>(4)</u>
Clay, Raymond V.	1st Lt.	P	0-760686
Goodale, William B.	2nd Lt.	CP	0-709217
McTeer, James L.	2nd Lt.	N	0-719111
Hasson, Bernard J.	2nd Lt.	B	0-772692
Kiegen, John A.	S/sgt.	A	18103784
Jordan, Charles L.	S/sgt.	T	34652328
Bruhn, Ralph E.	Sgt.	BT	31421127
Jenson, Roy F.	Sgt.	21	36826038
Hawthorne, Mervin	Sgt.	TC	37721052

11th September, 1944. Mission # 193 to Merseburg, Germany; oil refineries; 8 aircraft lost.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, "The Route as Briefed" - John S. Sloan, 92ndma.org, and B-17 Aircraft Roster. (Sources):

"The First Division lost 13. Lt Colonel Griffith with 1st Lt Neil Holbrook led our effort. Colonel Sutton with Captain Klyza flew lead of the High Group in 40th's "C" formation. The Luftwaffe was out in force. A second run was made on the target and ran into a terrific flak barrage. At release time, 15 E/A made attacks—3 abreast—using M/G and 20 mm munitions.

Six (6) 407th aircraft went down from the AA barrage—2nd Lt Thomas A. Andrew 42-31687 (407th) MACR 8883—4 KIA, 5 POW; 2nd Lt Harold Wallace [43-38335 (325th/c) MACR 8888], 4 KIA, 5 POW; 2nd Lt William B. Kannapin, [42-31828 (407th) MACR 8884 4 KIA, 5 POW; 2nd Lt Horace S. Potter, [42-97326 (407th) MACR 8890—4 KIA, 5 POW; 2nd Lt William J. McIlonie, [42-102426 (407th) MACR 8891]—8 KIA, 1 POW; 2nd Lt Leonard L. Smith, 43-37546 (407th) MACR 8886]—5 KIA, 4 POW. 1st Lt John E. Glasco, [43-38290 (326th) MACR 8887], crashed after fighter attacks near Groet, Holland, 3 KIA, 6 POW; 2nd Lt Max W. Cook, [44-6084 (327th) MACR 8880], crashed near Hilfta, Germany, after fighter attacks, 2 KIA, 7 POW. Four more made it to friendly territory, with 3 returning to the Group. Lt Rhoten. A. Smith, 326th, landed in friendly area; however, the aircraft was only salvageable." (Turner).

"Just at bombs away, 15 enemy aircraft—FW 190's and ME 109's—attacked the lead group. The attacks were savage, made in elements of three abreast, firing 20 mm shells. Eight aircraft of the 92nd Group were lost to the combined flak and fighter assault—as catastrophic a day as any in Group history.

Additionally, T/Sgt. Leonard D. Kennedy, radio operator of 2nd Lt Russel J. Bundeson's crew, bailed out over the target, apparently misinterpreting an order to stand-by. Sgt. Kennedy was a member of the 327th Squadron." (Sloan).

Appendix A: MERSEBURG, 11 September 1944—McIlonie, William J; Loyd, Ezra N; Sorotik, Stanley A; Anderson, Ralph H; Fulkerson, Douglas M; Garman, Paul J; Sheehan, James E, Jr.; Bohn, Howard A; Kirby, Elmer S Jr; Potter, Horace S; Biely, William G; Brewer, Marion M; Bates, Marshall E; Wolf, Morton J; Hoover, Carl C; Magierski, Raymond J; Gordon, John M; Cromwell, Arthur M; Kannapinn, William B; Morris, James M, Jr; Pfeiffer, Richard L; Harp, James T; Furbish, Alton I; Bansept, Raymond L; Pantano, John; Rose, Jack K; Walter, Edgar V; Wallace, Harold; Enes, Charles N; Zusselman, Frederick; Vilminot, Francis J; Dodge, William H; Dudek, Joseph R; McCaffrey, Arthur A; Stark, Russel L; Stark, Harvey C; Glasco, John E; Lovenstein, Moses J; Karvonen, Aarne O; Knight, Albert P; Heare, Robert D; Heidt, Ernest M; Wild, Charles J; Hinds, Chester S; Edwards, Glenn E; Andrew, Thomas A; Stacy, Joseph G; Goodin, John W; Ferrier, Robert; Eschete, Francis P; Hellums, Jack H, Jr; Vanlandingham, Claud; Williams, Jack M; Hawkins, Paul M; Smith Leonard L; Wynens, Charles M; Whitman, Judson H; Cobb, Guy W, Jr; Eggert, Vincent T; Teigland, Carroll O; Burton, Kenneth J; Stolworthy, Jess K; Turner, William C; Cook, Max W; Willet, Roger V; McDonough, Francis P; Crivelli, Salvatore T; Mohr, Leroy M; Smith, Charles E; Young, William L; Miller, Billie L; Hostutler, Robert E; Kennedy, Leonard D.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

11th September, 1944.

"Merseburg today, flying lead, low squadrons of 40th "C" high group:

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

Klyza-Sutton - 848-M

Glasco - 290-B

Parkey - 535-F

Clay - 614-H

Smith, R.A. - 697-N

White - 227- [sic]

Williams - 279-G

Sargeant - 299-R

Kolman - 847-C

Smith, J.A. - 958-K

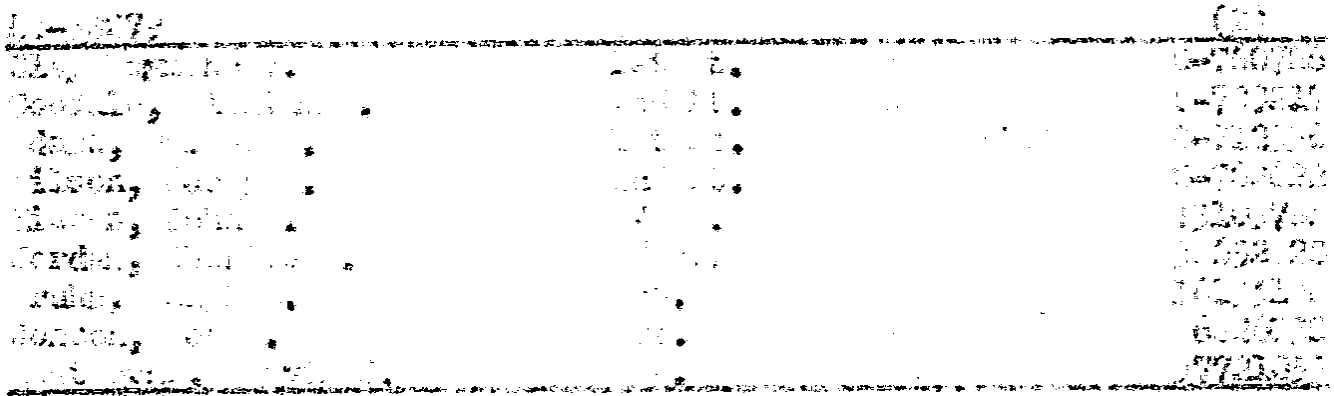
Lt. R. A. Smith with a feathered engine. Lt. Sargeant (#299) came in a half hour early with an engine on fire over continent. Very heavy losses by group today.

Lt. Glasco (#290) missing, with approximately 6 feet of one wing blown off.

Lt. J. A. Smith (#958) also missing, while the 407th lost 8 out of 9 crews dispatched.

Lt. Spencer crew, returned from yesterday's raid. They crashed behind our lines, near General Patton's H.Q. He presented each with a Bronze Star, a case of champagne clearly marked "For Wermacht Use" and had a Lt. Colonel fly them home in his C-47, quite an exciting time for the crew."

17 September 1944 – 279



17th September, 1944. Mission #195 to Nijmegen, Netherlands. Close air support.

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

"On the 17th the 92nd flew a close support mission, bridges and flak batteries, for the 1st Allied Airborne Army's assault in Holland. Super fighter escort. Good results on target—no losses—no battle damage."

The success of the 8th Air Force in this operation was attested to by the following commendation from Lt. General Lewis H. Brereton, commanding General, 1st Allied Airborne Army:

"I should like to express my appreciation of splendid support given the 1st Allied Airborne Army by your Air Force on D and subsequent days of our operations in Holland. Escort and cover provided by your fighters and aggressive offensive action by your bombers and fighters in attacking enemy batteries, flak installations responsible for successful completion of troop carrier mission. Bomber resupply beautifully executed. Many thanks to all ranks for outstanding aid."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

17th September, 1944.

"Tactical target in Holland, close co-operation with ground forces.

Crews on mission:

Shanks - 924-G

Clay - 279-O

Parkey - 535-F

Dunlava - 446-B

Sample - 299-R

White - 227-P

Reifsteck - 288-U

Gravelle - 141-A

Smith, R.A. - 444-D

Flew as lead of 40th "C" formation.

Nine men completed their tours - "Pop" Reifsteck being one of them. This was considered a good mission, no losses, no damages, good results."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

22 September 1944 – 156 – With Rhoten Smith, Jr Crew

43-37156			
Smith, Rhoten Jr.	2nd Lt.	P	0-712772
Smith, James	1st Lt.	P	0-704575
Borner, Elmer	1st Lt.	P	0-726621
Carlo, Dean	1st Lt.	P	0-771045
Kisgen, John	1st Lt.	P	1120734
Jordan, Charles L.	1st Lt.	P	3405006
Hauschild, Vern	1st Lt.	P	37597347
Turner, Earl	1st Lt.	P	3201161
McCreedy, Eugene W.	1st Lt.	P	3576577

22nd September, 1944. Mission # 197 to Kassel, Germany; Henschel Armor Plant; 1 lost.

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 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; McCreedy, Eugene W; Kulikowski, Anthony A; Kisgen, John A; Reiersen, Raymond J; Knutson, Perwin S; Cullen, Joseph F; Rueschman, Harvey F.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

22nd September, 1944.

"Back to operating today with the improved weather. 6 ships leading low group to Kassel, Germany, bombing by PFF.

Henry - 281-A

Amthor - 458-S

(aborted with pressure failure and a sick crewman)

Making the mission were:

Parkey - 279-G

Smith, R. A. - 156-E

Bennett - 277-P

Sample - 535-F

For the second time Lt. Sample's crew is missing:

Co-pilot Ralph Peters

Eugene McCreedy (N)

Anthony Kulikowski (B)

John Kisgen (R)

Raymond Reiersen (E)

Perwin Knutson (BT)

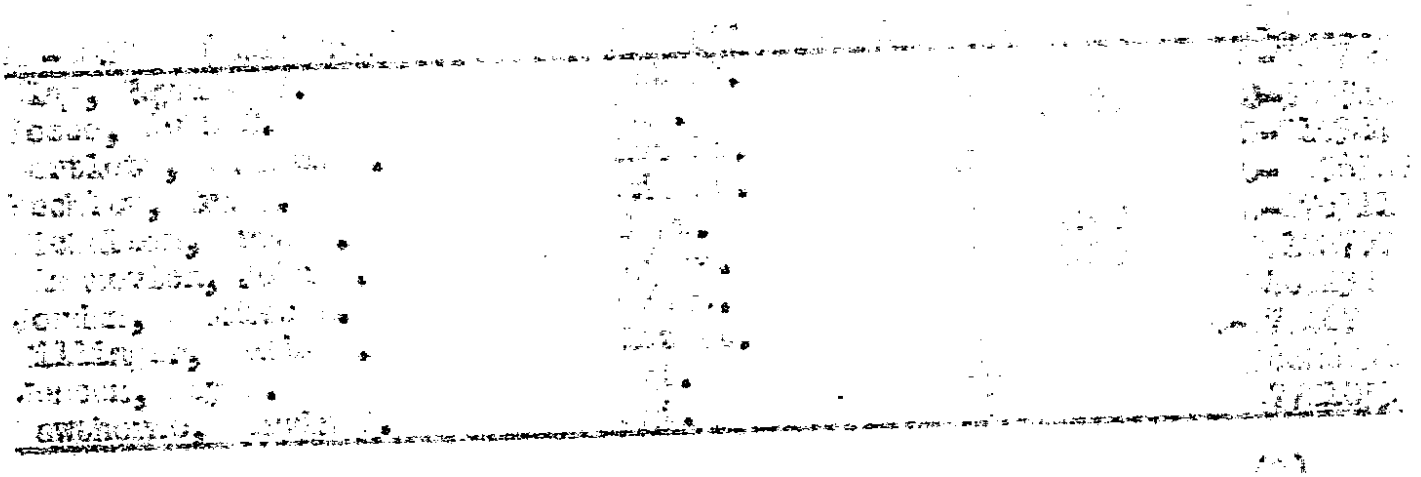
Joseph Rueschman (T)

Joseph Cullen (W)

Sergeant Edward Fereck returned after spending 9 months dodging the "Jerry" until the Americans liberated that part of Belgium, set him free to return to the States for a well deserved rest."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

2 October 1944 – Note that your Father flew with Clay/Losee/Michelson crew verified by 326th Journal entry. Interestingly, Capt Erro A. Michelson was one of the 92nd Group's most famous and well-respected bombardiers having flown approximately 56 missions!



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, 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).

Entry from 326th Squadron daily Operations Journal:

2nd October, 1944.

Kassel, Germany, was target for 9 crews:

Clay/Losee/Michelson - 022-H

Parkey - 454-B

West - 453-F

Spencer - 458S

Bennett - 473-F

Strom - 299-R

Dunlava - 611-J

Thomas - 471-M

Smith, J.A. - 279-G

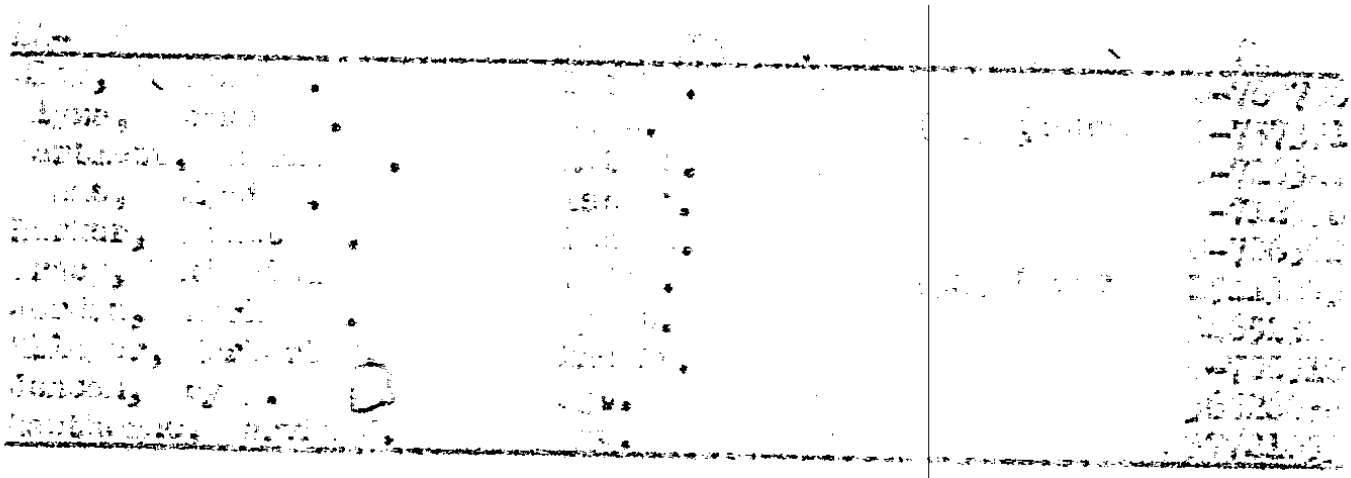
660-X, 697-E flew with other squadrons.

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

Ordnance depot was hit using PFF, plus visual sighting with good results. No enemy damage to aircraft or crews, however, Lt. Fischer had an unfortunate mid-air collision with ship from another squadron. Lt. Fischer in 42-97227 "Cookin' with Gas" had engine go out on him, unable to feather prop, rapidly losing altitude, ordered bail out - he was last out at 800 feet, ship crashed 6 miles from Stratford-on-Avon, narrowly missing a small village. Two of crew injured - most seriously with compound fracture of right arm. This happened before coast departure and none of the bombs detonated. Weather very good here in afternoon, especially in evening when weather is good here, it's worthwhile writing about, as it happens so seldom.

18 key men on "grounded" list - making the alert schedule a difficult job. Twelve ships considered a squadron, instead of a group, under the new set-up; whereas before it took 12-18 ships to comprise a Group.

7 October 1944 – 050



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.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

7th October, 1944.

"Mission number 177 for the squadron... Zwickau, Germany.

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

Nine crews participated:

Klyza/Clay - PFF-050

West - 624-W

Krostek - 471-M

Williams - 473-F

Cherbak - 611-J

Strom - 847-C

Smith, R.A. 453-F

Sargeant - 458-S

Beard - 279-G

Crew, as listed in the journal, flew in the slots as listed. West, in #2 slot, aborted due to an oxygen leak, was reprimanded by HQ for the turn back. Funny why Group Engineering should be so eager to call it personnel failure, perhaps because they don't want to take any of the credit from the ground personnel.

Captain Klyza completed his tour. Lt. Williams (44-6473) on return from target-- two engines out-- had to bail the crew near front lines, all exited, landed without injuries, landing behind German lines, with aid by civilians and forward motion of our forces, they all made it back.

Lt. Edwards was first to report in, rest followed. With its control cables shot out, #050 was brought back to an English coastal base on AFCE. We have some very experienced pilots and T/Sgt. Colford flies [sic] regularly, with prospective lead pilots checking them out. Our bombing formation results show product of this work."

9 October 1944 – 215

44-3215	H		(4)
Clay, Raymond V.	1st Lt.	P	0-760786
Wilson, James W.	1st. Col.	OF	0-22174
Adams, Dwight E.	1st Lt.	N	0-712336
Parker, Kenneth F.	1st Lt.	D	0-706302
Seras, Peter W.	7/1st.	E	13116637
Jordan, Charles L.	1/1st.	E	34652323
Gruen, Gilbert J.	2nd Lt.	EE	0-701474
Jenson, Roy E.	1st.	TS	16826032
Hawthorne, Marvin J.	1st.	G	37721053

(2)

9th October, 1944. Mission # 208 to Schweinfurt, Germany; Industrial center. (Secondary).

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

"Monday, the 9th, had us going to Schweinfurt. Major Hardin with 1st Lt Henry and Captain Michelson led the 40th "C" Wing. 1st Division had 329 aircraft over the target—we were the 10th Wing in the stream—protected by a 351 P-51 fighter escort. Bombing was by PFF with unobserved results. No losses. Bad weather, low ceiling on return to base."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

9th October, 1944.

"Started the week by going to Schweinfurt, one of the toughest targets ever hit in Germany - center of enemy's ball bearing manufacturing industry.

Henry/Hardin/Michelson/Hall - 022-H - leading the 40th "C" Wing

Clay - 215-M

Wilson/Gravelle - 611-J

Krostek - 453-F

Smith, J.A. - 471-M

Strom - 847-C

D'Ortona - 684-L

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

Beard - 458-S

Thomas - 279-G

White - 697-E - flying as a spare returned early

Mission uneventful as far as encounters are concerned, bombed by PFF with unobserved results. Weather heavy on return with very low ceiling.

Sergeants Bradley, Standlee, Petrie, and Lt. Hilgar returned from Switzerland Internment."

14 October 1944 Special Orders Report – S/Sgt Charles L Jordan promoted from Staff Sergeant to Technical Sergeant

7. UP AR 515-5, as amended, the fol named TM, orans indicated, are promoted to gr as follows:

	<u>TECHNICAL SERGEANT (TEMP)</u>		<u>326TH BOMB SQ (H)</u>
S/Sgt CHARLES L. JORDAN	34552328	S/Sgt JOSEPH G. SOKOLSKI	32588113
	<u>STAFF SERGEANT (TEMP)</u>		
Sgt WILLIAM F. DIXON, JR	32106270	Sgt JAMES J. CODY	32426219
Sgt GERALD R. COTRELL	35746203	Sgt JOHN (MM) SILZIKOFF	19052792
Sgt ALBERT C. HARRIS	39130154	Sgt JOSEPH H. PUHL	17059678
Sgt KEITH L. MACPHER	19148652	Sgt JOHN P. BEAVIN	35160792
Sgt DAVID E. SCHACHT	37560756	Sgt WILLARD H. SEYB	35053325
Sgt WARREN L. FREDERICK	32883443	Sgt DONALD R. LINDSEY	13049839
Sgt JOSEPH C. BROST	36817281	Sgt JOHN J. MALONEY	37568094

17 October 1944

<u>14-8221</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>(1st Lt. ACIA 1712)</u>	<u>(21)</u>
Gray, Raymond F.	1st Lt.		0-783786
Reigle, William F.	Captain	3 (30) Hour	0-726407
Barnes, Elmer	1st Lt.		0-718221
Hochler, Lee J.	1st Lt.		0-2058589
McInerney, Kenneth H.	1st Lt.	30 Hour	0-759871
Deviano, Louis F.	1st Lt.	60	0-2173230
Jordan, Charles L.	1st Lt.		0-1652328
Brahn, Ralph F.	1st Lt.		16135130
Jensen, Roy	1st Lt.		16126038
Whitmore, David A.	1st Lt.		37721031

17th October, 1944. Mission # 211 to Cologne, Germany; Marshalling yards.

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

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

17th October, 1944.

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

“Back to Cologne. 9 crews as low squadron of 40th "B" Wing:

McChesney - 281-A

Sargeant - 684-L

Spencer - 454-B

West - 611-J

White - 458-S

Fischer - 471-M

Beard - 847-C

Smith, R.A. - 453-F

Smith, J.A. - 449-Z

*No fighters, light flak. Clay, Seigle, McChesney completed their tours.”

*Note – in the 326th Journal, Clay is mentioned as completing his tour. You will see that he continued to fly missions so this appears obviously to be an error.

22 October 1944 – 215 PFF

<u>AL-7023</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>(2)</u>
Gley, Wayne D V.	1st Lt.		O-768706
Gon, Albert I.	Capt.	WA	O-399928
Hartlett, Charles	1st Lt.	E	O-726324
Hoshino, Gen J.	2nd Lt.	K	O-3054589
Haymoldo, William W.	1st Lt.	E (G)	O-761465
Hellstein, Monroe	W/ Lt.	E	15977437
Jordan, Charles L.	W/ Lt.	E	34652328
Killinger, Allen R.	1st Lt.	AM	O-679459
Lewellen, Hugh E., Jr.	Capt.	TC	O-730470
Matherne, Marvin A.	1st.	E	37721053

22nd October, 1944. Mission # 213 to Bielefeld, Germany; automotive manufacturing / repair facility.

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

“Bielefeld was attacked by 35 B-17’s as part of a 370 aircraft mission against automotive manufacturing / repair facilities in Western Germany, with only 2 losses—the 306th, had them. It was a PFF mission, light flak, and 379 fighter escort. Very low ceiling on return—procedure let downs.”

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

22nd October, 1944.

“Nine crews:

Clay/Cox/Reynolds - 215-M, PFF

Spencer - 022-H

Strom - 847-C

Krostek - 720-K

Kolman - 611-J

Millar - 697-E

Fischer - 453-F

D'Ortona - 684-L

Thomas - 279-G

Flew as lead squadron of 40th "B" Wing to Bielfeld, [sic] Germany. Bombing by PFF, with no observed results. Light flak... a milk run. On return to base, a procedure let down was executed because of very low ceiling."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

30 October 1944 – 453 With 1st Lt Austin West

42-38453			(3)
West, Austin W.	1st Lt.	(27)	0-392547
Goodale, William J.	1st Lt.		0-707227
Donald, Charles C.	2nd Lt.		0-707167
Hogger, Fred L. Jr.	1st Lt.		16120631
Diebe, Arthur J.	1st Lt.		16121902
Jordan, Charles L.	1st Lt.		16553522
Boone, Henry	1st Lt.		16061972
Johnson, Ray	1st Lt.		16023033
Warshaw, David	1st Lt.		16257436

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

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 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."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

30th October, 1944.

"Twelve crews scheduled, but the Lt. Fischer crew failed to find the formation, so 11 completed the flight to the marshalling yards at Münster:

Bennett/Clay/Reynolds - 660-X

Krostek - 454-B

Gravelle - 611-D

White - 458-S

Beard - 697-E

Smith, A.M. - 684-L

Thomas - 279-G

Sargeant - 720-K

Kolman - 847-C

Smith, R.A. - 299-R

West - 453-F

All flying in high squadron, unobserved results of PFF bombing.

Herb Painter, Stars and Stripes writer, spent several hours in office putting together the story of the next raid on which he will fly."

5 November 1944 – A/C 44-8281 With 1st Lt Horace L Spencer and Lt Clay as CP

7:35 hour flight.”

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

8 November 1944 – 778 With 1st Lt Horace L Spencer

42-7778	11 (192 40th 400)	(1)
Spencer, Horace L.	1st Lt.	P
Cox, Albert L.	Major.	CP
Hansen, Elmer A.	1st Lt.	N
Alanson, Sargeant J.	1st Lt.	N
Parson, Kenneth F.	1st Lt.	D
Holt, John L.	T/Sgt.	A
Jordan, Charles L.	T/Sgt.	H
Billinger, Arlio S.	1st Lt.	HN
Cookin, William B.	1st Lt.	EG
Polto, Robert G.	Sgt.	RD
		37575166

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

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 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."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

8th November, 1944.

"Merseburg's Leuna Oil Refinery complex our target, PFF effort with nine of our crews:

Spencer - 778-R, PFF

Krostek - 050-D

Beard - 453-F

White - 720-K

Sargeant - 471-M

West - 611-J

Smith, A.M. - 279-G

Millar - 697-E

Strom - 299-R

Sargeant tagged onto Thurleigh (306th BG) formation, which aborted due to weather. Flak moderate but accurate in target area, better than half our ships returned with damage, after flying as lead squadron of 40th Combat Wing's "A" Group."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

16 November 1944 – 458 With 1st Lt Austin G West

44-6458	3		(2)
West, Austin G.	1st Lt.	P	0-692587
Goodale, William A.	1st Lt.	CP	0-709217
Mangi, Charles C.	1st Lt.	BN	0-744168
Rogor, Fred G. Jr.	S/Sgt.	NO	18123631
McLpatrick, Robert J.	Sgt.	R	33830261
Jordan, Charles L.	T/Sgt.	E	34652328
Hawthorne, Marvin J.	S/Sgt.	NO	37721053
Koeune, Henry W.	S/Sgt.	BT	36361938
Hofner, Sam.	S/Sgt.	TO	32691491

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, 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."

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal:

16th November, 1944.

"Eschweiler, Germany, where our targets were gun positions in support of advancing ground forces. Crews flew in low squadron of 40th "A" Group:

Bennett - 660-X
 Krostek - 870-Y
 Gravelle - 611-J
 White - 144-V
 Millar - 872-S
 Smith, A.M. - 684-L
 Thomas - 279-G
 Highl - 847-C
 Strom - 697-N, who aborted, landed at Bradwell Bay on 1 good engine.

All other aircraft of 92nd returned to land at Barford St. John on ordered diversion.

Six men completed tours today."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

10 December 1944 Special Orders Report – 7 days TD as of 11 December 1944 to Rest Home, AAF Sta 524, Palace Hotel

HEADQUARTERS
AAF STATION 109
ATO 557

2053E

(C-1-29)
10 December 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 343)

1. Fol O and EM, 326th Bomb Sq (H) WF VIII AF Rest Home, AAF Sta 524, (Palace Hotel), rptg thereat 11 December 44 for seven (7) days TD to carry out the instr of the CG. O and EM will lv AAF Sta 524 18 Dec 44 to ret to proper sta. Reimbursement not to exceed \$4.00 per day is atzd O if govt qrs or billets are not avail and an alws of \$1.25 per day is atzd for add cost of subs while trvlg and while on TD at Air Force Rest Home. Reimbursement not to exceed \$5.00 per day while trvlg is atzd EM if govt qrs and subs are not avail and an alws of \$2.25 per day is atzd for add cost of subs while on temp dy at Air Force Rest Home. WFR, GIV and/or Mil Acft. TWA TCNT, auth Ltr, Hq European T of Opns, USA 24 May 44 TDN 60-136 P 432-02 A 212/50425. CTDLS (Auth: USSTAF Reg No. 30-3B, 29 Sep 44):

CAPT RAYMOND V. CLAY	O-760786	T/Sgt CHARLES L. JORDAN	34652328
S/Sgt RALPH E. BRUHN	16135138	S/Sgt ROY E. JENSEN	36826038
S/Sgt HERVIN J. HAWTHORNE	37721053		

24 December 1944 – 279 with 1st Lt Jack R Sargeant

1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	(2)
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	O-759701
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	O-757081
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	O-765657
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	17214239
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	37535100
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	34652328
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	16135118
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	3460737
1st Lt Jack R Sargeant	34770269

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 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

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

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.”

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal – 24th December, 1944:

“Day before Christmas found the boys delivering again to Nidd Airfield, Germany - town is no more; everybody returned safely except five ships who had to peel off as a fast moving fog forced them to land at strange airdromes.

Our crews were:

Kolman - 351-?

Smith, J.A. - 660-X

Smith, R.A. - 720-K

Might - 471-M

Millar - 281-A

Mason - 536-O

Hoffman - 453-F

Sargeant - 279-G

Erpelding - 156-E

D'Ortona - 436-H

Priestly - 684-L

Smith, C.C. - 847-C

Accident occurred during take-off of a 327th ship, as it became airborne and began a left turn, it plowed into the treetops, crashed, exploded. Only the two pilots and engineer survived after they were thrown free.”

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

28 December 1944 – 279 With 1st Lt Jack Sargeant

1st Lt. Jack Sargeant	1st Lt. Jack Sargeant	(2)
1st Lt. Robert P. Smith	1st Lt. Robert P. Smith	755781
1st Lt. William A. Smith	1st Lt. William A. Smith	737351
1st Lt. Harold A. Smith	1st Lt. Harold A. Smith	755637
1st Lt. Robert A. Smith	1st Lt. Robert A. Smith	17146039
1st Lt. Charles L. Jordan	1st Lt. Charles L. Jordan	31565160
1st Lt. William A. Smith	1st Lt. William A. Smith	31652339
1st Lt. Robert A. Smith	1st Lt. Robert A. Smith	16134139
1st Lt. William A. Smith	1st Lt. William A. Smith	11160937
1st Lt. Robert A. Smith	1st Lt. Robert A. Smith	3174000

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

92nd Bomb Group (H) Fame's Favored Few - Turner, 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.

Nine crews to Koblenz's M/Y, railroad bridge - a 6:45 hour effort:

White - 480-N

Smith, J.A. - 050-D

Smith, R.A. - 501-?

Millar - 684-L

Fischer - 436-H

Mason - 526-O

Might - 454-B

Sargeant - 299-R

Strom - 720-K

Flew lead for 40th "Charlie" Group, all safely home."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

30 December 1944-697 With 1st Lt Jack R Sargeant

12-7697	1	(2)
Sargeant, Jack R.	1st Lt.	0-752761
1st Lt. Robert F.	2nd Lt.	0-752762
1st Lt. Charles E.	3rd Lt.	0-741150
1st Lt. John	4th Lt.	37524093
1st Lt. Arthur	5th Lt.	35624110
1st Lt. William	6th Lt.	34524120
1st Lt. Charles	7th Lt.	34124130
1st Lt. Harry	8th Lt.	39915390
1st Lt. Stanley	9th Lt.	35124145
1st Lt. Edward	10th Lt.	

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, 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.

Entry from 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal – 30th December, 1944:

"Ten crews to Bullay, Germany, as high squadron of 40th "A" Group.

Kolman - 660-X
Hoffman - 454-B
Smith, R.A. - 279-G
Smith, C.C. - 684-M
Mason - 720-K
Sargeant - 697-N
Might - 436-H
Lane - 299-R
Strom - 847-C
Elder - 156-E

Light flak, all returned safely.

Three ex-326th pilots, Capt's. Cherbak, Cook, Bennett, flew as A.C.s."

Note: The 326th Squadron Daily Operations Journal unfortunately ended December 31, 1944

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

6 January 1945 – With 2nd Lt Charles C Smith

LP-57142			(3)
1st Lt. Jordan	1st Lt.		8-026023
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	OP	0-775115
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.	HI	0-769141

6 January 1945, Mission # 243 to Cologne south RR; Duetz bridges

92nd Bomb Group (H), Mission list from 92ndma.org (Source)

On 6 January Cologne was again the target. This time it was bridges with 71 attacking the Cologne South railroad bridge while 35 hit the Duetz highway bridge. All attacks were by H2X and GH. We had no losses."

7 January 1945 – 440 With 2nd Lt Charles C Smith

LP-57142			(3)
1st Lt. Jordan	1st Lt.		8-026023
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-775115
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141
1st Lt. Smith	1st Lt.		0-769141

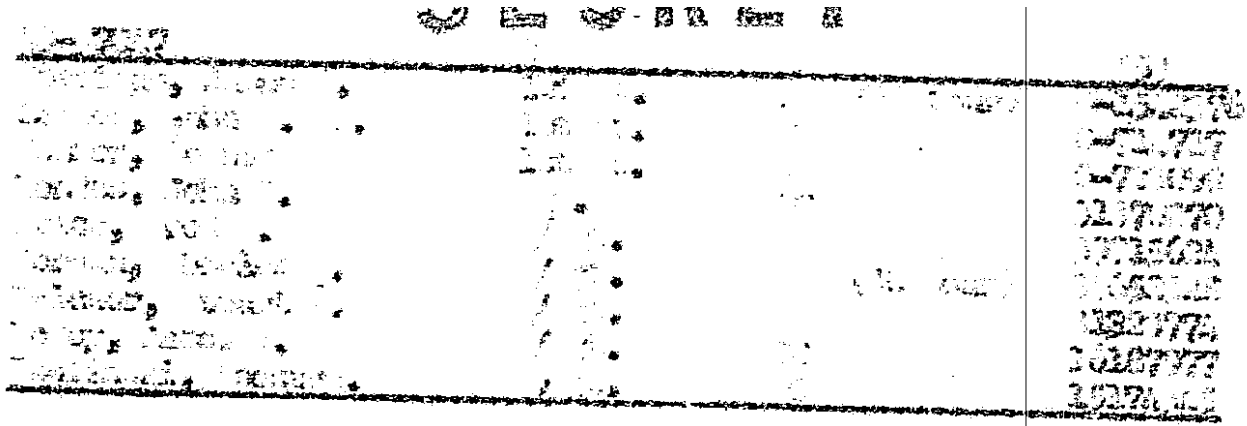
7 January 1945, Mission # 244 to Euskirchen, Ger bridges/marshalling yards

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."

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

15 January 1945 – Unable to read Pilot Name but quite sure Charles Jordan flew on this date



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15 January 1945, Mission #249 to Freiburg, Ger marshalling yards

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

“More of the same on the 15th at Freiburg where the marshalling yard choke point bridge was the prime target. Bombing was by PFF (H2X).”

S/Sgt Charles L. Jordan

Completion of Tour – January 1945 – Notice that Capt Raymond V Clay is mentioned as completing his tour.

SECRET

APPENDIX C

TOURS OF DUTY COMPLETED

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

I'm sorry that I couldn't determine the mission that involved a crash landing off the coast of England that you had mentioned your Dad talked about. Some of the crew lists are difficult to decipher but you'll notice there are some missions flown with different Pilots and I've added the missions that I'm certain your Father participated in. I know I'm missing a couple and if you know his mission dates, perhaps the list can be found. Many lists are difficult and some impossible to decipher. Hope this helps.

Compiled 9/5/18 by Candy Brown