

## ERWIN C. POWELL BIOGRAPHY

***Technical Sergeant Erwin C. Powell, 101, U.S. Army Air Force***, was born in Stockton, CA in February 1924 and graduated from Stockton High School in 1942. He was the only child of Edith and Isaac Powell. Erwin entered active service in March 1943 in Stockton, California and did Basic Training at the Presidio in Monterey California, Advanced Training radio operation in Sioux Falls South Dakota, aerial gunnery in Las Vegas Nevada, and air crew advanced training Barksdale AAF Louisiana. He arrived in England in late June 1944 after a 14 day ferry flight that took a new Martin B-26 Marauder from Hunter AAF GA to Grove England which was not without peril for all aircrews. A personal diary entry for June 19, 1944 states: "Landed at Meeks (Iceland) at 1 AM. Very bad weather. 200 ft Ceiling. Landed OK but one plane crashed killing the crew"

After a short stay at Army Air Force Reinforcement Depot, AAF Station 594, he joined the 391<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group, 572nd Bomb Squadron, flying on B-26 Marauder bombers as a radio operator and aerial gunner. In September 1944 the 391<sup>st</sup> BG was moved forward to Roye-Amy airfield in France, then again in April 1945 to Asch Belgium, a former Luftwaffe airfield. TSgt Powell completed 55 bombing missions in the European theater including 18 in France (see mission list below). His campaigns included Northern France, the Low Countries and Germany. However not all duties were flying duties. Mention of KP and Guard Duty figure prominently in diary entries.

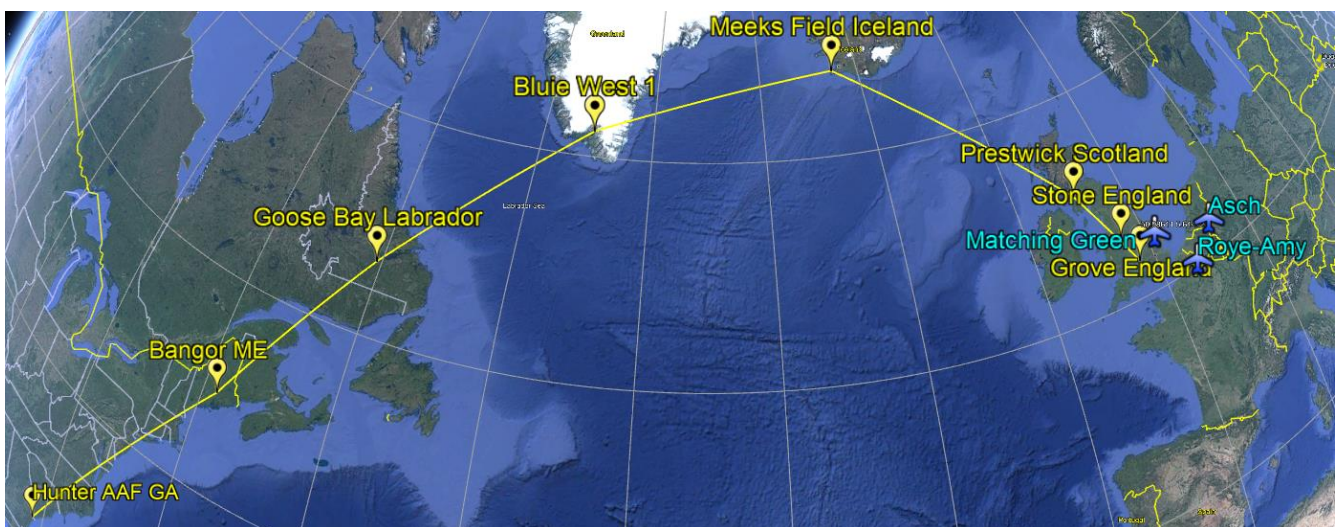
Flak was a constant threat, more so than enemy fighters in most cases often with devastating effect to aircraft and aircrews given the nature of their missions flown at altitudes typically between 10,000 and 14,000 feet. Weather cancellations were frequent, particularly during winter months. Targets were primarily rail yards, communication centers, bridges, marshalling/supply points, and ammo dumps. The role of medium bombers and their effectiveness in helping troops on the ground advance as a result of tactical bombing missions is often an understated story of the war effort. Note the Unit Citation for their role in the Battle of the Bulge. Marauder Men as they were known, were instrumental in blunting the German offensive and allowing Allied forces to advance into Germany.

Erwin returned to the U.S. and was discharged at Camp Beale, California on 14 July 1945. ***His significant decorations include the Air Medal with 9 Oak Leaf clusters, the EAME Campaign Medal with 2 battle stars, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Distinguished Unit Citation.*** After the war Erwin obtained a degree in Business from Humphreys College in Stockton, California and was employed there with Southern Pacific Railroad, a cannery & JB Beard Steel. He and his family moved to San Jose in 1959 where he worked as an accountant for Modern Ice and Cold Storage for 25 years until retiring in 1984. In his retirement, he worked for H&R Block until 2013, officially retiring at 89. Erwin was married to his late wife Nancy for 66 years and their family includes 5 children (Ed, Nick, Dean, Sharon and Diane), 5 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. He resides in Arvada, Colorado in an active senior living community.

Acknowledgement: Some of the material in this document was prepared with information obtained from the 391<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group website: <https://www.391bombgroup.org.uk/title.php>, Steve Sharp (England) Webmaster with the assistance of others interested in the history of the Group. They have obtained and posted an extensive history of the group much of it compiled from research of the official unit history data available from the Air Force Historical Research Agency.



**Figure 1 Initial Crew picture. Flew ferry mission from Hunter AAF to Grove England**



**Figure 2. North Atlantic ferry route with stops (yellow) and airfields of assignment (aqua).**





**Figure 3. Airfield locations.**



**Figure 4. The Martin B-26 Marauder.**



**Figure 5. Erwin Powell's Aircrew**

Back row, L-R: Pilot 2Lt John Chatellier, Co-Pilot 2Lt Eugene McGee, Bombardier 2Lt Patrick Bosse  
Front row L-R: Radio/Gunner Cpl Erwin C. Powell, Tail Gunner Sgt Harris Lewis, Crew Chief (unnamed),  
Engineer/Gunner James Kilcoin.



**Figure 5. TSgt Powell 1945.**

### 391<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group Unit Awards

#### Battle Credits

Air Offensive, Europe	War Dept G.O. No.85, 1945
Normandy	War Dept G.O. No.102, 1945
Northern France	War Dept G.O. No.103, 1945
Ardennes (13)	War Dept G.O. No.114, 1945
Central Europe	War Dept G.O. No.116, 1945
Rhineland	War Dept G.O. No.118, 1945

Distinguished Unit Citation awarded for outstanding service 23-26 December 1944, Battle of the Bulge. War Dept G.O. No. 12 1945

Missions Flown by Erwin C. Powell while Assigned to 391<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group (394<sup>th</sup> BG Missions not included)  
 Reel and Page indicate USAF Historical Research Agency data file location in microfiche reels.

Reel: B0436	Page: 1298	Page Date: 2 Aug 1944	Mission: 129	Target	Type	
Crew #5003	Crew Squadron: 573	A/C: 831 (Serial: 42-95831) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #2	Le Lude	Ammo Dump	
Reel: B0436	Page: 1402	Page Date: 4 Aug 1944	Mission: 130	Target	Type	
Crew #5038	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 802 (Serial: 42-95802) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #5	Naintenon	Fuel & Ammo Dump	
Reel: B0436	Page: 1813	Page Date: 7 Aug 1944	Mission: 134	Target	Type	
Crew #5167	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 813 (Serial: 42-95813) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #2	Foret d' Andaine	Fuel Dump	
Reel: B0436	Page: 1919	Page Date: 7 Aug 1944	Mission: 135	Target	Type	France
Crew #5205	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 813 (Serial: 42-95813) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #5	Corbie	Bridge	
Reel: B0436	Page: 2027	Page Date: 7 Aug 1944	Mission: 136	Target	Type	
Crew #5237	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 834 (Serial: 42-95834) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #5	Nogent Le Roi	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0436A	Page: 7	Page Date: 8 Aug 1944	Mission: 137	Target	Type	France
Crew #4598	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 313 (Serial: 42-96313) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #6	Anizy Le Chateau	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0436A	Page: 318	Page Date: 11 Aug 1944	Mission: 140	Target	Type	
Crew #5760	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: ??? (Serial: 42-95823) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #6	Eperon	RR Embankment	
Reel: B0437	Page: 107	Page Date: 12 Aug 1944	Mission: 141	Target	Type	
Crew #5892	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 595 (Serial: 42-107595) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #2	Isle de Cezembre	Coastal Guns	
Reel: B0437	Page: 6	Page Date: 13 Aug 1944	Mission: 142	Target	Type	Belgium
Crew #5864	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 102 (Serial: 42-96102) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #2	Dessel	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0437	Page: 506	Page Date: 16 Aug 1944	Mission: 146	Target	Type	
Crew #6042	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 252 (Serial: 41-35252) 573BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #5	L'Isle Adam	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0437	Page: 616	Page Date: 17 Aug 1944	Mission: 147	Target	Type	
Crew #6071	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 820 (Serial: 42-95820) 573BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #5	Fismes	??	
Reel: B0437	Page: 1087	Page Date: 27 Aug 1944	Mission: 152	Target	Type	France
Crew #6235	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 808 (Serial: 42-107808) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #6	Rouen	Troop River Crossing	
Reel: B0437	Page: 1188	Page Date: 28 Aug 1944	Mission: 153	Target	Type	France
Crew #6258	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 252 (Serial: 41-35252) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #5	Rouen	Troop River Crossing	
Reel: B0437	Page: 1293	Page Date: 28 Aug 1944	Mission: 154	Target	Type	
Crew #6309	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 830 (Serial: 42-95830) 573BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #2	Vucy les Pierrpoint	Fuel Dump	
Reel: B0437	Page: 1404	Page Date: 31 Aug 1944	Mission: 155	Target	Type	
Crew #6356	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 620 (Serial: 42-107620) 575BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Ile de Cezembre	Troop Center	
Reel: B0437	Page: 1501	Page Date: 2 Sep 1944	Mission: 156	Target	Type	France
Crew #6381	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 806 (Serial: 42-107806) 573BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Brest	Coastal Guns	
Reel: B0437a	Page: 20	Page Date: 7 Sep 1944	Mission: 161	Target	Type	France
Crew #6501	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 839 (Serial: 42-95839) 574BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #3	Brest	Strongpoints	



Reel: B0437a	Page: 150	Page Date: 7 Sep 1944	Mission: 162	Target	Type	France
Crew #6538	Crew Squadron: 575	A/C: 818 (Serial: 42-95818) 574BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #5	Brest	Strongpoints	
Reel: B0437a	Page: 377	Page Date: 12 Sep 1944	Mission: 165	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #6599	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 337 (Serial: 43-34337) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Scheid	Siegfried Line	
Reel: B0437a	Page: 501	Page Date: 12 Sep 1944	Mission: 166	Target	Type	France
Crew #6635	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 337 (Serial: 43-34337) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #1 / Position #4	Chaligny, Foret de Haye	Gun Positions	
Reel: B0438	Page: 132	Page Date: 17 Sep 1944	Mission: 168	Target	Type	Holland
Crew #7092	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 165 (Serial: 43-34165) 573BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Bath	Dike & Rail Line	
Reel: B0438	Page: 272	Page Date: 23 Sep 1944	Mission: 170	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #7120	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 425 (Serial: 43-34425) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #1	Duren	??	
Reel: B0438	Page: 474	Page Date: 30 Sep 1944	Mission: 172	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #7188	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 425 (Serial: 43-34425) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #1	Webenheim	Siegfried Line	
Reel: B0438	Page: 1235	Page Date: 13 Oct 1944	Mission: 178	Target	Type	
Crew #7450	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 337 (Serial: 43-34337) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #1			
Reel: B0438A	Page: 32	Page Date: 11 Nov 1944	Mission: 185	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #7727	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 803 (Serial: 42-95803) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Euskirchen	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0438A	Page: 232	Page Date: 20 Nov 1944	Mission: 188	Target	Type	
Crew #7794	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 808 (Serial: 42-107808) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Sinzig	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0438A	Page: 322	Page Date: 21 Nov 1944	Mission: 189	Target	Type	
Crew #7828	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 427 (Serial: 43-34427) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #7	Echtz	Defended Area	
Reel: B0439	Page: 312	Page Date: 2 Dec 1944	Mission: 195	Target	Type	
Crew #8031	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 808 (Serial: 42-107808) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #1	Saarlauten	??	
Reel: B0439	Page: 357	Page Date: 6 Dec 1944	Mission: 196	Target	Type	
Crew #8096	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 425 (Serial: 43-34425) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #1			
Reel: B0439	Page: 583	Page Date: 12 Dec 1944	Mission: 199	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #8250	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 425 (Serial: 43-34425) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #4	Aulenbach	Storage Area	
Reel: B0439	Page: 939	Page Date: 14 Dec 1944	Mission: 201	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #8250	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 425 (Serial: 43-34425) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #4	Oberhausen	Storage Depot	
Reel: B0439	Page: 1999	Page Date: 27 Dec 1944	Mission: 208	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #8461	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 808 (Serial: 42-107808) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #1	Badmunster	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0440	Page: 2537	Page Date: 23 Feb 1945	Mission: 232	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #8999	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #4	Bad Oyenhausen	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0441	Page: 195	Page Date: 24 Feb 1945	Mission: 234	Target	Type	
Crew #9072	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 803 (Serial: 42-95803) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Erkelenz	Comm Center	

Reel: B0441	Page: 852	Page Date: 2 Mar 1945	Mission: 240	Target	Type	
Crew #5670	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 803 (Serial: 42-95803) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #1			
Reel: B0441	Page: 1364	Page Date: 3 Mar 1945	Mission: 242	Target	Type	
Crew #9287	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 803 (Serial: 42-95803) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Giessen	Ordnance Depot	
Reel: B0441	Page: 1647	Page Date: 3 Mar 1945	Mission: 244	Target	Type	
Crew #7017	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 425 (Serial: 43-34425) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Schwelm	Transport Center	
Reel: B0441	Page: 1969	Page Date: 4 Mar 1945	Mission: 245	Target	Type	
Crew #9351	Crew Squadron:	A/C: 808 (Serial: 42-107808) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #1	Rechlinghausen	??	
Reel: B0442	Page: 193	Page Date: 10 Mar 1945	Mission: 250	Target	Type	
Crew #9466	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 803 (Serial: 42-95803) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Erntebruck	Marshaling Yard	
Reel: B0442	Page: 1084	Page Date: 14 Mar 1945	Mission: 255	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9558	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 912 (Serial: 42-95812) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #1 / Position #3	Babenhausen	Luftwaffe Airfield	
Reel: B0442	Page: 1116	Page Date: 15 Mar 1945	Mission: 256	Target	Type	
Crew #6752	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 836 (Serial: 42-95836) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Neunkirchen	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0442	Page: 1328	Page Date: 17 Mar 1945	Mission: 257	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9590	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #3	Landau	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0442	Page: 1625	Page Date: 17 Mar 1945	Mission: 259	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9618	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 836 (Serial: 42-95836) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #3 / Position #1	Dillenburg	Marshaling Yard	
Reel: B0442	Page: 1953	Page Date: 18 Mar 1945	Mission: 260	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #6827	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 811 (Serial: 42-95811) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Worms	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0442	Page: 1795	Page Date: 19 Mar 1945	Mission: 261	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9657	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 803 (Serial: 42-95803) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #4	Bad Dürkheim	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0442	Page: 2115	Page Date: 19 Mar 1945	Mission: 262	Target	Type	
Crew #9694	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 811 (Serial: 42-95811) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #1	Niedermarsberg	RR Bridge	
Reel: B0443	Page: 37	Page Date: 23 Mar 1945	Mission: 264	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9767	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Coesfeld	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0443	Page: 263	Page Date: 23 Mar 1945	Mission: 265	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9817	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Coesfeld	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0443	Page: 442	Page Date: 23 Mar 1945	Mission: 266	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9851	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Dinslaken	Factory Area	
Reel: B0443	Page: 619	Page Date: 23 Mar 1945	Mission: 267	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9894	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #1 / Flight #2 / Position #4	Dinslaken	Comm. Center	
Reel: B0443	Page: 854	Page Date: 25 Mar 1945	Mission: 268	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9936	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #4	Bocholt	Flak Positions	
Reel: B0443	Page: 1161	Page Date: 25 Mar 1945	Mission: 270	Target	Type	Germany
Crew #9987	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 748 (Serial: 42-107748) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #3 / Position #4	Dierdorf	Comm. Center	



## 5. MISSION No. 136 (Example of Mission Summary – #5 of 55 flown)

- 7 Aug 1944
- Station: 166
- Target: Railroad Bridge at Nogent Le Roi, France
- Time Of Take-Off: 17:45 / Time Over Target: 19:45 / Time Landed: 22:00

### 5.1. CREW LIST

Reel: B0436	Page: 2027	Page Date: 7 Aug 1944	Mission: 136
Crew #5237	Crew Squadron: 572	A/C: 834 (Serial: 42-95834) 572BS	Box #2 / Flight #1 / Position #5
Role	Name	Rank	Serial
P	Chatellier, John L.	2/LT	O817389
CP	McGee, Eugene D.	2/LT	O822503
B	Bosse, Patrick F.	2/LT	O766191
EG	Kilcoin, James E.	SGT	33572057
RG	Powell, Erwin C.	CPL	39411711
AG	Lewis, Harris E.	SGT	34075031
NOTES: Auto. A/C 834 P2-B Code (Serial: 42-95834) Ill Wind 42-95800 A/C destroyed in collision 13 Aug 44(Low flight, No.4. - Kohler) hit by FLAK, collided with adjacent aircraft 42-95834 (No. 5 - Boyd). Both aircraft broke apart and went into a spin. Coincidentally, low flight passed underneath lead flight at exactly the time of bomb release, which may mean that aircraft was struck by falling bomb from lead flight. Dad was not on that A/C when collision occurred.			
DEBRIEF NOTES: 2 runs. Came out West of Mayenne instead of as briefed. Should have been routed in differently. S2: CMM			

Full Mission Crew Loading List:

[https://www.391bombgroup.org.uk/loadlist\\_crew\\_list.php?mission=136](https://www.391bombgroup.org.uk/loadlist_crew_list.php?mission=136)

### 5.2. DESCRIPTION

36 B-26 aircraft loaded with 4x1000LB General Purpose bombs were dispatched to attack an enemy Railroad Bridge at Nogent Le Roi, France. Koehl in a/c 102-X returned to base from half way to the English coast as he had no fuel pressure on his right engine and detonation on his left engine. After rendezvous with their P-47 fighter escort the formation proceeded onward toward the target.

Weather conditions enroute were 3/10 clouds changing to 2/10 to 4/10 clouds with poor visibility over the target area.

Heavy, Intense, Accurate FLAK was encountered in the vicinity of Conde (Conde-sur-Noireau). The formation reported that it flew through the FLAK barrage from 3 to 5 minutes. 15 aircraft sustained battle damage.

Callison in a/c 851 was hit by FLAK in his left wing which broke off, the plane went down burning, and no chutes were seen to open. All onboard were killed except Hanzl who became a POW.

The bombs of the 1st flight of the 1st box fell in a tight concentration 150 feet south of the Designated Mean Point of Impact in open fields and in the river. There is 1 possible hit on the approach. The 2nd flight failed to bomb because lead ship did not drop. A pattern of bombs from the 3rd flight fell 500 feet south of the Designated Mean Point of Impact in open fields, the river, and in residential areas. There is 1 possible hit on a road bridge over the river. Results were rated as EXCELLENT and GOOD for the 1st and 3rd flights respectively.

No photo coverage was available for the 1st and 2nd flights of the 2nd box due to 10/10 cloud cover (no attacks were made). Likewise, the 3rd flight did not bomb the Primary Target due to clouds obscuring the target, but it attacked a Railroad and Road intersection at La Chainay. Photo analysis showed a tight

pattern of bombs falling 600 feet south of the selected MPI across a roadway and on at least 10 residences in La Chainay.

5 aircraft landed away from base. Hanlon in a/c 595-V landed at RAF Ford. Possibly Crim in a/c 978, Baehr in a/c 841-A, and Jobe in a/c 830-M landed elsewhere. Jobe may have landed in Normandy to get urgent medical attention for 1/Lt. Leonard Tuori, Bombardier, who was seriously wounded by flak.

### 5.3. PERSONAL DIARY ENTRY

NOGENT LE ROI R.R. Bridge. 2-2000 lb G.P. No FLAK Air Medal.

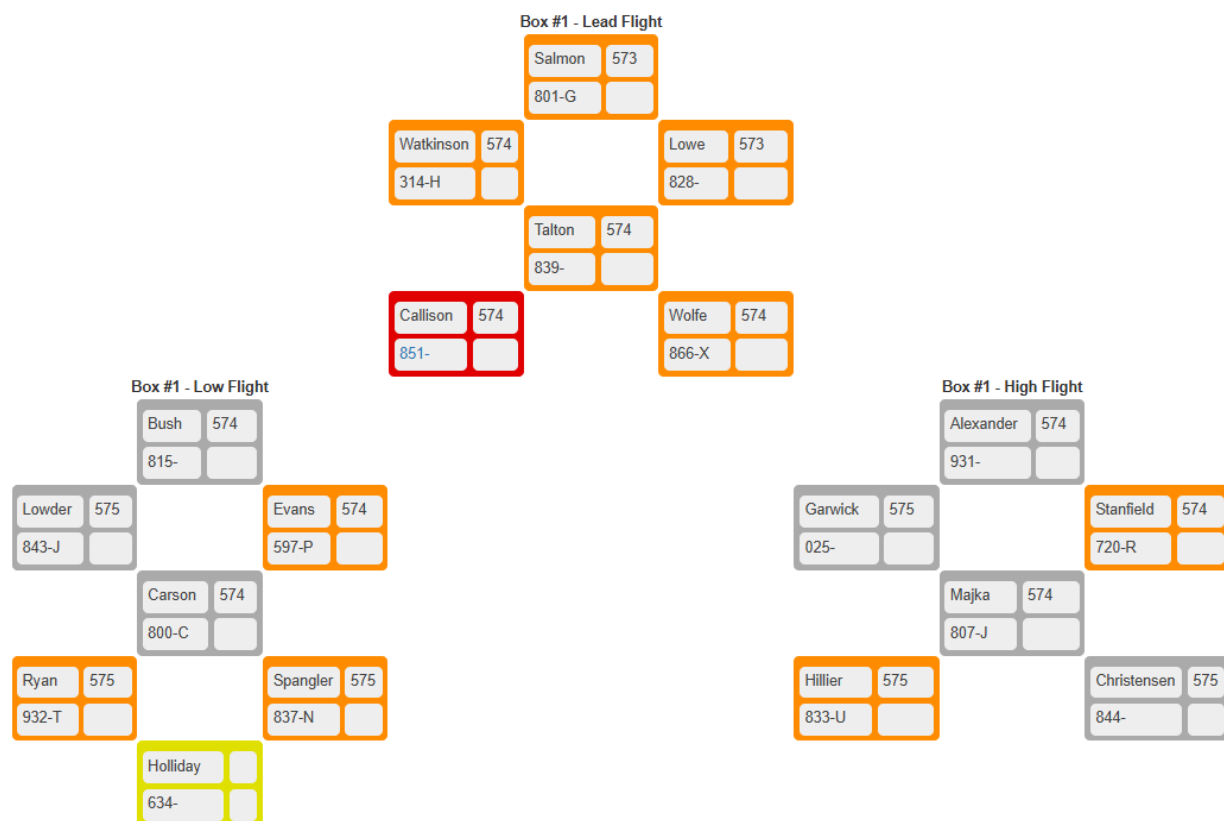
### 5.4. FIELD ORDER

SECTION	VALUE
Field Order:	208
Reel:	B0436
Page Start:	2031
Mission:	136
Date Order Sent:	7-Aug-44
Zero Hour (Day number + Time):	071900b
Target(s) (Primary, Secondary, Alternate):	4801E/B/33
Fighter Escort:	P-47s will furnish escort.
Rendezvous:	with fighters at 4920n0050w at 11500 feet at zero hour.
Route Out:	base to Selsey Bill to 4920n0050w to 4818n0011w to 4828n0110e to target.
Route Back:	turn right to 4828n0110e to 4848n0011w to 4920n0050w to Selsey Bill.
Altitudes:	
Initial Point (IP):	4828n0110e
Axis of Attack:	55 degrees
Emergency Airdromes:	NULL
Intervalometer Setting:	30 feet
Bomb Load:	4x1000gp 1/10 1/100
Purpose/Notes/Time Over Target:	bombing will be done by flights.

### 5.5. FORM 103B/OPFLASH

SECTION	VALUE
Reel:	B0436
Page:	2038
Field Order:	0
A(i) Target Ordered:	Nogent Le Roi RR Bridge
A(ii) Target Attacked:	Nogent Le Roi RR Bridge
B(i) Group:	391
B(ii) No. Of A/C Off By Type:	36 B-26
B(iii) No. A/C Failing To Bomb: (weather-personnel-mechanical-other):	0-1-1-5 (bombardier failed to identify target, no fuel pressure in rt engine from English coast, lead ship did not drop, lacking information on 5 ships which landed away from base, 3 of which landed in Normandy)
B(iv) No. A/C Bombing: (primary-secondary-other):	18-0-3
C(i) Time Up:	17:45
C(ii) Time Over Target:	19:45
C(iii) Time Down:	22:00
D(i) No A/C: (missing-destroyed-damaged(cat. B-A/C)-Damaged(Cat. A)):	0-0-0-15 (Conde area, flak)
D(ii) Enemy A/C: (destroyed-prob. Destroyed-Damaged):	0-0-0
D(iii) No. Crew: (killed-wounded-missing):	0-0-0
E. Results Of Bombing:	primary, good to excellent; casual, poor.
F(i)(A) Enemy Opposition Over Target:	nil
F(i)(B) Enemy Opposition Elsewhere:	nil
F(ii)(A) Flak Over Target:	nil
F(ii)(B) Flak Elsewhere:	HF I ACC in vic of Conde, formation flew thru flak from 3 to 5 minutes (Conde to Pre En P).
G. info, Observations, Hot News:	
H(i) Weather Affecting Bombing:	2/10 to 4/10 clouds, visibility poor.
H(ii) Weather En Route:	3/10 clouds.
I. Bombs On: (primary-secondary-other-jettisoned-retained):	69-0-12-1-28 (1000gp, 32 unaccounted for), 3-0-0-0-0 (1100gp)
J. Altitude Of Attack:	11500 and 12500

5.6. **MISSION BOX FORMATION** (Red: Aircraft Destroyed, Orange: Damaged by Flak, Yellow Spare - may not have flown, Aqua oval – Dad’s aircraft location in box formation).



Box #2 - Lead Flight

Schleicher	572
803-	

Dewitt	572
797-P	

Blute	572
748-Q	

Smith	572
813-J	

McCarty	572
836-N	

Chatellier	572
834-B	

Box #2 - Low Flight

Earl	572
673-	

Walker	573
831-H	

Baehr	573
841-A	

Whitson	572
799-T	

Hanlon	573
595-V	

Reynolds	572
313-Z	

Dillard	
806-	

Box #2 - High Flight

Miller	573
825-B	

Fry	573
823-N	

Crim	573
978-	

Jobe	573
830-M	

Koehl	573
102-X	

Brockway	572
719-F	



## 5.7. ROUTE





## 5.8. AIRCRAFT HISTORY

Built at the Glenn L Martin factory at Baltimore, Maryland as a B-26B-50-MA. Accepted by the Army Air Force on 10/11/43. Next flown by New Castle (2nd Ferry Group), Wilmington, Delaware (from 6/12/43), to Pittsburgh, Ohio (ATC) from 9/12/43, and Patterson Field, Ohio (ATC) from 11/12/43. Then flown to Godman Field, Fort Knox, Kentucky (from 12/12/43), and assigned to the 391st BG. Flown overseas to the UK via the Southern Ferry Route (Listed as Carribean Wing), departing the USA on 4/1/44. The aircraft record card then lists, SOXO A (Europe - 8th AF) on 4/1/44, and SOXO R (Europe - 8th AF) from 30/1/44. Original group aircraft flown over from the USA by 2nd Lt. Richard G Dickinson and crew. Hit by 42-95800 on the 13/8/44 mission to the Cherisy RR bridge, France whilst on the bomb run, severing the tail section. The aircraft flown by 2nd Lt. Ralph H Boyd flipped over on its back and spun down. The pilot managed to bail out and evaded capture, but the rest of the crew were killed. The MACR lists this aircraft as 573rd BG, but I believe it was a 572nd BS aircraft flown by a 573rd BS crew, but this needs confirmation. Engines, P&W R-2800-43, serials: FP-060101 (left), and, FP-060025 (right). The final entry on the aircraft record card lists, GLUE 9AF CON MIA on 15/8/44.

## 5.9. PICTURES

A/C 834/P2-B (Serial: 42-95834) – Ill Wind Nose Art



Photo courtesy of Stokely Caldwell.