

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority 1005745005

SOFIA

Sofia A/D

Mission No. 26

17 April 1944

FIELD ORDER NO. 31

(Annex 1, Field Order 31, 17 Apr 44)

BRIEFING OUTLINE.

1. No. of aircraft on Mission ..... 39 B-24s.
2. Group Leader ..... Major D. W. HARP
3. Deputy Group Leader ..... Captain A. ASCH
4. Second Unit leader ..... Lt. R. A. GOSLINE.
5. Deputy Second U. Leader ..... Lt. M. (NMI) JONES.
6. Other Groups on Mission ..... 454, 456, 459 BGs.
7. Escort on Mission ..... 1 Gp P-38s at Key Point.
8. Bomb Load ..... 100# GP, .1 sec nose, .01 tail.
9. Ammunition ..... 5200 rounds.
10. Fuel Load ..... 2700 gals, full oil service.
11. Time at Stations ..... 0800B hours.
12. Taxi and T/O Instructions ..... Taxi to North for T/O to South.  
 Take off time 0920B.

ORDER OF TAKE OFF:

1st Attack Unit		2nd Attack Unit	
239	270	260	250
983	264	266	640
081	234	481	771
216	190	456	283
241	223	249	120
855	235		665
219	476		230

13. Bomber rendezvous ..... 1st Combat Wing (454,455) at SAN GIOVANNI at 3000' at 1018B. 2nd C Wg (456,459) at GUILIA at 4000 feet at 1020B.
14. Course ..... Base to Key Point at North end of LAKE SCUTARI (42/19N, 19/06E) to Turn Point (42/58N, 21/57E) to IP To Target. Time at Key Point LESKOVAC 1112B, Altitude 12,000 feet.
15. Target time ..... 1210B hours.
16. Return Course ..... Direct to Base.
17. Initial Point ..... PONOR (42/54N, 23/09E)
18. Axis of attack ..... 149 degrees M.
19. Bombing Formation ..... 9-ship route formation, second attack unit stacked down.
20. Bombardier Information ..... Lead ship of each attack unit will sight for range and deflection, box leaders for range, others toggle on leaders. Intervalometer setting 60' bomb run 160 mph at 22,000', target elevation 1800 feet.
21. ~~Bombardier/Information~~ Rally ..... Right to 210° avoiding PERNICK (42/35N, 23/04E)
22. Weather forecast:

For April 17th, from NORGE Weather.

455th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

APR 528

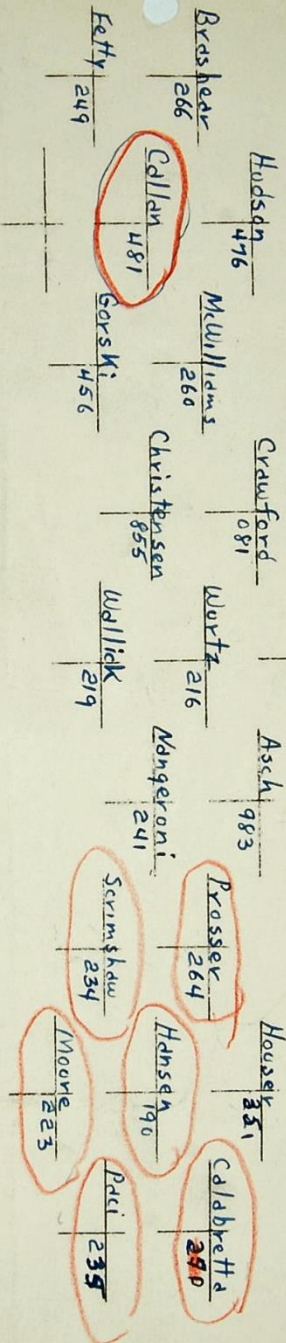
FORMATION DIAGRAM

1ST SECTION  
 HARP MILLER

239

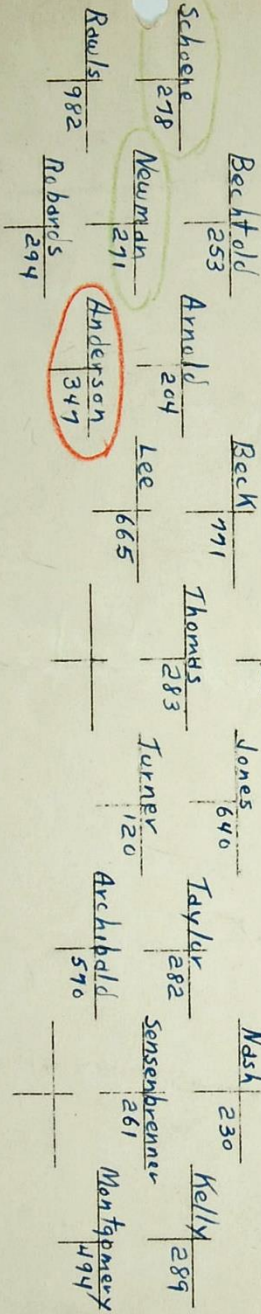
MISSION NO. 26

DATE April 19



2ND SECTION

Gosline 250



- Did not take off
- Early Return
- Prior Return

As Flown

455th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

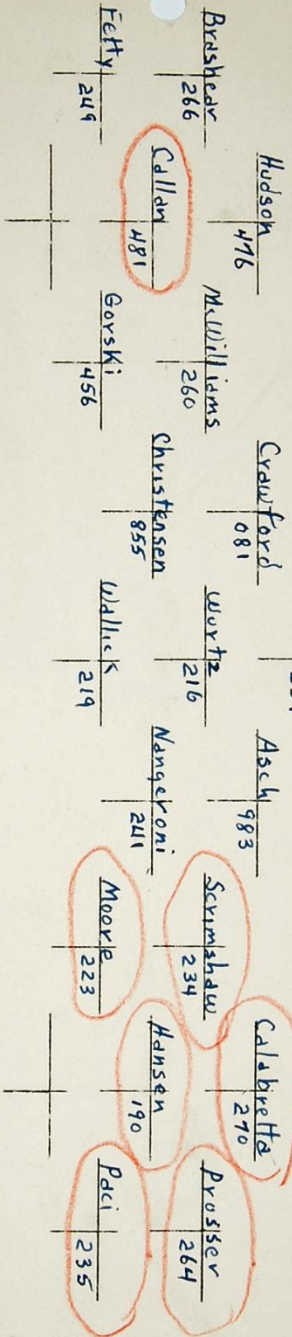
APO 520

MISSION NO. 26

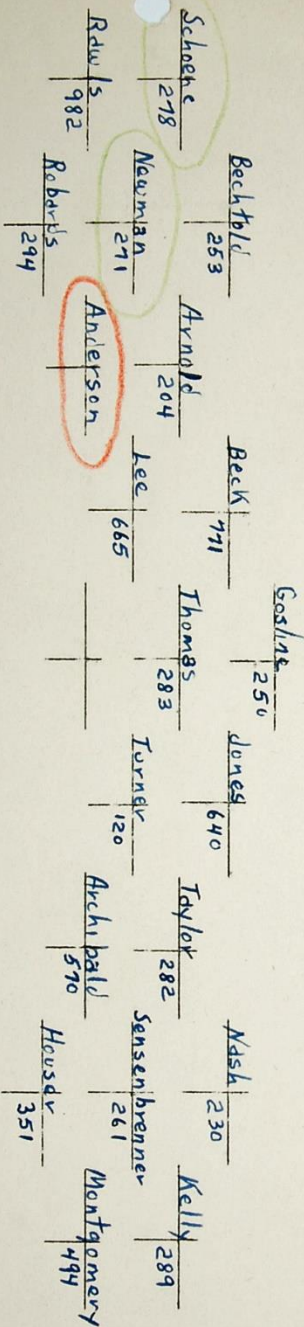
FORMATION DIAGRAM

DATE 4-17-44

1st SECTION  
 HARP Miller



2nd SECTION



○ Did not take off  
 ○ Early Return  
 ○ Prior Return

740

983

4/17/44

Lt Fisher  
Supt Asch  
Lt Blacker & Lt Costantiano  
Lt Carley  
T/Sgt King

T/Sgt Rundle  
S/Sgt Anderson  
S/Sgt Hanides  
S/Sgt Schmaus  
S/Sgt Kucharik

740

219

4/17/44

Lt Wallick  
Lt McInturff  
Lt Keller  
Lt Hager  
S/Sgt Moore

S/Sgt Loge  
S/Sgt Cronin  
S/Sgt Caynor  
S/Sgt Abbink  
S/Sgt Franco

740

223

4/17/44

Lt Moore  
Lt Ennis  
Lt Erickson  
Lt Gall  
T/Sgt DeRock

T/Sgt Towle  
S/Sgt Schweisberger  
S/Sgt Koutsky  
S/Sgt Greland  
S/Sgt Smith

740

270

4/17/44

Lt Calabretta  
McNamara  
Lt Gustafson  
Lt Putler  
T/Sgt Logan

T/Sgt Wert  
S/Sgt Kruse  
S/Sgt Franceschini  
S/Sgt Bischoff  
S/Sgt Balough

740

190

4/17/44

Lt Hansen  
Lt Rabian  
Lt Popejoy  
Lt Dehn  
Sgt Childers

T/Sgt Yeandel  
S/Sgt Lisi  
S/Sgt Berg  
S/Sgt Seiter  
S/Sgt Rosenfield

740

235

4/17/44

Lt Paei  
Lt Johnson D.  
Lt Gasdais  
Lt Daniels  
S/Sgt Freeman

S/Sgt Whigpen  
Sgt Fry  
S/Sgt Johnson R.  
S/Sgt Merrill  
S/Sgt Jackson

~~740~~

~~Lt Crawford  
Lt Johnson R.  
Sgt [unclear]  
Sgt [unclear]  
Sgt [unclear]  
Sgt [unclear]~~

~~4/17/44~~

~~180~~

~~S/Sgt [unclear]  
S/Sgt [unclear]  
Sgt [unclear]  
Sgt [unclear]  
Sgt [unclear]~~

~~047~~

740

264

4/17/44

Lt Prosser  
Lt Kelley  
Lt Frantz  
Lt Kratz  
S/Sgt Marhenke

T/Sgt Austin  
S/Sgt Collins  
S/Sgt King  
S/Sgt Alt  
S/Sgt Rubeck

740

234

4/17/44

Lt Scrimshaw  
X P/O Robertson  
Lt [unclear]  
Lt Stelle  
S/Sgt Angelide

T/Sgt Doherty  
S/Sgt Thomas  
S/Sgt Somers  
S/Sgt Quiser  
S/Sgt Hodgson

740

239

4/17/44

Maj Harp  
Lt Miller  
Lt Gross & Lt Compton J.A.  
Lt Ohlmeyer  
T/Sgt Barrons

T/Sgt Amoroso  
S/Sgt Carlson  
S/Sgt Donahue  
S/Sgt Polling  
S/Sgt Seivers

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 260 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT LT. VICTOR MCWILLIAMS  
CO-PILOT LT. GLENN MENSINGER  
NAVIGATOR LT. SCOTCOE WILKES  
BOMBARDIER LT. ANTHONY FOGEL  
RADIO T/Sgt. VICTOR EGGEMEYER

TOP TUR GUNS/Sgt. CHESTER MILLER  
WAIST RIGHTS/Sgt. ROBERT H. HARDY  
WAIST LEFT S/Sgt. MCDOWELL  
BALL TUR GUNS/Sgt. DANIEL A. RAGESKY  
TAIL GUN S/Sgt. JOSEPH RIFINSKY

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 456 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT LT. GORSKI  
CO-PILOT LT. WALTER HINTON  
NAVIGATOR LT. ROY M. JONES  
BOMBARDIER LT. JOHNNY MATRANGOS  
RADIO T/Sgt. EDWARD PIETREWSEWSKI

TOP TUR GUN S/Sgt. SWEENEY  
WAIST RIGHT S/Sgt. EUGENE O. WOODARD  
WAIST LEFT S/Sgt. SANDEFER  
BALL TUR GUNS/Sgt. MAGNUSON  
TAIL GUN S/Sgt. VONACHEN, LOUIE

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 855 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT LT. ROBERT CHRISTENSEN  
CO-PILOT LT. THOMAS HEATHCOTE  
NAVIGATOR LT. CHARLES TABER  
BOMBARDIER LT. PAUL A. YOUNG  
RADIO T/Sgt. ORBAL MAYFIELD

TOP TUR GUN T/Sgt. CASIMIR BIALIS  
WAIST RIGHT S/Sgt. GORDON E. SWANN  
WAIST LEFT S/Sgt. WM. BOWLES  
BALL TUR GUN S/Sgt. LEO C. PADGETT  
TAIL GUN S/Sgt. JACK E. ABBOTT

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 481 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT LT. RICHARD A. CALLAN  
CO-PILOT LT. ALEX EMMONS  
NAVIGATOR LT. GUY T. KUNTZ  
BOMBARDIER LT. MICHEAL CALLAN  
RADIO T/Sgt. WILLIAM F MATTHEWS

TOP TUR GUN T/Sgt. LEONARD JESSET  
WAIST RIGHT S/Sgt. LUCIAN HALE  
WAIST LEFT S/Sgt. JAMES HEISKELL  
BALL TUR GUN S/Sgt. AEFRED JEFFERBDS  
TAIL GUN Sgt DANIEL P. JAMES

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 241 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_

4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	LT. LOUIS MINGERONI	TOP TUR GUN	T/Sgt. JOHN S. STRAW
CO-PILOT	LT. WILLIAM WHIT TMAN	WAIST RIGHT	S/Sgt. ARTHUR JOHNSON
NAVIGATOR	LT. GEORGE KLINE	WAIST LEFT	S/Sgt. NORMAN C. ANDREWS
BOMBARDIER	LT. JACK F. BLUM	BALL TUR GUN	S/Sgt. EDWARD HOWELL
RADIO	T/Sgt. PAUL ROADMAN	TAIL GUN	S/Sgt. RUSSELL A. FRY

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 476 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_

4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	LT. EUGENE HUDSON	TOP TUR GUN	S/Sgt. FRANCIS E. BEELE
CO-PILOT	LT. JAMES H. SMITH	WAIST RIGHT	S/Sgt. WAYNE V. ELLIOTT
NAVIGATOR	LT. HUMPHRY HOSMER	WAIST LEFT	S/Sgt. ROBERT H. HAMILTON
BOMBARDIER	LT. NAT BAILLEN	BALL TUR GUN	S/Sgt. MARVIN WOLFE
RADIO	T/Sgt. KARE MUS	TAIL GUN	S/Sgt. MELVIN WOLFE

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 216 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_

4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	LT. NELSON A. WURTZ	TOP TUR GUN	T/Sgt. WILLIAM E. DRAPER
CO-PILOT	LT. ALLEN E. SUPERA	WAIST RIGHT	S/Sgt. WILLIAM J. NEWMAN
NAVIGATOR	LT. WALTER SLOCUM	WAIST LEFT	S/Sgt. EMANUEL KLEIN
BOMBARDIER	LT. KELS LAWS	BALL TUR GUN	S/Sgt. FRANK A. ASHLEY
RADIO	T/Sgt. HUGO GROSS	TAIL GUN	S/Sgt. BERNARD W. KAMPA

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON A/C NUMBER 249 BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_

4/17/44 DATE POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	LT. KENNETH D. FETTY	TOP TUR GUN	T/Sgt. FRANK J. KOWLEY
CO-PILOT	LT. ROBERT BAKER	WAIST RIGHT	S/Sgt. JAMES K. BAIN
NAVIGATOR	LT. THORNTON JACKSON	WAIST LEFT	S/Sgt. ABBYE
BOMBARDIER	LT. RICHARD HIGGINS	BALL TUR GUN	S/Sgt. ROBERT H. DAVIS
RADIO	T/Sgt. ELMER KELLY	TAIL GUN	S/Sgt. DANIEL CONNELL



RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

741 SQUADRON    A/C NUMBER 266    BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_    TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
4/17/44 DATE    POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_    TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	LT. JOHN R. BRASHEAR	TOP TUR GUN	T/Sgt DALE FORTSON
CO-PILOT	LT. GORDON C. MUTH	WAIST RIGHT	S/Sgt WESTON KEEN
NAVIGATOR	LT. ROBERT REGINER	WAIST LEFT	S/Sgt. BURGESS B. LINDSAAY
BOMBARDIER	LT. GEORGE ELKERTON	BALL TUR GUN	S/Sgt. VICTOR KIRBY
RADIO	T/Sgt EDWARD KORZENIEWSKI	TAIL GUN	S/Sgt. TERRY ANDREWS.

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

\_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON    A/C NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_    BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_    TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ DATE    POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_    TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	TOP TUR GUN
CO-PILOT	WAIST RIGHT
NAVIGATOR	WAIST LEFT
BOMBARDIER	BALL TUR GUN
RADIO	TAIL GUN

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

\_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON    A/C NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_    BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_    TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ DATE    POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_    TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	TOP TUR GUN
CO-PILOT	WAIST RIGHT
NAVIGATOR	WAIST LEFT
BOMBARDIER	BALL TUR GUN
RADIO	TAIL GUN

RETURN TO GROUP S-2 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER TAKE-OFF

\_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON    A/C NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_    BOMB LOAD \_\_\_\_\_    TIME OF T/O \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ DATE    POSITION IN FORMATION \_\_\_\_\_    TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

PILOT	TOP TUR GUN
CO-PILOT	WAIST RIGHT
NAVIGATOR	WAIST LEFT
BOMBARDIER	BALL TUR GUN
RADIO	TAIL GUN

67 s-2

2ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
APO #520 U.S. ARMY

17 April 1944

SUBJECT: Combat crews completig Mission on 17 April 1944.

TO : Operations Officer; 455th Bomb Group (H)

Ship #250

Lt GOSLINE  
LT MCWARD  
LT MCGLASSON  
LT GIDDEN  
T/SGT HARKEY  
LT CROTZER  
T/SGT WEDIN  
T/SGT ANTONSON  
S/SGT ROBINSON  
T/SGT STAPLETON  
S/SGT WEBB

SHIP 230

LT NASH  
LT BOLDT  
LT GROSS  
LT KNOX  
T/SGT ROMANO  
T/SGT PELKEY  
S/SGT HOFFMEISTER  
S/SGT BENNETT  
S/SGT BROCK  
S/SGT FRAWLEY

SHIP 771

LT BECK  
LT BUNATA  
LT DOWLING  
LT SANTINA  
T/SGT SEFCIK  
T/SGT CARSWEL  
S/SGT PETERSON  
SGT PALUMBO  
S/SGT DUVAL  
S/SGT AMES

SHIP 289

LT KELLY  
LT KAMINSKY  
LT MACEDO  
LT FORD  
T/SGT HEITZMAN  
T/SGT BENCH  
S/SGT LIVINGSTON  
S/SGT GRAHAM  
SGT GOLDMAN  
S/SGT PITTMAN

SHIP 494

LT MONTGOMERY  
LT SABO  
LT SCHNEIDER  
LT GUIDO  
T/SGT PRITCHARD  
S/SGT MASON  
S/SGT LEITHAUSER  
S/SGT KYLE  
T/SGT SUTTON  
SGT GREEN

SHIP 570

LT ARCHIBALD  
LT WATSON  
LT EZELL  
LT BARNARD  
T/SGT MADZIK  
S/SGT HACHEY  
S/SGT ABBONDONDELO  
T/SGT SEILER  
S/SGT TODD  
S/SGT GRAVES

SHIP 640

LT JONES  
LT YTTRI  
LT BODWELL  
LT BOFFA  
T/SGT JACKSON  
S/SGT GRIFFITH  
T/SGT SEMAN  
S/SGT BLANCHARD  
S/SGT WOODRIDGE  
S/SGT PHILBIN

SHIP 282

LT TUCK  
F/O TAYLOR  
LT ROTHER  
LT BOULWARE  
T/SGT RUST  
S/SGT DAVID  
T/SGT WILSON  
S/SGT LEVERSON  
S/SGT JOHNSON  
S/SGT SPRADLING

SHIP 261

LT SENSENBRENNER  
LT JACKSON  
LT POWELL  
LT MCGRANE  
T/SGT JASTRZEMBOWSKI  
T/SGT NERREN  
S/SGT SELLARS  
S/SGT PLOWMAN  
S/SGT SCOTT  
S/SGT RENNER

TARGET : \_\_\_\_\_

COMBAT TIME : \_\_\_\_\_

RICHARD A. GOSLINE  
1ST LT, AIR CORPS  
OPERATIONS OFFICER

743RD BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
Office of the Operations Officer  
APO 520

17 April 1944

COMBAT LOADING LIST

	<u>SHIP #204 (2-3-2)</u>		<u>SHIP #247 (2-2-5)</u>	
P	ARNOLD, WILLIAM A.	1st Lt.	ANDERSON, LAURENS	1st Lt.
CP	DUNSCOMB, RICHARD E.	2nd Lt.	BROOKS, HAROLD C.	2nd Lt.
N	ANDERSON, INGVAR E.	2nd Lt.	GINSBURG, SEYMOUR	2nd Lt.
B	DRASCO, STEPHEN A.	2nd Lt.	JOHNSON, EDWARD H.	2nd Lt.
NOSE G	Keith, Ronald R.	T/Sgt.	Winn, Francis P.	T/Sgt.
TOP TUR	Petrie, Donald R.	S/Sgt.	Cluck, Omer L.	S/Sgt.
WAIST R	Manzitto, Sebastino	S/Sgt.	Taylor, Paul E.	S/Sgt.
WAIST L	Herbert, Alex G.	S/Sgt.	Hosac, Chester W.	S/Sgt.
BALL TUR	McArthur, Charles A.	T/Sgt.	Weine, Max G.	S/Sgt.
TAIL G	Knapp, Jack M.	T/Sgt.	O'Boyle, James J.	S/Sgt.
			PHOTO Lannoye, Robert J.	Sgt.
	<u>SHIP #120 (2-1-5)</u>		<u>SHIP #665 (2-1-6)</u>	
P	TURNER, ERNEST F.	1st Lt.	LEE, ORVILLE I.	1st Lt.
CP	WALWORTH, NEIL M.	2nd Lt.	DENTON, CHARLES A.	2nd Lt.
N	HINE, LEONARD D.	2nd Lt.	GROSS, JOSEPH	2nd Lt.
B	GRECO, JOHN	2nd Lt.	HORAN, BERNARD D.	2nd Lt.
NOSE G	Caparaso, Joseph	T/Sgt.	Collins, Joseph E.	T/Sgt.
TOP TUR	Oven, Andrews M.	S/Sgt.	Derrick, Charles E.	S/Sgt.
WAIST R	Aldape, Jose	S/Sgt.	Dean, Millard H.	S/Sgt.
WAIST L	Smith, Leo W.	S/Sgt.	Kohnke, Earl B.	S/Sgt.
BALL TUR	Wills, Robert I.	S/Sgt.	Lafollette, John H.	T/Sgt.
TAIL G	McVay, Elmer C.	S/Sgt.	Pendleton, Phil C.	T/Sgt.
	<u>SHIP #283 (2-1-4)</u>		<u>SHIP #294 (2-3-7)</u>	
P	THOMAS, JACK H.	1st Lt.	ROBARDS, ROBERT A.	1st Lt.
CP	ROSE, ROBERT C.	2nd Lt.	ECKHOFF, ALBERT E.	2nd Lt.
N	GROSSMAN, BERNARD M.	2nd Lt.	EIS, FREDERICK G.	2nd Lt.
B	VERKETTIS, FRANK S.	2nd Lt.	COTTER, JOHN G.	2nd Lt.
NOSE G	Bails, Dale R.	T/Sgt.	Anderson, Rayburn L.	T/Sgt.
TOP TUR	Shallow, John B.	T/Sgt.	Schrader, Vernon D.	T/Sgt.
WAIST R	Herlihy, John J.	S/Sgt.	Crocker, Albert C.	S/Sgt.
WAIST L	Peterson, Ron	S/Sgt.	Keene, Richard I.	S/Sgt.
BALL TUR	Burkhardt, George	S/Sgt.	Minyard, Luther D.	S/Sgt.
TAIL G	Rudolph, Jack B.	Sgt.	Spewock, Andrew	S/Sgt.
	<u>SHIP #982 (2-3-6)</u>		<u>SHIP #253 (2-3-1)</u>	
P	RAWLS, DON M.	1st Lt.	BECHTOLD, WILBUR C.	Capt.
CP	EVANS, EARL E.	2nd Lt.	MAURER, MARTIN	F/O
N	MATHE, LEWIS L.	2nd Lt.	CAPLE, ROGER V.	2nd Lt.
B	ROSS, DEAN R.	2nd Lt.	FRELHEIT, WILTON W.	2nd Lt.
NOSE G	Kennedy, Isaac N.	T/Sgt.	Ingalls, Robert D.	T/Sgt.
TOP TUR	Donahue, John J.	S/Sgt.	Murray, Victor	S/Sgt.
WAIST R	Smith, Thomas F.	S/Sgt.	Catt, James L.	S/Sgt.
WAIST L	Laptewicz, John C.	S/Sgt.	Vance, Duane S.	S/Sgt.
BALL TUR	Lohnes, Raymond W.	S/Sgt.	Bush, Duane D.	T/Sgt.
TAIL G	Parris, Billy	T/Sgt.	Owens, Benjamin G.	S/Sgt.
		CP	TIGERT, HAROLD E.	F/O