

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority 10574506

Dacia Romano Oil Refinery at Ploesti

Mission No. 78

15 July 1944

FIELD ORDER NO. 83

HEADQUARTERS  
 455TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF

BRIEFING OUTLINE.

1. No. of aircraft on mission ..... 41 B-24s.
2. Group leader ..... Major ASCH (Col. POWERS)
3. Deputy group leader ..... Major AMBROSEN
4. Baker box leader ..... Lieut PENDLETON
5. Charlie Box leader ..... Lieut BOWERS
6. ~~1st~~ D Box leader ..... Lieut KEIL-COWDEN.
7. Other groups on mission ..... 455,456,454,459th BGs.
8. Fighter escort ..... 55 P-51s of 325th Gp.
9. Bomb load and fuzing ..... 500# GP, .1 N, .01 and .025 T.
10. Ammunition carried ..... 4200 rounds .50 calibre
11. Gas and oil load ..... 2700 gals, full oil service.
12. Time at stations ..... ~~0600~~ 0515B.
13. Take off instructions ..... Taxi to south end of field at 0635B for TO to north at 0645B.

ORDER OF TAKE OFF:

| "A" BOX | "B" BOX | "C" BOX | "D" BOX |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 156     | 862     | 764     | 360     |
| 887     | 400     | 328     | 250     |
| 267     | 741     | 435     | 993     |
| 330     | 208     | 749     | 989     |
| 879     | 270     | 166     | 494     |
| 952     | 994     | 447     | 355     |
| 161     | 492     | 499     | 938     |
| 312     | 264     | 266     | 325     |
| 232     | 234     | 397     | 240     |
| 120     | 198     | 983     |         |
|         | 239     | 395     |         |

14. Bomber rendezvous ..... 1st Combat Wing (455,456) at STORNARA at 3,000 feet at 0735B.  
 2nd Combat Wing (454,459) at GIULIA at 4,000 feet at 0739B
15. Route out to target ..... Base to Keypoint RAGUSA (42 31N 18 23E) to TP ALEKSINAO (43 33N, 21 42E) to TP ORECHOVO (43 44N, 23 56E) to TP ROSIORII DE VEDE (44 07N, 25 00E) to TP MIHAIBRAVUL (44 09 26 03E) to TP PROGRSUL (44 22N, 26 28E) to IP to target. Keypoint time 0826B at 14,000 feet.
16. Initial point ..... CATRUNESTI (44 34N, 26 23E)
17. Axis of attack ..... 455,456, and 454 BGs - 328° Mag.
18. Time at target ..... 1030B.
19. Bombing formation ..... 9 ship front of 9 ship boxes.
20. Bombing information ..... Unit leaders sight for range and deflection; box leads for range; all others toggle. Bomb altitude 455 - 20,000 ft, 456th - 21,000 454th - 22,000, 459th - 20,500 feet. Intervalometer setting 75 feet; target elevation 500 ft;
21. Direction of rally ..... Right to rally point POVENII-NOVI (45 08N, 26 10 E), to SINATA to DRAGASANI TO ALEKSINO TO Key point to Base.

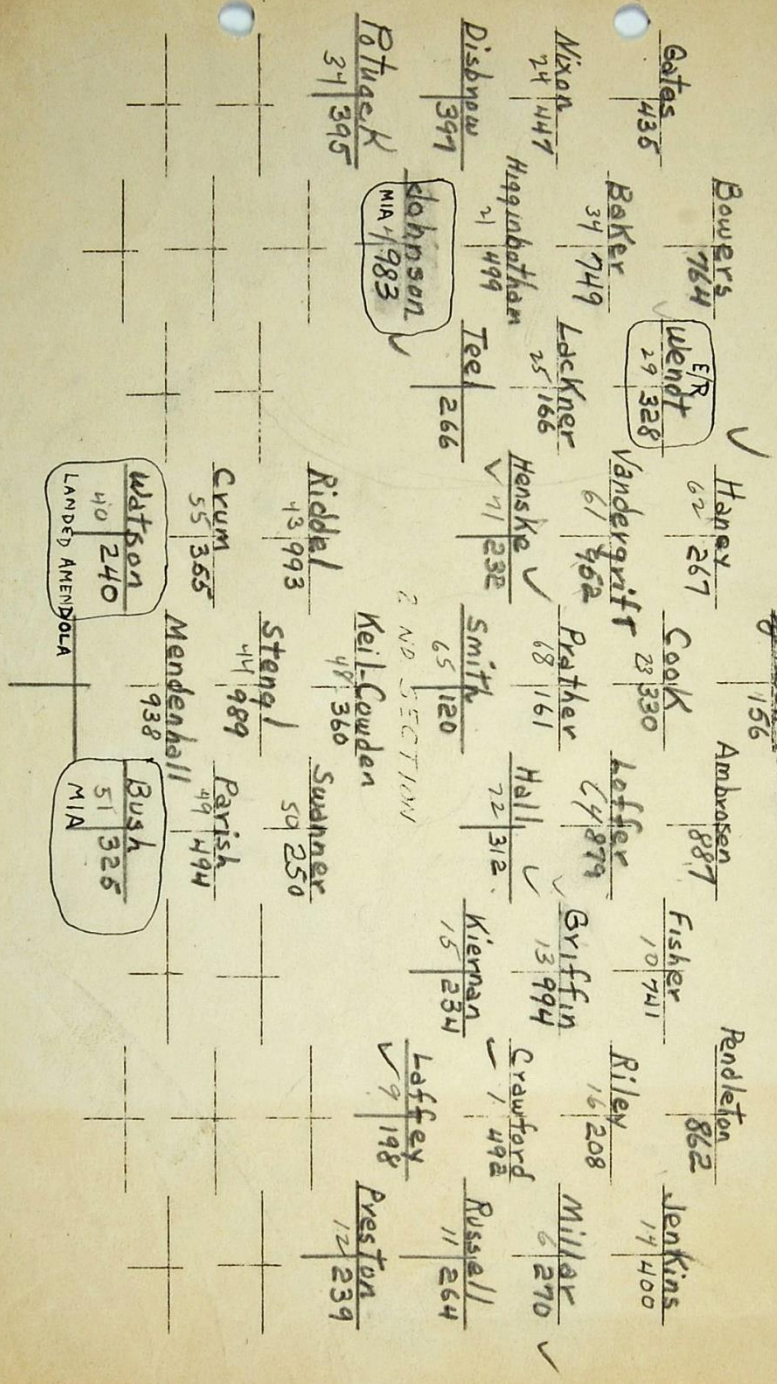
455th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

FORMATION DIAGRAM

AP 0520

MISSION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



|     |     |         |  |
|-----|-----|---------|--|
|     | 492 | 7/15/44 |  |
|     |     |         | Lt Crawford<br>Lt Burke<br>Lt Annala<br>Lt Compton D/L<br>T/Sgt Emburg             |
|     |     |         | T/Sgt De Selms<br>S/Sgt Fortson<br>S/ Sgt Crysel<br>S/Sgt Kolbe<br>S/Sgt Faut      |
| 740 | 270 | 7/15/44 |  |
|     |     |         | Lt Millar<br>Lt Kolberg<br>Lt Wilson<br>Lt Jaffe<br>Sgt Brady                      |
|     |     |         | S/Sgt Bonds<br>Sgt Reig<br>Sgt Wiermaa<br>Sgt Roads<br>S/Sgt Adams                 |
| 740 | 208 | 7/15/44 |  |
|     |     |         | Lt Riley<br>Lt Meeker<br>Lt Ames<br>Lt Campbell<br>T/Sgt Dunn                      |
|     |     |         | T/Sgt Lewis<br>S/Sgt Earle<br>S/Sgt Harper<br>S/Sgt Martin<br>S/Sgt Macormic       |
| 740 | 862 | 7/15/44 |  |
|     |     |         | Lt Pendleton<br>Lt Hall<br>Lt Pramik<br>Lt Katz<br>T/Sgt Keen                      |
|     |     |         | S/ Sgt Counts<br>S/Sgt Goble<br>S/Sgt Groome<br>S/Sgt Kaplanek<br>Maj Kuhns        |
| 740 | 994 | 7/15/44 | X  |
|     |     |         | Lt Craven  |
|     |     |         | Capt Griffin<br>Lt Collette  |
|     |     |         | Lt Ward J.N.<br>S/Sgt Bosau  |
| 740 | 239 | 7/15/44 |  |
|     |     |         | Lt Preston<br>Lt Cupka<br>Lt Bright<br>Lt Mason<br>T/Sgt McClure                   |
|     |     |         | T/Sgt Lutes<br>S/Sgt Peterman<br>S/Sgt Forbes<br>S/Sgt Fullbright<br>S/Sgt Guntley |

|        |     |         |   |   |
|--------|-----|---------|---|---|
| 740    | 198 | 7/15/44 | Lt Laffey<br>Lt Jenkins C.W.<br>P/O Jordan<br>Lt Benson<br>S/Sgt Lines          | S/Sgt Clements<br>Sgt Bond<br>Sgt Hinrichs<br>Sgt Young<br>Sgt Wilson           |
| 740    | 400 | 7/15/44 | Lt Jenkins R.S.<br>Lt Colby<br>Lt Soble<br>Lt Loaring-Clark<br>S/Sgt Holdsworth | T/Sgt Jepsen<br>S/Sgt Taylor<br>Sgt LeCuyer<br>Sgt Eaton<br>Sgt Ferenez         |
| 740    | 741 | 7/15/44 | Capt Fisher<br>Lt Fabian<br>Lt Abramowitz<br>Lt Clowery<br>T/Sgt King           | T/Sgt Rundle<br>S/Sgt Kucharik<br>S/Sgt Schmaus<br>Sgt Church<br>S/Sgt Anderson |
| 23 740 | 234 | 7/15/44 | Lt Kiernan<br>Lt Giles<br>Lt Furbish<br>Lt Hastings<br>T/Sgt Ball N.            | T/Sgt Ball R.M.<br>S/Sgt Fowler<br>S/Sgt Pozek<br>S/Sgt Fitch<br>S/Sgt Brazil   |
| 740    | 264 | 7/15/44 | Lt Russell<br>Lt Reynolds<br>Lt Golden<br>Lt Nelson<br>T/Sgt Rhodes             | S/Sgt Eyster<br>Sgt Ciulla<br>S/Sgt Brutvan<br>Sgt Bordner<br>Sgt Crooks        |
| 740    | 351 | 7/15/44 | Lt Johnson R.W.<br>Lt Ennis<br>Lt Rice<br>S/Sgt Galvin                          | T/Sgt Louthan<br>Sgt Bevil<br>S/Sgt Yaus<br>S/Sgt Brown<br>S/Sgt Carlson        |
|        |     | NG      |   | S/Sgt Babcock   |

741ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF  
 4TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF  
 A.P.O. No. 520 U. S. Army

15 (DATE)

L O A D I N G L I S T

A/C NUMBER 477 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                |              |                 |
|------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Nixon    | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Lelesane ✓ |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Bailey   | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Delezier ✓ |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Gris     | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Beauvais ✓ |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ T/O. Keegan  | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Curtis ✓   |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Cornell | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Markeski ✓ |

A/C NUMBER 475 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                  |              |                  |
|------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Gates      | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Luster ✓    |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Geugot     | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Maxwell ✓   |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Brniak     | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Wienstien ✓ |
| BOMBARDIER |                  | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Miller ✓    |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Resterino | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Melle ✓     |

A/C NUMBER 266 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |               |              |                  |
|------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Teel    | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Raca ✓      |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Strot   | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Dawnes ✓    |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Leigh   | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Fisher ✓    |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Hansen  | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Macintosh ✓ |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Fisher | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Sassi ✓     |
|            |               | NOSE         | Sgt. Turner ✓    |

A/C NUMBER 359 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                   |              |                |
|------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Baker       | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Swinney ✓ |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Kelleher    | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Aabye ✓   |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Winkelherst | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Allen ✓   |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Matrangos   | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Bopp ✓    |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Kelly      | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Applin ✓  |

A/C NUMBER 397 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                |              |                  |
|------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Disbrow  | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Daley ✓     |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Hansgard | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Schneider ✓ |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Fishbein | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Millett ✓   |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Walsh    | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Lafazia ✓   |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Hunt    | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Miller ✓    |

A/C NUMBER 764 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |               |              |                  |
|------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Bowers  | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Norfield ✓  |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Wade    | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Demosh ✓    |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Moore   | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Joser ✓     |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Bailen  | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Finks ✓     |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Gamble | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Pendleton ✓ |

741ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF  
 4TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF  
 A.P.O. No. 520 U. S. Army

15 July  
 (DATE)

L O A D I N G L I S T

A/C NUMBER 166 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |               |              |                   |
|------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Lackner | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Buffington ✓ |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Cole    | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Conroy ✓     |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Bassem  | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Vincent ✓    |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Seott   | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Dixon ✓      |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Bauer  | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Strickland ✓ |

A/C NUMBER 499 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                    |              |                   |
|------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Higginbotham | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Geble ✓      |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Karke        | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Shaffer ✓    |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. White        | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Vestal ✓     |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Kujawa       | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Otto ✓       |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. McMullen    | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Chapeotian ✓ |

A/C NUMBER 328 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                 |              |                |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| PILOT      | ✓ Lt. Wendt     | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Fell ✓    |
| CO-PILOT   | ✓ Lt. Grosser   | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Emmons ✓  |
| NAVIGATOR  | ✓ Lt. Flynn     | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Herman ✓  |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ Lt. Flechsig  | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Hamel ✓   |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Phillips | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Walczak ✓ |

A/C NUMBER 756 DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

|            |                       |              |                   |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| PILOT      | <del>Sgt. Cecil</del> | TOP TUR GNR  | Sgt. Hudson ✓     |
| CO-PILOT   |                       | WAIST RIGHT  | Sgt. Libbey ✓     |
| NAVIGATOR  |                       | WAIST LEFT   | Sgt. Boasi ✓      |
| BOMBARDIER |                       | BALL TUR GNR | Sgt. Moran ✓      |
| RADIO      | ✓ Sgt. Swales         | TAIL TUR GNR | Sgt. Kennington ✓ |

A/C NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

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

A/C NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ DESTINATION \_\_\_\_\_ T/O \_\_\_\_\_

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

742ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
 APO# 520 US ARMY

15 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Crews Completing Mission on 15 July 1944.

TO : ALL CONCERNED.

|    | <u>SHIP # 887</u> | <u>SHIP # 989</u> | <u>SHIP # 494</u> | <u>SHIP #240</u> | <u>SHIP #325</u> |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| P  | MAJ AMBROSEN      | LT STENGL         | LT PARISH         | LT WATSON        | LT BUSH          |
| CP | LT GOSLINE        | LT BRIMAGE        | LT WATT           | LT KIESELBACK    | LT BROWN, W.     |
| N  | CAPT TYKALLA      | LT SPIER          | LT BRINLEY        | LT WORSTER       | LT KIEFFER       |
| B  | CAPT STRODE       | LT BASLER         | LT SEEFLUTH       | LT ROOT          | LT DALE          |
|    | STINSON           | MORISS, J.        | BALKOVEC          | AMBROSINI        | FRANK            |
|    | COWAN             | SCHROYER          | MASON             | SCHLAVO          | EDDINGFIELD      |
|    | BLANCO            | CRAMER            | LINN              | TUTHILL          | KAUSTENS         |
|    | PALOMBO           | HOUSLEY           | VESTAL            | RUSSELL          | MORRIS, H.       |
|    | EGLINTON          | GREY              | HARNISH           | HILL             | VOCHATZER        |
|    | GREEN             | MARSHALL          | BERTRAM           | STEVENSON        | KOSINSKI         |
|    | BARALT (RV)       |                   |                   |                  |                  |

|    | <u>SHIP # 360</u> | <u>SHIP # 355</u> | <u>SHIP #938</u> | <u>SHIP #250</u> | <u>SHIP #993</u> |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| P  | LT KELL           | LT CRUM           | LT MENDENHALL    | LT SWANNER       | LT RIDDEL        |
| CP | LT COWDEN         | F/O MORRIS        | LT FLEMING       | LT NALER         | LT DUNEKACK      |
| N  | LT PICKERILL      | LT RUBINS         | LT TAYLOR        | F/O DONELAN      | LT BRIDGMAN      |
| B  | LT LEACH          | LT WACHS          |                  | LT DRUMMOND      | LT WEIGER        |
|    | AGNEW             | RUMBAUGH          | BAKOS            | ROSA             | CALVANESE        |
|    | NOTE              | CUNNINGHAM        | BOUCHER          | BEHN             | SEAMAN           |
|    | NOVAK             | OLSZEWSKI         | WASHBURN         | HOEY             | COLLINS          |
|    | OLEYASH           | MUNGER            | O'NEILL          | MURRAY           | BINGHAM          |
|    | ULSH              | NELSON            | BODMAN           | THEODORE         | LASSER           |
|    | MEDEL             | JOHNS             | MATHESON         | LITTLE           | GUIDROZ          |

TARGET \_\_\_\_\_

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

RICHARD A. GOSLINE  
 Captain, Air Corps  
 Operations Officer



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

15 July 1944.

MISSION NO. 78

COMBAT LOADING LIST

|    |                                |      |                           |       |                           |
|----|--------------------------------|------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------|
|    | <u>SHIP #267 (1-1-3)</u>       |      | <u>SHIP #330 (1-1-4)</u>  |       | <u>SHIP #279 (1-1-5)</u>  |
| P  | HANEY, R.J.                    | LT.  | COOK, R.L.                | CAPT. | LOFFER, B.                |
| CP | CARPENTER, R.J.                | LT.  | SIEGEL, S.W.              | LT.   | WOLTER, R.T.              |
| N  |                                |      | (V.O) BAILY, J.W.         | LT.   | FERRIS, R.P.              |
| B  | PARTON, H.E.                   | LT.  | RANDALL, F.B.             | LT.   | DEFFENBAUGH, G.F.         |
| E  | THOMAS, R.B.                   | SGT. | WELLS, J.L.               | SGT.  | BEMIS, S.A.               |
| R  | HULSEY, P.W.                   | SGT. | BORDWELL, K.F.            | SGT.  | MURPHY, M.J.              |
| AE | WILLIAMS, F.M.                 | SGT. | PEETERS, D.S.             | SGT.  | ELSEN, P.R.               |
| AR | HOUSSELL, F.W.                 | SGT. | RUSSELL, W.M.             | SGT.  | RILEY, P.G.               |
| AG | KUHN, F.C.                     | SGT. | BOSTER, R.R.              | SGT.  | HICKE, R.A.               |
| AG | QUEBEDO, B.P.                  | SGT. | HERBERT, A.G.             | SGT.  | CONNELLY, J.W.            |
|    |                                |      |                           |       |                           |
|    | <u>SHIP #952 (1-1-6)</u>       |      | <u>SHIP #161 (1-1-7)</u>  |       | <u>SHIP #312 (1-1-8)</u>  |
| P  | VANDERGRIFT, J.D.              | LT.  | PRATHER, J.F.             | LT.   | HALL, W.H.                |
| CP | RAWLS, J.W.                    | LT.  | BOWLES, F.M.              | LT.   | RIDGLEY, D.W.             |
| N  | WALKER, G.T.                   | LT.  |                           |       | FELZER, SOL               |
| B  | <del>WALKER, R.L.</del> WOOLFE | LT.  | SLAUGHTER, W.K.           | LT.   | HINES, P.J.               |
| E  | WILSON, C.W.                   | SGT. | PRICE, D.H.               | SGT.  | CICHON, J.A.              |
| R  | DOMANSKI, J.J.                 | SGT. | McKENZIE, D.A.            | SGT.  | CHOATE, J.V.              |
| AE | HILL, W.C.                     | SGT. | OGDEN, C.A.               | SGT.  | CHAMPNEY, G.F.            |
| AR | GUNNERSON, R.A.                | SGT. | GARCIA, E.N.              | SGT.  | SCHRIM, A.                |
| AG | GRYSZCZYNSKI, F.J.             | SGT. | PLOOR, N.A.               | SGT.  | GALLOWAY, W.D.            |
| AG | TURNER, J.G.                   | SGT. | SCHMIEDESKAMP, H.J.       | SGT.  | DISRUDE, W.               |
| F  | OGG, D.E.                      | SGT. |                           |       |                           |
|    |                                |      |                           |       |                           |
|    | <u>SHIP #232 (1-1-9)</u>       |      | <u>SHIP #120 (1-1-10)</u> |       | <u>SHIP #395 (1-1-11)</u> |
| P  | HENSKY, E.J.                   | LT.  | SMITH, J.D.               | CAPT. | POTUCEK, F.D.             |
| CP | GULBRANSON, R.A.               | LT.  | ARMSTRONG, H.T.           | LT.   | BUCHHOLZ, C.F.            |
| N  | KOSHEWA, P.A.                  | LT.  |                           |       |                           |
| B  | VOCIAL, W.O.                   | LT.  | SCHERRER, T.N.            | LT.   | HAWKINS, J.W.             |
| E  | COX, R.F.                      | SGT. | THUMA, J.H.               | SGT.  | GRAY, A.H.                |
| R  | TAAFFE, J.M.                   | SGT. | HUSSEY, H.F.              | SGT.  | KALFCK, C.F.              |
| AE | BAUGHAM, C.E.                  | SGT. | MANUEL, J.E.              | SGT.  | BROWN, T.M.               |
| AR | FELKER, R.M.                   | SGT. | CALDWELL, C.S.            | SGT.  | GREEN, W.P.               |
| AG | FOLK, C.W.                     | SGT. | McDONOUGH, F.W.           | SGT.  | ANDREWS, J.C.             |
| AG | KORNECHUKM, J.C.               | SGT. | WARE, C.H.                | SGT.  | RUDOLPH, J.R.             |