

2/Lt Donald J. Rhodes: At the time there were several enemy fighters around and I saw West's crew shoot down three enemy fighters. We passed them trying to catch the formation, and he disappeared behind our right wing. Thomas W. Qualman, navigator: "We were shot down about noon on our way headed north toward Germany." From a Czech woman, "One plane fell in Troubkach in Prerova; there six are buried": Deibert, Doe, Yesia, Mergo, Gaul. The other one fell in Lesne in Vel Mezirici.

42-28913

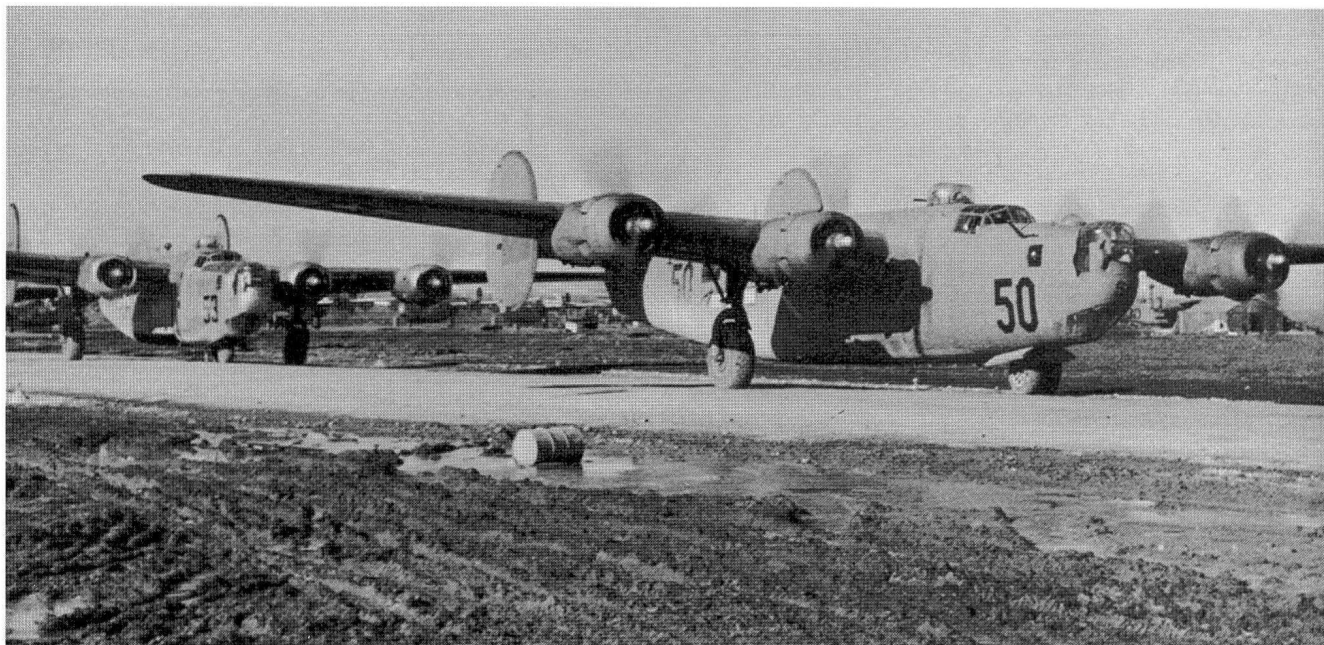
B-24H 461st, 767th Sq #67 Pilot, Robert A. Glavan, San Antonio, TX. Single Last sighted 1200, Muglitz 49-47'N 16-56'E Crash landed-Rosszyne, Hungary #67 flying in #2 position, lead flight Navigator, 2Lt Frederick C. Smith, "We were ten minutes, 20 miles south of Odertal when fighters hit us." S/Sgt Robert F. Miller (tail gunner-lead ship in formation), "67 took a hit in the #3 engine from an FW-190. #3 engine burst into flames, bomber pulled off and dropped away. Sgt Piccoli though wounded smothered fire in tail section with his body. Entire crew returned to States.

42-51324

B-24J, 461st, 764th Sq. 2Lt Kenneth B. Smith Commanding 1st mission Last sighted: 50 10'N 17 00'E approx Capt Marion C. Mixson leading A flight first attack unit reports, Lt. Smith radioed at approx 1130-1145AM turbo out on number two engine, and one rough engine. (Number three?) Low on fuel. (Naturally, Smith flying number seven position-tail end charlie) Bombardier Clark C. Barritt says fighter attack at 11:40AM. Bomber # 12 was 5 o'clock low from his plane, under attack by 3 FW-190s. Pilot 2Lt James G. Taylor flying number five position first attack unit A flight reports he was one hour from target when Smith radioed his mechanical failures. Number two engine on fire, number three quit. Ball, tail turrets out of service, with loss of number three-no hydraulic power-Trumpy's top turret useless. A/C down Omsenie, CZ 1145AM.

Glossary of Aeronautical Terms

- Airfoil** - Sword used for dueling in flight.
- Airstrip** - In-flight performance by exotic flight attendants.
- Cockpit** - Area where chicken pilots are kept.
- Dive** - Pilot's lounge.
- Downwind Leg** - When a girl is standing sideways to wind, skirt will be lower on this leg.
- Elevator** - Device for raising runway thus preventing pilot from dropping in.
- Final Approach** - Last pass pilot makes at girl before giving up.
- Flaps** - Birds do it, but not recommended for fixed-wing aircraft.
- Gross Weight** - 350 pound pilot.
- Nose Wheel** - Device sometimes bent by pilot.
- Pilot's Nose** - Usually bent just after nose wheel.
- Propeller** - Fan that keeps pilot cool. Turn it off and watch him sweat.
- RPM** - Initials of large corporation that builds tachs.
- Piper Cherokee** - Flying Indian musician.
- Runway** - Place where flight attendants start the airstrip.
- Skyjack** - Device for changing tire in flight.
- Slip** - Apparel worn by some pilots.
- Stall** - Place where plane is kept.
- Supercharger** - Pilot with lots of credit cards.



The 461st Bomb Group lines up on the taxiway prior to take off for a combat mission.