

Information :

The 92nd BG USAAF had the tail code of a "Triangle B". (a large white triangle with a big B in it on the tail fin)

The 92nd BG USAAF arrived at RAF Bovingdon in August 1942 from Sarasota AAF Florida. The 92nd flew two combat missions a few diversionaries and then was assigned the role of a B-17 Flying Fortress Combat Crew Replacement Unit (CCRU) until transferred to RAF Alconbury in January 1943.

The 92nd lost 2 B17 Aircraft & crews and 11 other casualties on Operations

September 6 : Operation against Meaulte, Fr Avion Potez a/c plant 1 B-17 (19026) **from 327th Squadron** lost - Last seen approaching English coast on return but apparently left formation with 5 enemy aircraft in pursuit. all crew killed

2 Lt. Leigh E. Stewart
2 Lt. Robert I. Benedict
2 Lt. Samuel J. Russell
2 Lt. Frank J. Buck
Sgt. Elmer P. Vollrath
Sgt. Cecil R. Kendrick
PFC William J. Angliss
Sgt. D.K. Smith
Sgt. Lemoyne C. Early

4 other casualties from the 327th Squadron lost in other aircraft.

Cpl. John E. Bungard
Cpl. Hubert W. Crowell
Sgt. Robert C. Smith
1 Lt. John F. Segrest

October 9 : Operation against Lille, St. Omer, Fr -Compagnie de Fives steel works, Ateliers D'Hellemes locomotive, freight car factory (Lille) aviation facility/air base--target of last resort (St. Omer); **327th Squadron** lost 1 B-17E (19018) Last observed in flames over Holque, five miles north of St. Omer all crew killed.

1 Lt. Francis H. Chorak
2 Lt. Joseph J. Fracchia
2 Lt. Grady W. Roper
2 Lt. Charles G. "Kolly" Kolodzinski
S/Sgt. Paul R. Gordon
S/Sgt. John J. Dolan
M/Sgt. James E. Lane
S/Sgt. Donald E. Buckland
S/Sgt. Malcolm Culpepper

7 other casualties from the 407th killed in other aircraft.

Lt. Col. Stuart M. Porter
Cpl. J. G. Cottros
Sgt. Paul R. Taylor
Laurence E. Dennis
Cpl. F. E. Hurn
Sgt. G. E. Williams
Oscar R. Billings

Also Cpl. Archie Cothren from the 407th was badly wounded and was bailed out of aircraft over occupied territory.

Mid air crash of B17 (19051 Lt. Eugene M. Wiley - pilot) and B17 (19021 Lt. James Dempsey, Jr. - pilot) Both 407th Squadron while at 24,000 feet above coast of France and heading east over English Channel apparently caused by sun through frost on windows

Dempsey, in number two position, flew up and into Wiley, in number three position. Dempsey peeled off, went straight down, but made it back to base safely had vertical stabilizer almost completely cut off horizontal stabilizers partially wrecked rear gunner's hatch, part of fuselage damaged

Wiley's a/c had huge hole in fuselage # 3, 4 engines vibrating badly wing dripping gasoline props bent nose hatch torn off BT broken Wiley tried to release bombs, but they stuck finally released them w/emergency release made bee-line for English coast, landing at Detling

anyway, probably bored you to tears already

cheers for now

Chris

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Christopher J Huff M.A.