

Combat Losses Collected and Compiled

By John Beitling

Historian John Beitling of Kansas City, Missouri has been tracing the serial numbers and names of all of the B-24s built during the war. Much of the information appearing in this list was gleaned from microfilmed "Missing Air Crew Records." In a recent conversation with John Beitling, he told me that in the 484th Bomb Group over 184 B-24s were assigned.. The 484th Bomb Group originally deployed in Italy with about 65 B-24s. The figure of 184 indicates that losses of aircraft approximated two thirds of the total or about 121 B-24s. It is assumed the same loss ratio would apply to the 461st Bomb Group. The list shown here exhibits those lost to combat, fuel starvation, mechanical failures and accidents for both the 461st and 484th Bomb Groups. Readers who might have more information on aircraft losses, especially crashes at the airfield at Torretta and Southern Italy are urged to contact the editor.

Abbreviations

ABD -Abandoned	FLK -Flak	TRF -Transferred	GRE -Greece
BD -Battle Damage	FTR -Fighters	WEA -Weather	HUN -Hungary
C/L -Crash Landed	HBB -Hit By Bombs	ZI -Zone of Interior	IT -Italy
CON -Condemned	HBD -Hit By Debris	AD -Adriatic Sea	MED -Mediterranean Sea
CR -Crashed	INT- Interned	AUS -Austria	POL -Poland
CTO -Crashed-Take-Cff	MAC -Mid Air Collision	BEL -Belgium	RUM -Rumania
DIT -Ditched	MF -Mechanical Failure	BUL -Bulgaria	RUS -Russia
DOG -Destroyed On Ground	OOF -Out of Fuel	CHK-Czechoslovakia	SWI -Switzerland
ENR -Enroute	RAM -Rammed By EA	FR -France	TUR -Turkey
EXC -Excess	SAL -Salvaged	GER -Germany	YUG -Yugoslavia

Serial	Sqld No	Date	Shlp Name	Disposition	Pilot
41-29531	827	5/10/44		FLK-CR near Wiener-Neustadt	Lt. Samuel J. Howes Jr.
42-78212	764	5/10/44		FTR-CR near Appetlon	Lt. William C. Wallace
42-78228	765	5/22/44		MF -DIT/MED	Lt. James T. Bennett
42-78267	767	5/24/44		MF -CR near Grafendorf	Lt. William E. Diggs
42-52399	767	5/27/44		FLK-CR near Orange	
42-52677	827	5/29/44	Hustlin' Hussy	FLK-CR near Graz	Maj. Donald C. Haldeman
41-28780	824	5/29/44		FLK-CR near Seenbenstein	Lt. Col. William M. Hendrix
42-94734	825	5/31/44	Sleepy Time Gal	FLK-CR near Ploesti	Lt. Kenneth A. Hanson
41-28685	765	24 5/31/44	Leading Lady	FLK-CR on Korcula Island	Lt. Samuel N. Norris
42-52773	825	5/31/44		FLK-DIT/MED	Lt. Jack A. Crumbliss
42-78260	767	6/11/44		FLK-CR near Vratza	Lt. Robert L. Heald
42-78298	827	6/11/44		FTR-CR near Giurgu	Lt. Edward A. Silven
42-52684	826	54 6/11/44		FTR-CR near Petroshani	Lt. Lawrence Z. Rose
42-52671	826	6/11/44		FTR-CR near Rhssso	Lt. Clarence B. Odle
42-52679	825	6/13/44		FTR-CR near Munich	Lt. Robert W. Willen
42-52602	825	6/13/44	Stew Bum	FTR-CR near Natters	Capt. Robert C. Quinlan