

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 520 U.S. Army

Intelligence Narrative No. 71, Day Operation, 7 September 1943.

Forty-one B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group took off this morning to bomb the railroad bridge just south of Sapri, Italy. They were accompanied by the 17th and 319th Bombardment Groups, all of which flew unescorted. Five B-26's returned early. The target was bombed successfully. One B-26 was lost over the target, but all of the crew are believed to have parachuted to safety. Six B-26's left the formation on return from the target and headed toward Sicily. Twenty-nine B-26's returned safely to this base on schedule; 4 B-26's returned late having landed at Sicily for fuel.

Routes and Altitudes: To target, from 3000', 54° T for 220 statute miles to Ustica Island, 150 statute miles to IP, Infreschi Point, climbing gradually to 9500; bomb run 65° T for 13 statute miles (1st 3 flights at 9200 to 9000); 2nd 3 flights at 8700); breakaway right.

From target, curve right to coast; 246° T for 90 statute miles; 234° T for 300 miles to this base, dropping gradually to 3000'.

Bombs: 246 x 500-lb. demolition bombs, 1/10, .025 second delay fuse, carried by 41 B-26's.

30 x 500-lb. demolition bombs returned to this base by 5 B-26's that returned early.

6 x 500-lb. demolition bombs salvoed in water just prior to bombing by 1 B-26 that was subsequently lost over the target.

210 x 500-lb. demolition bombs dropped over the target area.

Chronology: Time off between 0832 and 0853; rendezvous with 17th and 319th Groups 0910; target 1110; down at this base between 1300 and 1317.

Four B-26's returned at 1527, 1545, 1650, and 1745 respectively. One plane and crew are safe at Castel Vetrano. One B-26 with faulty left prop governor, was left at Termini East. The crew returned to this base in the B-26 which landed at 1745.

Results: The first cluster of bombs to land covered south end of the tunnel (south of the target), and the road short of the tunnel on the bomb run.

The second cluster of bombs fell on the south end of the target scoring direct hits on the south end of the bridge.

The last half of the formation completely bracketed the target bridge with bomb bursts.

A few bombs landed over the hills beyond the target.

Flak: Slight to moderate very accurate heavy flak was encountered in the target area.

Slight inaccurate heavy flak was encountered over Lauria on the breakaway from the target.

Heavy gun positions were reported as follows: (Ref: T.C. 3-123-NA):

- 1) 3 guns at G/7-8.
- 2) 1 gun at E/16.
- 3) 1 gun at I/19.
- 4) 1 gun on the knoll south of the target at G-M/21-22.
- 5) 4 guns forming a square at E-F/26.
- 6) 1 Battery north of the mouth of the river at L/12.
- 7) 2 guns (on the breakaway) at 40° 03' N, 15° 42' E.

Enemy Aircraft: None encountered. One unidentified A/C flew parallel to our formation at considerable distance for 8/10 minutes before landfall at Italian coast. Sighted at 1059 from 9800.

2) Two 3-engined transports were seen in the middle of the field, one S/E A/C in the southeast corner at Praia a Mare, at 1114 from 8700.

Enemy Shipping: 1) 4 MTB's were sighted midway between Scaric and Sapri, heading southwest at high speed, at 1108 from 10000.

2) 2 F-boats were anchored in the cove at Sapri at E/16 and I/14. Sightings at 1110 from 9500.

General Observations:

1) Dust and smoke was seen coming from Lauria at 1111 from 9000.

2) Smoke was seen from a point about 4 miles up the Lao River at 1114 from 9000.

3) At 1114 from 9000, letters on the beach spelling "Praia a Mare," surrounded on three sides by concentrations of tents, were seen.

4) 40/50 M/T were observed parked on the road in the vicinity of Rivallo at 1111 from 9000.

5) 30/40 railroad cars were observed in the M/Y at Praia a Mare and approximately 20 between the tunnel and the bridge north of town, at 1111 from 9000.

Our losses: 1 B-26 salvaged bombs in water just prior to the target and turned left as the formation broke to the right. Landing gear was lowered, and 6 parachutes were seen to open. The B-26 then spun to the ground and crashed in flames.

6 B-26's were damaged slightly by flak.

Weather: En route hazy with patches of cumulus at 4000; target CAVU, clouds building up inland from the coast of Italy; return as en route.

Casualties: The crew shot down over the target was:

Pilot, 1st Lt. Morris M. Thompson, O-728131.
Copilot, 2nd Lt. Irwin B. Stuhr, O-668157.
Bomb. Nav. S/Sgt. William H. Symons, 16068055.
Eng. Gunr. S/Sgt. Paul H. Burgess, 15070928.
Radio Gunr. Frank J. G. Gallagher, 33169482.
Aerial Gunr. Gene V. Gunning, 19053354.

Comments: The B-26 reported as missing on 6 September 1943, has returned to

~~SECRET~~
(E. is British Most Secret)

base, having landed at Sicily due to mechanical difficulties.

JAMES H. MACIA, JR.
Captain, Air Corps,
Group Intelligence Officer.

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
NATOUA APO 520

7 Sept 1943

SUBJECT: Photos.

TO : Commanding General, 42 (M) Bomb Wing (US), APO 520.

1. The following is the location of the cameras of the formation as over the target (Sapri, Italy), of this Group, this date.

	T	100
	T	(T)-K-17
	T	
	T	T
	036	T
K-20-	(T)	T
	T	
	T	T
	T	
	T	T
	T	
	T	T
	842	T 851
K-17-	(T)	(T)-K-20
	T	
	T	T
	T	
	T	T
	T	
	T	T
	T	088
	T	(T)-K-17
	027	T
K-20-	(T)	T

2. The cameras in ship's 027, 036 and 851 did not take any pictures.

WILLIAM COOK
1st Lt., Air Corps
Ass't. Gp S-2 Officer

MISSION NO. 87

LIGHT COMMANDER: LT. COL. GRE Y
DEPUTY LIGHT COMMANDER: LT. COL. STINT.

7 Sept 1943

DEPUTY LIGHT COMMANDER: LT. COL. STINT.

"A"		"B"		"C"		"D"	
<u>HOY</u>	<u>KIRLEY</u>	<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>HARRIS</u>	<u>FEAGIN</u>	<u>SWIGART</u>
070	595	030	960	959	147	842	023
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"B"		"C"		"D"			
<u>CROTTY</u>	<u>MONTISINGER</u>	<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>HARRIS</u>	<u>FEAGIN</u>	<u>SWIGART</u>
036	176	030	960	959	147	842	023
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<u>BURNS</u>	<u>BOOTH</u>	<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>HARRIS</u>	<u>FEAGIN</u>	<u>SWIGART</u>
013	933	030	960	959	147	842	023
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<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>HARRIS</u>	<u>FEAGIN</u>	<u>SWIGART</u>
030	960	030	960	959	147	842	023
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<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>HARRIS</u>	<u>FEAGIN</u>	<u>SWIGART</u>
030	960	030	960	959	147	842	023
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<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</u>	<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>HARRIS</u>	<u>FEAGIN</u>	<u>SWIGART</u>
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030	960	030	960	959	147	842	023
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<u>WEGENER</u>	<u>MORRAS</</u>						

AIR SPARKS

<u>RUCKER</u>	<u>WORTHINGTON</u>	<u>VALIS</u>	<u>STELL</u>
900	178	305	896

GROUND SPARES

<u>COULTER</u>	<u>BIGELOW</u>
904	027

RADIO

CHANNEL "B"
BOMBER CALL: "PURTREE"
FIGHTER CALL:

<u>Color</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Letter Challenge</u>	<u>Letter Reply</u>	<u>Letter Color</u>
0200-0800	GG	N	W	RED
0800-1400	RR	H	L	GREEN
1400-2000	RF	Q	V	RED
2000-2400	RY	S	Z	WHITE

CREW AND PASSENGER LIST PARTICIPATING IN RAID ON SAPRI RAILROAD BRIDGE, ITALY
7 September 1943

NAMES OF CREW MEMBERS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
KIRLEY, Pilot, Captain	441st	595	C
Penka, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0832	
Ascianzo, Bomb, 1st Lt.		Landed at: 1304	
Ozuk, Nav, Captain		Lt. Col. Gregory flew as Flight Commander	
Delaware, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Langman, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Stipe, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Karlowitz, Pilot, Captain	441st	100	B
Lamoe, Co-pilot, F/O		Took off: 0832/30	
Allen, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt.		Landed at: 1304+	
Smith Smith, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		Sgt. Coney flew as photographer	
Cofiell, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Kary, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Hoy, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	070	B
Condit, Co-pilot, F/O		Took off: 0833	
Moore, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed at: 1304+	
Ianotta, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.			
Juve, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Brown, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Horras, Pilot, Captain	441st	960	C
Belcher, Co-pilot, Major		Took off: 0833/30	
McFarland, Bomb, 2nd Lt.		Landed at: 1305	
McGeever, Nav, 2nd Lt.	Lt. Col.	Stintzi. flew as Deputy Flight Commander	
Fendrich, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
DeMarco, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Derau, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Hayward, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	031	B
Oltman, Co-pilot, F/O		Took off: 0838	
Temple, Bomb Nav, T/Sgt.		Landed at: 1305+	
Pope, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Appleton, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Boals, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Wegenger, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	030	C
Dillon, Co-pilot, F/O		Took off: 0834/30	
Eastburn, Bomb, T/Sgt.		Landed at: 1306	
Macia, Nav, Captain			
Levi, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Archer, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
McFarland, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Montsinger, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	176	C
Milton, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0835	
Tapp, Bomb, 1st Lt.		Landed at: 1306+	
Konvalinka, Nav, 2nd Lt.			
Tackmann, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Tomlinson, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Ellison, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			

NAME OF CREW MEMBERS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Steinberg, Pilot, 1st Lt. Hunsburger, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Berdaus, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. O'Keefe, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Largent, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Dickinson, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	441st	037 Took off: 0835/30 Landed at: 1307	B
Crotty, Pilot, 1st Lt. McGlannon, Co-pilot, 1st Lt. Blackford, Bomb Nav, Sgt. Bloom, Engineer Gunner, Cpl. Rogers, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. McLaughlin, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	441st	036 Took off: 0836 Landed at: 1308	B
Booth, Pilot, Captain Green, Co-pilot, 1st Lt. Nerone, Nav, Captain Burton, Bomb, 1st Lt. Clark, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Klingeman, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Harrison, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	933 Took off: 0836/30 Landed at: 1545	C
Fair, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Steward, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Choinard, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Mikles, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Babler, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Haney, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	853 Took off: 0837 Landed at: 1308+	B
Burns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Caffey, Co-pilot, F/O Ramirez, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Smith, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Crass, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt. Snebold, Engineer Gunner, T/Sgt.	444th	013 Took off: 0837/30 Landed at: 1308+	B
Harris, Pilot, Captain Edwards, Co-pilot, 1st Lt. Brown, Bomb, 2nd Lt. Ridge, Nav, 1st Lt. Alstat, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Patton, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Vaughn, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	147 Took off: 0838 Landed at: 1309	C
Weinberg, Pilot, 1st Lt. Nagel, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Breeding, Nav Bomb, S/Sgt. Kuhne, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Brown, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Long, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	190 Took off: 0838/30 Landed at: 1650	B

NAME OF CREW MEMBERS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Towns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Hicks, Co-pilot, F/O Stephens, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt. Dicke, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. DeSantis, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Szewczyk, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	444th	959	Took off: 0839 Landed at: _____ <i>B</i>
Dieter, Pilot, Captain Nash, Co-pilot, 1st Lt. Hausner, Nav, 1st Lt. Dittmar, Bomb, 2nd Lt. Greear, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Collins, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt. Aul, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	260	Took off: 0839/30 Landed at: 1315 <i>B</i>
Urner, Pilot, 1st Lt.	444th	No take-off	882
Buckhout, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Meyer, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Ferrara, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Bells, Engineer Gunner, Spl. Hannahan, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Tucker, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	444th	861	Take off: 0840/30 Landed at: 1745 <i>B</i>
Swall, Pilot, Captain Stroud, Co-pilot, F/O Grove, Nav, Captain Swindler, Bomb, 1st Lt. Williams, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Lewis, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Mountain, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.	443rd	144	Took off: 0841 Landed at: 1311 <i>@</i>
Burns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Barker, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Mowry, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Caputo, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Wall, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Sheperd, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	443rd	851	Took off: 0841/30 Landed at: 0902 <i>B -</i>
Feagin, Pilot, F/O Smart, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Grant, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt. Noakes, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Oakes, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Gamble, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	842	Took off: 0842 Landed at: 1310 S/Sgt. Draper flew as photographer <i>B</i>
Tresch, Pilot, 1st Lt. Sheard, Co-pilot, 1st Lt. Boswell, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt. Carter, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Doolittle, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	922	Took off: 0842/30 Landed at: 1105 <i>@ -</i>

NAME OF CREW MEMBERS	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Calhoun, Pilot, 1st Lt. Space, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Key, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Chambers, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Martin, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Guizzio, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	443rd	010 Took off: 0843 Landed at: 1310	B
Swigart, Pilot, 1st Lt. Coleman, Co-pilot, F/O Cukar, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt. Lillo, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Lacerva, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. O'Connell, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	443rd	023 Took off: 0843/30 Landed at: 1311	B
Brewer, Pilot, 1st Lt. Perace, Co-pilot, F/O Clarke, Bomb, 2nd Lt. O'Keefe, Nav, Captain Bolton, Engineer Gunner, Sgt. Yost, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Lumberg, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	601 Took off: 0844 Landed at: 1312 Major Marble flew as Observer	B
Goff, Pilot, 1st Lt. Belsma, Co-pilot, Captain Dufour, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Ramirez, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Hansen, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Kerchenski, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	443rd	041 Took off: 0844/30 Landed at: 1311	B
Bracken, Pilot, 1st Lt. Saylow, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Tidwell, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt. Butler, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Johnson, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Carr, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.	443rd	328 Took off: 0845 Landed at: 1313	B
Heimroth, Pilot, Captain Smith, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Miller, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt. Mitchell, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Street, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt. Wornoff, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	179 Took off: 0845/30 Landed at: 1312/30 Major McKean flew as Observer	C
Carraher, Pilot, 1st Lt. Freeman, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Ciesielski, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Hall, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt. Schaus, Radio Gunner, Sgt. Gloeckner, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	999 Took off: 0851 Landed at: 1310/30	C

NAME OF CREW MEMBER	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Thompson, Pilot, 1st Lt.	442nd	048	B —
Stuhr, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0846/30	
Symons, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.		Landed at: Crashed over target	
Burgess, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		Lt Thompson lost	
Gallagher, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.		Lt Stuhr returned to base 015	
Gunning, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Meyer, Pilot, Captain	442nd	283	B
Ingalls, Co-pilot, 1st Lt.		Took off: 0847	
Fargo, Bomb, T/Sgt.		Landed at: 1313/30	
Rogers, Nav, Captain			
DeWitte, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Arsenault, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Long, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Himmelreich, Pilot, 1st Lt.	442nd	088	B
Shuh, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0847/30	
Andrewson, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 1317	
Garbenches, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Moore, Radio Gunner, Cpl.			
Ross, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.		T/Sgt. Waltman flew as photographer	
Limberg, Pilot, 1st Lt.	442nd	958	B
James, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0853	
Stakes, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 1043	
Cerchiaro, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Kennedy, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Legutko, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Ross, Pilot, Captain	442nd	983	C
DeFan, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0848/30	
Thranhardt, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt.		Landed at: 1015	
Gandy, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.		Lt. Polk flew as Observer Observer	
Hageman, Radio Gunner, Sgt.			
Bucaman, Aerial Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Church, Pilot, 1st Lt.	442nd	017	B
Dryer, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0849	
Hermann, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed at: 7521	
Madrid, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Swarta, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Levesque, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Baird, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	442nd	074	B
Byram, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0849/30	
Walker, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.		Landed at: 1300	
Gomez, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Trupka, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Baronet, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			

NAME OF CREW	SQUADRON	PLANE NO.	
Coulter, Pilot, 1st Lt.	444th	904	C
Conley, Co-pilot, F/O			
Peterson, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.			
Connelly, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Blossman, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Reynolds, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Worthington, Pilot, 1st Lt.	444th	178	C
Kral, Co-pilot, F/O			
Robinson, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.			
Morne, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Sewell, Radio Gunner, T/Sgt.			
Teeter, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Valls, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	305	B
Levine, Co-pilot, 1st Lt.			
Vialle, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.			
Chilton, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Corona, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Herbert, Aerial Gunner, Sgt.			
Stell, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	896	C
Wills, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.			
Fisher, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.			
Farr, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Marino, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Barker, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Rucker, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	900	C
Gilbert, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.			
Dunkel, Nav Bomb, Captain			
Bowles, Engineer Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Harpster, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Burden, Aerial Gunner, Pfc.			
Bigelow, Pilot, 1st Lt.	443rd	027	B
Turner, Co-pilot, 2nd Lt.			
Hobel, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.			
Watt, Engineer Gunner, Sgt.			
Chavez, Radio Gunner, S/Sgt.			
Schempp, Aerial Gunner, S/Sgt.			