427th Bombardment Squadron 303rd Bombardment Group (H) Molesworth, England

1942-1945

The 427th Bombardment Squadron was originally the 38th Reconnaissance Squadron. They were sailing to Hawaii to join its parent, the 19th Bomb Group, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on the 7th of December 1941. The ship carrying the 38th Reconnaissance Squadron returned to the mainland and the personnel were assigned to the 427th Bomb Squadron. The 427th BS became famous with its parent, the 303rd Bombardment Group (H). Because of its initial move in the Pacific, 427th Squadron members are entitled to wear the Asia-Pacific Campaign ribbon.





Wood Carving by William F. Adams

The Squadron brought nine B-17 aircraft from the United States and arrived at Molesworth, England with the following: *S for Sugar, Susfu, Kali, Memphis Tot, Joe Btfsplk, Jerry Jinx, Bad Check* and two aircraft with no names. The Squadron Commander, Major **Charles C. Sheridan** was aboard *S for Sugar*, that went on to almost a record of 50 missions, but got shot down on her 49th. Major Sheridan was the only Squadron or Group Commander of the 303rd Bombardment Group to be lost during the entire war. He was shot down on 3 January 1943 while leading his Squadron on a mission to St. Nazaire, France in #41-24517 *Kali*. Also lost on this mission was another 427th B-17, 41-24620 *Snap! Crackle! Pop!*

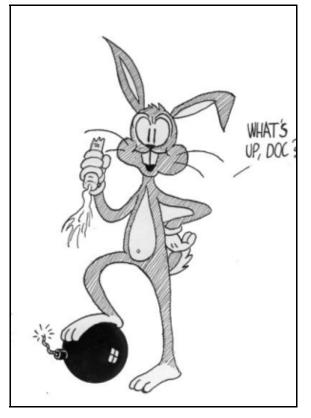
Members of the Ground Echelon had the same kinds of problems as other operating Squadrons in getting set-up and running smoothly at Molesworth. Much of their equipment and personal items were delayed in arriving, and the men were struggling with the different manner in which the British were operating.



Headquarters Sign

Upon the loss of Major Sheridan, Captain **Glenn E. Hagenbuch** was named as the Squadron's new Commanding Officer, and continued to serve in that position until he was sent on a special mission to North Africa and upon his return was transferred to VIII Bomber Command. He was replaced by Major **Edgar E. Snyder, Jr** on 13 July 1943. Word was received that Major Hagenbuch was killed in a P-40 crash while flying in England. Lt. Col. Snyder served until 1 November 1944, when he was named as

Deputy Commanding Officer of the 303rd Bombardment Group. Major **Robert W. Sheets** was appointed as the Squadron Commander upon the departure of Lt. Col. Snyder.



During the early days of the war, the Bomb Squadrons took turns "standing down" which gave the maintenance section an opportunity to catch up on the work of keeping their aircraft airworthy. All but two of its original aircraft were gone by the 32nd mission flown by the Group, with *Bad Check* and *S for Sugar* competing for honors of being the first B-17 to complete 50 missions.

Organizationally, the 427th Bombardment Squadron was similar to the other three Bombardment Squadrons. It had the normal S-1 (Personnel); S-2 (Intelligence); S-3 (Operations); and S-4 (Maintenance & Supply). Supporting sections included the Adjutant, Communications, Armament, Chemical, Ordnance and Utilities, etc.

All around the clock, the Ground Support Echelons of the Bomb Squadrons were hard pressed to ensure that their aircraft

and flight crews were ready to take off and destroy enemy targets. Some relief was possible when they saw the last of their B-17s lift off on their way to their target. But that was only temporary, as they knew that they had to get back to doing the things that would allow the Squadron to put another formation of B-17s in the air the following morning.

Everyone at Molesworth was dedicated to the success of the mission, and all personnel serving in the Ground Support Echelon set high standards to make sure that all the required tasks were performed in a timely manner.

427th Bomb Squadron Headquarters Personnel

Snyder, Edgar E. Jr.	L/Col	Hagenbuch, Glenn E.	Maj
Sheets, Robert W.	Maj	Sheridan, Charles C.	Maj
Denison, Jack	Maj	Doherty, Frank J.	Capt
Furey, Lawrence E.	Capt	Green, James R.	1/Lt
Panyan, Steven W.	1/Lt		
Bright, Clinton B.	F/Sgt	Rutiser, Jacob (nmi)	F/Sgt
Kirkpatrick, Nathan M.	T/Sgt	Parkhurst, Hugh J.	T/Sgt
Quinn, Clarence W.	T/Sgt	Reddick, Gerald W.	S/Sgt
Tanzer, Melvin M.	S/Sgt	Broadbent, John H.	Sgt
Burgess, Gail C.	Sgt	Moffett, Ralph E.	Sgt
Rose, Elvern E.	Sgt	Voinche, Edwin (nmi)	Sgt
Howard, Clarence B.	Cpl	Plunkett, William E.	Cpl

427th Bomb Squadron S-2 Section Personnel

McQuaid, Charles D.	Capt	Higgenbotham, John C.	Capt
Johnson, Claes E.	Capt	Thorson, Ellwood J.	S/Sgt
Loll, James F.	Sgt	Matson, Emil M. Jr.	Sgt
Nebelong, Ernest C.	Pfc	Norhadian, Richard	Pfc

427th Bomb Squadron Communications Section Personnel

Field, George A.	1/Lt	Mudge, Stephen H. Jr.	S/Sgt
Hastey, Jesse N.	Sgt	Le Blanc, Joseph U.	Sgt
Russell, Henry L.	Sgt	Sims, Boyd H.	Sgt
Cox, David P.	Cpl	Murray, Harry L.	Cpl
Borders, Edward J.	Pvt	Heinzeroth, Frederick W.	Pvt

427th Bomb Squadron Operations Section (S-3) Personnel

Snyder, Edgar E. Jr.	Maj	Dubell, Richard E.	Capt
Hullar, Robert J.	Capt	Scroggins, Paul E.	Capt
Nicholson, Donald A.	T/Sgt	Dye, Francis E.	Sgt
Schacht, Richard O.	Sgt	Wilson, Robert E.	Sgt

427th Bomb Squadron Maintenance & Engineering Personnel

Hargrove, Quentin W. Evans, Robert J. Burkett, William Evans, Lew M. Furman, Frank F. Hop, Harry W. Kalivoda, Jimmy L. Kuhne, Fred W. Larsen, Sidney L. Markovich, Joseph (nmi) Milliken, Thomas W. Orzechowski, Roman N. Rutiser, Jacob Warnecke, Irvin P. Allen, Warren T. Jr. Gonder, Edward A. Hirth, Louis J. Jr. Isaacson, Howard F.	Capt 1/Lt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt T/Sgt T/Sgt T/Sgt	Sjoberg, Morris B. Fischer, Ernest A. Cervenka, Willam F. Flannery, Leo A. Hewitt, Gilbert W. Jordan, Martin M. Kearns, Peter F. Jr. Lacewell, Rorex N. Loyd, Melvin L. Mickiewicz, Joseph P. Moore, Walter N. Jr. Parker, Henry C. Smith, Nathan E. Zimmerman, Robert J. Childers, Clifton M. Hilliard, Lester L. Hurst, Lou (nmi) Knowles, Thomas C.	Capt 2/Lt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt M/Sgt T/Sgt T/Sgt T/Sgt
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Ludeman, Rodney A. Stewart, James Delos Andriessen, Sibley M.	T/Sgt T/Sgt S/Sgt	Moody, Samuel E. Bever, Lloyd B.	T/Sgt S/Sgt
	C, Cg	Bovor, Eloya D.	C, Ogi

Fojt, Oldrich (nmi) Malott, Earnest E. McKay, Herbert (nmi) Pinnell, Jack B. Axton, Frank B. Charlton, Milbury C. Crangle, James C. Elkin, Samuel (nmi) Huff, Joe B. Lasingill, David I. Middleton, Howard M. O'Brien, Weldon D.	S/Sgt S/Sgt S/Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt	Klein, Monroe Muzyka, John (nmi) Padmore, Arthur M. Zetlmaier, Kenneth T. Brown, Nelson J. Coyle, Thomas E. Edmundsen, "Red" Fuller, Charles R. Kirtley, Gaylord S. Mathews, Robert F. Nale, Harry E.	S/Sgt S/Sgt S/Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt
Pawlowski, Edward J. Steele, Albert C. Jr. Tomlinson, Alfred Tucker, Robert L. Wedlund, Arnold A. Bradfield, John E. Demski, Matthew F. Funk, Alvin T. Jones, Gerald L. King, Roy D. Merrone, John J. Pilgrim, George I. Shockey, Donald L. Soule, Alton L. Wheeler, Allen W. Densmore, James A. Garlington, John L. Theiss, W. F. Voth, Lester J. Kaczmarek, Joseph A. Young, Kenneth C.	Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl	Rundus, Joseph F. Sykora, Leonard L. Treiber, Joseph E. Walters, Kermit L. Winkleman, Paul J. Brown, Arthur J. Denman, Dallas L. Hooper, Herman F. King, James H. Kurek, Joseph (nmi) Omile, Harold A. Randall, Frederick H. Shott, Austin C. Twesten, Charles W. II Lysell, Harry K. Notarmusi, Aldo Vogel, Jonah P. J. White, John M.	Sgt Sgt Sgt Sgt Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl Cpl

427th Bomb Squadron Armament/Ordnance Section Personnel

Gardner, John F.	Capt	Pugh, Delbert J.	Capt
Sjoberg, Morris B.	Capt	Hamilton, Allen R.	1/Lt
Sunseri, James J.	1/Lt		
Beggins, Michael J.	M/Sgt	Bramhall, Kenneth C.	M/Sgt
Henrie, William A.	T/Sgt	Hoeft, Gordon E.	T/Sgt
Le Suer, John H.	T/Sgt	Broshear, John H.	S/Sgt
Dingledein, George E.	S/Sgt	Friedman, Ira	S/Sgt
Galdos, Anastacio (nmi)	S/Sgt	Harder, Dean A.	S/Sgt
Hendershott, Charles H.	S/Sgt	Henry, Donavan D.(KIA)	S/Sgt
Hiibner, Okey L. (KIA)	S/Sgt	Maurino, Frank W.	S/Sgt
McGlothlin, Cecil E.	Sgt	Waldenmyer, George L.	S/Sgt
Erickson, Melvin A.	Sgt	Garrett, Frank O.	Sgt
Gunderson, Thomas (nmi)	Sgt	Lemmons, Frank (nmi)	Sgt

Leonard, Edward P.	Sgt	Lonski, Walter S.	Sgt
Openshaw, Byron J.	Sgt	Sloan, Dill B.	Sgt
Sonnenwald, Elmer (nmi)	Sgt	Spell, Jewett	Sgt
Sperindeo, Pat G.	Sgt	Stevenson, Clarence E.	Sgt
Tims, Ernest	Sgt	Toms, George B.	Sgt
Walls, Floyd (nmi)	Sgt	Wise, John W.	Sgt
Badger, Aldine	Cpl	Dawes, Richard E.	Cpl
Flinner, Melvin R.	Cpl	Getshell, Perry J.	Cpl
Griffith, Thomas R.	Cpl	Herberg, William H.	Cpl
Hopkins, John R.	Cpl	Kallstrom, Kenneth C.	Cpl
Kitson, Richard E.	Cpl	Marini, Joseph A.	Cpl
Martel, Leo O.	Cpl	Morrison, Thomas R.	Cpl
Murdock, James M.	Cpl	Overstreet, Glenn B.	Cpl
Wall, Herbert G.	Cpl	Whippo, Lawrence J.	Cpl
Whitney, Foster J.	Cpl		
Coffman, Harold W.	Pfc	Compton, Elbert L.	Pfc
Franks, Harold J.	Pfc	Hardy, Thomas G.	Pfc
Henry, Donavan D. (KIA)	Pfc	Humphrey, Edward E.	Pfc
Munson, Clifford W.	Pfc	Murphy, Daniel G.	Pfc
Myrick, James (nmi)	Pfc	Newcomb, Royce R.	Pfc
Swierczynski, Edward (nmi)	Pfc		
Amici, Thomas J.	Pvt	Bullock, Walter (nmi)	Pvt
Hogue, Thomas (nmi)	Pvt	Kiser, Elbert J.	Pvt
Mayton, Peter M.	Pvt	Salcines, Domaso (nmi)	Pvt

427th Bomb Squadron Supply Section (S-4) Personnel

Atwood, Waide (nmi)	M/Sgt	Crammer, Glenn E.	T/Sgt
Meith, Edward V.	S/Sgt	O'Neil, Fred D.	S/Sgt
Sparks, Albert E.	S/Sgt	Eversoll, Frederick L.	Sgt
Simmons, Richard W.	Sgt	Zimba, Peter P.	Sgt
Mikels, Caroll R.	Cpl	Squillaro, Dominick A.	Cpl
Beach, Russel F.	Pfc		

427th Bomb Squadron Transportation Section (S-4) Personnel

Whitaker, James A.	Capt	Hauge, Norman H.	Sgt
Johnson, David L.	Sgt	Schwartz, George E.	Sgt
La Fond, Donat E.	Cpl	Mc Intire, Joseph S.	Cpl
Schobert, M. C.	Cpl	Sofield, Lester A.	Cpl
Sorenson, Lawo D.	Cpl	Stokoe, Reginald L.	Cpl
Walpert, Clifford A.	Cpl	Wiezorek, John (nmi)	Cpl
Edwards, James E.	Pfc	Shively, Ralph T.	Pfc
Osterman, Henry J.	Pfc	Reiniere, Garner P.	Pfc
Shively, Ralph T.	Pfc	Freitag, Forrest D.	Pvt
Morse, William R.	Pvt		

427th Bomb Squadron Equipment (Supply) Section (S-4) Personnel

Bregman, Arnold	2/Lt	Butler, Harold E.	Sgt
Conaway, Edward H.	Sgt	De Neui, Henry F.	Cpl
Malyszka, Stephan	Cpl	Westfall, Albert R. Jr.	Cpl
Nesevich, John	Pfc		

427th Bomb Squadron Aircraft Refueling Section (S-4) Personnel

Carlson, Vernon E.	S/Sgt	Lugo, Benjamin V.	Sgt
Shupp, Russell P.	Cpl	Siegel, Arnold	Cpl

427th Bomb Squadron Medical Section Personnel

Lame, Louis A.	Maj	Anderson, Ralph T.	Capt
Owers, Albert	Capt	Conaghan, John E.	S/Sgt
Katusick, Nicholas	Sgt	Smith, William R.	Sgt
Derail, Joseph R.	Cpl	Lowe, Merrill L.	Cpl
Witten, Robert W.	Cpl	Yea, Kenneth D.	Cpl
Cahill, Leo C.	Pfc		

427th Bomb Squadron Utilities Section Personnel

Von Schmidt, Bert S.	Capt	Zell, Peter P.	M/Sgt
Adams, Melvin R.	S/Sgt	Estes, Herbert L.	S/Sgt
Marioni, Angelo H.	S/Sgt	Stover, Herman C.	Pvt

The number of personnel assigned to the 427th increased as the squadron received more crews and aircraft. Starting out with only eight crews and aircraft, the squadron grew until there were over 30 B-17s and crews assigned at one time. Of course, that necessitated an increase in the number of ground support personnel to support this increased workload.

All of the men listed above, as well as others listed in our *Index of Support Personnel*, were responsible for everything that happened in the 427th Bombardment Squadron in carrying out their mission of getting their flying crews in the air. They housed them, fed them, transported them, advised them, provided them with guns and bombs and flyable aircraft on many of the most dangerous missions flown by the 303rd Bomb Group.

427th Bomb Squadron B-17s

<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Assigned</u>	Fate	Missions
41-24517	Kali	24 Sep 42	MIA 23 Jan 43 (Goetz)	7
41-24569	Memphis Tot	18 Sep 42	MIA 4 Feb 43 (Cole)	10
41-24584	SUSFU	17 Sep 42	MIA 23 Jan 43 (Robey)	6*
41-24587	Bad Check	1 Oct 42	MIA 11 Jan 44 (McClellan)	45
41-24607	Jerry Jinx	24 Sep 42	MIA 23 Jan 43 (Reber)	7
41-24610	Joe BTFSPLK	24 Sep 42	MIA 1 May 43 (Walsh)	18
41-24612	The Devil Himself	26 Sep 42	Trfd to AFSC 20 May 43	10*
41-24619	S-for-Sugar	Sep 42	MIA 11 Jan 44 (Simmons)	52
42-2966	(No Name)	Dec 42	Trfd BAD1 7 Apr 43	5*
42-3124	(No Name)	2 Jan 43	C/L 8 Apr43 (Pratt)	9*
42-3131	Flak Wolf	13 Jul 43	MIA 11 Jan 44 (Carothers)	40
42-3158	Max	2 Jun 43	MIA 19 Aug 44 (Fisher)	33
42-3192	City of Albuquerque		(Unknown)	
42-5081	Lucious Lady	15 Feb 43	Trfd to Italy 7 Jul 44	33
42-5221	Son	8 Apr 43	MIA 9 Oct 43 (Clifford)	25
42-5341	Vicious Virgin (Vat 69)	7 Feb 42	Trfd to BAD1 7 Apr 44	58
42-5392	Stric Nine	26 Mar 43	MIA 19 Aug 43 (Quillin) Ditched	21
42-5780	Black Swan	Apr 43	MIA 1 May 43 (Sterling)	2
42-29481	(No Name)	6 Apr 43	MIA 15 May 43 (Jacques) Ditched)	
42-29520	(No Name)	6 Mar 43	Trfd to AFSC 20 May 43	7*
42-29540	Shooting Star	25 Feb 43	Trfd to AFSC 1 Jun 43	6*
42-29795	Flying Bitch	25 Sep 43	Trfd to BAD1 5 Apr 44	19*
42-29823	(No Name)	26 Sep 43	Received from 306th BG 5 Apr 44	16*
42-29944	Buzzing Bronco (PFF)	9 Jun 43	C/L 6 Sep 43 (James)	14*
42-29955	Mr. Five by Five	16 May 43	MIA 26 Nov 43 (Cote)	24
42-31060	Poque Ma Hone	18 Oct 43	MIA 9 Feb 45 (Nemer)	71
42-31200	Old Crow	1 Jan 44	MIA 28 Jun 44 (Wardowski)	37
42-31233	(No Name)	18 Nov 43	MIA 20 Dec 43 (Leve)	5
42-31241	Spirit of Wanette	18 Nov 43	MIA 29 Apr 44 (Bohle)	31
42-31243	(No Name)	18 Nov 43	Ditched 1 Dec 43 (Eckhart)	?
42-31423	Jigger Rooche	14 Jan 44	MIA 15 Aug 44 (Clark)	67
42-31526	Sweet Anna	1 Jan 44	MIA 7 Jan 44 (Humphreys)	1
42-31616	The Spirit of Flak Wolf	14 Jan 44	CATO 9 Apr 44 (McGarry)	21
42-31754	(No Name)	28 Feb 44	C/L 9 Apr 44 (Lynch)	17*
42-31929	Tennessee Hillbilly	1 Mar 44	MIA 26 Mar 44 (Mars)	8
42-32011	Sweet Adeline	1 Mar 44	(Unknown)	
42-32027	Betty Jane	1 Mar 44	MIA 13 Sep 44 (Heleen)	86
42-37875	Flying Bison	18 Nov 43	Salvaged in UK 48	
42-38020	V-Packet	20 Jan 44	C/L 25 Apr 44 (Wood)	8
42-38051	My Yorkshire Dream	18 Jan 44	MIA 29 Jun 44 (Roy)	41
42-39764	Santa Ana	18 Oct 43	MIA 20 Dec 43 (Alex)	6
42-39786	G.I. Sheets	18 Oct 43	MIA 29 Jan 44 (Fowler)	11
42-39875	Buzz Blonde	14 Jan 44	MIA 10 Jan 45 (G. N. Smith)	74
42-39885	Sweet Rose O'Grady	30 Dec 43	Trfd to 457th BG 22 May 45	134
42-97096	(No Name)	8 Apr 44	MIA 21 Jun 44 (Allen)	32
42-97281	Queeny (Queen Jeanie) 12 Apr 44	C/L 28 Mar 45 (F. E. Miller)	78
42-97311	Shoo Shoo Baby	13 May 44	Trfd 457th BG 22 May 45	107
42-97391	(No Name)	22 Apr 44	C/L 29 Jun 44 (Click)	2
42-97691	(No Name)	4 Aug 44	MIA 26 Nov 44 (Healy)	4
42-102411	Miss Lace	30 Apr 44	LOC 18 Mar 45 (Kronn)	75
42-102432	Tiny Angel	12 Apr 44	MIA 15 Aug 45 (Cook)	29
42-102569	Miss Lace	22 Apr 44	C/L 8 Jan 45 (Richter)	87
42-102595	Little Tush	2 Jun 44	C/L 14 Aug 44 (Caplinger)	19*

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42-107099	Old 99	30 Apr 44	MIA 13 Jan 45 (McGinnis)	78
43-37597	Earthquake McGoon	7 Jul 44	MIA 17 Apr 45 (Kahler)	71
43-37666	Full House	10 Jul 44	MAC 9 Nov 44 (Davis)	42
43-38057	(No Name)	15 Aug 44	MAC 9 Nov 44 (Purcell)	8
43-38197	(No Name)	16 Aug 44	Taxi Acdt 9 Dec 44 (Rose)	28
43-38248	Jigger Rooche II	16 Aug 44	MIA 28 Mar 45 (Frederickson)	68
43-38323	(No Name)	16 Aug 44	MIA 9 Sep 44 (Newton)	7
43-38621	50 Ragged	3 Oct 44	Trfd 457th BG 22 May 45	42
43-38689	(No Name)	28 Oct 44	MIA 13 Jan 45 (O. T. Eisenhart)	10
43-38734	Cheshire Cat	22 Nov 44	Trfd to Kingman, AZ 30 Nov 45	2
43-38763	(No Name)	31 Oct 44	Trfd to Kingman, AZ 21 Dec 45	65
43-38958	Green Hill Belle	? 44	MIA 6 Apr 45 MAC (Alderman)	25
43-39011	(No Name)	? 44	LOC 19 Mar 45 (Griffith)	25*
43-39081	(No Name)	28 Jan 45	MIA 16 Feb 45 (Wertz)	7*
43-39149	(No Name)	4 Feb 45	MAC 9 Feb 45 (Barrat)	2*
43-39220	Smilie Jack	20 Feb 45	MIA 15 Mar 45 (Richardson)	7
44-6166	The Red	5 Jul 44	MIA 13 Jan 45 (Rose)	33
44-6921	(No Name)	3 Jan 45	LOC 18 Mar 45 (Cassel)	12
44-6937	El Sereano	18 Feb 45	Trfd to 457th BG 22 May 45	27
44-6977	Better Do'er	1 Feb 45	Trfd to 457th BG 23 May 45	30
44-8038	(No Name)	20 Oct 44	Trfd to 9th AF	56
44-8335	(No Name)	26 Sep 44	MIA 28 Sep 44 (Glasgow)	1
44-8495	(No Name)	4 Dec 44	LOC 15 Jan 45	8*
44-8545	(No Name)	4 Dec 44	Trfd to Walnut Ridge, AR 19 Aug 45	19
44-8576	(No Name)	17 Jan 45	LOC 14 Feb 45 (Roberts)	8*
44-8692	Little Tillie	Dec 44	Trfd to 457th BG 22 May 45	14*
44-8710	Idle Wheel	18 Feb 45	Trfd to Walnut Ridge, AR 29 Oct 45	4
44-8869	(No Name)	30 Mar 45	Trfd to 9th AF 6 Jan 46	1
44-83447	(No Name)	10 Apr 45	MIA 25 Apr 45 (Mauger)	7*
44-83483	(No Name)	18 Apr 45	Trfd to 457th BG 22 May 45	2*
44-85534	(No Name)	10 Apr 45	(Unknown)	5*
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Abbreviations Used:

- * Missions Flown and Aborts
- MIA Missing in Action
- C/L Crash Landing
- CR Crashed
- LOC Landed on the Continent
- B/L Belly Landing