

After a day's rest we were on once again alerted on 8 March, this time to hit the VERLEINIGTE BALL BEARING WORKS at ERKNER, GERMANY. Mission 10, Sortie 5 saw our formation led by Major FEILING and Major LA ROCHE take off with 100 lb. GP's. Bombs were dropped on the SE side of the town of Erkner with resultant large columns of smoke and fires visible at MPI. Although the smoke obscured the target, little doubt was left in our minds that the 128-x100GP's and 210 M47 Clusters dropped helped immeasurably on the success of the mission. Plane No. 720, 755th Sq. Piloted by 2nd Lt. JOHN D. ADAMSON was lost over FURSTENWALDE knocked down by an ME 109. Capt. CHARLES HENRY BOOTH, Jr. our assistant Station and Group Operations Officer acting as Command Pilot in the Deputy Lead ship of the second section, flying as co-pilot was severely and painfully wounded in the knee and leg. The wound was received over HANNOVER at 1315 hours enroute to the target at 1440 hours.

I
Feiling
COMBS

90671

ISON
8 342
404

STEWART
L 288

BITTLER
J 359

STROUP
R 423

ADAMSON
H 720

PIERCE
A 362

LOGIE
C 719

SCHULZE
R 335

WATSON
P 697

GOLDSMITH
N 305

RAITER
I 682

BRULOS
F 331

II

LA ROCHE
CLAGGETT
A 311

BOOTH
CLARK
3 431

SCHUMAN
K 671

GAINES

BUSH
D 812

GRANT
J 382

DENEFFE
M 300

TAYLOR
M 718

SHAW
L 721

FREEMAN
B 365

SPAVEN
G 729

NYMAN
I 709

LANGELICH
L 329

KOVICH
H 705

West

- 1. 357
- 2. 362
- 3. 359
- 4. 423
- 5. 335
- 6. 342
- 7. 719
- 8. 720
- 9. 305
- 10. 697
- 11. 288
- 12. 404
- 13. 682
- 14. 331

EAST

- 1. 311
- 2. 431
- 3. 812
- 4. 365
- 5. 311
- 6. 382
- 7. 671
- 8. 709
- 9. 729
- 10. 721
- 11. 718
- 12. 735
- 13. 300
- 14. 329
- 705

458th Pilots and Aircraft as listed on Formation Plans

DATE	TARGET	PILOT	458th Msn #	Pilot Msn#	Cmd Pilot	LD	Serial	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn #	A/C Name	MIA	Notes
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	ADAMSON	5	1			41-28720	N	J3	4	UNKNOWN 004	FTR	
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	BITTLER	5	4			41-29359	J	J3	2	TAIL WIND		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	BRUDOS	5	3			41-29331	F	J3	3	BLONDIE'S FOLLY		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	BUSH	5	2			42-109812	D	7V	2	UNKNOWN 016		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	CLAGGETT	5	2	LaROCHE	L2	42-100311	A	7V	4	YOKUM BOY		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	CLARK	5	3	BOOTH	D2	42-100431	B	J4	2	BOMB-AH-DEAR		BOOTH WIA
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	COMBS	5	3	FEILING	L1	42-100357	D	Z5	2	VALE OREGAN		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	DeNEFFE	5	3			41-29300	M	J4	4	LORELEI		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	FREEMAN	5	2			42-100365	B	7V	4	WOLFGANG (maybe)		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	GAINES	5	2			--	--	--	--			735 not assgd & 3-- unclear
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	GOLDSMITH	5	2			41-29305	N	Z5	1	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	GRANT	5	3			42-52382	J	7V	3	WURF'LESS		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	KOVICH	5	3			41-28705	H	J4	5	YE OLDE HELLGATE		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	LOGIE	5	3			41-28719	Q	J3	4	PADDLEFOOT		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	MANGERICH	5	3			41-29329	L	7V	2	FRITZI		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	NYMAN	5	3			41-28709	I	7V	4	LUCKY STRIKE		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	PIERCE	5	4	HINCKLEY	D1	42-100362	A	Z5	3	SWEET LORRAINE/BOOMERANG		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	RAITER	5	4			41-28682	I	Z5	5	UNKNOWN 003		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	SCHULZE	5	4			42-52335	R	Z5	5	ADMIRABLE LITTLE CHARACTER		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	SCHUMAN	5	3			41-28671	K	J4	3	UNKNOWN 001		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	SHAW, C	5	2			41-28721	L	J4	2	DOWNWIND LEG		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	SPAVEN	5	2			41-28729	G	J4	2	UNKNOWN 046	CRL	Crash Landing Sta 505
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	STEWART	5	1			41-29288	L	J3	4	BIG-TIME OPERATOR		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	STILSON	5	2			42-52404	Q	Z5	1	BELLE OF BOSTON		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	STROUP	5	3			42-52423	R	J3	3	UNKNOWN 031		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	TAYLOR	5	3			41-28718	M	7V	5	BO		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	VOGEL	5	2			41-29342	S	J3	2	ROUGH RIDERS		
8-Mar-1944	BERLIN/ERKNER	WATSON	5	3			41-28697	P	Z5	3	DIXIE BELL II		