



*A20G from the 647th B.S. "Joker" (yellow spinner hub)*

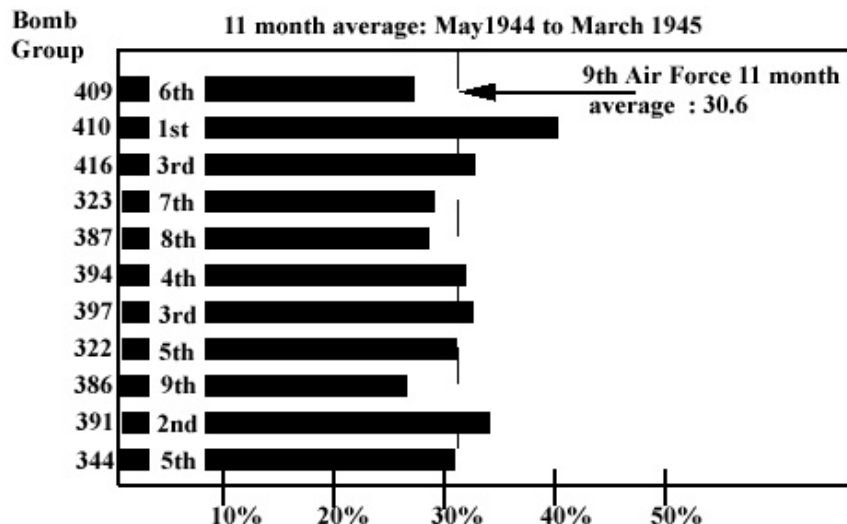
[Profile from 644th B.S.](#)

[Profile from 645th B.S.](#)

[Profile from 646th B.S.](#)

Simply stated, this is a brief history on the 410th Bombardment Group. The 410th Bomb Group was indeed a unique unit, flying both day and night missions, and established one of the best bombing records of World War II.

This chart shows bombing accuracy data published by the Operational Research Section of the 9th Bombardment Division. It shows percent of bombs plotted to within 500 feet of aiming points.



In April 1945 the 410th record was the best ever. A total of 65 superior or excellent bombing ratings were attained. Another first for this unit was that it was the only combat Bomb group in the USAAF during WWII, fully trained, equipped with modified aircraft, and manned to fly both day and night missions, using precision bombing techniques. Another remarkable record is that of 9,648 combat sorties flown, only 185 mechanical failures occurred.

Officially, the 410th flew 262 combat missions and 241 combat sorties. (To be credited with a combat sortie, the aircraft had to fly over the target. In 21 cases, the group was recalled or did not fly over the target due to adverse weather, no fighter cover or by higher headquarters directive)

The 410th Bomb Group was active in most of the major battles in Europe... *Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; and Central Europe*. They received the Distinguished Unit Citation for the effectiveness of its bombing in the Ardennes, 23-25 December 1944, when the group made numerous attacks on enemy lines of communications.

The 410th Bomb Group was made up of 4 bomb squadrons. The 644th (call letters 5D), 645th (7X), 646th (8U), and the 647th (6Q). They flew out of Birch and Gosfield airfields in Essex County England, and Coulommiers, Juvincourt, and Beaumont-sur-Oise, all in France.

Air Force Assigned to: 9th AF (March '44 - end WWII)

Stations flown from: Birch, England (April '44)

Gosfield, England (April '44 - Sept. '44)

Coulommiers, France (Sept. '44 - Feb. '45)

Juvincourt, France (Feb '45 - May '45)

Beaumont-sur-Oise, Belgium (May '45 - end WWII)

Campaigns: Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

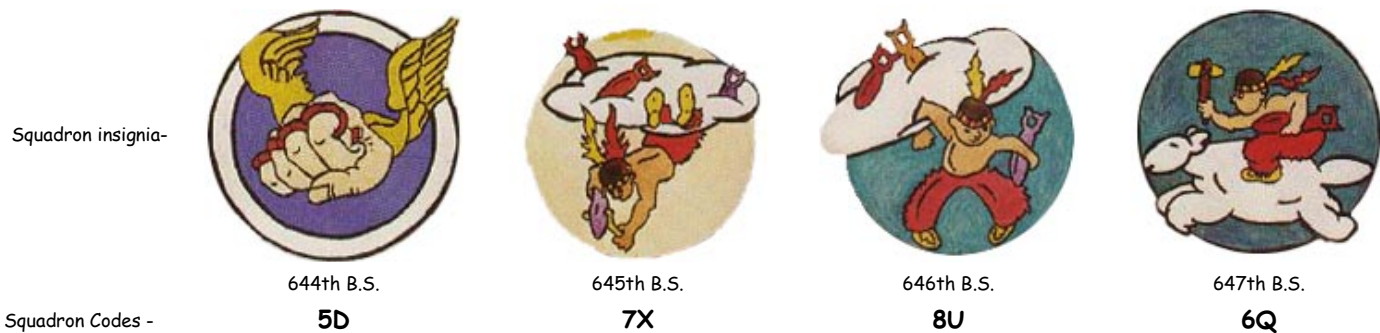
Northern France

Rhineland








Ardennes-Alsace













Central Europe

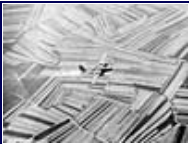











Decorations: Distinguished Unit Citation: Germany, 23-25 Dec '44















## Mission Roster












	A20J delivering it's load	410th B.G. photo
	Gun Nosed A20's of the 644th Squadron on a mission.	410th B.G. photo
	A20 trailing smoke trying to keep up before hitting their target.	410th B.G. photo
	Glass nosed A20K of the 647th bomb squadron over target before releasing its load.	410th B.G. photo
	The same 647th bomb squadron glass nosed A20K after releasing its bomb load.	410th B.G. photo
	Gun nosed A20G flying over the English Channel.	410th B.G. photo
	A20G "Queen Julias" flying over a bombed out airfield.	410th B.G. photo

	Flak starts exploding around as this A20 opens the bomb bay doors.  410th B.G. photo
	A gun nosed A20G flying over a stricken B17, with one engine feathered.  410th B.G. photo
	Flight of A20's low over England, heading for home.  410th B.G. photo
	Gun nose A20G flying over the English Channel, heading home after a mission.  410th B.G. photo
	Over the target, the A20 prepares to drop 6 500 pounders on the enemy.  410th B.G. photo
	A flight of 644th bomb squadron A20's photographed above another flights bomb strikes.  410th B.G. photo
	Superior bomb strikes on a road junction hit by the 410th.  410th B.G. photo
	A flight of A20's returning from a bombing mission.  410th B.G. photo
	An A20 from the 646th Bomb Squadron over a bombed out field below.  410th B.G. photo
	A20 "The Hillbilly" enroute to a target.  410th B.G. photo
	This flight of A20's from the 647th bomb squadron is just passing 12,000ft.  410th B.G. photo
	This 644th A20 "Mopsy" has just taken a direct flak hit in front of the tail section... notice that the tail is missing!.  410th B.G. photo

	<p>This A20 has the right engine on fire.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Flight of A20's over a bombed out village.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Flight of 647th squadron A20's enroute to a target.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Glass nosed A20 from the 646th bomb squadron "The Real McCoy" enroute to a target.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Another view of the A20 "The Real McCoy".</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>A gun nosed A20G flying over a Navy cruiser in the English channel below..</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>June 6, 1944 - D-DAY! One of two missions at low level taken from the rear gunners open hatch.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Gun nose A20G with new invasion stripes flying over the English channel with numerous Nav ships below.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>A20 after a belly landing</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Digging out an A20 in France for a mission.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>Digging out an A20 in France for a mission.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>647th Gunners carrying flak helmets and parachutes to assigned aircraft.</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>












	Crewmembers Yount, Cape and Siciliano.	410th B.G. photo
	Crewmembers Brown, Ayers, Caragher, Meadows and kneeling are Moore and Pacer.	410th B.G. photo
	Capt. Davis of the 647th B.S. and his plane "Laurita Sue"	410th B.G. photo
	Crewmembers Batterson, Krumbach, Boyko, Abbott, Cascella, Pezza, and Standown.	410th B.G. photo
	From L to R: S/Sgt. Mitchell, Bomb/Nav F/O Cadmus, Pilot Capt Coe, S/Sgt. Lorimer.	410th B.G. photo
	Col. Riggles (647th Commander), Bomb/Nav Alexander (carrying his maps) and both gunners leaving their plane.	410th B.G. photo
	647th squadron mechanics around their A20 "Utopia".	410th B.G. photo
	L to R: Lt. James Dozier, S/Sgt. Joseph Czop, S/Sgt. Wilbur Borecky, and crew chief Leonard Thackery next to 647th A20 "TallyWacker" (6Q-N).	410th B.G. photo
	647th squadron crew of (L to R) S/Sgt. Willie Dingus, Lt. Percy Haug, and S/Sgt. Jackson Henderson.	410th B.G. photo
	647th Bomb squadron A20 "Mama Lou" crew: (L to R) S/Sgt. Trigillio, Lt. Keepers, and S/Sgt. Fritton.	410th B.G. photo
	647th bomb squadron A20 "Little Miss Fortune" crew: (L to R) pilot Sitzler, gunner Scott, and gunner Alshier.	410th B.G. photo
	644th bomb squadron A20 "Mopsy" crew. this is the plane from above that took a direct flak hit in the tail section.	410th B.G. photo



	Alderman from S-2 intelligence (sitting on the left) took the photo of "Mopsy" a split second after the direct flak hit in the tail.  410th B.G. photo
	647th bomb squadron pilots and bombardier/navigators.  410th B.G. photo
	Ground crews working on the engine of an A20.  410th B.G. photo
	The crews get their briefing before a mission.  410th B.G. photo
	The crews going over the maps prior to a mission.  410th B.G. photo
	A crew preparing to load onto a Jeep after the briefing for the ride to their plane.  410th B.G. photo
	A crew debriefing after a completed mission.  410th B.G. photo
	Two crew members discuss their mission after the debriefing. Man on the right identified as Richard E. Jones (rick jones, son)  410th B.G. photo
	Two 647th squadron gunners outside their tent in France.  410th B.G. photo
	Two 647th squadron gunners.  410th B.G. photo
	Flak leave on the Rivera. S/Sgt. Lorimer in the middle, with gunners Mitchell and Trigillio.  410th B.G. photo
	410th crew members unwind in the N.C.O. club.  410th B.G. photo

	Live German bombs left behind in their retreat from the airbase now occupied by the 410th. A20's are in the background.	410th B.G. photo
	Two crew members preparing 500 pounders for loading prior to a mission.	410th B.G. photo
	A ground crewman putting a personal touch on a 500# wing bomb.	410th B.G. photo
	Gen. Anderson awarding the Silver Star to Col. Hughey for the mission over Kyllburg.	410th B.G. photo
	Col. Parrett and his plane "Maxine"	410th B.G. photo
	Lt. Randolph and crewmembers, posing with their plane and one of the guns from it.	410th B.G. photo
	Crewmember Dohes, Page (Pilot) and Levine	410th B.G. photo
	Crewmembers Haver, Murphy and Lausman.	410th B.G. photo
	Crewmembers Kuhn, Shelton, Trasher, and Wagner.	410th B.G. photo
	Crewmembers Hughey, Hobbs, Argo, Robinette, Keiser, Gill, Pezza, and Standown.	410th B.G. photo
	Lowell Thomas	410th B.G. photo
	Christmas Mass, 1944 in Coulommiers, France	410th B.G. photo



	<p>Red Cross Girls in England</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	<p>This group of photos shows the 410th Bomb Groups mascot, a female Chow named "Gyro". Their unit history tells the story of how Lt. Benjamin Randolph of the 644th squadron decided the group needed a mascot. Unfortunatley, he found her while still in the states before they shipped out. They made her a parachute so that she could come along on missions, and when they shipped out for England, the entire group was in the effort to smuggle her into England. It was supposed to be that any animals were</p>
	<p>quarantined for 6 months. They didn't want to wait that long, so the devised a series of events that eventually led to her being on the base with the entire group from the start. Getting there was a battle, as they had to keep her drugged on the oceanliner! Gyro actually flew combat missions with Lt. Randolph, until she had puppies and was grounded. On Lt. Randolphs, 13th mission he was shot down over Chartres, France and Gyro lost her master. She was cared for by members of the 410th Bomb group until her final</p>
	<p>days. <b>Webmaster's note:</b> This story takes an interesting turn for me personally as I myself have a female Chow named "<a href="#">Bear</a>" that is a ringer for "Gyro", down to the tempermant that is described in the unit history!</p> <p>410th B.G. photo</p>
	
	
	<p>Some present day shots from the 410th base at Gosfield... a sign dedicating the area, the runway area, the old tower area and a painting in one of the existing buildings</p>
	<p>410th B.G. photo</p>
<p><a href="#">Diary</a></p>	<p>This true account comes from the daily diary of S/SGT. Guiseppe A. Siciliano</p>
	<p>Matthew James McKeever, Jr - Deputy Commander 410th BG</p> <p>Photo courtesy of <a href="#">Matt Murphy</a></p>
	<p>Matthew James McKeever, Jr receiving the DFC</p> <p>Photo courtesy of <a href="#">Matt Murphy</a></p>
	<p>Matthew James McKeever, Jr and crew</p> <p>Photo courtesy of <a href="#">Matt Murphy</a></p>

Do you have any info, data or material on this group you would like to see added to this page? Please [email me](#) and I would be happy to add it for you.

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Available from the 410th Bomb Group: Videos showing these photographs, and *many* more. Mr William Lorimer has taken an entire collection of photographs from the 410th Bomb group and put it onto video tape as a slide show, with narration explaining each photo. There is now only one tape, costing \$36.00 including postage. All proceeds go to the 410th Bomb Group.

William Lorimer  
410th Bomb Group Association  
125 Darnley Dr.  
Moon Twp. PA  
15108

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Data for this page was found and used from the following publications-

- *Air Force Combat Units of WWII*, by USAF Historical Div. Air University
- *Stars and Bars* by Frank Olynyk
- *410th BG in WWII* by 410th BG Assoc

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