

After routine orientation upon arriving at Rattlesden, Lt. Lowell Simmons flew his combat orientation mission on June 21, 1944 as co-pilot with Lt. Gerald Carter. The aircraft, 42-97932, was hit by flak. Simmons was killed, the rest of the Carter crew captured. Simmons' original crew flew 35 missions with several first pilots.

Navigator Leonard Hessenauer's grandson, Greg Schaefer, provided the following photograph and documents.



The original Simmons crew at McDill Field, Florida in the spring of 1943.

Leonard Hessenauer's log

8TH AIR FORCE - 447TH BOMB GROUP

SEN	DATE	TARGET	PILOT	NAME OF PLANE	PLANE NO.
1	6 JULY 44	SAUTRE COURT JET PLANT	LAKEMAN	SHACK HAPPY	154
2	8 "	RAILROAD YARD ST. ANDRE DE L'EVRE	"	DUE BACK	632
3	13 "	MUNICH ROBOT ASSY. PLANT	"	FUDDY DUDDY	400
4	14 "	SUPPLIES FOR MAQUIS AREA 10, CADILLAC	"	BLANCO DIABLO	658
5	16 "	STUTTGART SECONDARY TARGET	"	DUE BACK	632
6	19 "	BALL BEARING PLANT EBELS BACH	"	LADY LOVE	830
7	20 "	SYNTHETIC OIL REFINERY MERSBERG	"	GROUND POUNDER	095
8	24 "	GERMAN PANZER DIVISION ST. LO AREA	"		185
9	25 "	GERMAN PANZER DIVISION ST. LO AREA	"	BLANCO DIABLO	658
0	1 AUG. 44	SUPPLIES FOR MAQUIS AREA 10 & 14, WEST OF GENEVA	"	MILK WAGON	756
"	2 "	ST. DENNIS SYNTHETIC OIL TANKS	"		774
2	7 "	BRIDGE ANIZY LE CHATEAU	"	LITTLE ROCK BLONDE	938
3	8 "	GERMAN PANZER DIVISION BRETTEVILLE	NOONAN	GROUND POUNDER	095
4	15 "	AIRFIELD MUNSTER	"	SWANEE PRIDE	220
5	16 "	SYNTHETIC OIL REFINERY ROSITZ	"	MILK WAGON	756
6	30 "	FOCKE-WOLFE PARTS PLANT BREMEN	"	SWANEE PRIDE	220
7	1 SEPT. 44	TANK DIVISION MAINZ	ZAMMETT	FUDDY DUDDY	400
8	3 "	GERMAN FORTRESS BREST	NOONAN		774
9	5 "	GERMAN FORTRESS BREST	"	FUDDY DUDDY	400
0	8 "	TANK DIVISION MAINZ (ONE ENGINE SHOT OUT)	"	MILK WAGON	756
1	13 "	JET PRODUCTION PLANT STUTTGART (HYDRAULICS SHOT OUT)	"	SWANEE PRIDE	220
2	17 "	FLAK GUNS ARNHEIM	"	SWANEE PRIDE	220
3	19 "	MARINE YARDS KOBLENZ	"	SWANEE PRIDE	220
4	22 "	TANK ASSEMBLY PLANT KASSEL (ONE ENGINE SHOT OUT)	"	SWANEE PRIDE	220
5	25 "	CHEMICAL PLANT LUDWIGSHAFEN	"	LITTLE ROCK BLONDE	938
6	26 "	FOCKE-WOLFE ASSY. PLANT BREMEN	ZAMMETT	BLANCO DIABLO	658
7	2 OCT. 44	TANK ASSEMBLY PLANT KASSEL	NOONAN	BLANCO DIABLO	658

MISSION	DATE	TARGET	PILOT	NAME OF PLANE	PLANE NO.
28	5 OCT. 44	MUNSTER AIRFIELD	TIETJEN	MILK WAGON	756
29	17 "	COLOGNE MARINE YARDS	"	BUTTERFLY BABY	854
30	19 "	ARMORED CAR ASSY. PLANT MANNHEIM	"	MILK WAGON	756
31	22 "	MUNSTER AIRFIELD	"	AMERICAN BEAUTY	797
32	25 "	HAMBURG OIL REFINERY	"	MILK WAGON	756
33	26 "	HAMBURG OIL REFINERY	"	AMERICAN BEAUTY	797
34	30 "	MERSBURG OIL REFINERY	"		185
35	2 NOV. 44	MERSBURG OIL REFINERY	"		774



MY LAST 8 MISSIONS WERE FLOWN WITH A NEW CREW.
LEN H.


On this 2nd day of Nov: nineteen hundred and forty four, the fickle finger of fate finds it expedient to trace on the roll of



the
LUCKY BASTARDS CLUB

The Name of
Leonard O. Hessebauer
navigator on the Flying Fortress **Fuddy Duddy**

for having this day achieved the remarkable record of sallying forth and returning no less than 55 times, for having braved the hazards of Hun flak for bringing to Hitler and his cronies tons of bombs, for bending the Luftwaffe back; all through the courtesy of the VIII AAF who sponsors these programs in the interest of liberty loving people everywhere.


Com. in Charge

Asst. Executive




Squadron C.O.

Squadron C.O.

C-44