

THE DEENETHORPE DIARY

BY

VIC MASLEN
PART No. 16

B-17 Nickname "DOWN N' GO" Squadron 614th. Code Letters IW-C Serial Number 42-102394

Pilot Crew Lt. P.W. Finney Co-pilot F/O V.G. Price Lt. D.E. Scott Bombardier Nose Gunner S/Sgt.B.A. Bralley S/Sgt.W.H. Snyder K.I.A. Eng/Top T. T/Sgt.E.S. Smith K.I.A. Radio Sgt. G.B. Hill Sgt. B.V. Millet Sgt. W.J. Dulling K.I.A. Ball Turret Waist Gunner Tail Gunner

Missions: 119 Munich - Lt. Finney flew this mission with another crew for experience.

126 Luxembourg 129 Haguenau 120 Chartres 132 Weimar 121 Strasbourg 128 Elbeuf

122 Anklam

Notes:

On mission No. 132 to Weimar (24th. August, 1944), when they were about ten minutes from the I.P. they were attacked by 32 Fock-Wulfe fighters from the rear in groups of three. Sgt. Dulling shot one of them down, but "DOWN N* GO" was badly damaged amidships and the crew were forced to bail out. Lt. Scott was later told by his German interrogators that three bodies had been found in the wreckage of their plane.

Although ordered to bail out, Sgt. Millet, the Waist Gunner, continued to try to get the injured Sgt. G.B. Hill out of his ball turret. He was still trying to do this when the Fortress suddenly blew up and threw him clear of wreckage and he parachuted to safety.