**42-31097**

B-17 Flying Fortress

**Nicknames**

Mission Belle

**Production block number**

B-17G-1-BO Fortress

**Manufacturer**

Boeing

**Markings and paint scheme/livery**

*Not yet known*

Delivered Cheyenne 20/9/43;

Gt Falls 12/10/43;

Scott 18/11/43;

assigned 401BG Deenethorpe 19/11/43;

transferred 535BS/381BG Ridgewell 21/11/43;

Missing in Action (1st mission for this aircraft) Leverkusen 1/12/43 with Pilot Harland V. Sunde (KIA - body recovered 12/6/44); Ball turret gunner: Doyle C. Mc Cutchen (KIA; body recovered from river 30/5/44); Tail gunner: John F. Healey (KIA). Co-pilot: James W. Sweaney; Navigator: Roger G.Christensen; Bombardier: O.D. Tully; Flight engineer/top turret gunner: William P. England; Radio Operator: Claudio Carano; Right Waist gunner: Charles J. Culver; Left Waist gunner Carlton A. Josephson (those 7 Prisoner of War). Flak, left formation a few minutes before hitting the target and was attacked by fighters. Ditched in River Lek between Streefkerk and Nieuw- Lekkerland, Holland. All wounded, except Co-Pilot Sweaney. Ball Turret gunner McCutchen was killed by MG fire in the radio room. Tail gunner John Healy was last seen slumped on his gun. He had reportedly asked to let him stay there. According to the testimony of a crew member, when the aircraft was ditched, having only one serviceable dinghy, Lt Sunde refused to use it (probably so as not to overload it) and tried to swim to shore, but he drowned before that crewman could reach him. Missing Air Crew Report 1661.