Log of James M. Sennish

352 Bomb Sqdn. – 301st Bomb Grp.

Nov. 18, 1944 – 1st Mission. – T.G.

Over Vienna (North) Hit RR. yards
328 Flaks
Very heavy flak – 29 holes in tail section
alone – over 100 in ship not counting
the smaller ones. Eng.ch & Radio Operator hit. Rt. Tire FLAT.
Rocket raids ROG made in 27 trips.
Pilot Meader – Nav. Davies – Tog. Luff. 7 HR 40
Ship# 178 2-2 position

Nov. 20, 1944 – 2nd SORTIE – T.G.

BRNO, Czechoslovakia – No flak over target. ~~Clouds~~
Fairly heavy barrage (night one) some time
after. "Flak far behind though – 8 hrs.
P. – Meader; CP. – Crump; E – Parsons; ROG – Dwyer; L.W. –
Grant.; R.W. – H. Barrett; L.T. – Turner Ship# 337
Buck Sgt. Nov. 23 | Dec. 10 – Turnback – Dirty weather
4 to 5 hrs. over Adriatic.

Dec. 11, 1944 – 3rd Sortie – T.G. Ship# 368

23 Mi. No. Vienna
Moosbierbaum, Austria – Heavy, accurate flak, no hits
on plane. Very experienced crew on crew. Photog. finished
50 missions today – all other E.M. over 40, closer to 50.
P. – Cornell; CP. – KRAMER; Eng. – Willingham; ROG – [redacted]
W – Schaefner; BT – Ingol; Photog. – Woomer is done anyway
NAV. – BEAM 8 HRS.

Dec 15, 1944 - 4th Sortie - T.G. - Ship # 358
LINZ, Austria: Flak moderate, but accurate. Two holes in tail. Were in 2-2 position. Sqdn led the 15th A.F. Feathered #3 engine before reaching target. Bomb. had to kick 4 bombs out.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; Nav.- Mesch; Bomb.- Johnson; Eng.- Passyan; R.O.G.- Overfors; B.T.- Turner; W.- Fogler; W.- ; T.- Sennish (of course) 8 HR. 20 Min

Dec. 17, 1944 - 5th Sortie - T.G. - Ship # 396
Blechhammer (North), Czechoslovakia. Sqdn. led the first wave. Flew in 2-2 position. "The wind really had Jerry's flak guns off the beam. Flak moderate, but off to right.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Effington; Nav.- Mesch; Bomb.- Johnson; Eng.- Passyan; R.O.G.- Overfors; B.T.- Heff; Photog.- Lesesweg; W.- Looney; T.- Sennish. Hole Hole Time - 8:50

Dec 26, 1944 - Gil Mesch (Nav.) ~~was~~ is missing. Target was Brux. - No news, no radio
Dec 29, 1944 - Hillger, Keil, Dews, Hyde, Hill, Perrine, Koltunick + Eggleston missing. Target Regensburg. Heard calling "We are bailing out" Bomber over Mainland (Cold)

Jan 19, 1945 - 6th Sortie - T.G - Ship # 178
BROD, Yugoslavia: Moderate acc. flak. Caught it Made 2 runs
Flew 2-2 position. ~~1 V. G. 1 bomb 1 leg~~ (24000)
P.- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; Nav.- ; Eng.- Mac Mahon; E.- Passyan; R. Overfors; B.T.- Turner; W.- Pacey + Hawlick; T.- Sennish 6 Hr 13 M.

Feb. 8, 1945 - 7th Sortie - T.G - Ship 499
Vienna (So. marshalling yds): Flew 2-1 position in diamond sqdn. We rolled sharp right after bombs away and evaded heavy flak which the rest of the Group caught. Were shot at by mobile guns off the target + at Maribor. No hits on ship. 28000 PFF
P.- Urschel; C.P.- N.- B.- Kutchins
E.- R.- Bush; W.- Pearson + Adams; B.T.-
T.- Sennish 7 HR

Feb. 27, 1945 - 12th Sortie - T.G. - Ship # 351
Augsburg, Germany marshalling yards. Flew 1-3 in Hi Rt. Sqdn. Bombed from 27,000'. Flew down a long flak alley, but only had two holes. Flak was ~~heavy~~ (Description or intensity) heavy & accurate. Saw some ME 109's on ground in No. Italy.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Hutton; Nav.- Alvino; Tog.- Crowley; E.- Pasayan; R.- Bush; W.- Jennings; Photo.- Mc Gwire; BT- Turner; T.- Sennick. 7 Hr 1 Min

Mar. 8, 1945 - 13th Sortie - T.G. - Ship # 914
Hegyeshalom, Hungary marshalling yards. Flew 3-1 pos. in lead Sqdn. of 1st wave. Very good results. Yds. were full of cars. Believe we hit ammo. train because some claimed they felt the concussion at 25000'. Smoke column over 10,000' high. Saw fires too. Location is east of Vienna; about 70 mi. west of Russ. lines.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- B.-
E.- R.- W.- BT
T.- Sennick

Mar. 12, 1945 - 14th Sortie - T.G. - Ship # 716
Vienna, Floresdorf. Flew 1-3 in lead sqdn. of 2nd wave. A very pleasant difference from my first mission which was here. Flak was inaccurate and not heavy. Bombed PFF. 26000
P. Mosher; C.P.- Caspar; Nav.- O'Gwinn B.- Hale
E.- Pasayan; R.- Overfelt; W.- Hawlicek; Photo.-
B.T.- Turner; T.- Sennick 7 HR

Mar. 12, 1945
Hil Johnson & Salkind flying in 918 with Dudley bailed out behind Russian lines according to P-38's who escorted them there - Dudley's crew Jennings missing in 178 . mar 13 , 1945

Mar. 13, 1945 - 15th Sortie - T.G. - Ship # 487
Ruhland, Germany. Flew 2-[illegible] in low left. 2nd wave. Longest non-stop mission ever pulled by 15th Air Force. Sixty miles So. of Berlin. Inaccurate flak. PFF run until last few seconds. 23500
P. Crump; C.P.- Moore; Nav.- Dawley; B.- Antlen;
E.- Bennett; R.- ; Photo.- ; W.- [illegible]
B.T.- Turner; T.- Sennick 8 HR 45

MAR. 16, 1945 – 16th Sortie – T.G. – Ship # 593
Vienna, Floresdorf. Flew 1-2, deputy lead, in lead sqdn. of 2nd wave. A rough one! Quite a few hits (30 or so) in ship. Miki set shot out. as it was set in lead ships. Every ships in sqdn. ever hit Flak hit behind ammo box and came into it. Also bulged in side (right) of fuselage at my left side. Flak would have made quite a solid black picture.
P.- Kraemer; C.P.- Knowles; N.- Hersrud B.- Blewett
M.N.- Wah; E.- Brakeva; R.- Donaldson; W.- Pearson + Bynum; T.- Sennish

MAR. 19, 1945 – 17th Sortie – T.G. – Ship # 368
Landschut, Germany. Flew 2-3 in Hi Rt., 1st wave. Hit marshalling yards with rolling stock
P.- Russell; C.P.- Wentzel; N.- Martin; Eng.- Grant
E.- Lockridge; R.- Wessel (2); W.- Johnson + Maritis;
B.T.- Ellis; T.- Sennish

MAR. 20, 1945 – 18th Sortie – T.G. – Ship # 232
Amstetten, Austria marshalling yards. Flew 1-2, deputy lead, in lead sqdn of 2nd wave. Hit the target. Bombed from 27000. Weather + engine trouble coming back. – Over the hump!! –
P.- Kraemer; C.P.- Knowles; N.- Woodley; B.- Zacharias
M.N.- Wah; E.- Brakeva; R.- Donaldson; W.- Maritis + Jensen; T.- Sennish

MAR. 21, 1944 – 19th Sortie – T.G. – Ship # 49
Vienna, Kagran Vosendorf oil refinery. Flew 21 in Hi Rt. Bombed from 30000. Picked up ten or eleven hits. Knocked out #3 engine. Hit the target. Knocked it out!!!
P.- Crumpe; C.P.- Birkner; Nav.- Beane B.- Weley
E.- Baker; R.- Wieser B.T.- Turner; W.- Jensen;
Photo:- Poleski; T.- Sennish

MAR. 24, 1945 - 20th Sortie - T.G. - Ship #676

BERLIN, Germany !!! We always joked about, "we'll be going to Berlin." Today we hit it! Bombed the tank works in So. Central Berlin. The "blow-jobs" ME 262's came after us; but the red tailed P51's and bomber fire drove them off. This was a B-17, Fortress said. ~~It~~ Wait 'til somebody mentions a "24" to me as being a long range bomber. Carried 6-1000 lb. bombs. B.A. was 28000' 10 HR +

P:- Wheeler; C.P.- Moore; N.- Monk; B.- Wiley;
E:- R:- B.T. -
W.- Michals---; Phot.- Fletcher; T.- Sennish

* We had to land at Ancona to gas up. We just couldn't quite make it. Had to jettison ammo. in Yugo. We were only ships in group that ran short. Had about 12 hits in ships.

Flak wasn't so bad over target. We got hit, but not bad. Got hit again at Rubland. Heads up on part of bed again. Old Sam shot time.

MAR. 25, 1945 - 21st Sortie - T.G. - Ship #645

Prague, Czechoslovakia airfield. Frag-bombs from 26,500'. Carried 38, 120 lb. clusters of six each. Couldn't see target because of smoke, both from bombs & smoke screen. Flew 4-2 in 7th Rd. Very light flak. A.A. bags for ducking. Can't blame them!

P:- C. Brown; C.P.- Beecher; N.- Greene; B.- Snider;
E:- R.- Gizzarelli; B.T.- Hirsch;
W:- ; Phot.- Mullinger; T.- Sennish

MAR. 26, 1945 - 22nd Sortie - T.G. - Ship #232

Wiener Neustadt, Austria marshalling yards sidings. Really hit rolling stock! Carried 38, 100 bombs. Surely was a nice one after the long raids lately. No flak!!

P:- Cramp, C.P.- Birkner; N.- Beam; B.- Shannon; M.N.- W
E:- Pascopa; R.- Overfors; W.- Fox + Friedman;
T.- Sennish.

APR. 5, 1945 – 23rd Sortie – T.O. – Ship # 642
Verona-Parona, Italy. Used six 1000 lbers. on the bridge, but missed because the Bombardier could not kill all of the diff. Combat sqdns. in trail. We flew 1-2 pos. in low left. Flak, moderate.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- Beam; B.- Hale; M.N.- Waf;
E.- Pasayan; R.- Overfors; W.- Ross + Hawlick; T.- Sennish

APR. 9, 1945 – 24th Sortie – T.O. – Ship # 746
8th Army Front on Senio R. (Lugo) about 20 mi south of Bologna. Carried 38, 120 lb. frag. clusters of six bombs each. This is still a secret mission. Flew 1-2 pos in low left. Over sqdn. led the group and group led the whole 15th Air Force. Flak was light to moderate. This is the start of something big, no doubt. We'll soon know.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- VanDarnum; B.- Blalock.
E.- Pasayan R.- Giezzetti; R. Jammer – Burkhardt; W.- Ross; B.T.- Martini;
T.- Sennish 5 Hr.

According to bomb strike photo we really plastered the assigned area. There was a follow up the day after the 301 B.G. did another Excellent job! We did not fly. The Brit. 8th Army is starting to move.

APR. 11, 1945 (Brother Pete) – 25th Sortie – T.O. – Ship # 642
Vipiteno, Italy. Rr. bridge. Carried 1000 lb. bombs. (six). We only carried 4 in old lead ship though. Only 28 guns there but they sure could shoot. Hit a couple of boys in other ships. Others ... One got splinters of plexi glass in face. May be sent He is in hospital at Florence. Both of our wings will have to be taken off. Tanks had holes. Had about dozen hits all told. Took pictures over target today with my little 120. Hope they turn out.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- Rocki; B.- Sussman; M.N.- Levy
E.- Pasayan; R.- Overfors; W.- Ross + Hawlick; T.- Sennish
6½ Hr.

APR. 15, 1945 – 26th Sortie – T.O. – Ship # 68
5th Army Front S.W. of Bologna. Carried 38 one hundred pound G.P.'s and bombed concentrations of men + materiel. Flew 1-2 in 1st wave low left. 252nd led Air Force again. Bombed from 21,000 – V.G. Bombs. Flak was light + just behind us for the most part. This starts a drive on Bologna.
P.- Crump; C.P.- Halverson; N.- Kentner; B.- Shannon;
E.- Pasayan; R.- Overfors; B.T.- Martini; W.- Ross + Hawlick
T.- Sennish 6:45

APR. 17, 1945 - 27th Sortie - T.G. - Ship #685
5th Army Front S.W. of Bologna. Bombed concentrated troops + supplies with V.G. results from 21,000'
Very little flak. Flew 1-2 in low left 1st wave.
Carried 20, 250 lb. bombs.
P- Crump; C.P.- Hutton; N.- Kobe; B.- Spice; E.- Fassyan;
R.- Overfelt; B.T.- Ellis; W.- Ross + Gambeck;
T.- Sennesh
6:15

APR. 18, 1945 - 28th Sortie - T.G. - Ship #676
5th Army Front SW of Bologna. Carried 38 frag clusters 120 lb apiece. This place must be a mess by now. We have had V.G. or Ex patterns + bombing there in three strikes. Flew 1-2 in Hi Rt., 2nd Wave
Flak light, acc.
P- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- Monk; B.- Teckel; E.- Fassyan;
R- Bonly; W.- Adams + McMichol; B.T.- Turner;
T.- Sennesh

APR. 20, 1945 - 29th Sortie - T.G. - Ship #368
Vipiteno, Italy MY on the North End of the Brenner Pass. Our sqdn. hit it very well. Flew 1st wave 1-2 in low left. Those 48 guns were right on the ball. Really shot the group up bad. We only had about a dozen hits (could have put your fist thru four of them) but nothing vital was hit. Capt D fouled up again going up. What a navigator!
P- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- Monk; B.- Reibling E.- Fassyan
R- Overfelt; B.T.- Turner; W.- Ross + Gambeck;
T.- Sennesh

APR. 21, 1945 - 30th Sortie - T.G. - Ship #23
Attnang Puchheim M. Our primary was Rosenheim but it was socked in. Most of the route was socked up pretty bad. Bombed from 18,500'. Flew 1-2 in diamond sqdn. Sqdn. of 483rd came out of soup almost head-on. Missed us because they were a little h
P- Crump; C.P.- Birkner; N.- Baird; B.- Spice;
E.- Fassyan; R- Overfelt; W.- Hahn + Ross;
T.- Sennesh

APR. 23, 1945 - 31st Sortie - T. G. - Ship # 746

Isevio Road bridge 8 mi out of Verona, Italy
Bombed from 27,000' wide 12,500 lb bombs.
Knocked out the bridge with excellent bombing.
Had to sweat out a new pilot. He didn't do bad
but will do better as he goes on. Flew 2-3 Hi Rs. 2 hrs
P.- Halvorsen; C.P.- N.- Trg.- Curley Jarratt
E.- Robinson; R.- Towner; R.T.- Herwig; W.- Ross; B.T.- Turner;
T.- Jennish

APR. 25, 1945 - 32nd Sortie - T. G - Ship # (41st Ship) 872

Linz main rwy. Went in at 26,000 Flew
1-2 in Hi Rs. Heavy, accurate flak. We only had
two hits, but 1-1 & 1-3 were badly hit & blown!
Carried 12,500 lb bombs. Linz was a burning mess!
P.- Crump; C.P.- ; N.- B.- ;
E.- Pasayan; R.- Overfare; B.T.- Turner; W.-
T.- Jennish