THE LAST MISSION

Frank K. (Red) Hudson, (ASN 0-684113) member 827 Squadron passed away November 23, 1985. He was the bombardier on crew #71 piloted by Earl W. DePue. Frank Hudson first reported to the 484th Bomb Group on December 30, 1943, and completed his tour of duty in August of 1944. His crew often flew ship #42-52667 “Trouble-Maker.”

His roughest mission was on July 25, 1944 on a raid to Linz, Austria. He reported in his log book, “This was the narrowest escape of my combat career. I was riding in the nose turret as navigator. The bombardier was killed instantly by a direct hit of an 88MM shell. I was nearly knocked out by the concussion, but not scratched, and trapped in the turret without an interphone. I thought the plane was falling, but finally escaped the turret to find the bombardier dead, the co-pilot’s controls shot away and the hydraulic system holed. When the German fighters returned I got back into the turret. If I had flown my normal position, I would have got it instead of the other officer. Time of mission 7 hours 15 minutes.”

Photo of Bombardier's station after the attack described by Frank K. Hudson in his flight log. See Obit left.

Donald A. Anderson, 62, Navigator on Tony Nahkunst’s crew, 764 Squadron passed away November 7, 1984. After his service in the U.S. Army Air service in WWII, he was employed as an engineer with American Motors in Racine, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife Dolores, a daughter Karen, and a sister, Dorothy.

The Last Mission

Donald W. Hofmann, (ASN 35547423) a member from the 765 Squadron has passed away. He served as an automotive equipment mechanic (MOS 014), and last lived in Lima, Ohio. He is survived by his niece, April Conway of W. Palm Beach, Florida.

Joseph C. Briasky, (ASN 13157945) a member from the 765 Squadron died March 8, 1985 from massive lung and brain tumors. He was the radio operator, (MOS 747) on crew #30. He was reported missing in action April 24, 1944, on a mission to Bucharest, Roumania. He subsequently was taken prisoner and made a POW at Stalag Luft III West Camp.

Donald A. Anderson, Navigator on Tony Nahkunst’s crew, 764 Squadron, died of natural causes, November 7, 1984.