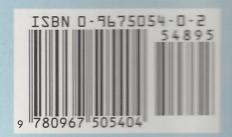


The Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortress" was one of two four-engine heavy bombers used in the European Theatre by the United States Air Force; the other being the Consolidated B-24. Pilots reported it was easy to fly very stable at high altitudes for the necessary close formation flying. Men were amazed at the punishment it could take and bring the crews home.



Front Cover:

"Tail Crazy", a B-17 of the 49th Squadron. A 20mm cannon was installed in the tail, replacing one 50 caliber machine gun. It was an attempt to offset the 20mm cannons in the enemy aircraft.

Photograph courtesy of Charles Hollenberg, Tail Gunner, 49th Squadron

Back Cover:

Formation of B-17s of the 2nd Bombardment Group over Italy on the way to the target.