

Note From Gino
18/4/2016

“...Rounding up this sequence is **Nine Old Men/Big Dog's?**, pictures of which have been posted on site as B-24H-15-DT #41-28815 of 739th BS. I know that some sources have matched these names with this serial, but I'm afraid this is in error. Attached are two pics of the *real* 41-28815 on which Douglas line number 407 is partially visible, matching serial on tail present on one of the pics. This event took place on 4 August 1944, a non-operational day for the 454th BG, when pilot Arthur F. Hogan of 739th BS suffered this accident. Unless there's some flaw in the records, this same aircraft, then assigned to 736th BS instead, had been the object of an earlier accident on 30 March 1944, this time with Leroy H. Beck of at the controls. To complicate matters further, MACR #7200 reports the loss on 10 August 1944 of a B-24 with this same serial number flown by 2/Lt. Harold C. Mortenson, but this is quite clearly in error, as the accident on the 4 of the same month had destroyed the aircraft beyond economical repair. This is proven by an eyewitness report in the MACR, where Sgt. Marvin Talasnik refers to this a/c as #608 instead. Although this could be 41-28608, it may as well have been another 608, because an earlier MACR, #6592 reports the loss of 41-28608; so, unless it landed at some other field and managed to return to the group after repairs, 41-28608 looks unlikely for the #608 mentioned. So the real identity of Nine Old Men/Big Dog's? is unfortunately unknown; it could be a H-DT, but the pics are not sharp enough to be sure....”