

From the opening of **AIR POWER** by Michael J. Laurence, with Eli Wallach.
THE SCENES: The now closed, overgrown runway and deserted crew briefing room in England. The first view is down the long expanse. Wallach is in the F.G.

ELI WALLACH (VO)

It used to rain here a lot. It still does. But it was a different kind of rain. It had the smell of burnt cordite and grease, of hot coffee and kerosene... and a glint of blue steel and red exhaust in a blackout...

B-17s RETURNING FROM A MISSION, LANDING.

They counted the ones who came back. A red flare... wounded aboard...and a green flare...we're standing by.

A CRIPPLED B-17 TOUCHES DOWN, SKIDS AND EXPLODES.

That's how it was...

The next morning, a briefing officer stood in front of this map...and forgot what to say...