



“Written Thoughts After Each Mission”
1st Lt. Edward C. Knapp Jr.

“Liberator” Pilot – B24 Bomber
15th Air Force
464th Bomb Group
778 Bomb Squadron



CREW ORIGINATED AT MOUNTAIN HOME A.A.B., IDAHO - NOVEMBER, 1943
RAY BURKLUND - PILOT
ED KNAPP - CO-PILOT
BOB STEINBERG - NAVIGATOR
BILL KURTZE - COMBARDIER
V.P. GUNDERSON - ENGINEER
JIM BROWN - RADIO OPERATOR
JIM FISCHER - TAIL GUNNER
MIKE YURYSTA - ASST. ENGINEER
BOB LAMB - NOSE GUNNER
JIM KYZAR - BALL THRETT
GUNNER

Missions Flown
European Theater of Operations
May 2, 1944 to August 22, 1944



“Getting There”

Date	Time	Location
Feb. 7 1944	6:45	Pocatello Idaho to Topeka Kansas
Feb. 16 1944	1:45	Topeka Kansas to Lincoln Nebraska
Feb. 21 1944	8:30	Lincoln Nebraska to Morrison Field, FL.
Feb. 23 1944	9:40	Morrison Field, FL, to Waller Field, Trinidad
Feb. 25 1944	8:55	Waller Field, Trinidad to Belem, Brazil
Feb. 26 1944	5:00	Belem, Brazil to Fortelaza, Brazil
Feb. 28 1944	2:30	Fortelaza, Brazil to Natal Brazil
Mar. 4 1944	11:55	Natal, Brazil to Dakar, Africa
Mar. 5 1944	8:45	Dakar, Africa to Marrakech, N. Africa
Mar. 8 1944	8:00	Marrakech, N. Africa to Tunis, N. Africa
April 20 1944	-----	Tunis, N. Africa to Gioia, Italy ----“This is it!!”



2 May 1944 # 1
Time- 08:00
Target- La Spezia Italy

Briefed for Parma Italy. One plane lost mid-air collision position 23 easy, intense accurate heavy (I.A.H.) flak, no fighters seen.

Allied Spring Offensive in Italy

12 May 1944 # 2
Time- ----
Target- Briefed for Regio Amelia Italy

Bad weather inland so bombed Portos Stefano. Time 5:21. Bomb thru bombay doors. Plenty of flak, no planes lost.

13 May 1944 # 3
Time- 07:00
Target- Parma Italy Marshalling Yards.

No flak on our route. Saw no fighters but one ship received 20mm shells from ME 109 & FW 190. No planes lost.

14 May 1944 # 4
Time- 05:44
Target- Treviso Italy Marshalling Yards.

Little flak – inaccurate, no losses.

19 May 1944 # 5
Time- 05:49
Target- Faenza Italy Marshalling Yards.

Good bombing, no flak.

22 May 1944 # 6
Time- 04:54
Target- Valmonton Italy – Troop Concentrations & Stores

Couldn't find I.P. or target because of low clouds. Returned with bombs. Flak over coast. Hole in R.H. windshield. Hit 'Burk' in right arm but not hard enough to cause serious injury.

23 May 1944 Same Target #7
Time- 04:49
Target- Valmonton Italy – Troop Concentrations & Stores (same as before)

Same results – no flak.



May 25

Ray flew with Capt. Hornbaker. Group hit by flak and fighters over Nice after bombing target which was just south of Lyons France. Ray & Hornbaker were hit by flak and turned back toward coast of France. I pray to God that they made it safely. Two others lost. One exploded.

May 27 # 8

Time- 09:20

Target- Nimes France

Long flight – Too long too early at target and converged at target with another group. Bombs went right with a few good hits. Crew flew with Martin as pilot. One ship got a direct hit with flak and wing came off. No chutes.

Sortie 9

May 29 #9 #10

Time- 07:20 --- Over Target at 10:35

Target- Aircraft Machine Shops & Repair South of Vienna on Railroad to Wiener Nuestadt Austria

Dropped bombs 1000 yds right in oil refinery – factory and marshalling yards. Evidently good hit. Lot of smoke and flames. Primary target was obscured by smoke due to hits by other groups. Barrage flak and plenty of it over target. Lot of planes hit but not seriously. Fox Box had four ships with feathered engines and had trouble staying with group on rally. Fighters jumped them and got four of our ships. Jares was the first to get it. He had dropped back from another box to give them some help. Four fighters shot down. More flak on way home. Lost one more. Another crash landed at Vis. Total – 6.

We had quite a few hits in the ship. Waist gunner received a gash in right fore arm. Think it will be OK. Rudder cable hit at joint of rudder & vertical stabilizer, no trim. Needed a lot of right rudder to fly back. Flew with Welch and his crew. Rough.

Total hours to date 58:17

Pantenella A.A.B.

Moved in 31 May 44

Sortie 10

2 June 44 # 11 & # 12

Time- 07:35

Target- MY Cluj Rumania

Flew with G.O. Flannagan. Good mission No flak No fighters No losses. Bombing good. Flew every 15 minutes. Changing with George. Can handle this big bird better every day.

June 6 - Allied Invasion of France

Group went to Ploesti 7 lost to fighters. LT. Ware and LT. Mills crews



11 Sortie
June 7 #13
Time- 06:29
Target- Briefed for La Spezia Harbor Italy

Weather over briefed target so bombed alternate - leghorn. Hits on dock and shipping. Flew co-pilot for Major Poff. Little flak over target but we did get hit in right rudder - not serious no losses bombing fair.

12th Sortie
June 16 1944 #14 #15
Time- 07:06
Target- Austria Vienna – Loban Oil Blending Plant

Group led wing with Col. McKenna & Col. Achinson in lead. Flew with Martin lead of Easy Box. Met estimated 100 fighters So. of Lake Balaton. Other groups attacked but we weren't. Flak before target and at target. Quite a few ships hit and several injuries. One crew bailed out over Yugoslavia coast on return. Another landed at Bari for medical attention. Several flak holes in our ship. None serious.

13th Sortie
June 26 1944 #16 & #17
Time- 07:00
Target- Florisdorf Austria – MY and Oil Distillering Plant North of City of Vienna

Mission flown as briefed. Flak I-A-H over target and rally. Probably the longest I've been in flak. Good fighter cover – P38's. Saw my first enemy fighter at "close" range. 6 ME 109's turning to chase a B-24 that turned around just before target. Two ships lost to flak. - Col. Bonner with Lt. Dunn and Major Carter with Lt. Locke - Some chutes opened - Don't know how many. Target hit good. Whole Vienna area bombed but good.

Total hours to date 86:27

14 Sortie
June 28 # 18 & # 19
Time- 08:00
Target- Prahova and Titon Oil Refineries at Bucharest - Romania

Mission flown as briefed. No flak on course. I-A-H Flak at target but our bomb run was short and rally was sharp. Estimate we were in flak 1 ½ min. One enemy fighter seen on route home. He was playing around doing acrobatics. P-38 fighter cover. 100# Bombs. (40). Hits not observed. No ships lost. Bombed at 23,000. Temp -28° centigrade. That's the way I want to add 'em up.

15th Sortie
July 3 # 20
Time- 05:16
Target- Belgrade Shell – (Yugoslavia) Oil Depot

Mission flown as briefed. Bombs away just as flak started. Rally right and missed a lot of flak. Fighter cover & withdrawal of P-38's. Flak hole in #2 gas tank. Didn't know it until we landed. Good bombing – no losses.



16th Sortie
 July 5 # 21
 Time- 07:40
 Target- Submarine Docks at Toulon - France

Flew on course to 20,000 ft. before we left the coast. Hadn't anticipated cold weather so I froze. On oxygen over four hrs. Had to "S" to keep inline with other groups because they were at a lower altitude. Finally lost the other groups and made our own bomb run. Flak just before bombs away. Briefed to rally right but too much flak there so rallied slightly to left and when clear of flak made a big sweep to right. Two fighters seen but P-38's took care of them. Another long trip home.

One ship lost to flak at target. Six chutes seen. Several crew members on other ships injured.

Sortie 17
 July 6 Mission 22
 Time- 06:30
 Target- Porto Maghera - Oil Installations just north of Venice at Mestre

Mission flown as briefed until target area. Corrections as last minute threw bombs off target. Damage to docks, warehouses, and factories but not on target. Flew it on bomb run, first time. Flak just before bombs away and a minute after. M.A.H. hit in nose caught Lane in hand and hit his helmet. Another inch lower and finito. Landed at Foggia for medical attention. Bones middle finger left hand crushed. May lose finger. No planes lost. No other injuries.

Sortie 18
 Mission 23- 24
 July 8
 Time- 08:00
 Target- Florisdorf Oil Vienna – Austria. Installations and MY

Mission flown as briefed except didn't reach assigned alt. of 23,800 ft. Bombed at 21,000 feet. Formation:-

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      X
     X X
      X
   X  X X X
  X X      X X
      X
     X X
      X
   X  X X X
  X X      X X
  
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Finally wound up with 4-6 ship boxes. Flak at IP on bomb run and over target. **I-A-H** rally left, then right. Hit by fighters after rally right. Attacked Charlie Box and tracers just outside our left wing. Kyzar claims probable. Tail-upper and lower turrets were firing. Lost 3 ships. Two went down and Tudbury missing (OK). Flew on bomb run. Good bombing. Hope we don't have to go back again. Amen.

One ship crashed landed at Vis.



Sortie 19
July 12 Mission 25 **Halfway**
Time- 09:40
Target- Nimes France - MY

Mission flown as briefed. Something happened just before I.P. and we turned short. Came in So. of target and then headed for it. In the meantime most ships had dropped bombs all over the area. Nearly collided with another group over target. They were above us and just dropped their bombs. First time I saw chute open - from 465th ship shot down by fighters.

I sure sweated that one out. Flak observed but not encountered. Enemy fighters attacked 465th before I.P. and continued attacks head on and from three o'clock. One 465th ship shot down. Gunners in our group claimed 4 enemy fighters. None of our ships lost. Drake ran out of gas and bailed crew out. Flew Baker 13. Worse lead I ever saw. Another snafu mission weather on return separated and came in individually.

Sortie 20
July 13 Mission 26
Time- 07:30
Target- Port Maghera Oil Installations Near Venice Italy

Mission flown as briefed to I.P. Apparently cloud cover over target so turned towards last resort target; - MY at Mantova Italy. Made one pass over but again cloud cover so turned 180° and bombed on second pass. Good bombing as observed. No flak encountered but it was all around us. Saw a plane explode and go down in flames over primary target. No planes lost. No fighters.

Sortie 21
July 14 Mission 27
Time- 06:40
Target- Porto Maghera Oil Installations Near Venice Italy

Practically same as day before. Cloud cover at target so turned to last resort – Mantova. Bombs landed on target, in town and surrounding area. No flak at target but saw two bursts at I.P. - one going in and one going out. No enemy fighters P-51 escort. No losses.

Sortie 22
July 15 Mission 28
Time- 08:20
Target; **POLESTI** Rumania

This is the mission we have been sweating out for for two weeks. Knew it was coming but didn't know when. Lead and deputy able box and lead dog box pathfinders. We were last group in wing and next to last wing in line in air force. Mission flown as briefed. Saw oil smoke to a height of 14,000 ft. before we got to target. Flak I.A.H. several fighters seen, none attacked. Flak encountered several minutes before and after bombs away. Target obscured due to low clouds and smoke from targets bombs previously. Could not observe results of bombing. I was flying on bomb run in C-13. Saw Folsom in C-12 get a direct hit just behind waist windows. Ship split in two and nose straight down. No one could have gotten out. One other ship missing.



Sortie 23
July 16 Mission 29 - 30
Time- 07:10
Target- Wiener Neuoorf A/C Factories – Austria

Mission flown as briefed to target and return. 2nd in wing Baker 12 P-38 escort picked up at Lake Balaton. Estimate over 100. They followed us a ways but left us just before target. ME-109's attacked 465th and came right through our formation, then attacked us from the rear. Several B-24 shot down and some fighters shot down. Estimate 50 or more enemy fighters shot down. Flak only at target heavy –moderate to intense and inaccurate. Target covered by clouds. Bombed on P/F. No observations of hits. 2 planes lost and 1 missing. Total 3.

They're not getting easier

Sortie 24
19 July 44 Mission 31 - 32
Time- 07:00
Target- Allach A/C Engine Plant Munich - Germany

Mission flown as briefed. 3rd in wing – Baker 22. Altitude at target 24,000. Before I.P. flak seen - A curtain over Munich. 460 - 485 apparently bombed alternate – Marshalling Yards, 464 bombed two installations both looks like target. O.K. if we knocked both out. Flak at target I.A.H. After bombs away we seemed to follow an alley between two flak barrages. There was still plenty in the alley but not quite as intense. Few holes in our plane. None serious. Plenty of P-38 & P-51 except before target. Dog fights to left on way home. Three planes missing. None seen to go down. MacDonald 778 – Switzerland (we hope)

Sortie 25
July 25 44 Mission 33 - 34
Time- 07:25
Target- Herman Goering Tank Works Linz, Austria

Mission flown as briefed. Second in wing -B-21. Altitude at target 23,000. Saw flak at target while on course before I.P. Good bomb run. Very, good bombing. Target virtually knocked out. Flak over a wide area just before bombs away and about 7-8 minutes after - I.A.H- Good escort P-38's & P-51's. 8 enemy fighters seen but saw P-51's chase them away. W-F (*Brown nose) feathered an engine and turned back just past Zagreb. Didn't know what happened to them. Pilot Knott – a new crew. No other losses. No damage to our plane.

* landed at Vis, crew OK.

Sortie 26
July 26 Mission 35 - 36
Time- 07:30
Target- Zwolfaxing A/O – Planes on field & installations Vienna area

Mission flown as briefed. 4th in wing F-12. Before IP we were having very thick condensation trails causing poor visibility. Lost altitude to 20,000 and went into target other groups appeared to be turning around. Bombs away in most ships 1st attack unit. Dog & Easy turned right to bomb a different airfield. Fox dropped bombs and followed 1st attack unit while Dog & Easy rallied right clear of flak. Poff led us through I.A.H. flak to drop his bombs on target. Then rallied right. Carried Frag Clusters. Don't think our bombs hit anything. No ships lost. Very fortunate. Several crew injuries in group.



Sortie 27
July 30 Mission 37
Time- Seven and one half hrs.
Target- Duna – Budapest Area Hungary

Mission flown as briefed 3rd in wing C-12 Johnson. 460th fell behind so we pulled up second in wing. At I.P. 460th tried to take 2 in wing and flew over our group. One ship from 460 dropped bombs on Kirkland. Two chutes. Flak at target mod. to intense A-H. Saw two ships from group ahead go down. Fighters were area but P-51's and P-38's kept them away. Saw one fighter go down. #1 prop went up to 2700 over target regulator wouldn't bring it down so used feathering button. That happened several times. #4 throttle was off all the way. Other settings at 30 inches #4 at 15". Tarfu- only a single ship lost

August 2 Mission 38
Time- 07:25
Target- Docks & Harbor Installations Genoa, Italy

Mission flown as briefed. Exception bombed at 20,200 instead of 22,800 due to weather enroute. B-11 4th in wing. Over water all the way. Flak at target mod - to - int -A.H. Out of flak over target in about 2 min. Two batteries of #4 & #3 guns continued to fire on us until we were out of rally. Suspect guns from ships outside harbor. No fighters encountered. P-38 & P-51 cover. Very good bombing. Fires and explosions seen. No losses.

Sortie
August 6 1944 Mission 39
Time- 07:25
Target- Le Pontet Oil Storage North of Avignon France

Mission flown as briefed 4th in wing E-13. W-A co-pilot for Morlan. Alt over target 22,000. No flak except at target. Estimate one five-gun battery and one three-gun battery. Fairly accurate. Saw two enemy fighters just before coast going in. No fighters encountered no escort seen. No losses. Bombs on target but no explosions. Wonder if those tanks were empty. Sweated out gas on return. Still had plenty when we landed. Weather up to 20,000 ft. on west coast. Came in south of Naples at 18,000. Then let down 3,000 ft. per min. at 220 mph and hit field on the nose. Another one too long but they count.

Sortie 30
August 9 Mission 40
Time- 06:25
Target- Tokol Airdrome South of Budapest Hungary

2 in wing D-11 NY Welch mission flown as briefed. Flak at target I-A-H. G.O. Flannagan a direct hit just aft of bomb bay. Flying W-O with Brown in waist. 5 chutes seen. #48 for Brown. Drake feathered #2 landed at Vis. Crew OK. Lamb with him. Few bombs landed on target. Others in airfield. A rough single. Good escort. No enemy fighters close.

Sortie 31
August 10 Mission 41
Time- 07:20
Target- Ploesti Rumania Astro Romano Oil Refinery

3rd and last in wing WR Park B-22 mission flown as briefed. Flak and burning oil seen 1/2 hr. before target. Flak I-A-H. bombed at 24,400. Highest I ever been. Johnson dropped 8 bombs before target to keep up. We pulled 2550 and 47" before bombs away. Bombs missed again. Knott feathered an engine before target and when last seen was headed in direction of Turkey. Flak again between Bucharest and Ploesti after rally. August 12 Knott unreported. Good escort. No enemy fighters seen. Rough single.

August 22 Knott reported in Turkey (?)



Sortie 32
August 12 Mission 42
Time- 06:40
Target- Gun Emplacement on Coast West of Sete France

Mission flown as briefed. E-12 1st in wing, W-V Welch. Each box had separate target. Ours was one gun on coast. We missed it. Flak-scant-inaccurate-heavy. No enemy fighters seen. Supposed to rally to rendezvous point and pick up other three boxes- reform and come back as a group. Others were far behind so returned with just one box. No losses. Only one of four targets possibly hit.

Johnson – finished
Poore- finished

Sortie 33

August 13 Mission 43
Time- 07:00
Target- Gun positions West of Sete France same as yesterday

W-J E-11 Welch 3rd in wing. Mission same as yesterday except this time we hit target- but good. No losses. Scant - inaccurate - heavy flak.

Bob-Wesselhoff-Scheffield- finished

Sortie 34
Mission 44
August 14 Mission 44
Time- 06:50
Target- Gun Emplacements in St. Tropaz area on French Coast East of Toulon

Parks WC A-23 4th in wing. Mission flown as briefed. Individual targets for each box. We missed ours no flak no fighters. Long mission but each one counts. Observed convoys on way to invasion. No losses.

“D”-Day in South France

Sortie 35 3rd OL Cluster
Mission 45
August 15 Mission 45
Time- 07:10
Target- Highway bridges on Rhone River No. of Avignon, France

Morlan C-22 3rd in wing W-C mission flown as briefed. Ours was the only wing to go inland. Believe we were bait to draw enemy fighters. Excellent P-51 cover. No enemy fighters seen nor any dog fights. Bridge hit by second attack unit first attack unit missed. Over nine hours in the air. No losses.



Sortie 36
August 16 Mission 46 - 47
Time- 7:00
Target- Chemical Works No. of Friederichshafen Germany

W-736 Anderson D-11 2nd in wing. Mission flown as briefed except it was necessary to alter course over Alps to avoid weather both going and coming. This time I'm sure we were bait. Ours was the only wing going into Germany. One other wing attacked south. Our escort consisted of P-38 & P-51 - 140 of them. Not one enemy fighter came up. Guess they knew better. Where is the Luftwaffe? Not that I want to see any. Good bombing on target flak M-I-A-H. We were in it for only a short time. No losses. Andy's crew finished except one gunner with 49. Saw glaciers in Alps plus some really pretty valleys.

Sortie 37
August 21 Mission 48
Time- 07:10
Target- NIS Airdrome Yugoslavia

1st wing B-22 W-Y Morlan. Bombed with Frag Clusters at 19,500. Mission flown as briefed. Flak about 20 minutes before target. About two or four gun battery flak hole leading edge wing between #3 & #4. Cut all wires for #4 engine causing all instruments to go out. Thought at first that engine was going out, but apparently nothing wrong with it. Flak over target scant-inaccurate-heavy. Good bombing. Welch & Col. Schroeder led wing column of black smoke at target may have been oil & gas storage. Same piece of flak hit right main tire – slight tear. Shows to go you that just one gun can make a mission rough. No losses - no enemy fighters. P-51 over target (25). 5hr. mission.

Sortie 38
August 22 Mission 49-50 - FINISHED
Time- 07:20
Target- Kounadorf Oil Storage. No. of Vienna Austria

C-11 W-W 2nd in wing Welch missed briefing. O.D. didn't wake us up. Flew pathfinder lead second attack unit. 25 minutes late at target. Slow lead by 465th alt. 23,000 - prop wash. Good bomb run. Outer defenses of Vienna guns just reached us - 24 guns at target. Flak I-A-H. A-21 took direct hit left wing. Engines hit and burning. Slow peel off to left then into a dive. No chutes observed from our plane. Sure there must have been some. Good hits on target. Rallied down flak alley west of Vienna. Intense flak both sides – scant on course. Large flak hole in right rudder. Landed without mishap.

THAT'S ALL – THERE IS NO MORE -
THANK GOD
--- FINITO---

Bomber Formation

“A” Able Box

X
X X
X

“C” Charlie Box

X
X X
X

X
X X
X

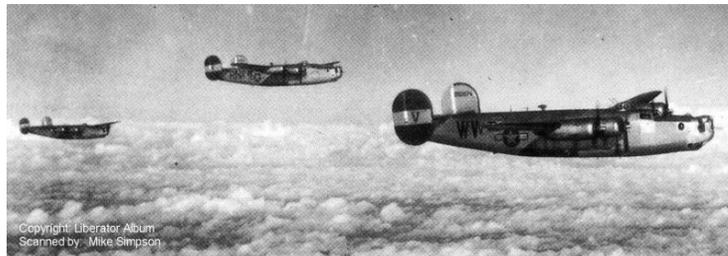
“D” Dog Box

“E” Easy Box

X
X X
X

X
X X
X

“F” Fox Box



Terms-

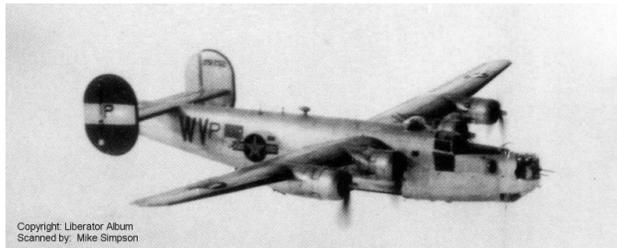
I.P.- Initial point coming over target before bomb run

I-A-H- Intense Accurate Heavy (flak, enemy aircraft batteries)

Land at Vis- Safe-haven Island off Yugoslavia for pilots to land in case of trouble

P/F- Pathfinder, lead plane on the mission responsible for bringing bomb group to the target

MY- Marshalling Yard



B 24 – LIBERATOR

The B-24 was employed in operations in every combat theater during the war. Because of its great range, it was particularly suited for such missions as the famous raid from North Africa against the oil industry at Ploesti, Rumania on August 1, 1943

The B-24 Liberator was produced in greater quantities and flown in more theaters of war by the air forces of more countries than any other four engine bomber in World War II. 19,256 planes (in several versions) were produced by Consolidated Vultee, Ford Motor Company, Douglas Aircraft and North American Aircraft between the years of 1939 and 1945. Today there are only two flight-worthy B-24's in existence, and it's history and role in WW II is only dimly recalled except by those who flew in them.

The most common bomb-load was ten 500 pound bombs or five 1,000 pounders. It's operating environment against heavily defended targets in the European Theater was from 18,000 to 28,000 feet, although many missions (particularly in the Pacific) were flown at much lower altitudes. The planes were not pressurized or heated; crewmen wore oxygen masks on high altitude missions and were exposed to temperatures that reached -30 degrees farenheit and below.



B24 Production line

The B-24 was a four-engine heavy bomber with Pratt and Whitney Liberator R-1830 radial engines on high-mounted wing. A fully armed and combat-ready B-24 carried a crew of ten men. Its gross weight when loaded was greater than 60,000 pounds. It had, in the most common versions, four movable turrets, each with two .50 caliber machine guns and two individual .50s in the waist, making a total of ten. It was powered by four 1,200 horsepower engines and carried 2,750 gallons of fuel. Many B-24 missions were round trips of 1,500 miles and some extended ranges were near 2,000 miles.

SPECIFICATIONS

Span: 110 ft. 0 in.

Height: 17 ft. 11 in.

Armament: Ten .50-cal. machine guns and 8,000 lbs. of bombs

Engines: Four Pratt & Whitney R-1830s of 1,200 hp. ea.

Cost: \$336,000

Length: 66 ft. 4 in.

Weight: 56,000 lbs. loaded

Engines: Four Pratt & Whitney R-1830s of 1,200 hp. ea.

Serial Number: 42-72843

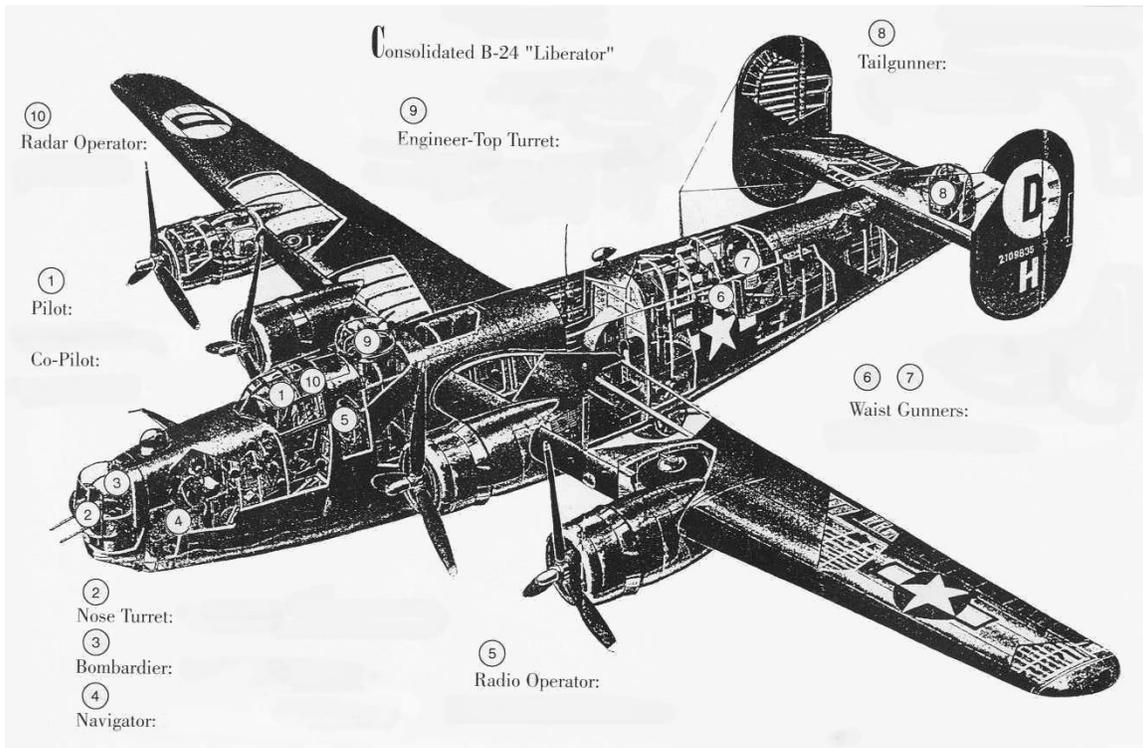
PERFORMANCE

Maximum speed: 303 mph.

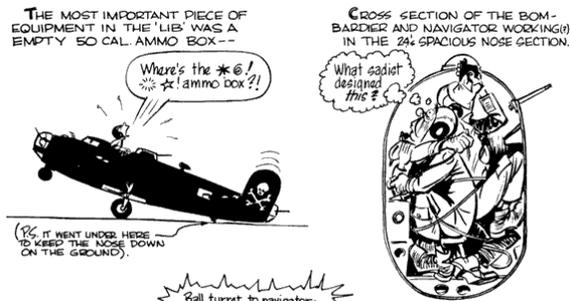
Cruising speed: 175 mph.

Range: 2,850 mph.

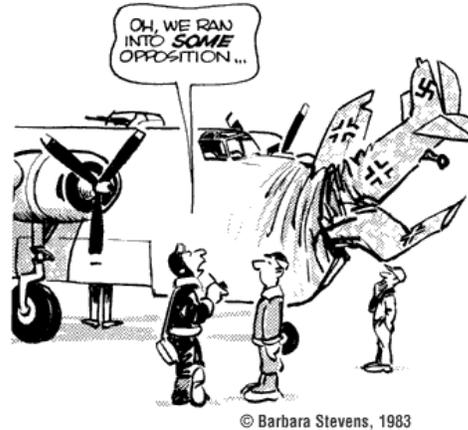
Service Ceiling: 28,000 ft.



Comic Strips concerning the B-24:



HERE'S A CLASSIC FROM A COPY OF WWII'S *YANK* - COURTESY OF THE LIBERATOR CLUB:
This Bob Stevens comic is brought to you by planetstuff.com.



464th Bomb Group History- 777th Bombardment Squadron

Group	Group Type	Motto
464th Bombardment	(Heavy)	Certissimus In Incertis - Most Certain in Uncertainties

Constituted as 464th Bombardment Group (Heavy) on 19 May 1943. Activated on 1 Aug 1943. Trained for combat with B-24's. Moved to the Mediterranean theater, Feb-Apr 1944, with the air echelon training for a few weeks in Tunisia before joining the remainder of the group in Italy. Served with Fifteenth AF, April 1944-May 1945, operating primarily as part of the strategic bombardment force that disrupted German industry and communications. Flew long-range missions to attack such objectives as marshalling yards, oil refineries, oil storage facilities, aircraft factories, and chemical plants in Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, Rumania, Yugoslavia, and Greece. Received a DUC for leading the 55th Wing in compact formation through heavy opposition to bomb marshalling yards and an oil refinery at Vienna on 8 Jul 1944. Received another DUC for a mission on 24 Aug 1944 when the group scored hits not only on the target, an oil refinery at Pardubice, but also on nearby railroad tracks. Sometimes engaged in support and interdiction operations. Supported Allied forces during the invasion of Southern France in Aug 1944. Hit railroad centers to assist the advance of Russian troops in southeastern Europe in Mar 1945. Bombed enemy supply lines to assist the advance of US Fifth and British Eighth Army in northern Italy in Apr 1945. Moved to Trinidad in Jun 1945. Assigned to Air Transport Command. Inactivated on 31 Jul 1945. Redesignated 464th Troop Carrier Group (Medium). Activated in the US on 1 Feb 1953. Assigned to Tactical Air Command. Used C-46 and C-119 aircraft. Campaigns American Theater, Air Combat, EAME Theater, Air Offensive, Europe, Rome-Arno, Normandy, Northern France, Southern France, North Apennines, Rhineland, Central Europe, Po Valley, Decorations Distinguished Unit Citations: Vienna, Austria, 8 Jul 1944; Pardubice, Czechoslovakia, [24] Aug 1944. Stations

Name	Dates	Station No.
Wendover Field, UT	1 Aug 1943	
Gowen Field, ID	22 Aug 1943	
Pocatello AAFld, ID	2 Oct 1943-9 Feb 1944	
Pantanella Airfield, Italy	Mar 1944	
Gioia, Italy	21 Apr 1944	
Pantanella Airfield, Italy	c. 1 Jun 1944-c. May 1945	

Waller Field, Trinidad Jun-31 Jul 1945

Commanders

Name	Dates
Unknown	1 Aug-1 Sep 1943
Col Marshall Bonner	2 Sep 1943
Col Arnold L Schroeder	30 Jun 1944
Col A J Bird Jr	13 Mar 1945-unkn

Insignia

Shield: Azure, surmounting a cloud argent, an American eagle descendant, wings, endorsed proper, between his beak four lightning streaks, two and two gules, speed lines of the first all inclosed by two bendlets sinister vert, edged or. (Approved 15 Apr 1954.)

Allied aircraft-



The P-38 was used extensively as a long-range escort fighter in World War II and saw action in practically every major combat area of the world. A very versatile aircraft, the Lightning was also used for dive bombing, level bombing, ground strafing and photo reconnaissance missions.



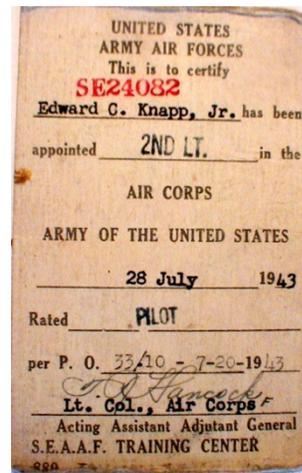
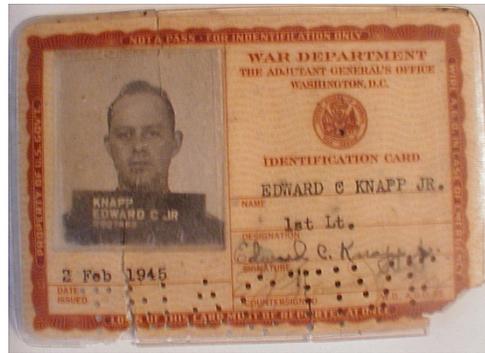
P-51's provided high-altitude escort to B-17s and B-24s, they scored heavily over German interceptors and by war's end, P-51s had destroyed 4,950 enemy aircraft in the air, more than any other fighter in Europe. It's ability to fly long distances in the escort fighter role earned it fame during the long missions to Germany and over the expanses of the Pacific.

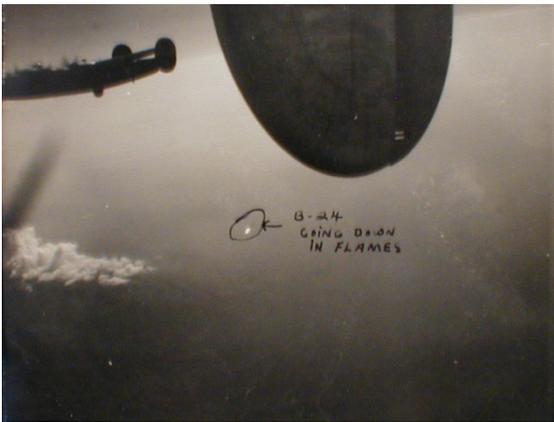
German aircraft



The ME-109 was the best known and most produced German fighter of World War II. It was the backbone of the German fighter command. The ME-109 was responsible for the loss of more allied aircraft during World War II than any other plane.

Identification, Medals & Personal Photo Gallery-







Distinguished Flying Cross



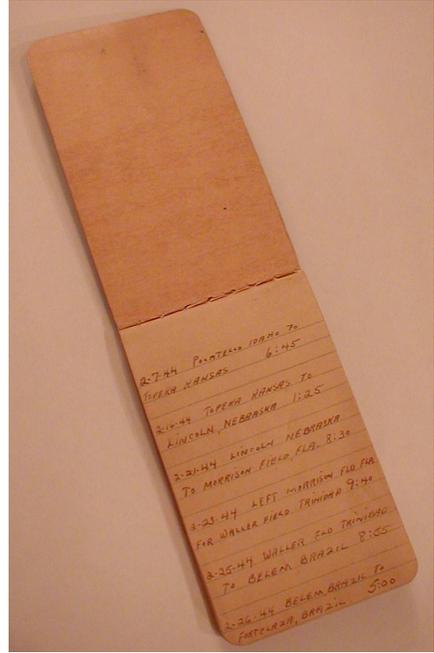
Certificate Of Valor – 50 Missions



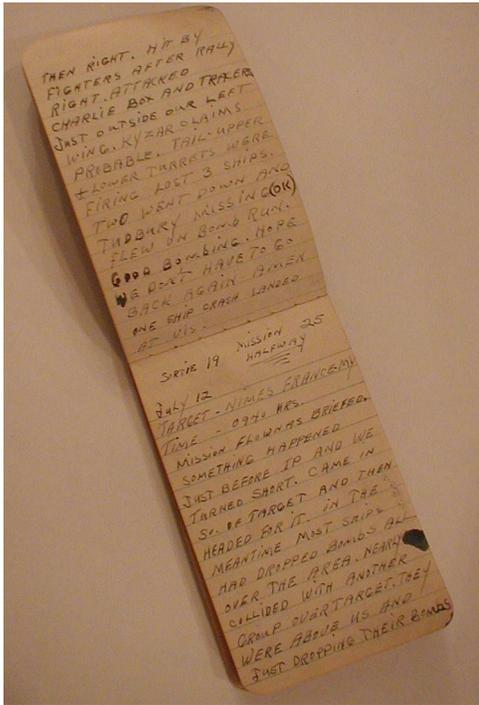
Army Air Corps Pilot Wings



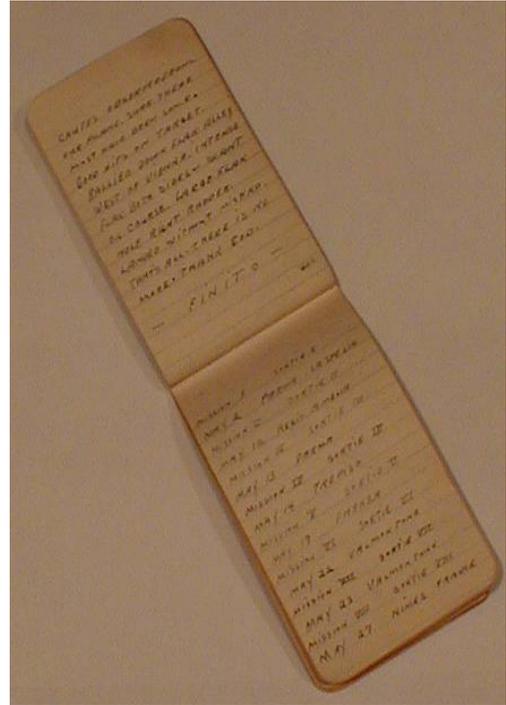
Diary



1st Page



Halfway



Last Mission Page – 'FINITO'

Appendix of Mission Completions

MISSION I SORTIE I
 MAY 2 PAVIA - LA SPEZIA
 MISSION II SORTIE II
 MAY 12 REGIO AEMILIA
 MISSION III SORTIE III
 MAY 13 PARMA
 MISSION IV SORTIE IV
 MAY 14 TREVISO
 MISSION V SORTIE V
 MAY 19 FAENZA
 MISSION VI SORTIE VI
 MAY 22 VALMONTONE
 MISSION VII SORTIE VII
 MAY 23 VALMONTONE
 MISSION VIII SORTIE VIII
 MAY 27 NIMES FRANCE

MISSION IX - X SORTIE IX
 MAY 27 VIENNA AUSTRIA
 MISSION XI - XII SORTIE X
 JUNE 2 CLUJ - ROMANIA
 MISSION XIII SORTIE XI
 LA SPEZIA (BRIGADE)
 LEGHORN - ITALY
 MISSION XIV - XV SORTIE XII
 JUNE 16 VIENNA - LEBAN
 MISSION XVI - XVII SORTIE XIII
 JUNE 26 FLORENCE - AUSTRIA
 MISSION XVIII - XIX SORTIE XIV
 JUNE 28 BUCHAREST ROMANIA
 MISSION XX SORTIE XV
 JULY 3 BELGRADE - HUNGARY
 MISSION XXI SORTIE XVI
 JULY 5 TOULON - FRANCE

MISSION XXII SORTIE XVII
 JULY 6 PISA MACHERA - ITALY
 MISSION XXIII - XXIV SORTIE XVIII
 JULY 8 FLORENCE, AUSTRIA
 MISSION XXV SORTIE XIX
 JULY 12 NIMES FRANCE
 MISSION XXVI SORTIE XX
 PISTOIA MACHERA (CORSE)
 MANTUA - ITALY
 JULY 13
 MISSION XXVII SORTIE XXI
 PISTOIA MACHERA (CORSE)
 MANTUA - ITALY
 JULY 14
 MISSION XXVIII SORTIE XXII
 JULY 15 PIESTI - ROMANIA
 MISSION XXIX - XXX SORTIE XXIII
 JULY 16 WIENER NEUDORF AUSTRIA
 MISSION XXXI - XXXII SORTIE XXIV
 JULY 19 MUNICH GERMANY

MISSION XXXIII - XXXIV SORTIE XXV
 JULY 25 LINZ AUSTRIA
 MISSION XXXV - XXXVI SORTIE XXVI
 ZUGSPITZEN AUSTRIA
 JULY 26 VIENNA AUSTRIA
 MISSION XXXVII SORTIE XXVII
 DINA AUSTRIA
 JULY 30 BUCHAREST HUNGARY
 MISSION XXXVIII SORTIE XXVIII
 AUGUST 2 GENOA ITALY
 MISSION XXXIX SORTIE XXIX
 LE PORTET AUSTRIA
 AUGUST 4 HUNGARY - FRANCE
 MISSION XL SORTIE XXX
 AUGUST 7 BUCHAREST HUNGARY
 MISSION XLII SORTIE XXXI
 AUGUST 10 PIESTI - ROMANIA
 MISSION XLIII SORTIE XXXII
 AUGUST 12 DAN CARNEGHI'S MOUNT
 OF SETE FRANCE

MISSION XLIV SORTIE XXXIII
 DAN CARNEGHI'S MOUNT
 OF SETE, FRANCE
 AUGUST 13
 MISSION XLV SORTIE XXXIV
 DAN CARNEGHI'S MOUNT
 TRAFALGAR FRANCE
 AUGUST 14
 MISSION XLVI SORTIE XXXV
 HUNGARY BRIGADE WITH
 11 DIVISION, FRANCE
 AUGUST 15
 MISSION XLVII - XLVIII SORTIE XXXVI
 AUGUST 16 FRIEDRICHSHAGEN GERMANY
 MISSION XLIX SORTIE XXXVII
 AUGUST 21 NIS AUSTRIA
 MISSION L SORTIE XXXVIII
 KOUHADOFF AUSTRIA
 AUGUST 22 VIENNA AUSTRIA

FINISH

With Three Sons Moving Up To Front Ma And Pa Knapp — And Boat — Pitch In



C. H. M. EDWARD KNAPP



CADET EDWARD KNAPP JR.



SGT. JOHN KNAPP

Park Family, All Out, Has One In Africa, Two In The Air

The Knapps of Ridgfield Park have three stars in their service flag but that's only half the story.

With one son in the Army in North Africa, another preparing to enter advanced training with the Air Forces and a third serving as a liaison pilot, the home on Grand Avenue got pretty lonesome, so Edward C. Knapp Sr., veteran of the last war, volunteered his services now serves 1 day a week as chief boatwain's mate. Mrs. Knapp does her share as a Block Leader with the Community War Services Division.

Staff Sergeant John, the youngest son is home on a 10-day leave from Abilene, Texas where he is stationed at the Army Air Base. This is his first leave since entering the Air Corps May 26, 1942. He is trained as a pilot and is now a liaison pilot. He is a graduate of Ridgfield Park High School where he was a member of the 1939 championship football team, and of Bergen Junior College. He was formerly employed by duPont at Pompton Lakes.

Sergeant George entered the Army Jan. 25, 1941, and trained with General Patton's division in the Second Corps in North Africa. He was ac-



SGT. GEORGE KNAPP

Father In Coast Guard And Mother Works As Block Leader

tive in basketball and baseball before and after graduating from Ridgfield Park High. He was married to the former Roselle Stein, daughter of Patrolman and Mrs. Charles Stein of Fort Lee, 3 months after entering the Army.

Air Cadet Edward, the oldest, 26 and this week completed his basic training at Hambridge, Ga. He will enter advanced training in Columbus, Miss. and expects to be a second lieutenant sometime in July. He entered the Army Feb. 26, 1941, just 1 month later than George. He was stationed with the rolling force in the Quartermaster Division and later transferred to the Air Corps. Edward was married last August to the former Evelyn West of Augusta, Ga.

Knapp Sr. serves one 24-hour day each week in his own boat with the Coast Guard Reserve off Staten Island. The boat is in service every day under the command of different volunteers.

With Mrs. Knapp serving as a block leader, the only one left home is Carolyn, 14, who has a steady job writing to all three brothers at least once a week.

URGE EQUALITY IN GIVING JOBS DESPITE RECORD

Seek To Curb Disease By Urging Voluntary Help Of Bar Owners

BIG DRIVE COMING

Trenton, June 19 (AP)—A federal-state conference on social protection wants employers to give unbiased consideration to woman job-seekers who have records of prostitution or sex delinquency.

At the windup of a one-day meeting devoted to discussion of methods of curbing venereal disease, state, county and municipal delegates yesterday adopted a resolution urging society to find places for reformed sex delinquents.

The resolution also stated that women and girls arrested for the first time as sex offenders should not be confined in accommodations also occupied by experienced prostitutes and other criminals.

Another resolution recommended that owners of motion picture theaters, dance halls, bars, taverns and similar places of congregation conduct their business in such a manner as to discourage sexual promiscuity.

Formation of Social Protection Co-ordinating Committees in areas and municipalities most affected by military and industrial concentrations was urged in another resolution.

The committees would include representatives of police, health, welfare, and other departments who would map community action to repress prostitution, decrease sexual promiscuity, and prevent the transmission of venereal disease.

The conference was described as the kickoff of a national program to attain President Roosevelt's goal of total physical and moral fitness during the war and to maintain it in peacetime.

TEANECK IS HOST TO GAS OFFICERS

Tri-County Training Session Lasts 2 Days

ENLISTED RECORD OF

Knapp, Jr. Edward C. 32 061 0 25 Avn Cadet
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Army serial number) (Grade)

Born in Pueblo, in the State of Colorado
 Inducted February 25, 1941, at Fort Dix, New Jersey
 When enlisted or inducted he was 23 5/12 years of age and by occupation a Truck Driver
 He had gray eyes, brown hair, fair complexion, and was 5 feet 9 1/2 inches in height.
 Completed 2 years, 5 months, 3 days service for longevity pay.
 Prior service: None

Noncommissioned officer Corp. 4-1-42; Tech. 4 Gr. 7-1-42
 Military qualifications None
 Army specialty Avn Cadet (Pilot)
 Attendance at None
 (Name of noncommissioned officers' or special service school)

CAAF
Paul A. West
2nd Lt. AD

Battles, engagements, skirmishes, expeditions None
 Decorations, service medals, citations None
 Wounds received in service None
 Date and result of smallpox vaccination 10-15-42
 Date of completion of all typhoid-paratyphoid vaccinations 1-30-42
 Date and result of diphtheria immunity test (Schick) None
 Date of other vaccinations (specify vaccine used) Tet. Tox. comp. 10-18-41
 Physical condition when discharged good Married or single Married
 Honorably discharged by reason of Par 25 AR 615-160 & Par 1, SO #182, Hq, CAAF, Columbus, Miss. dtd 27 Jul 43
 Character Excellent Remarks No time lost under AW 107. Soldier not entitled to travel pay.

RECEIVED
 BERGEN COUNTY
 CLERKS OFFICE



Oct 6 9 45 AM '45 Signature of soldier

Edward C. Knapp, Jr.
 HUGO SPIEGEL
 2nd Lt., A.C.
 Asst. Adjutant

REGISTRY DIVISION
 ALEXANDER ALLAN
 COUNTY CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENLISTED RECORD

- 1 Enter date of induction only in case of trainee inducted under Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 (Bull 25-W-10, 1940); in all other cases enter date of enlistment. Eliminate word not applicable.
- 2 For each enlistment give company, regiment, or arm or service with inclusive dates of service, grade, cause of discharge, number of days lost under AW, (if none, so state), and number of days retained and cause of retention in service for convenience of the Government, if any.
- 3 Enter qualifications in arms, horsemanship, etc. Show the qualification, date thereof; and number, date, and source of order appointing to grade.
- 4 See paragraph 12, AR 40-210.
- 5 If discharged prior to expiration of service, give number, date, and source of order or full description of authority therefor.
- 6 Enter periods of active duty of enlisted men of the Regular Army Reserve and the Enlisted Reserve Corps and dates of induction into Federal Service in the cases of members of the National Guard.
- 7 In all cases of men who are entitled to receive Certificates of Service under AR 345-500, enter here appointment, ratings held and all other items of special proficiency or merit other than those shown above.

APPLICATION FOR
 CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE
 8-24-45

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE

AR 345-470.
 Insert name; as, "John J. Doe," in center of form.
 Insert Army serial number, grade, company, regiment, or arm or service; as "1620302"; "Corporal, Company A, 1st Infantry"; "Sergeant, Quartermaster Corps."
 The name and grade of the officer signing the certificate will be typewritten or printed below the signature.

BOOK 10 PAGE 41 MILITARY RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL KNAPP, EDWARD C. JR.			2. ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 0 807 462		3. AUS. GRADE 1ST LT	4. ARM OR SERVICE AC	5. COMPONENT AUS		
6. ORGANIZATION GUNNERY #1 2117TH ARMY AIR FORCES BASE UNIT FORT MYERS, FLORIDA			7. DATE OF RELIEF FROM ACTIVE DUTY 22 JUL 45		8. PLACE OF SEPARATION SEPARATION CENTER FORT DIX, NEW JERSEY				
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES 63 GRAND AVENUE, RIDGEFIELD PARK, NEW JERSEY					10. DATE OF BIRTH 8 AUG 17	11. PLACE OF BIRTH PUEBLO, COLORADO			
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT SEE 9					13. COLOR EYES BLUE	14. COLOR HAIR BLOND	15. HEIGHT 5'10"	16. WEIGHT 165	17. NO. OF DEPENDENTS ONE
18. RACE X WHITE		19. MARITAL STATUS X MARRIED		20. U.S. CITIZEN X YES	21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO. ASSISTANT MANAGER TRUCKING 7-36.750				

MILITARY HISTORY

22. REGISTERED X YES	23. LOCAL S. S. BOARD NUMBER	24. COUNTY AND STATE BERGEN, NEW JERSEY		25. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY SEE 9				
26. DATE OF ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY 28 JUL 43		27. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. PILOT 4 ENGINE 1024						
28. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS ROME-ARNO SOUTHERN FRANCE EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS AIR OFFENSIVE OVER EUROPE								
29. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS AIR MEDAL WITH 3 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION EUROPEAN AFRICAN MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER CAMPAIGN								
30. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION NONE								
31. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED ADVANCED FLYING SCHOOL - COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI B-17 TRANSITION - COLUMBUS, OHIO				32. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN				
		DATE OF DEPARTURE 24 FEB 44	DESTINATION EUROPEAN TH	DATE OF ARRIVAL 8 MAR 44				
33. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION RELIEVED FROM ACTIVE DUTY REL-5 (DEMOBILIZATION) AND LTR HQ AAF 13 JUN 45				DATE 10 OCT 44	COUNTRY USA	DATE 22 OCT 44		
34. CONTINENTAL SERVICE			35. EDUCATION (years)					
YEARS 1	MONTHS 3	DAYS 26	YEARS 0	MONTHS 7	DAYS 28	GRAMMAR SCHOOL 8	HIGH SCHOOL 4	COLLEGE 1

INSURANCE NOTICE

36. KIND OF INSURANCE X Nat. Serv. U.S. Govt. None							37. HOW PAID X Allotment Direct to V.A.		38. Effective Date of Allotment Discontinuance 30 JUN 45	39. Date of Next Premium Due (one month after 38) 31 JUL 45	40. PREMIUM DUE EACH MONTH 6.70	41. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO X Continue Continue only Discontinue	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	---	---	--	--

42. RIGHT THUMB PRINT 	43. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W.D. Directives) *RIBBON LABEL BUTTON ISSUED			44. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER BEING SEPARATED <i>Edward C. Knapp Jr.</i>		45. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - signature) GEORGE GELARDI 2ND LT AUS <i>George Gelardi</i>	
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WD AGO FORM 53-98 1 November 1944

This form superseded all previous editions of WD AGO Forms 53 and 280 for officers entitled to a Certificate of Service, which will not be used after receipt of this revision.

DISPOSITION FOR READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCE PERIOD LAW #346
THROUGH
8-24-45