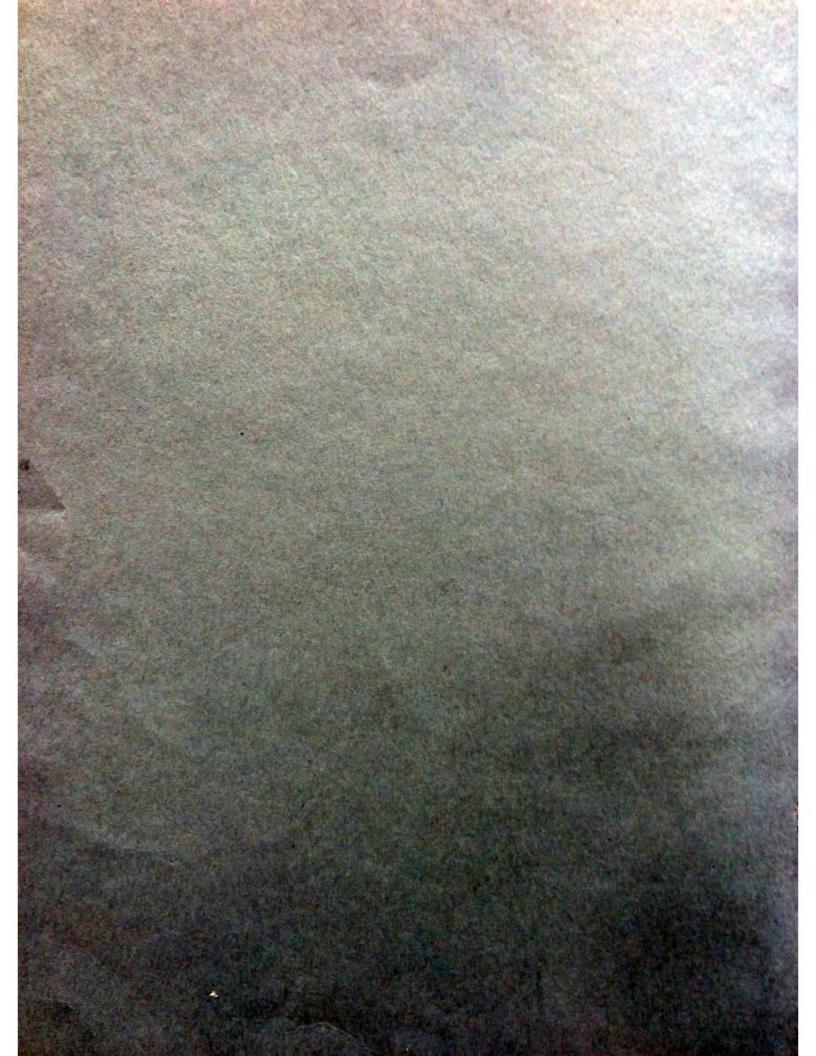


Bombardiers' Oath

In the presence of Almighty God, I do solemnly swear and affirm that I will accept the sacred trust placed in me by my Commander in Chief, the President of the United States, by whose direction I have been chosen for Bambarder Training.

I pleage myself to live and act according to the code of the Bombardiers of the Army Air Forces. I further solemnly swear that I will keep inviolate the secrecy of any and all confidential information revealed to me and in full realization that I am to be a member of an American Aerial Bombardment team. I pleage the unflagging vision of my bombsight eye and, if need be, my life itself, to the swift completion of each appointed mission.





To Those we love. To Those, who gave us the incentive to carry on To Those, who have watched our progress with an anxiety equated only by our own. To Those, who are depending on us to assure them a safe and peaceful life in a free world. To These we sincerely dedicate this book

ILE Col. Samuel W. Van Meter Commanding Officer

Administration

MAJOR C. A. MARTIN Director of Training





CAPTAIN H. W. HARING Director of Flying

CAPTAIN W. P. STEWART Director of Ground School

Cadet



MAJOR JAMES D. BERGER Commandant of Cadets



CAPTAIN E. T. ALBERT Ass't Commandant of Cadets

IST LT. R. P. CHEATHAM Adjutant



Detachment

#### IST LT. TOM A. GRIMM Unit Commander

Cassville, Wisconsin, claims Lt. Grimm as a native son. He began his army career with his enlistment in the Air Forces shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor. After completing preflight training at Ellington Field, he went on to Advanced training at Midland, where he graduated in April of 1943. Since then, Lt. Grimm has come to know Bombardier training in its entirety and through his own training, to understand and appreciate the problems of a Cadet.

A class cannot easily express their admiration and respect for an officer; it can only show its appreciation of fairness and excellent leadership by willing obedience of standing orders. This class is grateful for having had the opportunity of going through its training with a Commander, who himself had been a Cadet and is a Gentleman and a fine Officer.



TO THE CLASS OF 45-138:

Today you wear the wings and bars of an American bombardier and officer. You have spent many hard weeks in training but----your work has only begun!

Here at Childress you have now completed the training prescribed in order that you be graduated. From now on comes the test-----as you leave here for further training always striwe to improve your knowledge and ability so that when those tests do come you can pass with the same flying colors as you have shown here.

Congratulations, and remember that "teamwork", thru-out your life, will pull you thru many tight spots.

TOM A. GRIMM lat Lt. A.C.

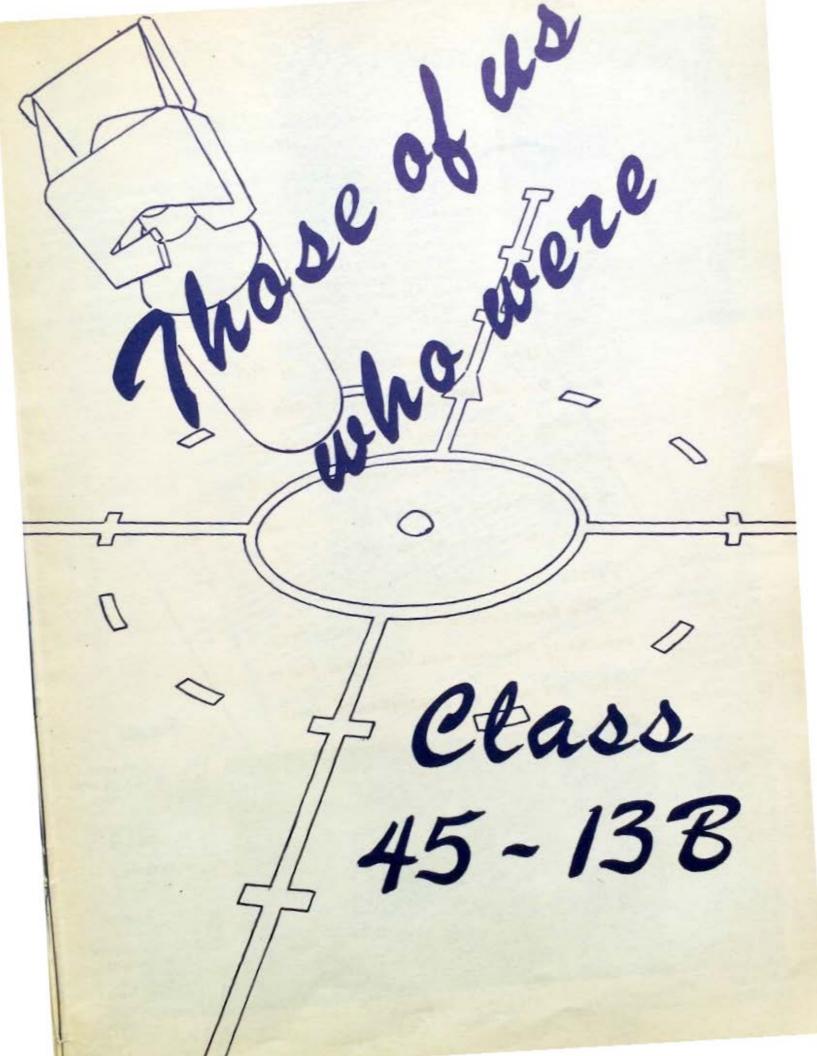


#### IST LT. EMIL F. RAHE Ass't Unit Commander

After serving with the Coast Artillery for over a year, Lt. Rahe transferred into the Air Corps in April of 1942. He was commissioned in March of the following year at San Angelo, Texas and soon thereafter received his overseas orders.

After completing fifty missions in the Mediterranean area, he returned and was assigned to C.A.A.F. His transfer from the flight line to the duties of Assistant Unit Commander of our class was to our distinct advantage. "We came from many walks of life and though our group was made up of many different types of individuals. we came with a purpose common to each of us; to become members of one of the combat aircrews of the Army Air Fouces.

We have worked hard through long months of training and having achieved our set goal. we present with some pride--"



Squadron

## CAPTAIN JOSEPH F. MORGAN Commanding Officer

Captain Morgan enlisted in January of 1942 and "G.I'd" for eight months prior to entering the Cadet program. He was classified for pilot training and graduated at Lubbock, in February of 1943. He came to Childress shortly thereafter and acted as C.O. and Operations Officer of Squadron "8", before taking the assignment as Commanding Officer of Squadron "4".

To Captain Morgan we give our thanks, not only for seeing us through to a successful completion of our training, but also for the valuable information about Pilot-Bombardler cooperation that he, as a pilot, has taught us.

DATE: 17 147 1945

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to not relation victory.

Office Memorandum. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Manual Contractor a contractor

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FROM

# Bombardiers

Capt. D. T. Hansen Capt. M. C. Greve Lt. E. J. Henry Lt. C. F. Whisler Lt. H. K. Peckinpaugh Lt. R. W. Roberts Lt. G. L. Trimble Lt. J. W. Hanrahan Lt. E. A. Link Lt. W. S. Rader Lt. W. V. Wallace Lt. Z. Sizemore Lt. L. W. Newby Lt. T. H. McKenna Lt. E. S. Johnson Lt. H. A. Radakovitz Lt. R. E. Thompson Lt. W. C. Knipscher Lt. A. Olsen Lt. A. G. Saum Lt. F. S. Farmer Lt. J. W. Plunkett Lt. H. M. Lockett Lt. W. R. Zwink Lt. W. R. Bracey Lt. E. H. Cotanch Lt. J. L. Stewart Lt. J. W. Miller



Capt. J. F. Morgan Lt. C. O. McCullough Lt. G. J. Iannacito Lt. C. Stowe Lt. V. D. Thompson Lt. W. F. Phelan Lt. E. J. Guthrie Lt. M. R. Winter Lt. W. D. Davey Lt. J. May Lt. J. W. Landrum Lt. R. G. Lund F/O D. G. Hempstead F/O D. F. Stearns F/O G. R. Riley F/O D. B. Grimes F/O E. J. Matrejek F/O F. J. Kirkpatrick

F/O H. L. White

Pilols



#### CAPTAIN DUANNE T. HANSEN Squadron Bombardier

Captain Hansen entered cadet training in 1942, and after being classified as Bombardier, he was sent to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for further training and a commission. He spent eleven months overseas in the North Africian Theatre, after which time he returned to this country and was assigned to C.A.A.F. as Squadron Bombardier of "good ol' Four."

Confessedly, we were a bewildered lot at the outset of our flight line training. However, after assimilating his expert advices and instructions, we were soon within grasp of those coveted Bombardier's Wings and having accomplished our objective, we'd like to digress for a moment to say—"Thanks to you, Captain—for your guidance and patience."

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ROW ' Capitain Duanne 7. Hanann you, you have travelled a unler berd road with of training are belind you, you have travelled any long, endie only with no by the energi and profile energy are content with energi long, endie the contribute energi and profile energy are content energy and long and elification of the life energy encounter as Borbard energy and and all auronomities and the first and road area below and the energy and while token, a real combat teen, but the there energy encount energy and by this token, a real combat teen, but the there energy and by this token, a real combat teen, and the energy encount and the token, a real combat teen, and the there energy and by this token, a real combat teen about the there energy and by this token, a real combat teen of a solution of our energy and point attitude and which astrong and and teen term. Borb there are utter as a solution of our energy and the term of terms of the term of terms of the term of terms of the term of the term of terms of terms of the term of terms of week , Captain Duarme T. Hansen TO Flight Bombardiers



CAPT. M. C. GREVE

LT. C. F. WHISLER

LT. H. K. PECKINPAUGH



W. L. Andrew 246 Pearl Avenue Rockford, Illinois

T. L. Alfano 1210 Joseph Street New Orleans, Louisiana

Estherville, Iowa



R. E. Armstrong Cordova, North Carolina

J. P. Asvestos 2390 26th Street Astoria, New York





S. A. Badawski Route 1 Windber, Pennsylvania J. D. August 513 N. 2nd Street East Grand Forks, Minnesota

O US



R. L. Ballard 1733 Infantry Detroit, Michigan

O. P. Arquilla Mannheim & Division Melrose Park, Illinois

Sem Qu



, B. Ballou 5138 N. Oakley Avenue Chicago, Illinois

L. Baroh 2409 E. Alder Seattle, Washington



J. G. Benken Shady Acres, Route 1 Ridgewood, New Jersey

A. L. Banks 803 Laurel Street Goose Creek, Texas



D. E. Beebe

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SPAN



F. W. Benbow 322 Piat Avenue Chillicothe, Ohio

R. L. Benson Route 3 Macon, Georgia

A. J. Bluir Boute 1 Jackson, Ohio



D. N. Boisvert 96 School Street Littleton, New Hampshire K. E. Blank 1112 5th Street Aurora, Illinois

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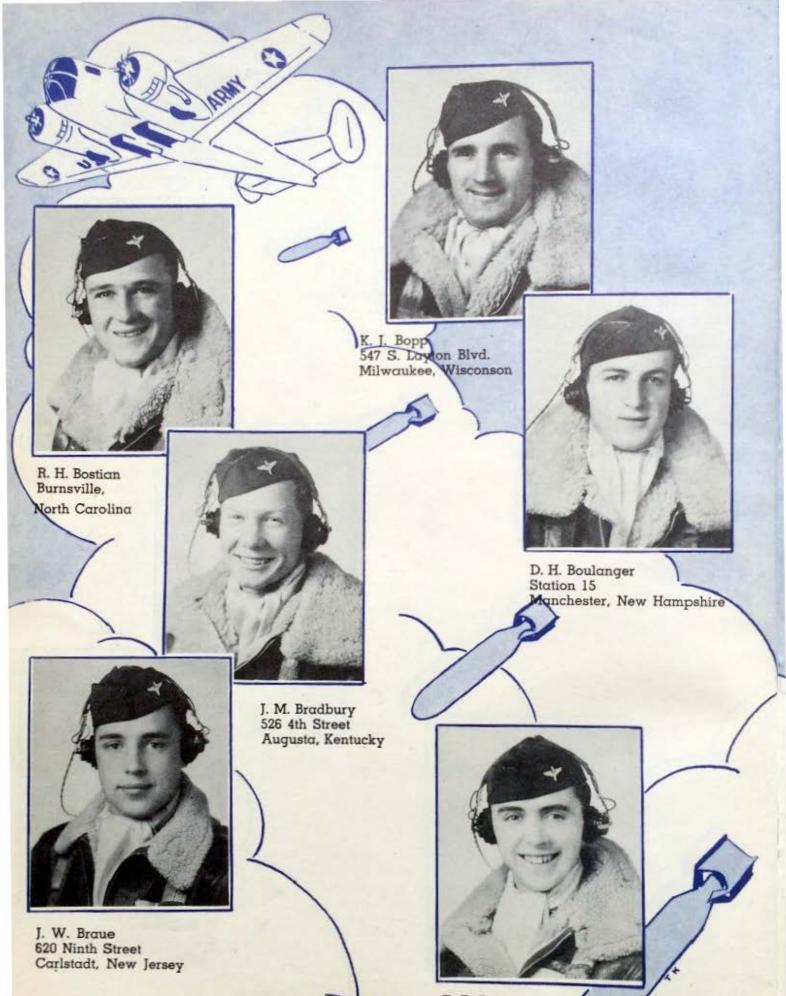


A. A. Bertagna

New Hampshire

Wilmot,

C. H. Blomquist 4727 II. Malden Avenue Chicago, Illinois



F, T. Brennan 612 Seneca Avenue Norwood, Pennsylvania



M. G. Briggs Auburn, Michigan

V. Buckin 91 Ward Street Worcester, Massachusetts



S. J. Budzik, Jr. 38 Academy Hill Derby, Connecticut E. A. Buckley, Jr. 26 Overhill Road Bala-Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

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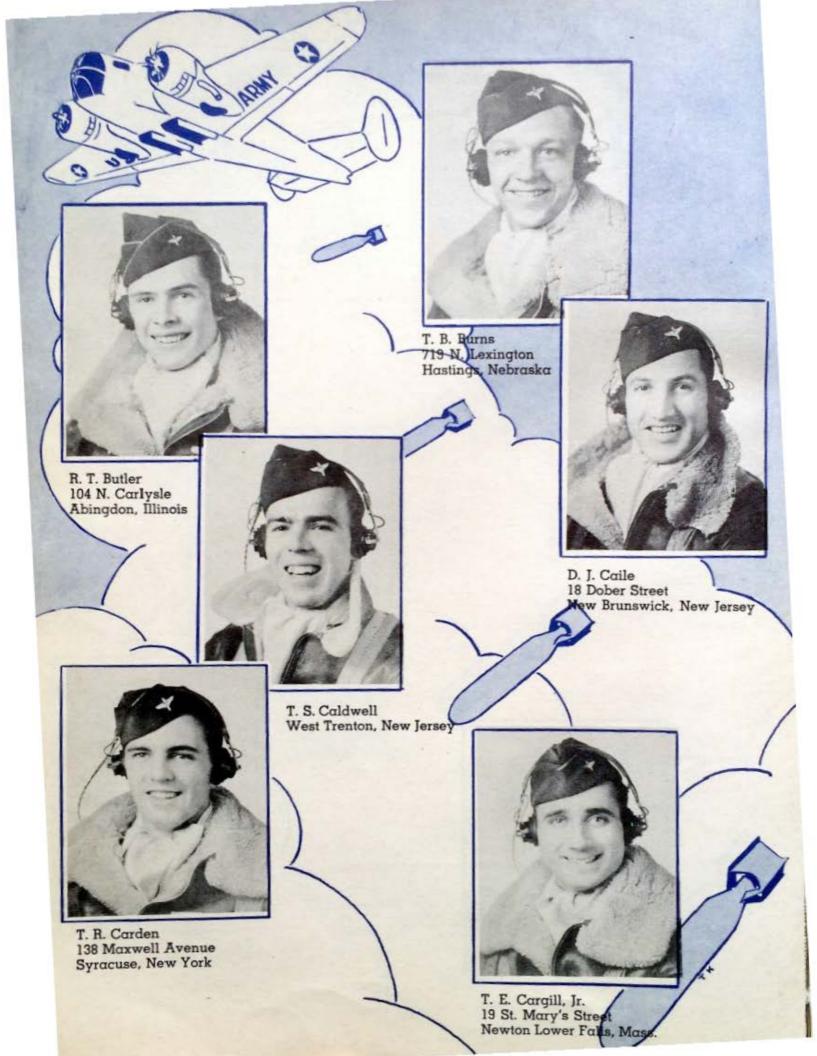
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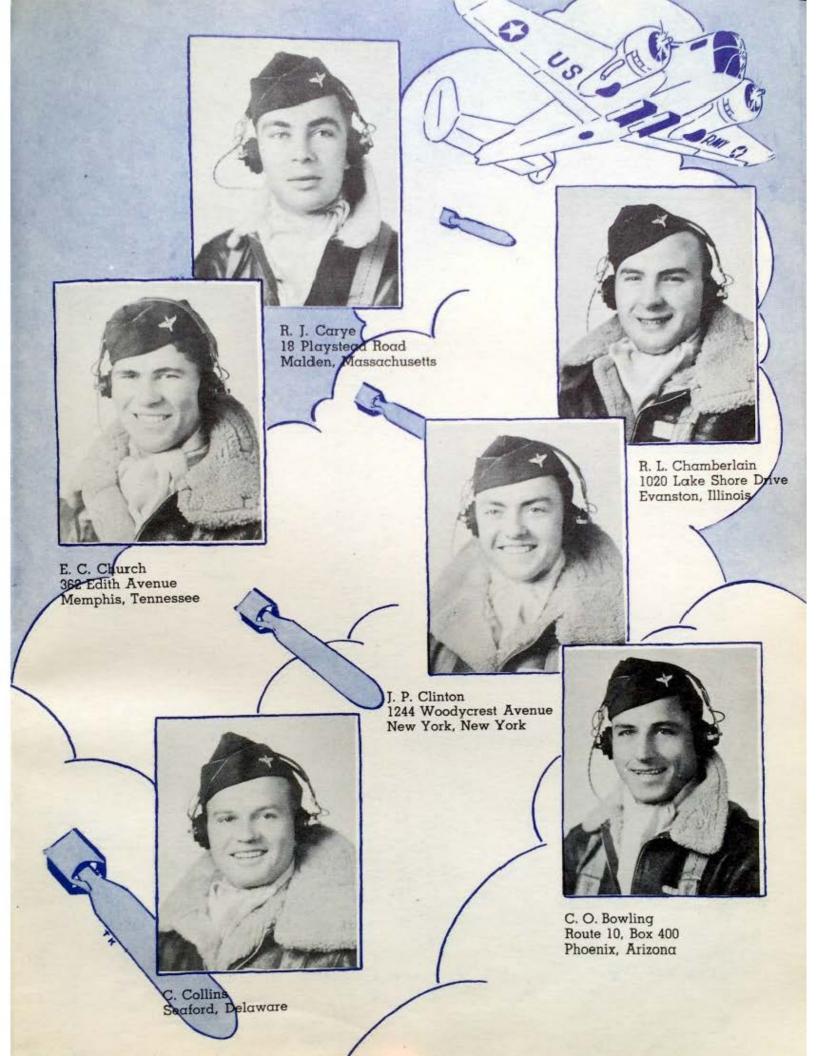


H. G. Burkett Box 97 Bolivar, Pennsylvania

F. E. Brown 33305 Orchard Street Farmington, Michigan

Ren Q







C. A. Cummins 202 Augur Street Hamden, Connecticut



J. R. Dague Box 512

Marion Michigan

W. C. Panley 2909 7th Avenue Rock Island, Illinois



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R. J. DiSabato 73 Rowena Road Newton Centre, Mass



H. H. Dobroski 512 S. Monroe Street West Frankfort, Illinois



L. H. Dubuc 38 Cumberland Street Woonsocket, Rhode Island





R. R. DuCharme 242 Lake Street Menasha, Wisconsin



G. I. Federle 6106 High Street Fairfax Sub., Chicinnati, Ohio



ANN O

J. R. Fevola 84 Lancaster Avenue Broaklyn, New York



R. A. Fitzpatrick 12101 Gladstonbury Detroit, Michigan

B. A. Field **F/O** 543 N. Oakland Street Arlington, Virginia



O. R. Fleming 250 Watson Blvd. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania





W. C. Gardner 222 Sutton Street Maysville, Kentucky G. B. Franklin Reyno, Arkansas



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K. K. French Tully, New York

Ru Q.



B. W. George Ale S. Gunnison Street Burlington Iowa J.H. Gahagan 2554 N. W. 21st Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



H. K. Gebauer 8 Richmond Street Adams, Massachusetts



E. M. Gyerman 1421 Raab Avenue Belleville, Illinois



J. Hahn 315 Rice Street Springfield, Ohio

R. D. Haas 1201 Oak Riege Avenue Pekin, Illinois

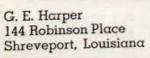


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US

A. Halweg Route 1 Cherokee, Iowa

RMQ





I. L. Haunschild Lockwood, Missouri



K. H. Hausle 11 Covington Road Buffalo, New York



D. F. Hidinger F/O 244 Shields Road Youngstown, Ohio



B. Hlavacek 1533 Cuyler Avenue Berwyn, Illinois



F. L. Hill <sup>F</sup>/O 608 E. 6th Street Salem, Ohio

R. C. Holda 2350 S. Homan Ävenue Chicago, Illinois F. J. Hoffman 2923 Hampton Avenue St. Louis, Missouri

Inn O



J. A. Horne, Jr. Pfafftown, North Quroling



E. B. Hutchison 7/0 1446 Princeton Street Santa Monica, California J. D. Howe 211 E. Laurel Street Glendale, California

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V. L. Hybl 1315 N. Clark Street Grand Island, Nebraska

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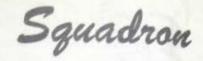
H. A. Hunter 2 2230 Hampton Ave Pittsburgh, Penn



T. J. Neal 800 High Street Eldorado, Illinois



C. S. Patterson, Jr. IK Windsor Place Croatord, New Jersey



### CAPTAIN PETER M. MAASTRICHT **Commanding** Officer

Captain Maastricht came to C.A.A.F. after graduating from Pilot training in the early part of 1943, and has been engaged in training Bombardiers since that time.

He assumed the duties of Squadron Commander in the mid-point of our training here, and has carried us through to a successful completion of our course. The morale and high standards set by our squadron speak well for his abilities as a Memorandum . UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE, 27 May 1543

Fair wings and

## Bombardiers

Chain ton in an a nead to have not have been and to have not have Chath that forms your own hereonal errort in willing the way and you own hereonal errort in willing the way and juck. lies sheed I wish you good luck. Capt. M. E. Allred Capt. D. A. R. Teller Capt. C. E. Bill Capt. J. J. Barkovic Lt. J. G. Caudron Lt. O. W. Ziengenhals Lt. G. B. Larson Lt. H. H. Alexander Lt. G. M. Uhlmann Lt. C. A. Meyer Lt. H. R. LeGowski Lt. R. VanderMuellen Lt. W. M. Hairrell Lt. H. Peterson Lt. R. M. Patrick Lt. R. A. Gould Lt. S. F. Palumbo Lt. J. G. Taylor Lt. M. Stransky Lt. G. R. Suttel Lt. J. N. Petros Lt. C. W. Waldorf Lt. L. J. Ebenkamp Lt. I. Whitlock Lt. L. Shelton Lt. C. W. Webb Lt. D. A. Wise Lt. W. F. Davies Lt. S. W. McFeeley Lt. A. F. Wagner



Squadron "en Maan 15-138

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Captain Poter N. Vanotricht

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Capt. P. M. Maastricht Capt. D. J. Harrington Lt. J. J. Pope Lt. J. E. Bass Lt. O. W. Boyd Lt. H. F. Mason Lt. E. C. DeMontel Lt. C. N. Davison Lt. E. H. Sigsbey Lt. F. W. Mittelstadt Lt. D. P. Graydon Lt. R. S. Kingen Lt. W. J. Roberts Lt. R. H. Strain Lt. J. D. Smith Lt. J. R. Humphreys Lt. C. H. Stowe Lt. W. A. Hemphill Lt. W. L. Williams Lt. G. D. McManus Lt. A. G. Jirka Lt. J. W. Reinhardt Lt. R. W. Paulsen F/O S. M. Johnson F/O E. J. Bicha F/O A. A. Williamson F/O J. E. Willey F/O C. Hooe F/O J. H. Hornak

Piloss

F/O W. H. Stemple



### CAPTAIN MAX E. ALLRED Squadron Bombardier

Captain Allred returned from the European Theatre of Operations, where he was both a Squadron and Lead Bombardier with the Eighth Air Force, and holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal, with three Oak Leaf Clusters.

His first assignment upon his return to this country was to Childress Army Air Field. He took over the duties of Squadron Bombardier at a time when our training demanded the closest of supervision. His work with us in the combat phase of our training left nothing to be desired and the men of this squadron can truthfully say that they have received the best possible training from a proven Bombardier and a fine Officer.

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT sumJECT: You have, at last, come to the end of a long hard period of training. You have onne to realize that you are a part of a great team, one which is working to premerve those ideals cherished by all FROM , Ceptein Wax S. Allred 10 You have displayed a great spirit throughout your stay have. creedom loving people. Clear targets and good bombing! Carry that spirit into combat flying. MAX S. ALLRED, Captain, Flight Bombardiers  $\varepsilon$ 



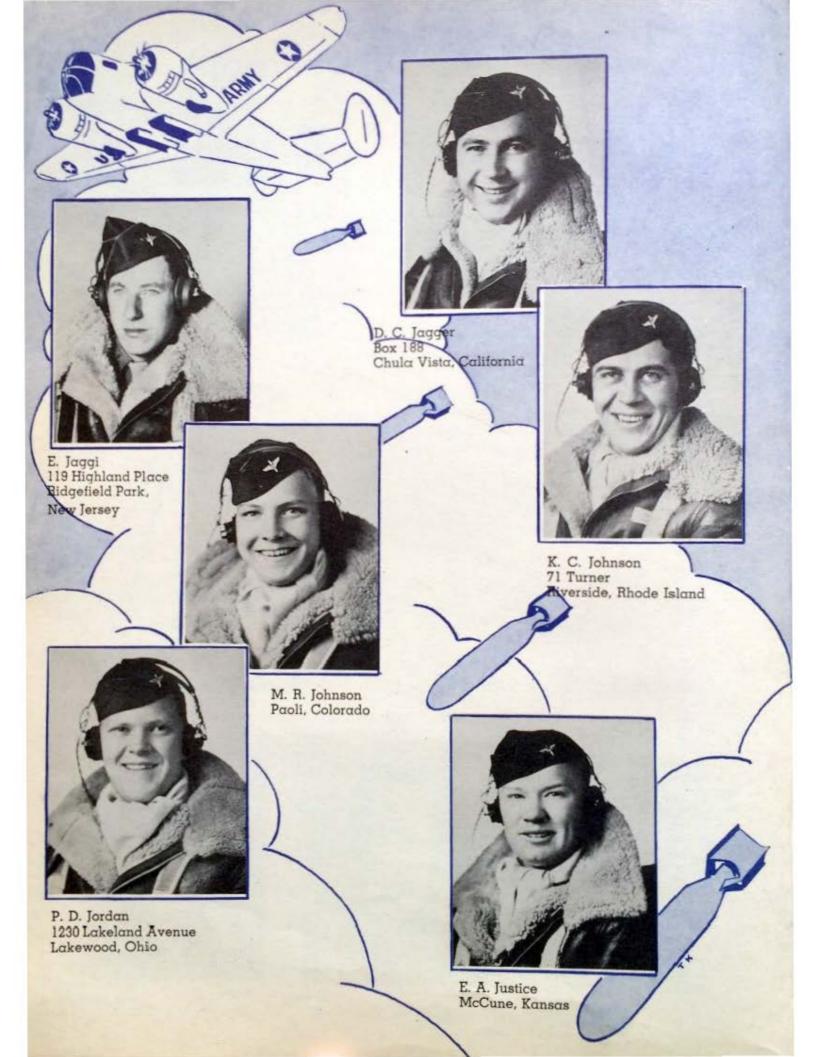
CAPT. D. A. R. TELLER



1st. Lt. O. W. Ziegenhals



1st. Lt. G. B. LARSON





G. J. Komin 5524 S. Wolcott Street Chicago, Illinois



R. D. Kiehl 1343 Roslyn, S. W. Canto 1, Ohio B. Kaiser 1717 E. 14th Street Brooklyn New York



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F. C. Kemnski 3107 Cedarbrook Drive Lansing, Michigan

Run Qu

R. J. Kern 205 Santa Clara Dayton, Ohio



J. M. Klaven 5053 Cates Avenue St. Louis, Missouri

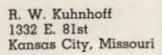


M. C. Ryser Route 2

Olean, New York



W. A. Kubik 4776 Springwells Detroit, Michigan

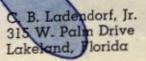


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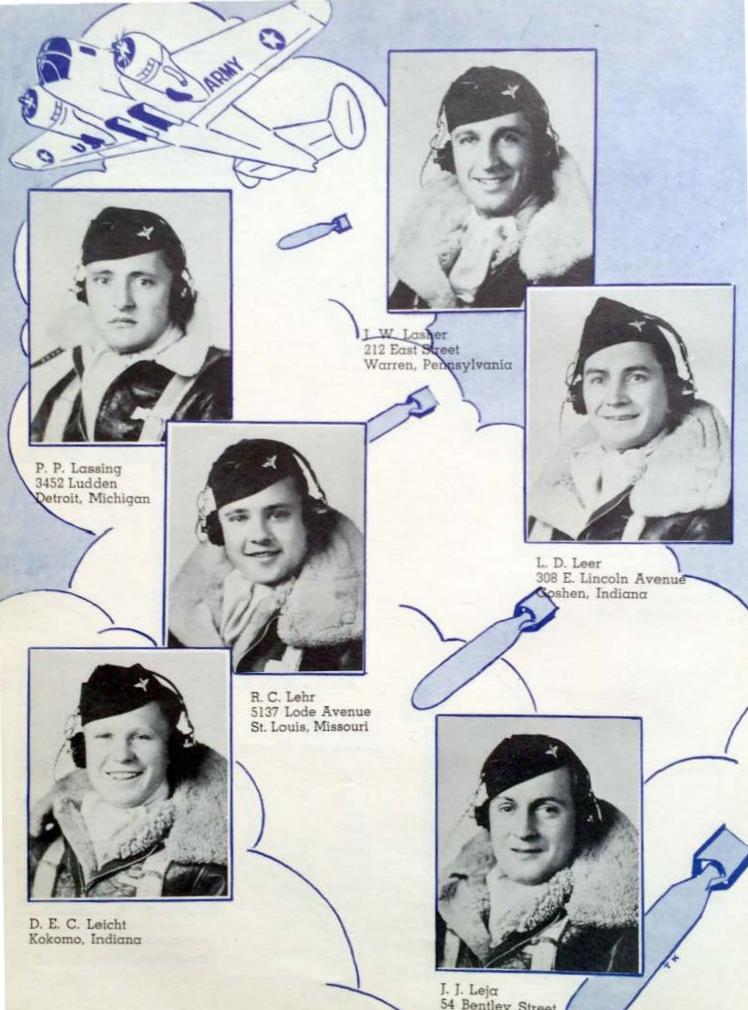
P. F. LaChapelle Springfield, Massachusetts



E. C. Kuehn 237 Kennedy Ave Pittsburgh, Penn



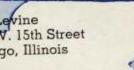
Rug



J. J. Leja 54 Bentley Street Woonsocket, Rhode Island

J. G. Levine 3603 W. 15th Street Chicago, Illinois

H. L. Leonhordt 216-22-111 Avenue Queens Village, L. I., New York





O US

L. R. Like 612 Finch Adrian, Michigan

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W. S. Lockman 1443 Franklin Street Columbus, Indiana



E. J. Lucey 36 St. Marks Place Staten Island, New York



J. W. Lynch, Jr. 315 Packer Avenue Bethlehem, Pennsylvania



R. A. Moreau Cottonport, Louisiana



H. McKnight, Jr. Box 113 Brownfield,

Pennsylvania

A. J. Mantone 806 S. Garibaldi Place Chicago, Illinois R. L. Mahynske Route 3, Holton Road Muskegon, Michigan

ADM Q



C. J. Morrison 16 Lefferts Street Saratoga Springs, New York



R. D. Daniels 874 W. Holt Avenue Pomona, Galifornia

A. G. Haueter 728 E. 8th South Salt Lake City, Utal



R. W. Smith 1921 N. Pierce Avenue Springfield, Missouri

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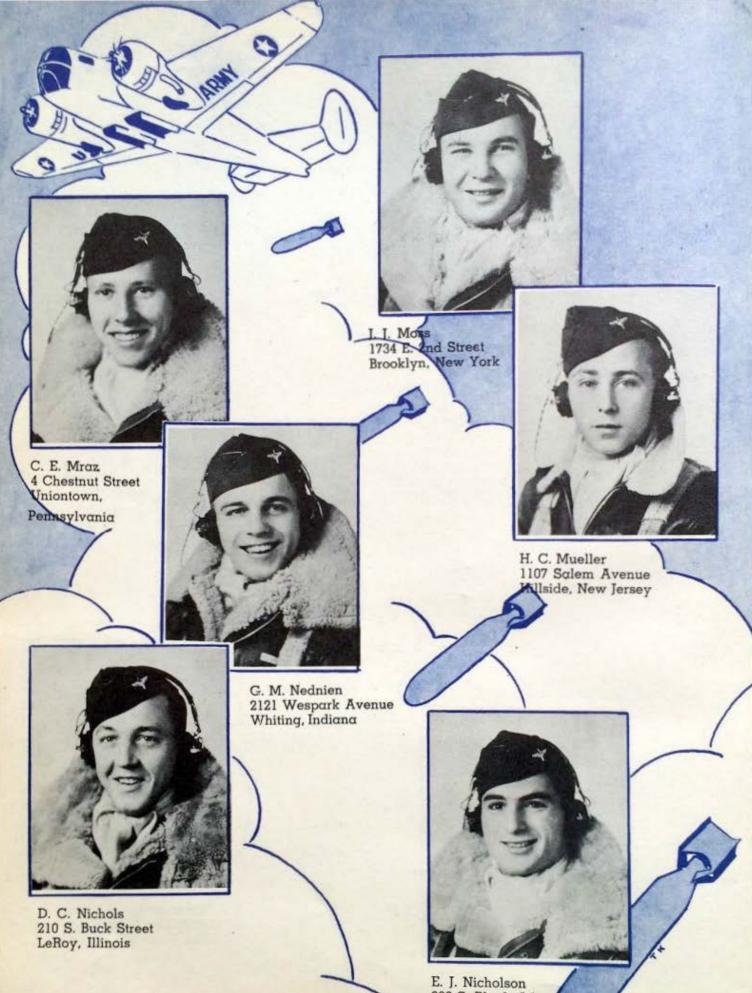
F. A. Melleno 57 Hudson Street Newark, New Jersey

Pan Q.

G. Nowadly 186 Miami Street Buffalo, New York



W. M. Sullivan 1706 Helen Avenue Hamilton, Ohio



220 S. Rhode Island Avenu Atlantic City, New Jersey



J. F. O'Leary 29 St. Albans Road Boston, Massachusetts

A. W. Olechna 5 Frederick Street Westfield, Massachusetts



C. T. Playcan SS6 William Street Bridgeport Connecticut W. J. Paul 219 E. 135th Place Chicago, Illinois

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Can Qu

R. L. Paskert 11825 Buckingham Cleveland, Ohjo



J. Paulson 354 Bradford Street San Francisco, California



C. M. Pope 2230 College Avenue Indianapolis Indiana

I. J. Reeb 1001 W. Main Street Belleville, Illinois

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Day

H. C. Reynolds 8072 Brecksville Road Brocksville, Ohio



R. C. Richter 129 Spring Avenue Ellwood, Pennsylvania B. F. Rhoderick 507 E. Church Street Frederick, Maryland



B. Rosen 1347 Sheridan N. Minneapolis, Minnesota

A. H. Rothfuss 614 S. 20th Street Newark, New Jersey

L. G. Saulter 340 Geneva Avenue Highland Park, Michigan



E. L. Schureman 242 Lomax Street Idako Falls, Idaho E. G. Schroeder 736 Copely Road Stonehurst Upper Darby, Pa .

O US



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R. J. Sanders 363 Leverington Aye Philadelphia, Pern

C. J. Sciascia 343 Thomas Street Phillipsburg, New Jersey



E. Scott Route 2 Rutledge, Missouri



C. B. Shaaber 3012 Lexington Road Louisville, Kentucky



L. Scott

186 N. Georgia Street Hypes, California

> J. G. Slawinski 12424 Jos Campau Street Detroit, Michigan

J. A. Simmons 628 John Street Coshocten, Ohio

ION Q



R. M. Smith 201 Elizabeth Street Delmar, Delaware



W. G. Stey 3824 Octavia Avenue Chicago, Illinois

I. E. Stein 7264 Yellowstone Bld. Forest Hijls, New York



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E. A. Sulita 2150 W. Grand Ave Chicago, Illinois

an er

W. R. Swift 95 S. Allen Street Albany, New York



J. W. Walter 114 Newark Avenue Paterson, New Jersey



R. D. Tuttle 2425 N. 10th Street Terre Haue, Indiana





R. D. Zinn Hazelgreen, West Virginia

T. G. Young 120 E. Cardinal Road Wildwood Crest, New Jersey



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G. W. Parr 244 Ethel Avenue Norfolk, Virginia

Ren Q

J.G. Scanlan 6027 N. Claremont Avenue Chicago, Illinois



B. M. Trachtenberg 1723 N. 42nd Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



P. Frank 4440 N. Hazel Avenue Chicago, Illinois



lst Lt. R. E. Wood 742 S. Arch Avenue Alliance, Ohio 2nd Lt. E. G. Laurin 43 Park Avenue Auburn, New York



THE NEXT TIME YOU TELL ME TO GET MY HEAD OUT, SAY SIR!!



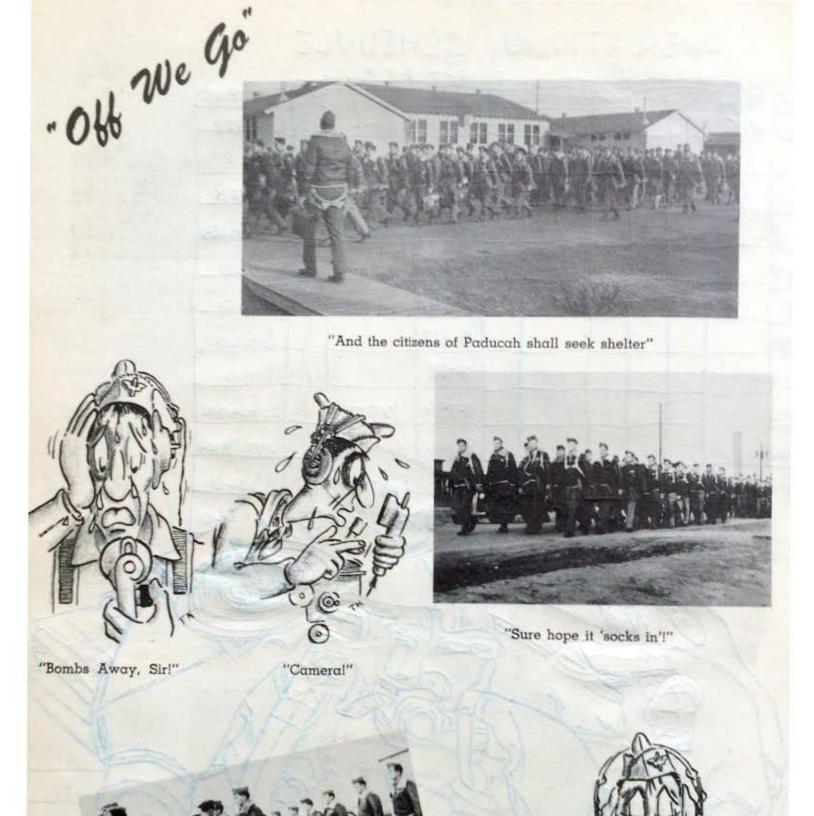
1st Lt. R. R. Kimball 1135 N. Lafayette Bremerton, Washington



2nd Lt. E. T. Bohland 144 N. Lexington Pkwy. St. Paul, Minnesota

## OPERATIONS SCHEDULE

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"Impact!!"

"This Mister also, Mr. Stein"



"Malfunction not granted"



"Who's your Flight Bombardier, Mister?"

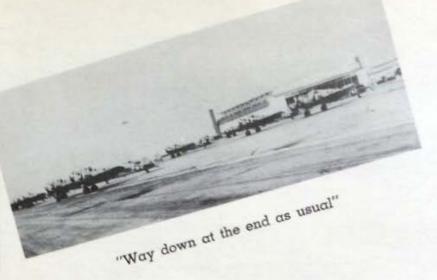






'Sweatin' out Metro'!





"Let's Go!!" Capt. Mayer



Small Refinements! Dammit! Small Refinements!!



"Four an' a back pack"





"Which hand did you say I uncage with, Sir?



"Sky-blue imitation of a Combat Fragmentation"



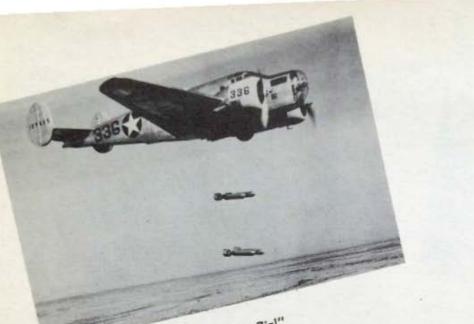
"Your're on course!"



"Level PLEASE, Sir!!?"

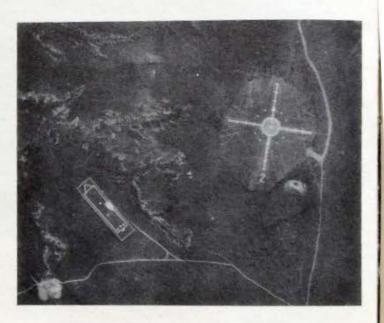


'Lozy Tower, this is 13B! Number one on strip!"



"Bombs Away, Sir!"



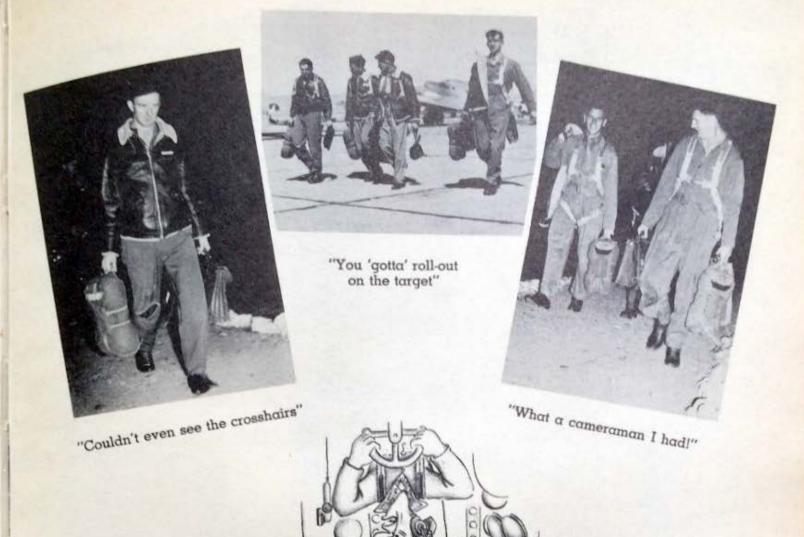


"Quick-Get the rope!"





"They call it, 'WALKING' wings"

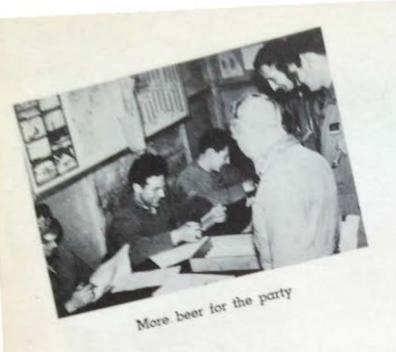


"Oh come now! You can set it up better than that!"





"U-69?"



- Metro



"Bad day: Good fil-lum!"



"You mean like this, Sir?"



"CAVU"



Lt. PURDY



LT. HAVENS



LT. RIGOLIZZO





"In these Ivy-covered halls—"



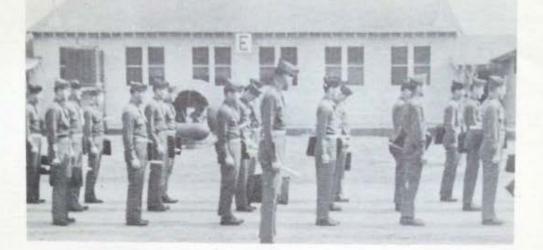
"And that, gentlemen, concludes my lecture on Fusing Bombs."



Capt. W. P. Stewart Capt. C. W. Anderson Capt. S. F. Tanella Capt. K. F. Kemp Capt. R. M. Besancon Capt. W. E. Collum Capt. W. S. Stone Lt. D. E. Hulse Lt. D. D. Delafield Lt. D. C. Forrey Lt. R. L. Hoagland

Instructors

Lt. S. Kaplan Lt. I. Kohn Lt. G. A. Marwine Lt. J. J. Polich Lt. J. Venerofsky Lt. L. A. Wann Lt. M. P. Wilk Lt. A. L. Wuoltee Lt. C. M. Brown Lt. C. Crootof W/O W. R. McNeil



"At ease! Nate's at the window!"



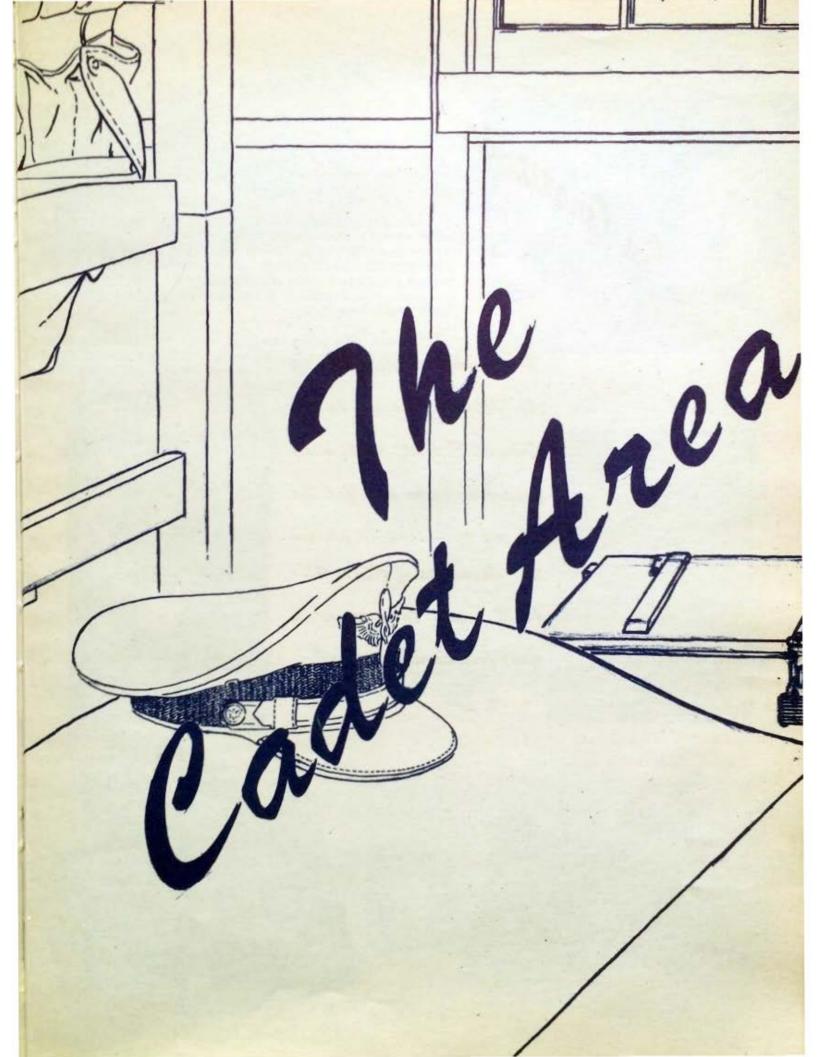


"Yes! It will even do that!"



In Gratitude

To our instructors, both on the Flight Line and in the Ground School, who have prepared us so well for the job we are about to do, we the Members of Class 45-13B wish to express a heartfelt thanks.



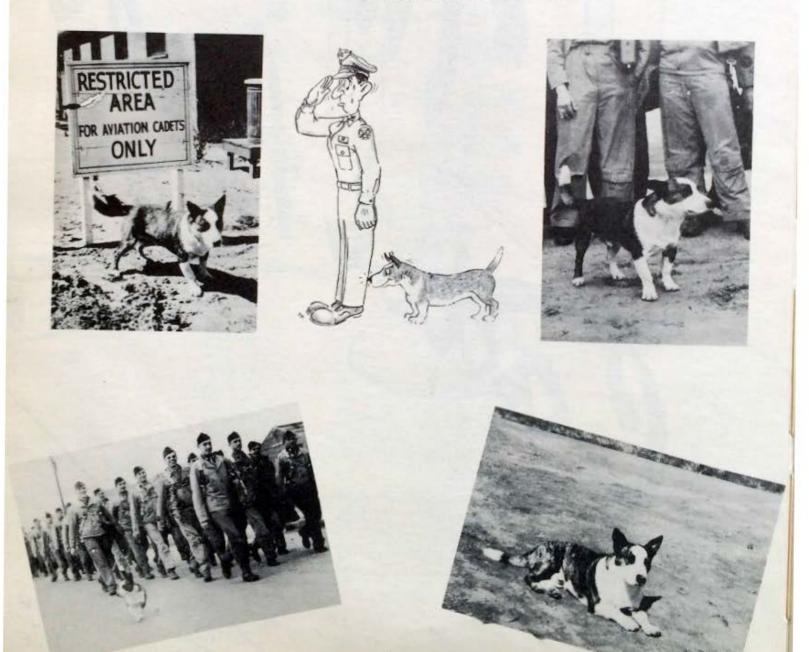
MAL

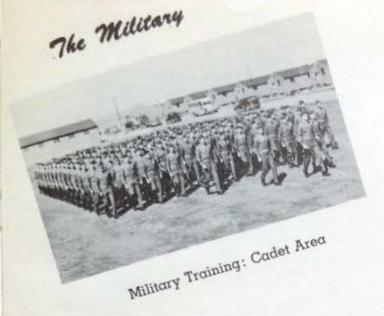


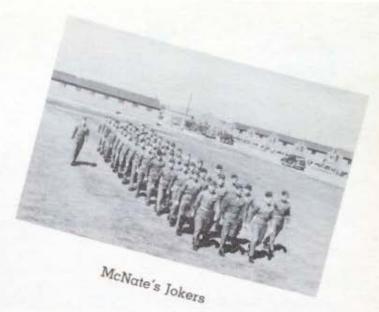
For the benefit of those who are firm believers in the ancient adage which states that "a rolling Cadet gathers no friends" we take this opportunity to present Malfunction, the cadet's only true friend at C.A.A.F.

This inaccurate facsimile of a dog seemed to sense the cadet's need of both sympathy and friendship, and proceeded to devote all his time and energy to fulfil this need. His special interest in our class since our arrival here has won him an important place in our daily life. His punctuality at all formations put most of us to shame, due to the fact that Mal is a "sack artist" of no mean ability.

Through these past twenty four long weeks his antics have often given us a much needed laugh and have helped to boost our faltering morale. Malfunction will remain one of our most pleasant memories of Childress.









"Keep Looking, Sir — It's in there somewhere!"



"Brass Shined?"



"Wasn't going anywhere, anyway"





"He's a born Bombardier! Feel all the knobs on his head!"



Boot Camp Refugees



"Oh, how I wish I could think of a good 'come back' for hubba-hubba!!"



Strike up the band

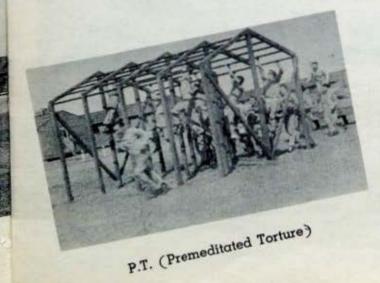


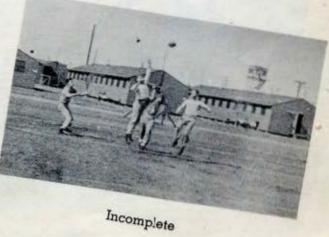


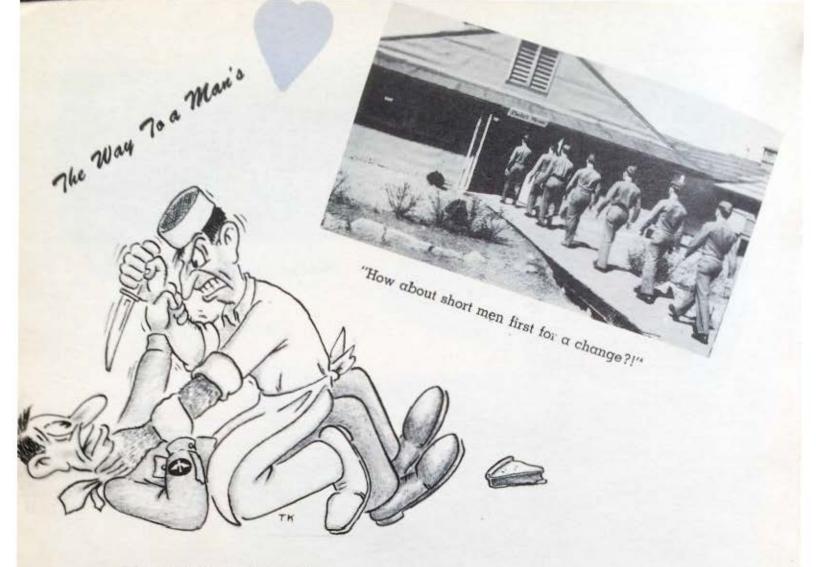


"Wonder if he'll use the whip today?"

"Strategy!"







"No seconds on pie, I take it!"





One to a person



H. K. Gebauer Adjutant



P. C. Wofford Class Commander



T. J. Grieve First Sergeant



Sqdn. Commander T. M. Angel Flights A and B



"You trying to give me a 'bad time'?!"



Sqdn. Commander T. E. Kojev Flights C and D



Flt. Lt. Cargill

Flt. Sgt. Blair

Flt. Lt. Dobroski Flt. Sgt. Gold



Flt. Lt. McKnight Flt. Sqt. Kuhnhoff

Llt. Lt. Stein Flt. Sgt. Moss

## The Great Omnipotent One

A new pilot somewhere in China, Africa, or South Podunk was nervously preflighting his new B-29 when he became aware of a suspicious prowler behind him.

"You the co-pilot?" He asked as he turned around to investigate.

"Nope," replied the mysterious one as he dumped out a large sack of computers on the catwalk.

"Oh, of course," smiled the pilot with the assurance of an investigator from the F. B. I., "you're the navigator."

"Nope," repeated the stoic intruder as he loaded several tons of bombs into the racks; checked the oil, gas, tires; cleaned the windshield; preflighted the bombsight; calibrated the compass, the airspeed meter, the drift meter, and the course knobs— as prescribed in T. M. 1-3851/2 (q. v.)-

All this puzzled the pilot no little bit. But B-29's are a bit new and after all there is a lot to learn about them. Perhaps it would be better to forget the whole matter and let nature take its course.

But the time to take off was approaching rapidly, and the apparent absence of a crew was beginning to become slightly alarming.

"Let's go!" exclaimed the intruder jumping into the co-pilot's seat after depositing truckloads of papers, pencils, books, maps, erasers, dividers, and great quantities of gum drops into various parts of the ship.

The pilot was too confused after such a display of omnipotence, and in his weakened state of mind checked his dog tags, gunned the engines, taxiied out, and took off into the calm tranquility of the atmosphere. The peacefulness was shortlived, however, when the intruder, whom we shall call Mortimer, ran to the back of the ship, called for a double drift, and handed up a M. H., and E. T. A., and two good telephone numbers.

The pilot copied the latter, disregarded the former, and followed the planes in front of him.

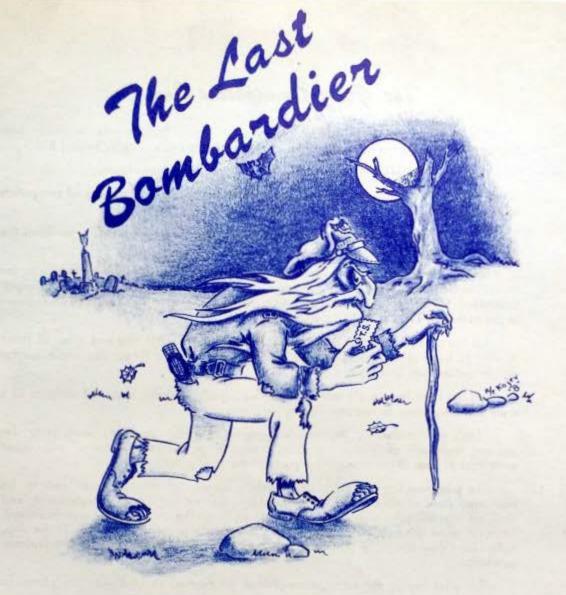
Everything was relatively peaceful on the trip except once in the while when Mortimer would run back and forth from the nose to the rear checking airspeed, altitude, drift, temperature, and some coffee he was perculating for diversionary reasons.

Soon the target area was reached, and Mortimer took over the ship for evasive action. After each turn with the bombsight he would go to the rear of the ship and plot his track on the mercater, check the coffee, and grab another gum drop. Once in the while, if he felt like it, he would shoot down an F. W. 190 or two between turns checking their ATF on his E-6-B to see if he had figured the correct Tan. of the DA from the BA, the TAS, and the Alt. which he had calculated from his G-1, his C-2 and his ABC.

Soon the target was reached, and the bombs dropped. Mortimer grabbed a 12-C and started to fill it out as he lit a cigarette, shot down another 190, gave the pilot a M. H. and ETA home, shouted "Camera!," and ran to the rear to get a picture of the impact.

On the way back to the base, the pilot who couldn't help but have a little admiration for Mortimer started a conversation and soon learned that Mortimer had graduated from Childress Bombardier School, and that besides being a good bombardier, he could also make excellent coffee.

It wasn't long before the two became very good pals, and Morty promised to help the pilot with his income tax in 1945.



The moon is full, the clouds are high; The wind is cold, the vultures cry And all the townfolk cringe in fear, For yonder comes, The Bombardier!

His eyes are sunk, his step is slow; His teeth are gone, his whiskers flow. Alone he trudges in the black of night, Hugging the shadows; fearing the light. In search of grog; the cup that cheers, For he is the last of The Bombardiers.

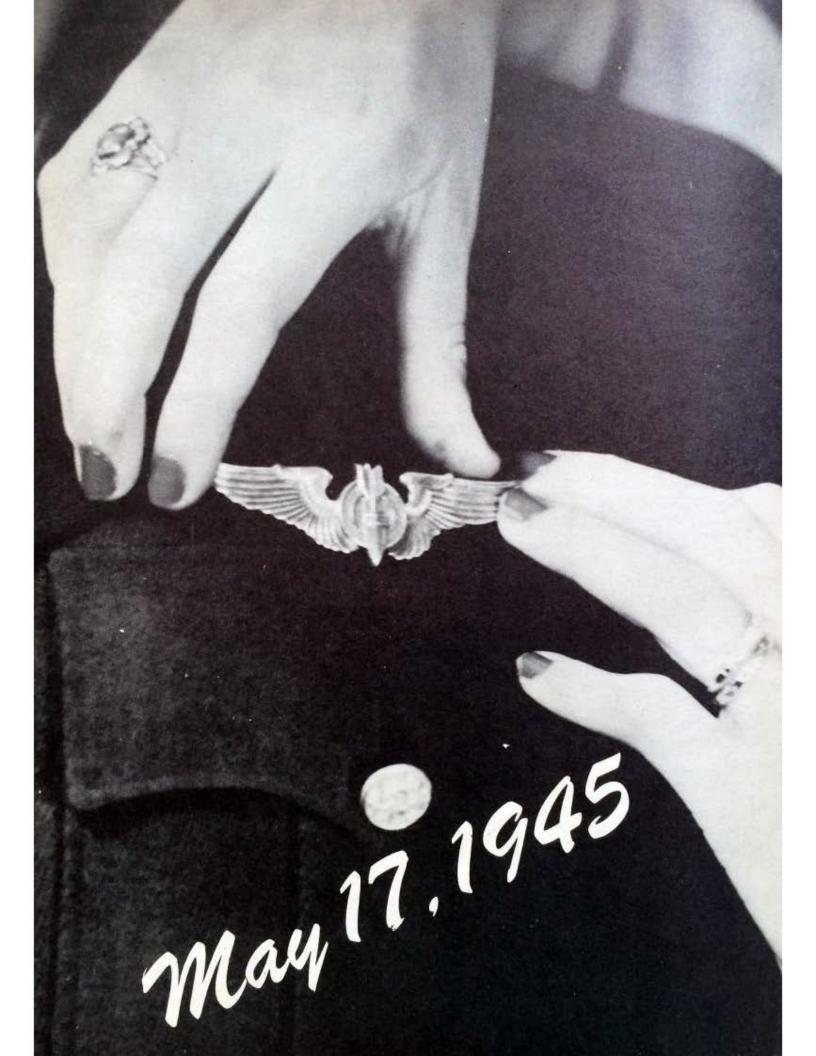
To the local pub he wends his way, For even a dog must have its day. The iron knob rattles, the door swings wide And those within all shrink aside, From those burning eyes, and that awful leer, For there he crouches. The Bombardier!

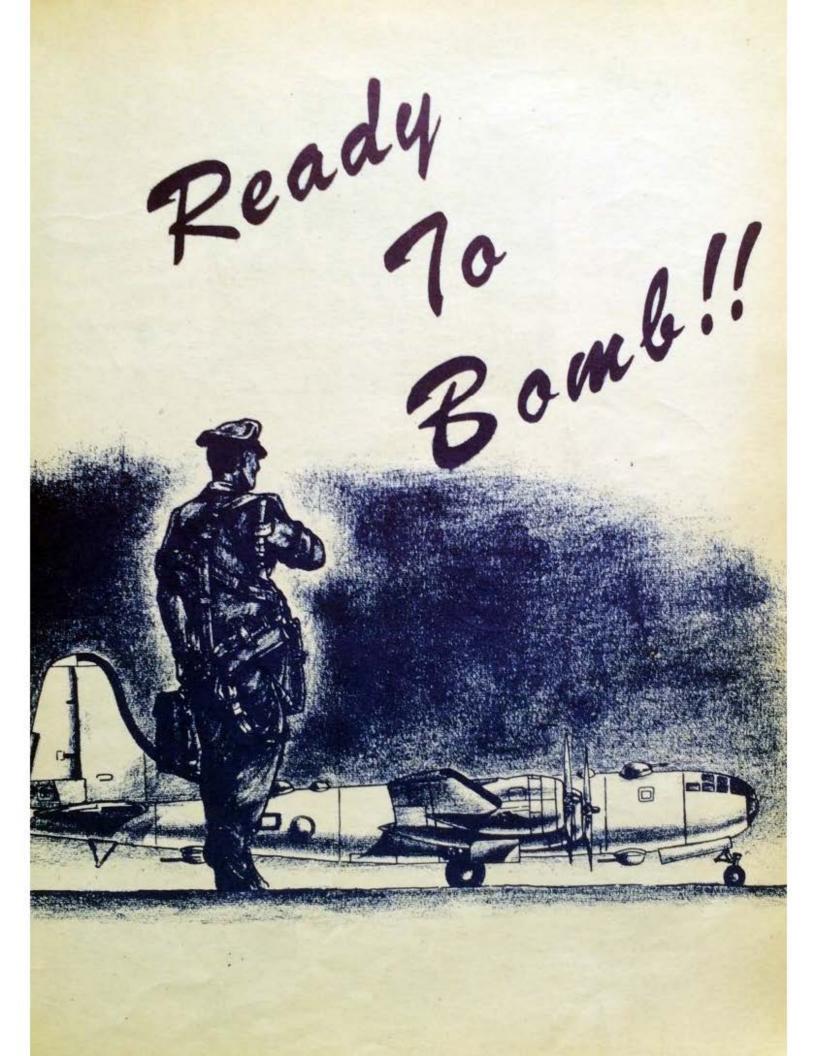
To the bar he creeps and orders the best. A bottle of Scotch: the end of his quest. Then with sardonic eye and fiendish mien, He slowly turns to survey the scene. Poor Fools, he thinks, you've never dodged flak. You've never experienced the joy of the shack, Nor have you exclaimed, with hot boiling blood, "But Sir, not six hundred, that was a dud!" Ah, memories of devils playing with levels, High flying rebels, on "Open Post" revels; Inspection, deflection and bombsight malfunction, Navigation, frustration and frantic instruction; Stars, scars, gals with large cars, Silver wings, and Blue F/O bars. Such are his thoughts, this forlorn one, Whose joys are past, whose sands have run.

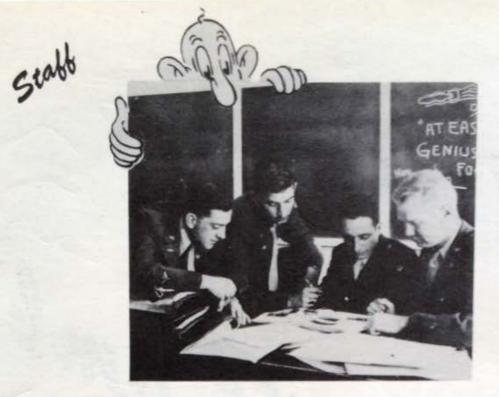
Fate has not smiled on this gaunt, grey, ghost But he raises his glass in final toast And mutters "On course" and "Bombs Away" And something that sounds like "E.T.A." Then with a sigh, his mission completed, He turns on his heel, he's old and defeated.

He knows that his tour is finally done. He knows that this is his very last run. A knob worn hand produces a card, With the letters T.S., and one spot unmarred He punches it out and into the night, He disappears on his very last flight.

The Moon is hid, the clouds are low; The wind has stopped, the roosters crow. People no longer need live in fear, He's gone for good — The Bombardier!







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Lt. J. G. Caudron



Sgt. Raisman

The Staff is grateful to Lt. Caudron and Sgt. Raisman for their help in making this book possible.



Officers' Oath

"I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter: so help me God."

אוכ כקתסבא



