

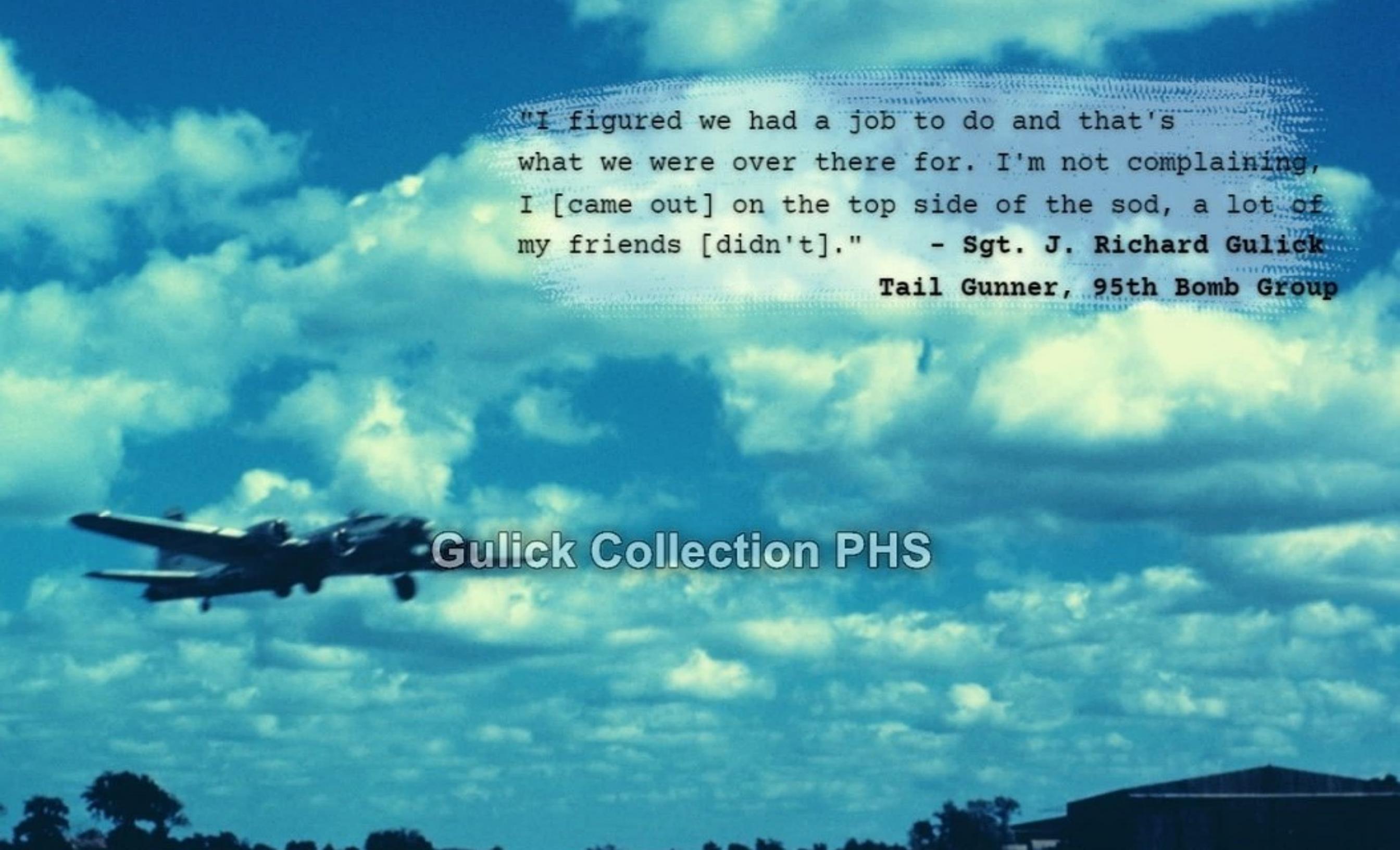


Gulick Collection PHS

CONTRAILS

The Bomber Missions of

Sgt. John Richard Gulick

A black and white photograph of a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress bomber in flight. The aircraft is shown from a low angle, flying towards the left. It has four radial engines and a distinctive tail fin. The background consists of a bright, cloudy sky.

"I figured we had a job to do and that's what we were over there for. I'm not complaining, I [came out] on the top side of the sod, a lot of my friends [didn't]."
- Sgt. J. Richard Gulick
Tail Gunner, 95th Bomb Group

Gulick Collection PHS

Combat Missions: 321

Bomb Tonnage: 19,779 tons

Food Tonnage: 457 tons

Planes lost in combat: 156

Planes damaged in combat: 1,362

Enemy Aircraft Claims: 425 destroyed;
117 probable; 231 damaged

Airmen Killed in Action: 569 (3 MIA)

Airmen Taken as POWs: 825

Total Casualties: 1,774

Gulick Collection PHS



B

95

U.S.

GO

REGISTRATION CARD (Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921)

SERIAL NUMBER T 916	1. NAME (Print) J. Richard Gulick (Last) (Middle) (First)	ORDER NUMBER T 10937
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 518 Market Perkasie (Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city)	3. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) Same (Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city)	4. MAILING ADDRESS Same (Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same)
5. TELEPHONE Perkasie 2192 (Exchange) (Number)	6. AGE IN YEARS 21 (Mo.) (Day) (Year)	7. PLACE OF BIRTH Perkasie (Town or country) Pa. (State or country)
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Mrs. Elizabeth Gulick - 326 S. 4 th Montg. (Name) H. M. Gulick - Route 1 Phila. (Name)	9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Same (Number and street or R. F. D. number)	10. I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND SIGNATURE John Gulick (Signature)
11. D. S. S. FORM 1 (Revised 1-1-42)		

* GPO 19-21630-1 (Rev. 1-1-42)

U.S. ARMY AIR CORP.



REGISTRAR'S REPORT

RACE	DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT	COMPLEXION
White	HEIGHT (APPROX) 5'9"	WEIGHT (APPROX) 160
Blue	EYES	HAIR
Gray	Blonde	Brown
Brown	Red	Light
Black	Brown	Ruddy
	Black	Dark
	Gray	Freckled
	Bald	Light brown
		Dark brown
		Black

Physical characteristics that will aid in identification
no

I affirm that the person registered has read or has had
true; that the person registered has signed or marked and that
I have witnessed his signature or mark and that
my knowledge are true, except as follows:

John H. Moyler
Signature of registrant
FEB 16 '42
(Number)
Bucks Pa.
(City or county)
32
(State)

Local Board No. 4
Local Board
Bucks County
Quakertown Boro Hall
Quakertown, Pa.
STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD
(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the registrant
shall be placed in the above space)

16-21630-2

**FLYING"
ITTLE CRY!
R PART**

NEWS-HERALD

A Consolidation of the Perkasie "Central News" and the Sellersville Herald

with OUR BOYS in SERVICE



Corpl. John R. Gulick will soon complete an intensive course in combat flying at the Alexandria Army Air Field, and in the near future will go overseas to a combat area.

Their Flying Fortress crew is trained by the Second Army Air Force, which has the task of readying four-engine bomber crews for overseas duty.

Cpl. Gulick, 23, was graduated from Sell-Perk High School in the class of 1939. His mother, Mrs. Elizabeth T. Gulick, lives in the Thompson Apts., Chestnut Street, Perkasie, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Evans announce the engagement of their daughter, Martha Williams, to Pfc. John Richard Gulick, son of Mrs. Warren K. Gulick. Miss Evans is a Cadet Nurse at Abington Memorial Hospital. Pfc. Gulick, an aerial gunner in the Army Air Force, left Wednesday for an unknown destination, after a 12-day furlough with his family. His date has been set for

IN SERVICE

An Eighth Air Force Bomber Station, England—Corporal John R. Gulick, 24, of Perkasie, tail gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress, has been assigned to the 95th Bombardment Group, commanded by Colonel Karl Truesdell, Jr., of Washington, D. C. and now is taking an orientation course on flying procedure in the European Theater of Operations, prior to beginning combat duty in the air. Cpl. Gulick is a member of the Eighth Air Force Fortress group which led the first American bombing attack on targets in Berlin, and which was cited by the President for its outstanding bombing assault on marshalling yards at

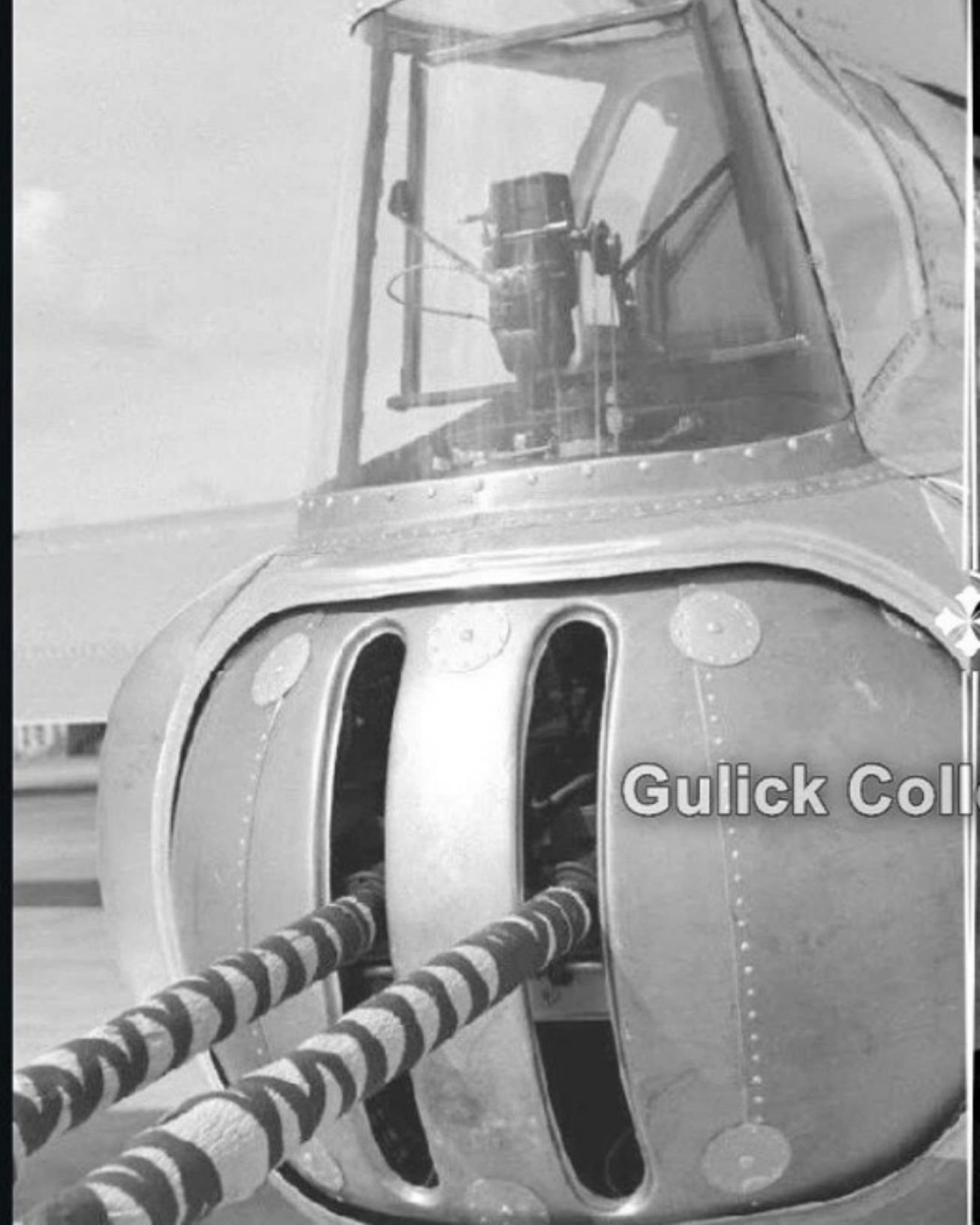
Germany, in October, 1943. As a component of the distinguished Third Bombardment Division, the group also shared in a Presidential citation given the entire division for its historic England-Africa shuttle bombing of an important Messerschmitt fighter plane plant at Regensburg, Germany, in August, 1943. The AAF gunner is the son of Mrs. Elizabeth T. Gulick.

Gulick Collection PHS



Gulick Collection PHS

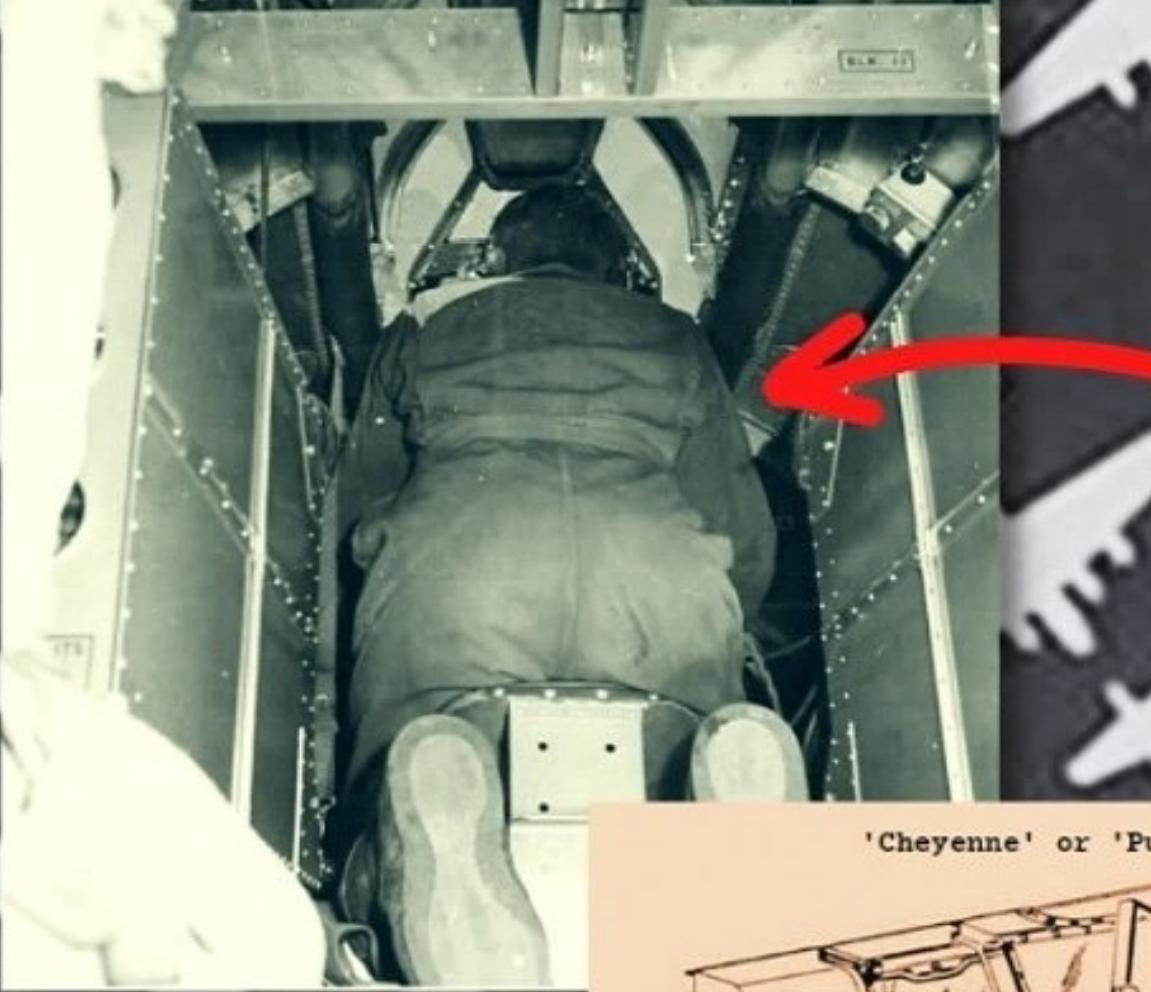
Armament: 13 .50-cal machine guns
Engines: 4 Wright Cyclone R-1820s (1,200 HP)
Max/Cruising Speed: 300 mph / 170 mph
Range: 1,850 miles without auxiliary tanks
Ceiling: 35,000 feet
Wingspan: 103 ft 10 in
Length: 74 ft 4 in



Gulick Collection PHS

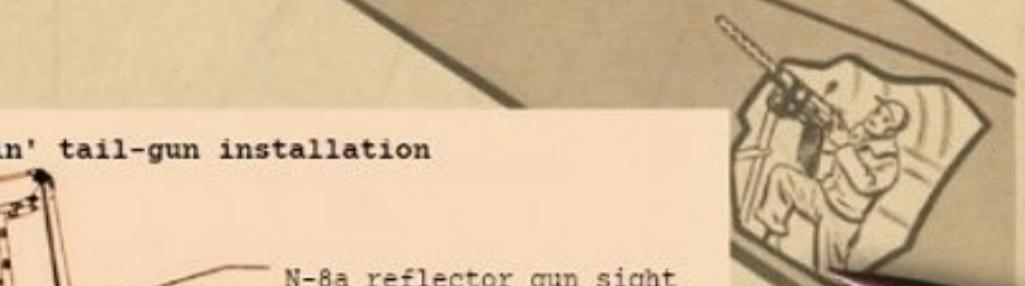
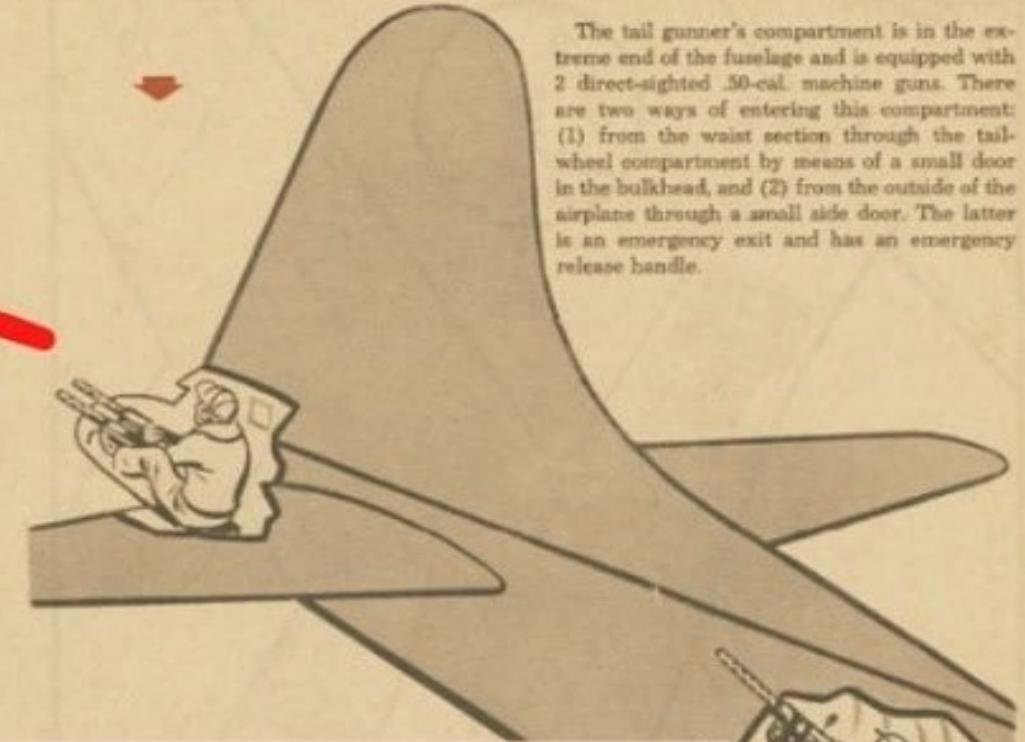


Interior tail own

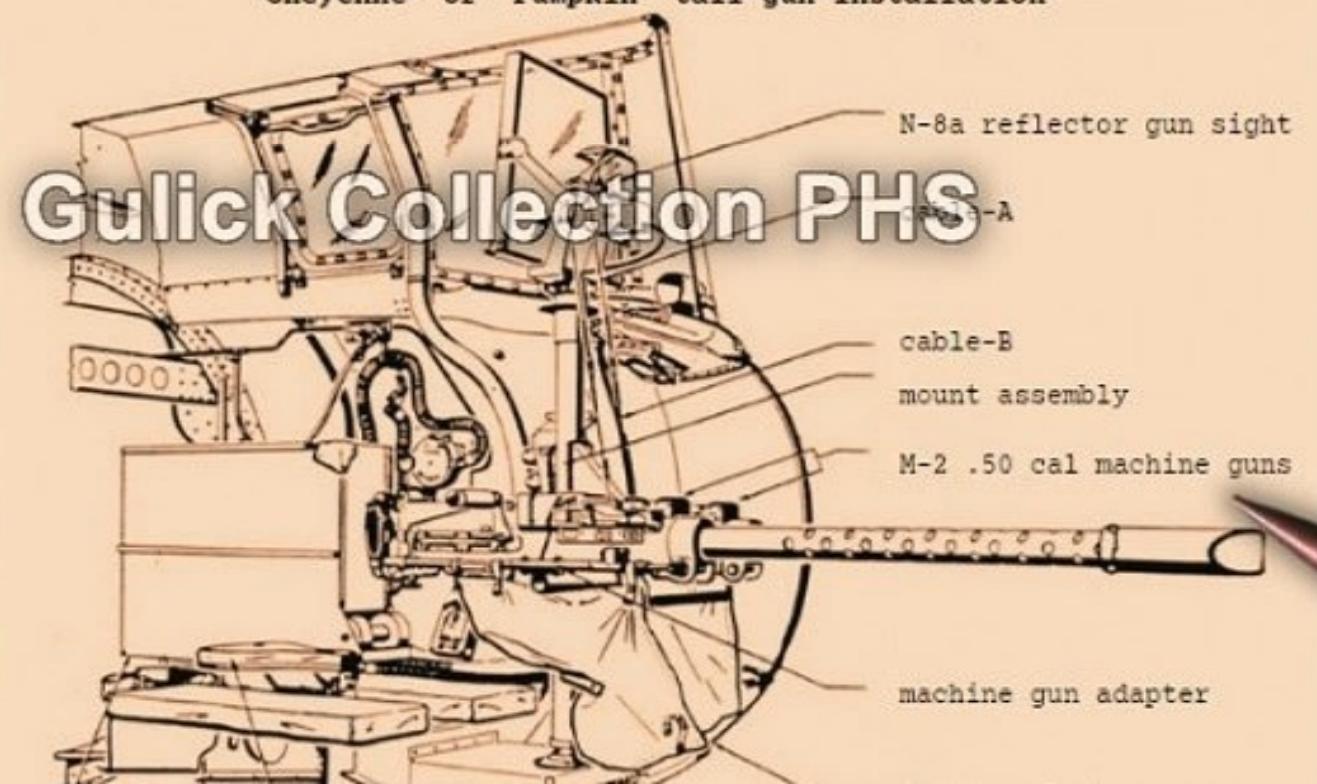


TAIL GUNNER'S COMPARTMENT

The tail gunner's compartment is in the extreme end of the fuselage and is equipped with 2 direct-sighted .50-cal. machine guns. There are two ways of entering this compartment: (1) from the waist section through the tail-wheel compartment by means of a small door in the bulkhead, and (2) from the outside of the airplane through a small side door. The latter is an emergency exit and has an emergency release handle.



'Cheyenne' or 'Pumpkin' tail-gun installation



YOU can't afford
to miss **EITHER!**

"It went in like a bullet and came out
the size of a saucer. Pretty devastating,"
said Gulick of the .50 caliber round.

Gulick Collection PHS

ARMY

"a grueling
vibrations, and dehydration."



Here's Your Complete
High-flying Wardrobe

- 1. Jacket
- 2. Jacket Insert, Heated
- 3. Trouser
- 4. Trouser Insert, Heated
- 5. Helmet
- 6. Shoe, Felt
- 7. Shoe Insert, Heated
- 8. Gloves, Heated
- 9. Rayon Glove Inserts
- 10. A-12 Mittens
- 11. Scarf
- 12. Lead Cord
- 13. Woolen Shirt
- 14. Light Socks
- 15. Long Underwear



Gulick Collection PHS

GOING TO WAR
IN
30°

WARMTH BY
HEAT FLYING
(Army Air Forces)

HEAT
FLYING
(Army Air Forces)

**B**

3rd Bomb (Air)
Division



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

95th Bomb Group

334th Squadron

335th Squadron

*336th Squadron

337th Squadron

100th Bomb Group

349th Squadron

350th Squadron

351st Squadron

418th Squadron

390th Bomb Group

568th Squadron

569th Squadron

570th Squadron

571st Squadron

490th Bomb Group

350th Squadron

848th Squadron

849th Squadron

851st Squadron

493rd Bomb Group

860th Squadron

861st Squadron

862nd Squadron

863rd Squadron

Gulick Collection PHS

*Gulick's squadron

within 95th BG





Gulick Collection PHS

Horham Airfield (Sta. 119) under construction 21 July 1942



D.W. Nelson Crew 1945

Back row (L to R):
Aubrey L. Ashmore (radio operator);
John D. Gulick (tail gunner);
Harry A. Housman (waist gunner);
Alexander Lawson (nose gunner);
Jack T. Modlin (top turret);
James L. Karwut (ball turret)

Front row (L to R):

John A. Tobin (co-pilot);
Dudley C.

Gulick Collection PHS

95th Bomb Group

Mission Log

3 Jan 1945

to

5 May 1945

Sgt. J. Richard Gulick

336th Bombardment Squadron

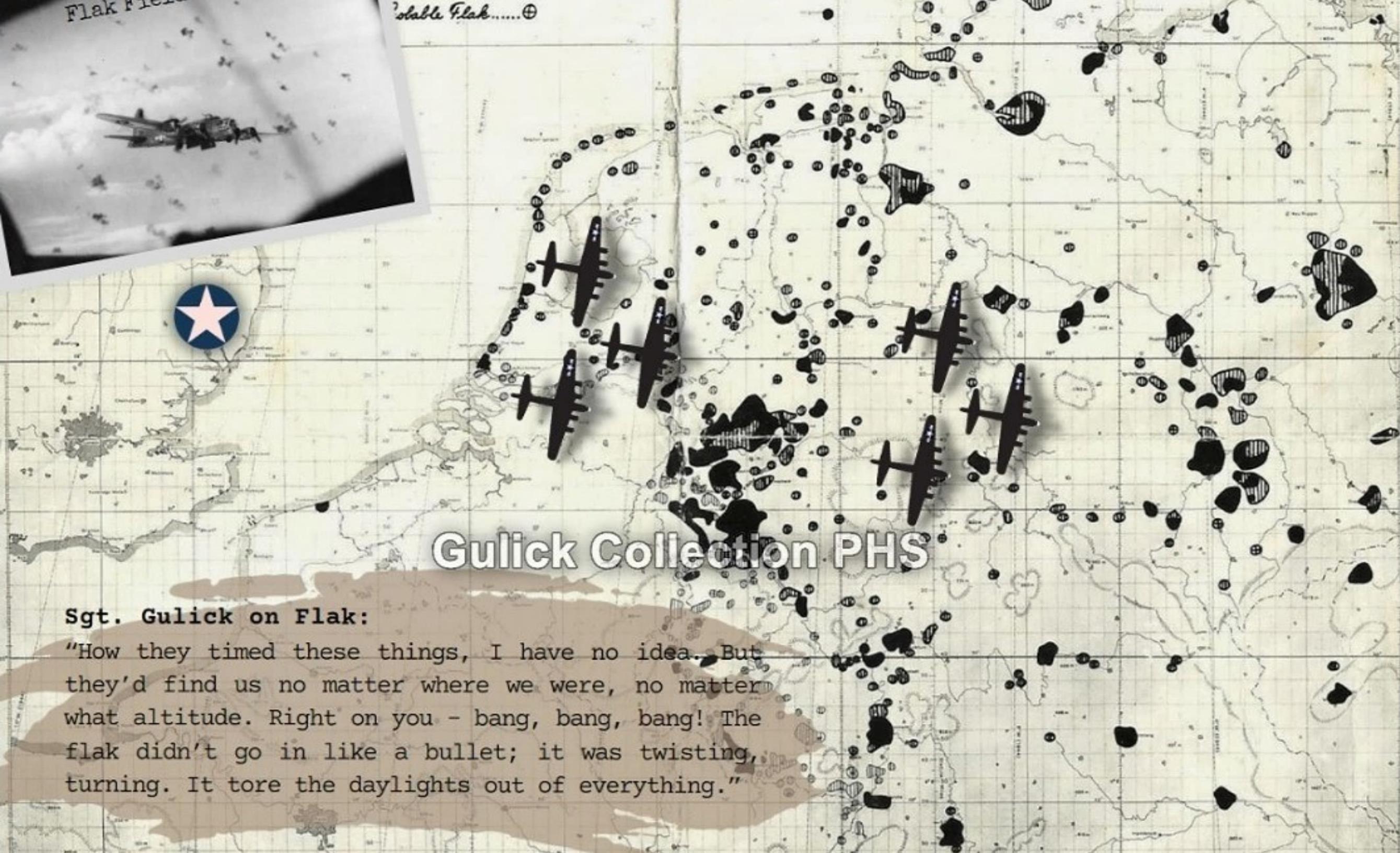
Mission	Target	Name/Tail No.
1) 1.3.45 Fulda, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"The Dawnbusters" B-17G No. 338584
2) 1.5.45 Frankfurt, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"Go Getter" B-17G No. 231567
3) 1.10.45 Himmelgeist, Ger.	Rail Bridge	B-17G No. 338584
4) 1.17.45 Hamburg, Ger.	oil refinery	"Civet Nuts" B-17G No. 338584
5) 1.20.45 Heilbronn, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	B-17G No. 338826
6) 2.3.45 Berlin, Ger.	Tempelhof M.Y.	"New York Express" B-17G No. 338617
7) 2.6.45 Chemnitz, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"Pretty Baby" B-17G No. 2106993
8) 2.17.45 Frankfurt, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"Pretty Baby" B-17G No. 2106993
9) 2.19.45 Osnabruck, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	B-17G No. 297844
10) 2.21.45 Nurnburg, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	B-17G No. 48272
11) 2.22.45 Bamberg, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"Evasive Action" B-17G No. 338657
12) 2.24.45 Bremen, Ger.	Rail Bridge	"Aunt Callie's Baby" B-17G No. 297376

Gulick Collection PHS

13) 2.25.45 Osnabruk, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"Pretty Baby" B-17G No. 2106993
14) 2.26.45 Berlin, Ger.	Mail Station	B-17G No. 48272
15) 3.3.45 Brunswick, Ger.	Oil Refinery	"Round Tripper" B-17G No. 46475
16) 3.4.45 Ulm, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"Round Tripper" B-17G No. 46475
17) 3.7.45 Datteln, Ger.	Benzol Plant	"Poof Proof" B-17G No. 338255
18) 3.12.45 Swinemunde, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	B-17G No. 48272
19) 3.17.45 Ruhland, Ger.	Oil Refinery	"Kimmie Kar for 9" B-17G No. 338281
20) 3.18.45 Berlin, Ger.	Rail Station	"New York Express" B-17G No. 338617
21) 3.19.45 Jena, Ger.	Optical Works	"Aunt Callie's Baby" B-17G No. 297376
22) 3.20.45 Hamburg, Ger.	Harbor Install.	B-17G No. 338676
23) 3.30.45 Hamburg, Ger.	Oil Depot	"Starduster" B-17G No. 338106
Abort) 4.3.45 Kiel, Ger.	U-Boat Pens	"Screaming Eagle" B-17G No. 2455
24) 4.4.45 Kiel, Ger.	Shipyard	"Little Joe" B-17G No. 339037
25) 4.5.45 Nuremberg, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"The Dawnbusters" B-17G No. 338584
26) 4.6.45 Landshut, Ger.	Airdrome	"The Dawnbusters" B-17G No. 338584
27) 4.8.45 Eger, Czech.	Marshalling Yards	"Starduster" B-17G No. 338106
28) 4.9.45 Munich-Reim Ger.	Airdromes	"Heavy Date" B-17G No. 338333
29) 4.10.45 Burg, Ger.	Airfields	B-17G No. 338469
30) 4.11.45 Landshut, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	"The Dawnbusters" B-17G No. 338584
31) 4.15.45 Royan, France	Flak Batteries	B-17G No. 338469
32) 4.18.45 Straubing, Ger.	Marshalling Yards	B-17G No. 338469
33) 5.1.45 Hague, Holland	Supply Drop	B-17G No. 338469
34) 5.5.45 Utrecht, Holland	Supply Drop	B-17G No. 338576



3. Himmelgeist, Ger.
4. Hamburg, Ger.
5. Heilbronn, Ger.
- 6. Berlin, Ger.**
7. Chemnitz, Ger.
8. Frankfurt, Ger.
9. Osnabruck, Ger.
10. Nurnberg, Ger.
11. Bamberg, Ger.
12. Bremen, Ger.
13. Munich, Ger.
- 14. Berlin, Ger.**
15. Brunswick, Ger.
16. Ulm, Ger.
17. Datteln, Ger.
18. Swinemunde, Ger.
19. Ruhland, Ger.
- 20. Berlin, Ger.**
21. Jena, Ger.
22. Hamburg, Ger.
- 23. Hamburg, Ger.**
24. Kiel, Ger.
25. Nurnberg, Ger.
26. Kaltenkirchen, Ger.
27. Eger, Czech.
28. Munich-Reim, Ger.
29. Burg, Ger.
30. Landshut, Ger.



Sgt. Gulick on Flak:

"How they timed these things, I have no idea. But they'd find us no matter where we were, no matter what altitude. Right on you - bang, bang, bang! The flak didn't go in like a bullet; it was twisting, turning. It tore the daylights out of everything."

Group Formation

Lead Squadron

Low Squadron

Lead Squadron

High Squadron

Low Squadron

High Squadron

Lead Squadron

Low Squadron
"Coffin Corner"



New York Express

Little Joe

Starduster

Screaming Eagle

Kimmie Kar for 9

Pretty Baby

Poof Proof Gulick Collection PHS
GO GETTER Cadet

Aunt Callie's Baby

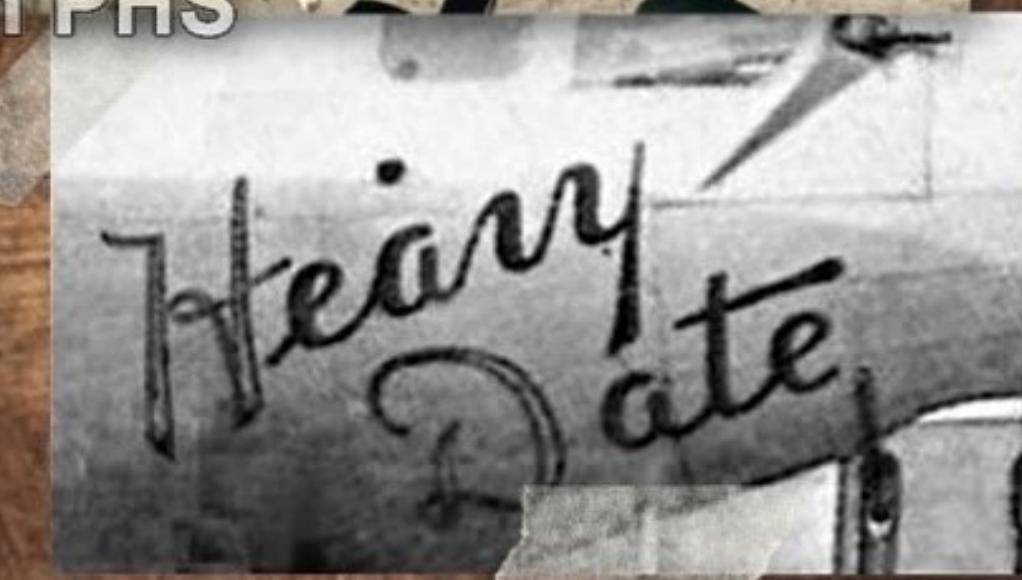
Round Tripper

Evasive Action

HEAVY DATE

Nurse

DAWNBUSTERS



Gulick Collection PHS

Capt. J. Richard Gulick
3852286)



Gulick Collection PHS





Gulick flew as tail gunner aboard this B-17
No. 338469 on four missions.

"Cecile's Baby" served as Gulick's bomber
for strikes on Bremer and Dera, Germany.



"Little Joe" flies in formation with
Gulick's 336th squadron.



Gulick Collection PHS



In the foreground is "Little Joe", Gulick's bomber
during a mission against Kiel, Germany.

338826, flown on a 20 Jan.
Heilbronn, Ger.



"Starduster" was Gulick's assigned B-17
for a pair of missions in April 1945.

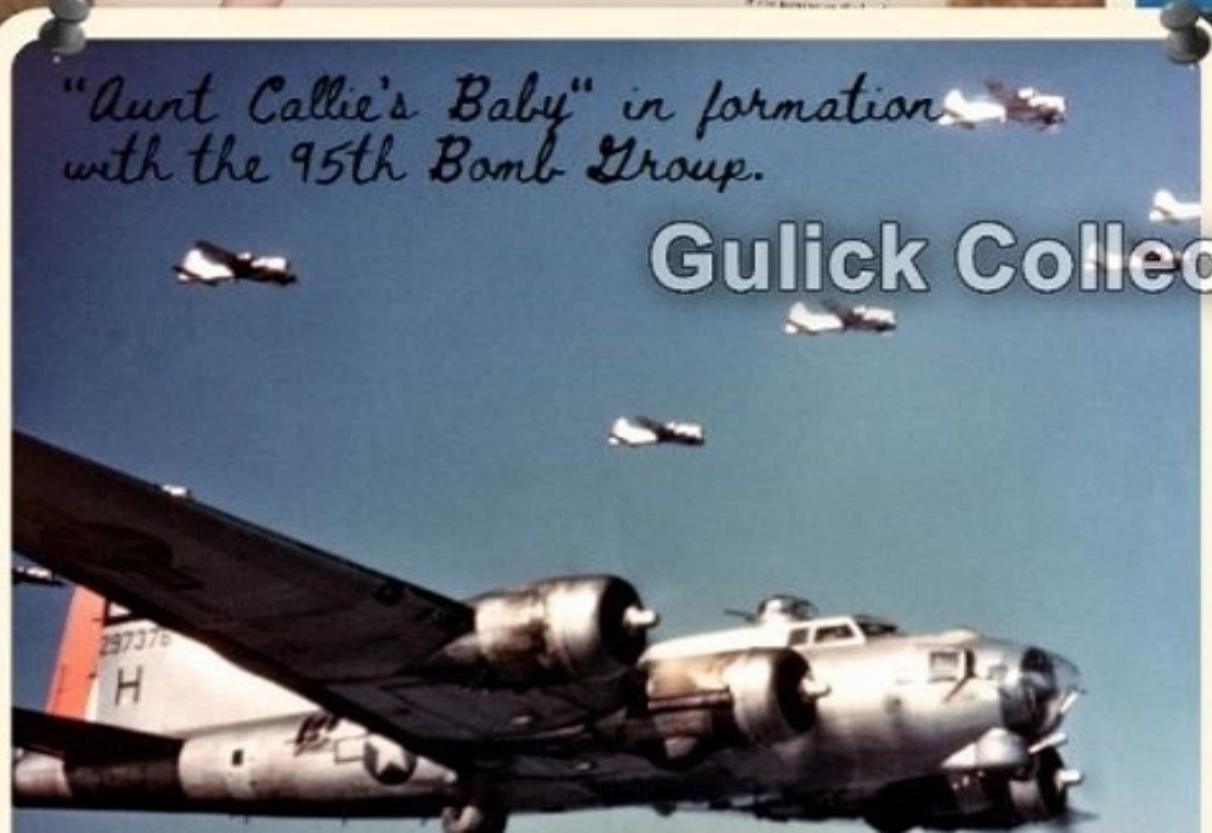


Gulick Collection PHS

Gulick flew on "New York Express"
(right), during one of the largest bomber
attacks on Berlin.



"Pretty Baby", Gulick's bomber for three
strikes, tallied 118 missions by war's end.

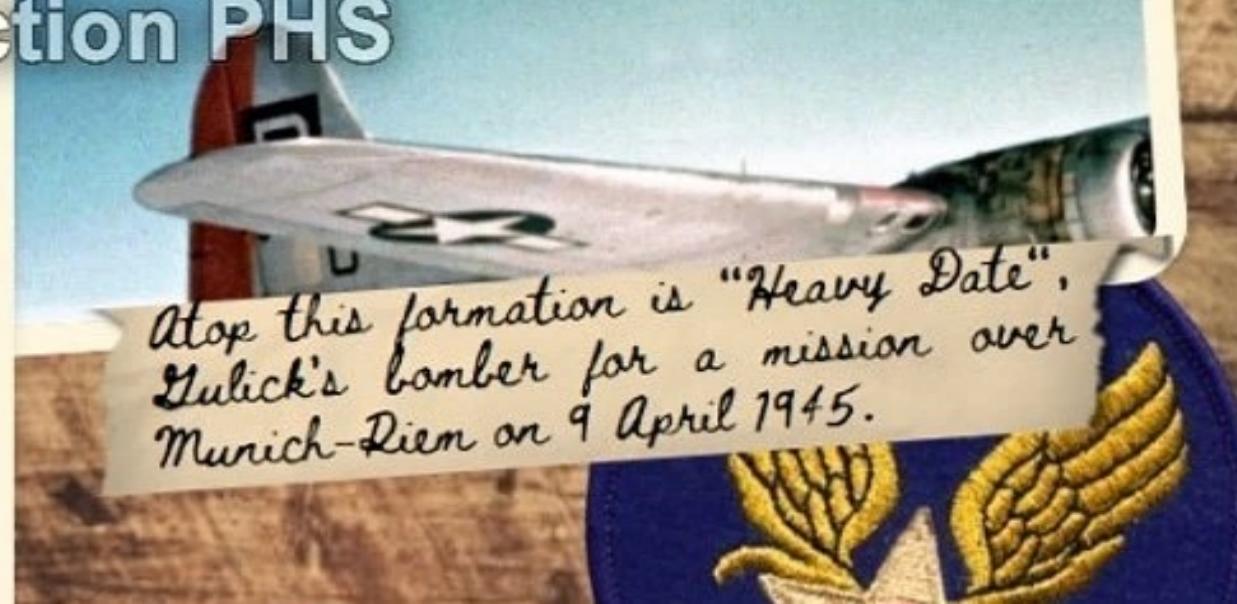


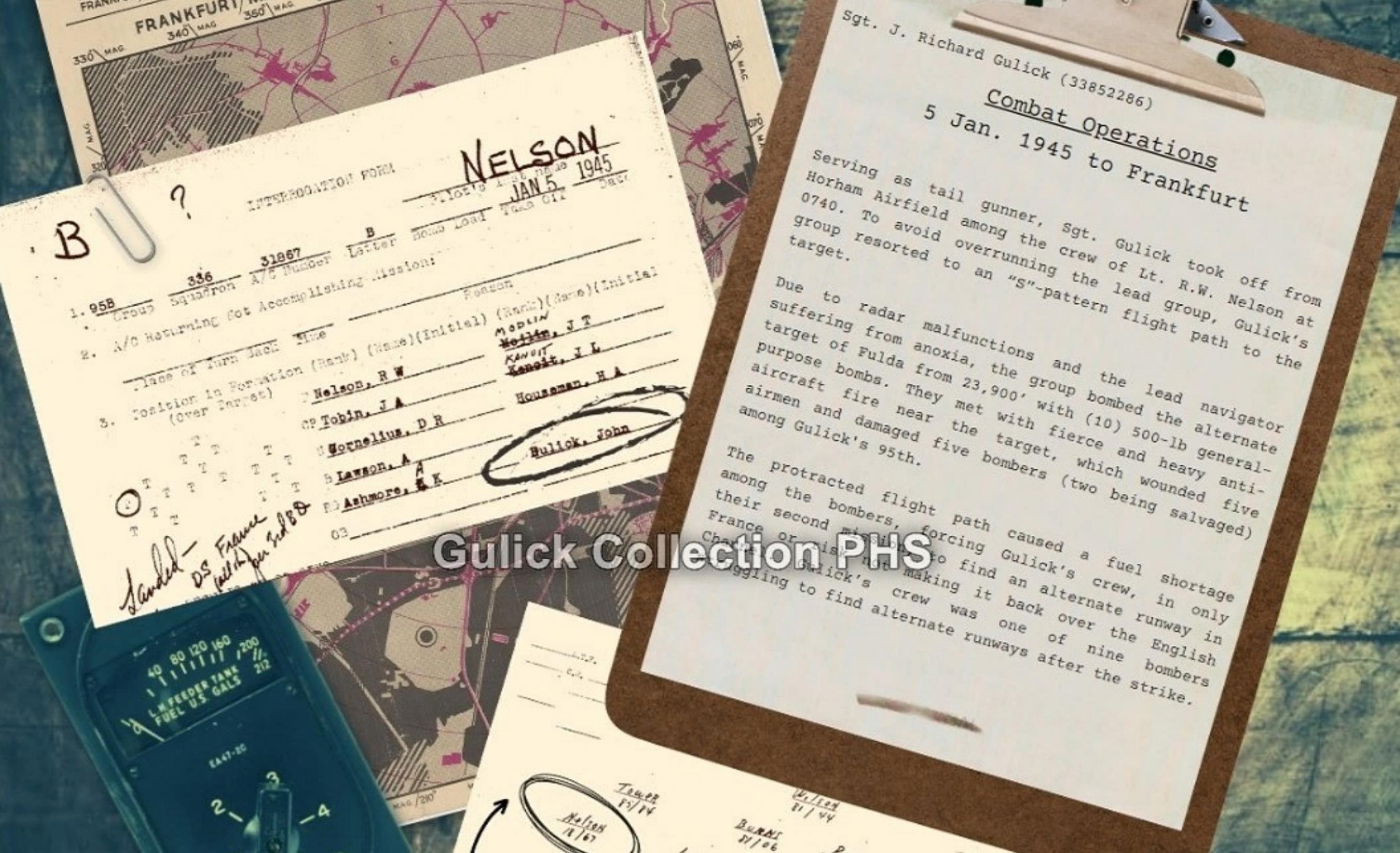
"Aunt Callie's Baby" in formation
with the 95th Bomb Group.

Gulick Collection PHS



Atop this formation is "Heavy Date",
Gulick's bomber for a mission over
Munich-Diem on 9 April 1945.





CIRCULATION: January Average: Daily 1,000, Sunday 1,800, Inc.

Reds Closing on Frankfurt and 1000 U.S. Fortresses Rain Bombs on Berlin;

Richard Gulick

Sgt.
J.
Sgt.

Combat Operations

3 Feb. 1945 to Berlin

Berlin. The airmen called it the "Big B", the German capital and the beating heart of Hitler's Third Reich. This mission carried Gulick into the deepest reaches of Nazi Germany as part of a massive 8th Air Force effort that, at the time, marked the war's biggest attack on the German capital. It was, and still is, the largest single raid by the 8th on a single target. Operating on a scale beyond imagination, the Mighty Eighth mustered some 1,400 heavy bombers from three air divisions, comprised of 42 bomb groups and 15,000 airmen for the attack. Once formed the armada covered 360 miles from front to rear. When the first bombers arrived over Berlin, the tail end of the stream was passing over the Dutch coast. Boots on the ground reported it took three hours for the bombers and their escort of 500 fighters to pass overhead.

With CAVU conditions over Berlin, the sky above its mark, raining hellfire on the Reichschancellery, Gestapo headquarters. It sent Hitler scurrying like a rat into a protective bunker beneath the city where he'd live out the remaining weeks of his life.

On the strategic front, the strike was aimed at disorganizing all communication and transportation within the city in support of the Soviet Union's Red Army which was advancing within 130 miles of Berlin.

TARGET NO. 6 (WV 70)
Tempelhof and Marshalling Yard and
Antikular and Potzdamer Strakons
BERLIN (Germany)

BERLIN

330' MAS
340' MAG
350' M

360' MAS
370' MAG
380' M

390' MAS
400' MAG
410' M

420' MAS
430' MAG
440' M

450' MAS
460' MAG
470' M

delivered against the German capital."

Notes

- Dropped 500 LB MP bombs x 10 from 28,500'
- Takeoff: 0708 / Land: 1545
- All Fire accurate, moderate to intense tracking fire
- 3 bombers damaged
- 3 bombers lost
- 9 airmen KIA
- 9 airmen POWs

Gulick Collection PHS

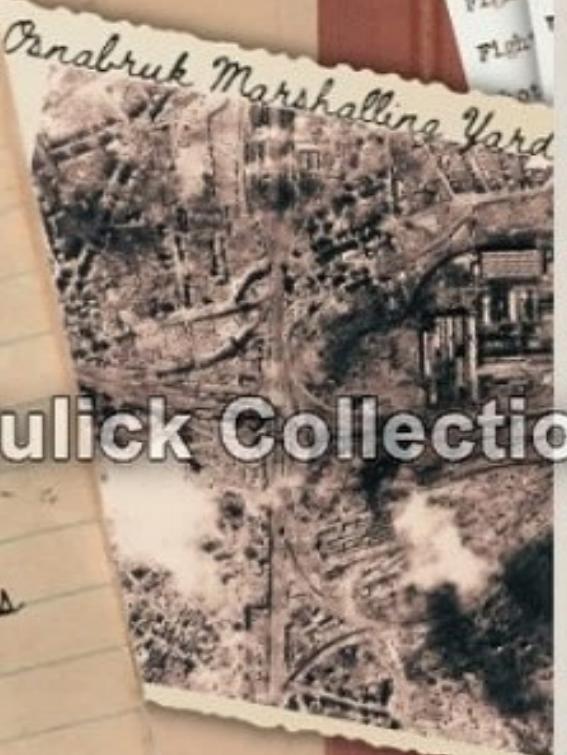
Fortresses Slam Berlin With 3000 Tons; No Opposition

LONDON, Sunday, Feb. 4 (AP)—Nearly 4000 Allied warplanes pounded German installations yesterday. Berlin itself being rocked by the most concentrated assault ever made on the German capital.

In a wild, 45-minute period, more than 1000 United States 8th Air Force Flying Fortresses, escorted by more than 900 fighters, blasted Berlin. They were in sight of Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's Russian assault across the Oder River Line 30 to 40 miles

Notes

- Bombing Results: Good
- Dropped 500 LB GP bombs x 12 from 15,500'
- AA Fire: meager
- Escort of 3 P-51 groups (168 fighters)
 - 1 airman wounded



Gulick Collection PHS

Combat Operations

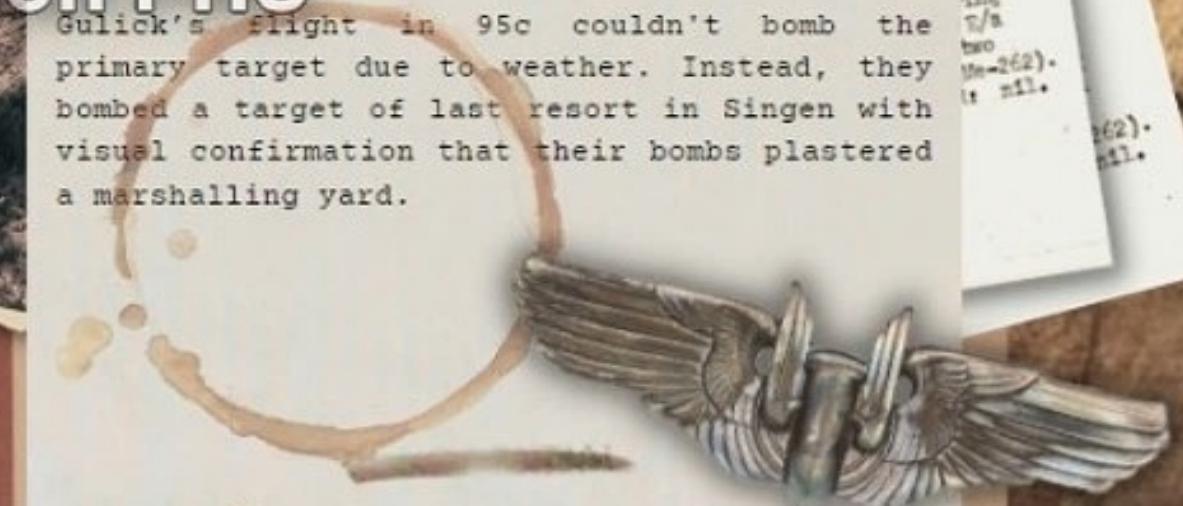
22 Feb. 1945 Operation Clarion

POLICE
A. T.
PERIOD
A. ST.
ROAT
PIR
Heavy PL
Flight PL
Flight PL
Flight PL
Flight PL

Gulick and company again took aim at the German transportation system as part of Operation Clarion, a large-scale strike utilizing all available USAAF (8th, 9th and 15th Air Forces) and RAF planes. "Designed to give the German transportation systems a paralyzing blow," its aim was to disrupt the movement of men and materials to the fighting front.

Nearly 9,000 aircraft, operating from bases in England, France, Holland, Belgium and Italy, attacked over 650,000 square kilometers of territory, targeting railways, bridges, ports and roads - the 8th Air Force alone targeted 33 transportation junctions.

Gulick's flight in 95c couldn't bomb the primary target due to weather. Instead, they bombed a target of last resort in Singen with visual confirmation that their bombs plastered a marshalling yard.



4 April 1945

ion of aircraft No. 2455
COMMANDING OFFICER, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 559, U.S. Army.

(attention operations officer)

I took off in aircraft No. 2455 on mission of 3 April 1945.

furiously while on, pulling 35° and 2300 RPM. Slight smoke puffs were noticed before this time but the engine kept running smooth and I was not worried about it. How ever I tried reducing the power setting on No. 2 at the first sign of its acting up. Smoke came out of the engine for about five minutes when oil started accumulating on the nacelle at which time the engine started vibrating and knowing it wouldn't be of any further use I immediately feathered the prop. No. 3 engine's maximum output at the time of abortion was 34° and was not dependable either. Altitude was 24,400 ft. I returned to base and landed at 2015 hours.

Rudolph W. Nelson
RUDOLPH W. NELSON
1st. Lt. A. C.
Pilot

1st. Ind.

338th Bomb Sqdn., 95th Bomb Gp (H), APO 559, U.S. Army, 4 April 1945.
COMMANDING OFFICER, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 559, U.S. Army.
(attention operations officer)

1. I consider the action taken justifiable.
2. For your information.

Joseph D. Garrison
JOSEPH D. GARRISON
Capt. A. C.
Asst. Operations Off.

Sgt. J. Richard Gulick

Gulick Collection PHS

Gulick and the 95th BG drew the target of Nazi U-Boat Pens in Kiel, a port city on Germany's Baltic Sea coast on 3 April 1945.

Flying aboard "Screaming Eagle", the mission was without issue until the group was approximately halfway across the desolate North Sea. It was then that Screaming Eagle's No. 2 engine let go at 24,000'.

Gulick's pilot, Lt. R.W. Nelson, feathered the engine's prop while simultaneously noticing that No. 3 was also down on power. Hanging in the air on two-and-a-half engines and a full payload, the mechanical woes proved too much and forced Nelson to abort the mission and limp back with what little power. Screaming Eagle had left. This particular ship had mission aborts related to mechanical issues on 7% of its 82 missions.

AIR FORCE
GERMAN



Combat Operations

7 Apr. 1945 to Kaltenkirchen

The end of the war was blessedly in sight for Gulick and the 95th Bomb Group on his 26th mission. But such desperate times brought equally desperate measures for what remained of the German Luftwaffe. On this mission, targeting an airfield in north Germany, signs of Nazi rashness were evidenced by the fact that FW-190 pilots "deliberately rammed the bombers, bailing out before their planes went into the bomber formations and making fanatical attacks through a murderous hail of fire. Enemy tactics were thrown to the wind and attacks were made from all positions."

It was a determined force of some 115 enemy aircraft supplemented by 50-plus jets, which fought aggressively. The Allied losses were comparatively light, while it was reported more than half the enemy force was destroyed or damaged. Sgt. Gulick could see attacks on other groups in the formation but his crew was not engaged by the enemy, despite being approached by 100. This strike also kicked off a stretch of consecutive days for Gulick.

Gulick Collection PHS

Notes

- Dropped 500 LB GP bombs x 10
- Distance: 752 miles
- Enemy Aircraft: 100 +
- Escort fighters: P-51s/P-47

did a superb job intercepting
7 bombers damaged in group
and 13 bombers of 529 lost
in wing.



Combat Operations

10 Apr. 1945 to Burg

Gulick's flight of nine bombers in 95d were attacked by one FW-190 fighter and a pair of Me-262 jet fighters. The single-attack passes came from 6:30 o'clock level on the tail. One of the FW-190s exploded before it reached the formation. Then, just 25 minutes later, d-flight was jumped by two Me-262s, which attacked from the 5 o'clock position. One passed over the formation and peeled off left, the other underneath the formation and peeled off right. Both appeared to attack with power off, reported by the airmen to perhaps be a new tactic. Both were hit and last seen aflame in steep dives. These 262s were said to have unusual markings as they were black with a German cross on the tail coupled with a large red fuselage cross below the canopy. The engagement resulted in no damage to the bombers in 95d. Others weren't so lucky.



Gulick Collection PHS

- Dropped 500-lb GP & Inc. bombs x 12 from 18,500'
- Takeoff: 1055 / Land: 1825
- AA Fire: Moderate to accurate
- E/A: 3 destroyed
- 1 A/T damaged





Gulick Collection PHS



Sgt. J. Richard Gulick Service Record

Missions: 32 combat missions (3 over Berlin);
*2 supply drops

Position: Tail gunner 32 missions; waist gunner 2 missions

Bombs dropped: 168,600 lbs (84.3 tons)

Combat miles flown: 28,642



Gulick Collection PHS

"I flew with the 95th [Bomb Group]. I also flew several missions - maybe half a dozen - with the Bloody Hundredth. And that was an experience. They had their own private war on with the Nazis. I'm proud to have survived that."

- *Sgt. J. Richard Gulick*