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MAY 07, 2002

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DEAR WILL;

THE FOLDED WINGS COLUMN OF THE SPRING 2002 ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL, LISTED A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE, T/SGT. DAVID APPENZELLER. THE REASON HE IS NOT LISTED IN KIEFERS 506TH SQUADRON HISTORY, IS THAT HE WORKED OUT OF GROUP HEADQUARTERS IN THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE. LT. JOHN RYAN, A PILOT IN THE 506 SQUADRON, HAD ADDITIONAL DUTIES AS GROUP PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, HE AND APPENZELLER WORKED TOGETHER.

RYAN, APPENZELLER, AND CAPTAIN URSEL P. HARVELL, THE GROUP PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER, DESIGNED AND PUT TOGETHER THE BOOKLET "THE DESTRUCTION OF GERMANY AS SEEN IN THE TROLLEY MISSIONS MAY 1945". I BELIEVE THAT APPENZELLER HELPED HARVELL WITH HIS BOOK "FORTY FOURTH LIBERATORS OVER EUROPE".


I FLEW MY FIRST COMBAT MISSION AS CO-PILOT FOR JOHN RYAN'S CREW. IN TURN, HE FLEW AS CO-PILOT ON MY CREW WHEN WE FLEW HOME FROM ENGLAND BY WAY OF ICELAND AND GREENLAND TO BRADLEY FIELD, CT. APPENZELLER WAS ONE OF OUR TEN PASSENGERS.

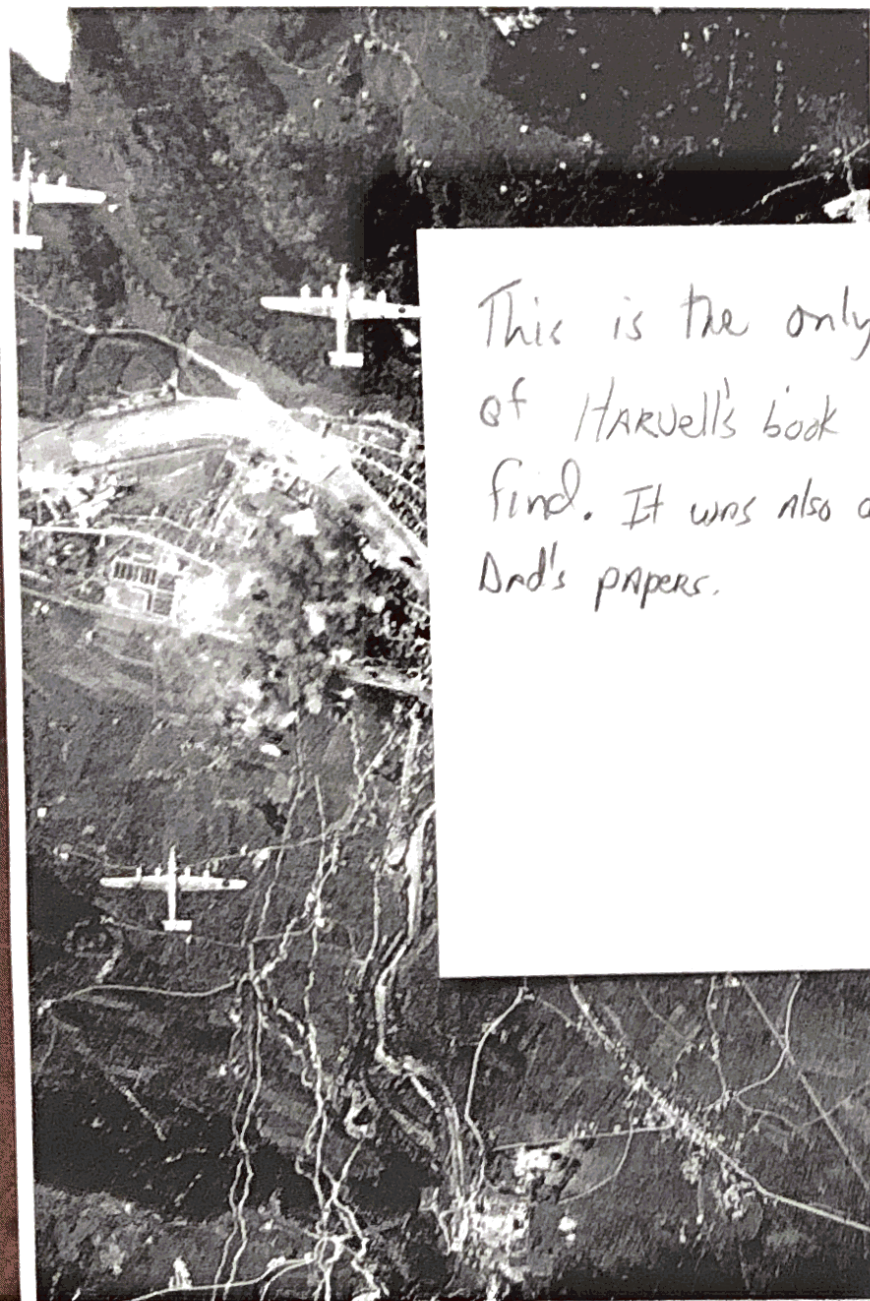
AS PART OF HIS PUBLIC RELATIONS JOB, APPENZELLER CREATED A RADIO SCRIPT, FEATURING THE TROLLEY MISSION. IT WAS TO BE BROADCAST IN THE STATES ON SATURDAY, THE DAY WE WERE SCHEDULED TO FLY OUT OF GREENLAND TO BRADLEY FIELD. THERE WERE MANY PLANES LAID OVER AT BLUEY WEST #1 THAT FRIDAY NIGHT. APPENZELLER TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO GO TO THE BASE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER AND TELL THE STORY OF HIS RADIO SHOW. HE CONNED THE P.R. OFFICER INTO TALKING THE BASE OPERATIONS OFFICER INTO SCHEDULING US TO BE THE FIRST TO TAKE OFF THE NEXT DAY, SO THAT APPENZELLER COULD HEAR HIS RADIO MASTERPIECE IN THE STATES.

THE SAME COLUMN OF FOLDED WINGS LISTED WILLIAM J. MULHOLLAND, BILL WAS A BIG, EASY GOING, FRIENDLY, VERY COMPETENT AIRMAN. HE FLEW EIGHT OR TEN MISSIONS WITH OUR CREW AND WAS ON OUR CREW FOR THE FLIGHT BACK TO THE STATES. I WAS SORRY TO HEAR OF HIS PASSING.

A PIECE OF COINCIDENTAL TRIVIA, BEFORE THE WAR JOHN RYAN WORKED IN SYRACUSE, NY, MY HOME TOWN, AND LIVED LESS THAN TWO BLOCKS AWAY FROM OUR FAMILY HOME. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I DIDN'T KNOW HIM AT THAT TIME.

SINCERELY,


EMMETT J. BURNS, JR.
FORMER CAPTAIN
506 BOMB SQUADRON



This is the only page
of HARVELL's book that I could
find. It was also a copy in
Dad's papers.

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Infantry, Field Artillery and Engineers—in fact, every man who ever
participated—could lay claim to final victory. And deservedly so. But for
the destruction of enemy installations the heavy bombers had no peer.
Precision bombing, as exemplified by the 44th Bombardment Group, paid off.

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