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10 January 2004

Dear Ms. White,

Received your letter of January 2 and will try to fill in some of the gaps in your information about Bill's war time service.

Please excuse (or put up with) my handwriting. I don't type and don't have a computer either.

To start with, enclosed is a list of the missions I flew, and, as noted on the list, most of them would have included Bill as co-pilot. Of course, he flew some missions when I wasn't on that crew, so from your standpoint, the enclosed list isn't a complete total of Bill's missions.

Next, some information about Bill's crewmates overseas from December 1944 to May 1945:

Pilot: Robert Hansen, Waterloo, Iowa, age 80

Co-Pilot: William E. Byers

Navigator: Theodore Kaszerski, Brazil, age 82 (changed his last name to Kendall)

Engineer/Gunner: William S. Hunt d. Pennsylvania

Radio Operator/Gunner: Al Friedman – status/address unknown. Came from Brooklyn.

Nose Gunner: George Mollart d. Nevada

Belly Gunner: Donald Strothers d. Texas

Waist Gunner: Dominick Papparatto – age 78 Chicago, now retired in Florida

Tail Gunner: Bruce Thompson – age 78 – California

We did not have a bombardier assigned to our crew. One was on board on an "as-needed" basis. We usually just released our bombs when the lead plane did.

Save this page. Will follow with other pages.

Best wishes
Bruce Thompson