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National Air and Space Museum

Major George E. Preddy, Jr. Combat Footage

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Major George E. Preddy, Jr. Combat Footage
Date:	[ca. 1940s]
Identifier:	NASM.1993.0066
Creator:	Preddy, George E., 1919-1944
Extent:	2 Cubic feet ((5 film reels))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Rachel Preddy Harris, Gift, 1992, 1993-0066, unknown

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Major George E. Preddy, Jr. (1919-1944) was an American ace during World War II, with thirty-two and a half (32 1/2) enemy planes to his credit. Six of those enemy aircraft were downed by Preddy in a little more than six minutes. In 1940, Preddy made three attempts to join the US Navy, each time rejected because of physical problems, before he joined the Army Air Corps and was ordered to report to flight training in April 1941. In December 1941, he graduated from flight training and was sent to Australia, to join the 9th Squadron, 49th Pursuit Group. In 1943 he was sent to the European Theatre, where he was part of the 352nd Fighter Group. He crashed to his death when his North American P-51 Mustang was hit during the Battle of Bulge by American machine gunners' flak on Christmas Day, 1944.

Scope and Contents

This footage consists of five reels of film. The footage includes Preddy's combat footage, including most of his aerial victories through August 6, 1944 and some of this strafing mission footage. In addition, there is also gun camera footage of Preddy firing at two targets and ground targets in 1943.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Military
- Fighter pilots
- North American P-51 Mustang Family
- World War, 1939-1945

Types of Materials:

- Motion pictures (visual works)

Names:

- Preddy, George E., 1919-1944
- United States. Army Air Forces. 352nd Fighter Group