



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Boeing B-29 Superfortress *Enola* Gay Autographed Crew Photograph

Jessamyn Lloyd

2018

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Boeing B-29 Superfortress <i>Enola Gay</i> Autographed Crew Photograph
Identifier:	NASM.2018.0018
Date:	1946
Creator:	United States. Army Air Forces
Extent:	0.05 Cubic feet (1 folder)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of one 10 by 8 inch black and white photograph, taken in 1946, of Paul Warfield Tibbets, Thomas Wilson Ferebee, and Theodore J. "Dutch" Van Kirk, in uniform. The photograph is signed by all three in blue ink.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Boeing B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay Autographed Crew Photograph

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Timothy Wuwert, Gift, 2018

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Boeing B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay* Autographed Crew Photograph, NASM.2018.0018, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Boeing's B-29 Superfortress was the most sophisticated propeller-driven bomber of World War II, and the first bomber to house its crew in pressurized compartments. Although designed to fight in the European theater, the B-29 found its niche on the other side of the globe. In the Pacific, B-29s delivered a variety of aerial weapons: conventional bombs, incendiary bombs, mines, and two nuclear weapons. On August

6, 1945, the Boeing B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay* dropped the first atomic weapon used in combat on Hiroshima, Japan. After the war, the Boeing B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay* returned to the United States before being flown to Kwajalein Island in May 1946 for use in the Operation Crossroads Nuclear Tests. Paul Warfield Tibbets served as the pilot for the Hiroshima mission, Thomas Wilson Ferebee was the bombardier, and Theodore J. "Dutch" Van Kirk was the navigator. All three were later involved in Operation Crossroads as part of the 58th Bombardment Wing, 509th Composite Group.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of one 10 by 8 inch black and white photograph, taken in 1946, of Paul Warfield Tibbets, Thomas Wilson Ferebee, and Theodore J. "Dutch" Van Kirk, in uniform. The photograph is signed by all three in blue ink.

Arrangement

This collection is in original order.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

- Photographs
- Signatures (names)

Names:

- Ferebee, Thomas Wilson,, 1918-2000
- Tibbets, Paul W. (Paul Warfield), 1915-2007
- Van Kirk, Theodore J. "Dutch"