



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

George H. Riley World War II Photo Album

Patti Williams

2020

National Air and Space Museum Archives
14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway
Chantilly, VA 20151
NASMRefDesk@si.edu
<https://airandspace.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	George H. Riley World War II Photo Album
Date:	1943 - 1945
Identifier:	NASM.2020.0011
Extent:	0.33 Cubic feet (One 11 by 14 by 3 inch flat box.)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This 10 by 12 inch World War II album chronicles George Riley's World War II aviation career, both stateside and in Italy.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Steve Riley, Gift, 2020, NASM.2020.0011

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2020.

Preferred Citation

George H. Riley World War II Photo Album, NASM.2020.0011, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

Material is subject to Smithsonian Terms of Use. Should you wish to use NASM material in any medium, please submit an Application for Permission to Reproduce NASM Material, available at [Permissions Requests](#) .

Biographical / Historical

George H. Riley (1924 - 1996) was a radio operator and gunner, serving in Italy with the 301st Bombardment Group (Fifteenth Air Force), a highly decorated group flying Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses. Riley entered the Army Air Corps in February 1943, attending the Army Air Forces Training Command's radio school in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and then the Yuma Gunnery School in Yuma, Arizona. After his stateside training, Riley served in Italy, where he flew over 60 missions, mostly against Axis oil and communication centers in Southern Europe.

Scope and Contents

This 10 by 12 inch World War II album contains the following types of material chronicling George Riley's World War II aviation career, both stateside and in Italy: photographs (official photo reconnaissance images, copies of official Air Force photography, and snapshots taken by Riley of base life, aircraft, and personnel); patches and insignias; newspaper articles; ephemera such as passes, notices and playbills from his service in Italy; correspondence / cards; various European currency; and certificates, including one relating to his Caterpillar Club membership.

Arrangement

No arrangement, just one album.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress Family
- World War, 1939-1945 -- Italy

Names:

- United States. Army Air Forces. Bombardment Group (Heavy), 301st