

Robert C. Butcher inducted in U.S. Army in Fifth Regiment Armory, Baltimore Md. on March 21st 1943 and sent at once to Receiving Base, Camp Geo. E. Meade, Ft. Meade Md. Various inoculations and tests were taken here. Assigned to U.S. Air Corp and sent to Miami Beach Florida on March 26th 1943 for five weeks basic training. Quarters at Hotel Norman during this period. Assigned to 401 Training Group, Basic Training Camp #4, Captain Franklin commanding. Additional inoculations and tests taken here. Promoted to Private First Class on April 27th 1943. Application for cadet training as pilot made here but rejected because of slight defect in speech. Sent to Technical Training School, Gulfport Miss. for five months mechanical course preparing for Aerial Engineer. Assigned to 629 Technical School Squadron and graduated with this squadron under command of Major Marston. Complete training received here on the care, assembly, repair and inspection of airplanes. Sent to Flexible Gunnery School at Laredo, Texas on October 7th 1943 and assigned to 6th Gunnery School Squadron under command of 1st Lieutenant Merrill. Final tests taken at Eagle Pass Texas and graduated with high grades on November 25th 1943. Advanced to Sergeant at this time and assigned to Army Air Base, Salt Lake City.

Utah. Given a 15 day furlough enroute to this base which was spent in Glenwood Iowa. Reported at Salt Lake Base on December 13th, 1943, the trip from Omaha Nebr. Having been made with Sgt. Dan Day of Hebron Nebr. Assigned to Squadron C, Barracks 1905 acting as Barracks Chief while at this base where additional schooling was had. Sent to Rapid City, South Dakota to the Army Air Base and assigned to 353rd Combat Training Squadron. Arrived at this base on January 20th 1944, and started training for overseas combat duty. Assigned to crew consisting of following:

Rank	Name	Position	Birthplace
2nd Lieut.	Elmonte R. Miller	Pilot	Montana
2nd Lieut.	Paul M. Mowrey	Co-Pilot	Penna.
2nd Lieut.	Charles W. McCoy	Bombardier	Montana
2nd Lieut.	Clyde R. Kennedy	Navigator	Louisiana
S/Sgt.	Robert R. Hoyt	Right Gunner	Ohio
S/Sgt.	Robert J. Pascerant	Waist Gunner	New York
Sgt.	Charles R. Payne	Waist Gunner	Kentucky
Sgt.	Felix M. Jara	Ball Turret Gunner	California
Sgt.	Robert C. Butcher	Upper Turret Gunner	Iowa
Sgt.	George Stumpff	Tail Gunner	Montana

After a few weeks training with above crew, Pilot Elmonte (Monty) Miller was stricken with appendicitis and 2nd Lieut. Harry J. Crozier of Arizona was assigned to take his place. Completed training at this base and sent to the air base at

Kearney Nebr. on April 14, 1944 for overseas assignment. Shipped out of there in a few days and arrived in England the first week in May. Crew billeted in hut which was very comfortable and located in scenic spot. Crew assigned to 203rd Bombing Group 359th Squadron. This group considered one of the best in the E.T. and called "Hell's Angels." Received 78 letters the first day mail was received. Stationed at Molesby England between Northampton and Stone-on-Trent. Made 35 missions over enemy territory and was awarded the Air Medal with three Oak leaf Clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Presidential Citation. Last three on your missions were flown with Lt. Mowrey as pilot, Lt. Crozier having completed his missions due to his having flown a few special missions. Colonel Travers and General Travers flew with crew on different missions near the end of the thirty five missions. Released from flying on Aug. 15th and flew back to U.S. leaving from Scotland with stops at Iceland, Greenland and Newfoundland landing at Bolling Field, Washington D.C. Sept. 21st. Was granted a 22 day delay-entente which was spent at home. Reported at Atlantic City N.J. for reassignment and sent to base at Texas about Nov. 1st. Six weeks training in preparation for posting as instructor and sent to Las Vegas Nevada Jan. 9, 1945 to act as instructor

Served about three weeks and then sent to Fort Myers
Florida for six weeks training on the B-29.
Returned to Las Vegas and acted as gunnery
instructor on the B-29 until October 4th, 1945
Sent to Andrews Field, Washington D.C. for
discharge reporting there October 8th and
receiving final discharge papers Oct. 13, 1945