

---

*Edited for the Torretta Flyer*

Mr. Markel:

Thank you for sending me copies 24, and 25 of the Torretta Flyer, I appreciate the print quality and for the information regarding the life of the 484th Bomb Group in Italy. I especially appreciated the list of your aircraft in issue No 24 as it helps us with identifying crashed airplanes.

I have a list of five 461 Bomb Group aircraft that fell in Southern France during the war. I don't know if there are any downed 484th Bomb Group aircraft in this area at this time.

My family and myself are involved in deep sea diving. In 1984 while diving off of Agay in the Mediterranean Sea I came upon a lost B-24 at 42 Meters. I haven't been the same since, being bitten by the research bug. I am convinced there are other downed aircraft that have not been identified yet. As a result a new organization "Aero Re. L.I.C." was formed with me as president. We locate and identify crashed aircraft of WWII in the region of the French Riviera. This can be tedious work as we may have found only one part to identify the whole aircraft with. We now have twenty members. A book on crashed B-24's is now in preparation also.

When a positive identification is made efforts are made to contact the survivors or their families and arrange for them to travel to France to visit the spot where the aircraft fell. This has been accomplished many times and is a rewarding experience for everyone. For the survivors or families it establishes the exact final resting place of the crashed crewmen. This is important to me as it is part of French history that has been unknown till now by the French.

I am enclosing a photograph of 42-78289 a B-24 G "Flak Strainer" taken in October 1933 at the Dijon-Longvic airfield in France. The word Johnny appears just below the right waist window. You will notice some engine parts and cowling laying on the ground indicating that repair work was underway.

I rest as your friend, Phillippe Castellano, 500 Rue Leo Brun, # 06210, Mandelieu, France.

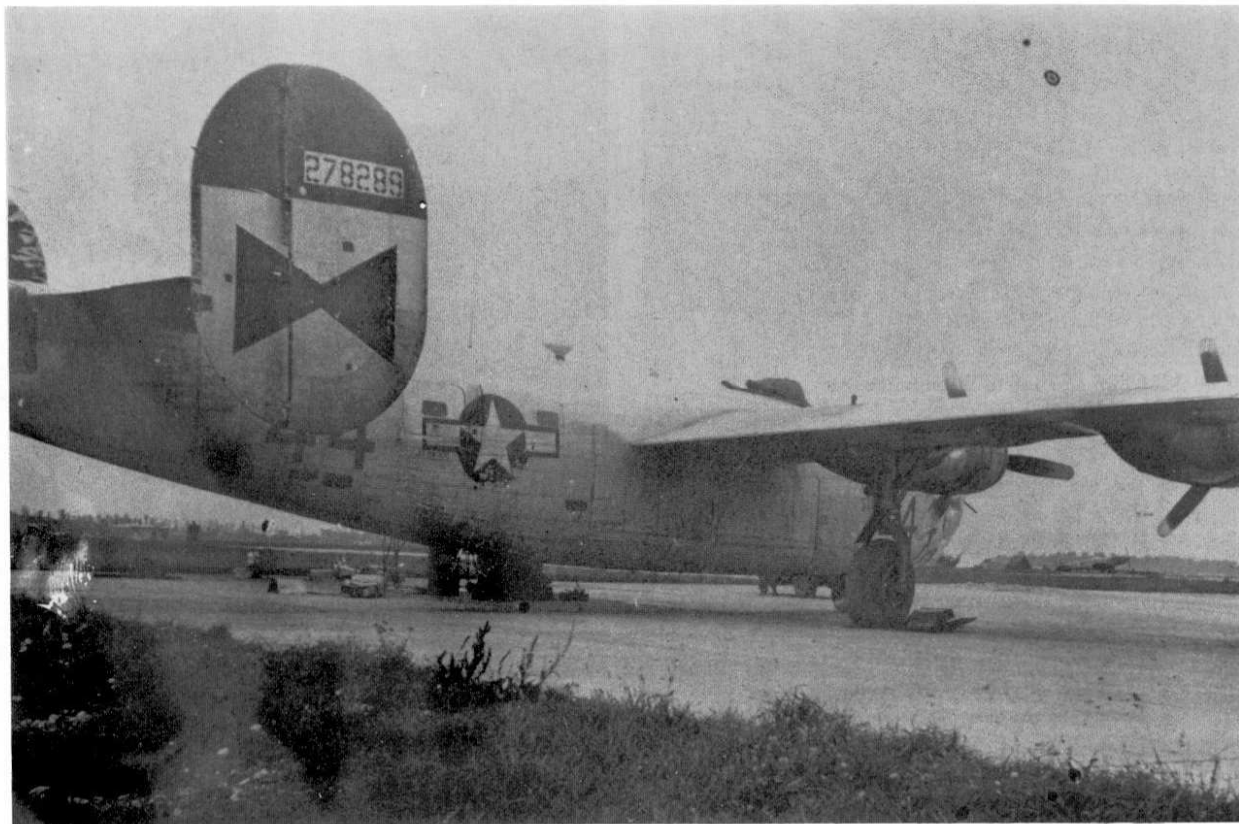


Photo credit: Pierre Granddillet, France