TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

332nd Fighter Group

301st Fighter Squadron



Pilot Profiles

Carl E. Carey, Sr.



Born:

10 July 1921

East St. Louis, Illinois

Education:

Arkansas State College, B.S.

Post Graduate Wayne State University, Computer Science

Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross Air Medal w/ 2 Oak Leaf Clusters

Distinguished Citation

Military Experience:

Combat Missions: 19

Member of the 301st Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group Credited with shooting down two German ME 109 Fighter Aircraft

Discharged 28 December 1946 — Captain

Retired from the Chrysler Corporation, Computer Programmer and Systems Analyst. Member of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Detroit Chapter. One of the Tuskegee Airmen in the mural at St. Louis' Lindbergh Airport.

Walter M. Downs



Born:

24 March 1916

McComb, Mississippi

Education:

Alcorn State University, B.S., 1941

Wayne State University, M.S., 1952

Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross

Certificate of Valor

Air Medal w/ 1 Silver and 2 Bronze Clusters

European Battle Campaign Ribbon w / 1 Silver Star and 2 Bronze Stars

Military Experience:

Combat Missions: 110

Assigned to the 301st Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group in April, 1943

Arrived in Italy, January, 1944

Flew convoy escort, flew fighter interceptor missions and fighter sweeps

Transferred to the 15th Air Force, SAC.

Provided safe escort to bombers — remained with this command until war ended

Commanding Officer of the 301st Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group

Retired 1950 — Lt. Colonel

Radio electronics and television service dealer.

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SVC#

SE-44-H

0838025

08 Sept. 1944

SE-43-B

SVC#

16 Feb. 1943 0797218

Bronze Stars



Alexander Jefferson



Born: 15 November 1921

Detroit, Michigan

Education: Clark College, Atlanta, B.S., Chemistry, 1942

Howard University, Washington, D.C., 27 Hrs. Masters

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SE-44-A

0819461

07 Ian. 1944

Decorations: Air Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal Distinguished Unit Citation Prisoner of War Medal American Defense Service Medal American Campaign Medal

European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal

WWII Victory Medal

National Defense Service Medal Armed Forces Reserve Medal Air Force Longevity Service Award

Military Experience:

Combat Missions: 19

Assigned to 301st Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group, 1944

Flew P-51 & provided protection from enemy aircraft

Flew 18 long range escort missions for B-17 and B-24 Bombers

On 12 August 1944, three days prior to the invasion of Southern France, was shot down

by ground fire while strafing radar stations on the coast.

Captured by German troops and interned for nine months as a prisoner of war Spend five months in Stalag Luft III, 80 miles east of Berlin on the Odor River On 29 January 1945, when the Russians started their offensive, the prisoners (American,

British and French) were transferred from Stalag Luft III to Stalag VIIA,
Mooseburg, approximately 20 miles north of Dachau. The first 80 kilometers
were done by a forced march in temperatures of 20 to 30 below zero. Prisoners

were then put in boxcars, 70 to 80 men per car.

Discharged from active duty in 1947

Retired from reserves in 1969 — Lt. Colonel

Retired as assistant principal in 1979. One of the founders of the Detroit Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen and member of the Tuskegee Airmen Speakers Bureau. Life member of American Ex-prisoner of War. Perpetual member of the Military order of the World Wars. Life member of the Silver Falcon Association of the US Air Force. Serves on a voluntary basis as an admissions counselor for the USAF Academy and Air Force ROTC.



SE-43-D

0801175

29 April 1943

Harold E. Sawyer



Born: 10 November 1920

Columbus, Ohio

Education: Tuskegee Institute, B.S., 1942

Civilian Pilots License, 1941

Commercial Pilots License, 1945

Decorations: Distinguished Flying Cross

Air Medal w/ 7 Oak Leaf Clusters

Military Experience;

Combat Missions: 70

Destroyed 2 enemy aircraft in combat

Commissioned 2nd Lt., April 1943, 301st Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group, Europe

Flew P-40, P-39, P-47, P-51

Tuskegee Army Air Field Single Engine Advance Instructor, January 1945

Discharged 1946 — Captain

Member of the Ohio Chapter Tuskegee Airmen, Ohio Air National Guard Recruitment Committee, Rickenbacker Chapter Air Force Association. Also served on the State of Ohio World War II 50th Anniversary Commemorative Committee and City of Columbus 50th Anniversary Committee of World War II.



Harry T. Stewart, Jr.



Born:

04 July 1924

Newport News, Virginia

Education:

New York University, Mechanical Engineering

Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross

Air Medal w / 7 Oak Leak Clusters

Military Experience:

Combat Missions: 43

Commissioned June, 1944 at the age of 19, nick-named "Taswell."

Flew 15 combat missions with the 302nd Fighter Squadron and 28 with the 301st Fighter

Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group

Credited with destroying three enemy aircraft in aerial combat

Discharged 1950 — Captain

Various engineering and management positions with a number of firms including Bechtel Corporation and General Foods Corporation. Retired as Vice President of ANR Pipeline Company.



SE-44-F

0835330

27 June 1944

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