



**William Thomas Holland**  
Staff Sergeant / Army Air Corps  
Veteran of World War Two



Served from 5 October 1941 – 17 July 1945  
Enlisted in Selfridge Field Mount Clemens Michigan  
Serial # 36000635



The 459<sup>th</sup> Bombardment group (Heavy) moved to Italy during January and February 1944, and assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> Army Air Force. Engaged primarily in strategic bombardment from March 1944 through April 1945, attacking targets such as oil refineries, munitions and aircraft factories, industrial areas, airfields, and communications centers in Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Greece.

During his time with the 459<sup>th</sup>, Staff Sergeant Holland must have flown many missions. There is one mission where records can positively place him; the target was Castel Maggiore, Italy on 13 May 1944.

Fifteenth Air Force bombers continue interdiction in support of the ground forces. 670+ B-17s and B-24s, mostly with fighter escort, attack marshalling yards at Trento, Bronzola, Fidenza, Piacenza, Faenza, Imola, Cesena, Modena, Parma, San Rufillo, Borgo San Lorenzo, Castel Maggiore and Bologna and hit railroad bridges at Bolzano and Avisio; while fighters sweep the Bologna-Modena area.



758<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (VH),  
459<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group,  
15<sup>th</sup> Army Air Force.  
Waist Gunner.

