

# In-Flight Magazine to Salute Frontier Flying Fort Vets

Frontier pilots and other employees who served as B-17 crewmembers during World War II will be spotlighted in the next issue of our seat-pocket publication, *Frontier Magazine*.

As editor "Chick" Stevens (a Frontier captain) puts it: "It seems appropriate that 30 years after the defeat of the mighty German Luftwaffe, we recall a few of the thousands of sacrifices made by the young men who flew the legendary Boeing B-17... the average life of a B-17 crew was only 15 missions, and 25 were mandatory."

Stevens noted that 12,731 "Flying Fortresses" were produced between 1935 and 1945. Approximately 4,750 of these aircraft were lost on combat missions carrying 47,500 crewmembers, he reports.

The following pictures are among photos to be used in the *Frontier Magazine* article and are printed here courtesy of Captain Stevens and the In-Flight Publishing Co. of Aurora, Colo.



**JACK SHADE** — He flew Flying Fortresses on antisubmarine patrols out of Panama and Guatemala City. Now based in Salt Lake City, he commands a Boeing 737 twinjet.



**C. K. LOGUE** — Another Denver-based jet captain, he is a veteran of 25 missions over Europe as a B-17 commander.



**GEORGE MESHKO** — Now a Boeing 737 jet captain based in Denver, he served with the 96th bomb group operating out of Norwich, England, during 1943 and 1944. A ball-turret gunner and flight engineer on a B-17 named "Sky Ball," he was one of 19 crewmembers — of an original group of 250 men — to survive 25 missions.



**JIM CARNEY** — As skipper of "Bridget O'Flynn" (second from right) he flew 50 missions in 1943. Denver-based Captain Carney presently flies in the left seat of a Boeing 737.



**LOU BERETS** — "Most of my missions were in the lead plane that carried the bombsight," he recalls, "and this was the first aircraft the Germans tried to knock out." He flew 28 runs over Europe as a ball-turret gunner aboard a B-17 named "Knockout Drops" between 1942 and 1945, serving with the 34th bomb group, Mendlesham, England. Berets is now Frontier's sales-service manager in Grand Junction, Colo.

## Frontier Honor Roll

Name	Job With Frontier	B-17 Assignment	Name	Job With Frontier	B-17 Assignment
Wayne N. Aspinall Jr.	Captain (Boeing 737)	Served as pilot instructor in Oklahoma; also was B-29 instructor in New Mexico.	Ed Mills	Flight Dispatch Coordinator	Pilot instructor, based in Colorado Springs.
Vern Carlson	Vice President, Public Affairs	Bombardier; flew 34 missions from base in England.	B.R. "Bud" Naylor	Vice President, Maintenance	Skipper 19 B-17 missions plus 33 missions in Martin B-26 bombers. Based in England, was shot down over Berlin and held as POW for two years.
Joe Claffy	Flight Dispatcher	Piloted B-17s and other aircraft on ferry runs from England to North Africa.	Bob Nicholson	Captain (Boeing 737)	Test pilot, instructor pilot; based in South Dakota.
Bill Graves	Director, Line Maintenance	Top-turret gunner.	Robert M. Oswald	Sales-Service Manager, Manhattan, Kansas	Armorer-gunner, based in Italy. Flew 35 missions; wounded twice.
S. W. Isaacs	Captain (Boeing 737)	Aircraft commander, based in England. Flew 35 missions over Europe.	S.P. Ruster	Captain (Boeing 737)	Aircraft commander, based in Italy. Was shot down and captured on third mission; four other crewmembers were killed.
Darwin Jimerson	Aircraft Technician	Tail gunner, based in England.			
Scott Millis	Flight Dispatch Coordinator	Aircraft commander, based in England. Was shot down over Germany; held as POW.			