Jim Rodella Henry Sells

5th Airforce, 43rd bomb group (H), 64th squadron
Standing: Angus B. Taff (pilot), Robert E. Lee (co-pilot), George A. Patterson (bombdr), Orville L. Meadors (Navigator)

Kneeling: Charles W. Upham (radio op.), Claude A. McMillan (Tail Gunner), Henry R. Sells (engineer), Charner D. Skains (armorer), James Rodella (Top Turret), John E. Yerg (nose gunner)

James Rodella Combat Missions Diary

★ MY LIFE IN THE SERVICE

THE DIARY OF

James Rodella.

A
REMINGTON-MORSE
PUBLICATION

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James Rodella Combat Missions Diary

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Combat Missions
Tacloban Strip.

Mission

1. Jan. 27, 1945 Ship 865
From Tacloban Strip to Fort Drum or El Fraille Island Entrance to Manila Bay
Time 6:05 Points 1 Total Time - 6:05
Remarks - carried 4-2000 lb Bombs, 3 direct hits, one hung up. 7 Bursts of Ack-Ack. none hit us. It came from Corrigedor.

2. Feb. 3, 1945 — Frags — Ship 429
Target - Cebu city, Cebu, Philippines
Time - 2:30 Th Time 8:35 Points 6 Th - 7
Remarks - Went over target made three runs. on the third run we got 3 bursts of Ack-Ack, 1 hit us in the nose and wrecked the Hydraulic System. When we landed the nose wheel folded giving us credit for a Crash landing. 5 extra points

3. Feb. 8, 1945 Ship 543

Almost everything that is great has been done by youth.
—Disraeli

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And Points

Target - Marveles, Bataan, Luzon
Time 6:25 Total Time 15:00
Points 2 Total points 9
Remarks - No Ack-Ack Ground Support It was a cinch 8-1000 lb Bombs

4. Feb. 15, 1945 - 9-500 - Ship 430
Target - Takao Ap Formosa
Time - 2:05 Total Time 23:35
Remarks - Had to turn back No. 3 engine throwing oil had to feather it. Had to Salvo bombs in ocean Rough Landing. No flaps.

5. Feb. 18, 1945 Ship 428
Target - Corregidor Is. Luzon
Time 6:30 Points 1 Th. 10
Remarks - carried 9-500 lb Bombs 6 hits 30 min. over target. Watched the Navy shell the beach for invasion. No Ack Ack

When we assumed the soldier, we did not lay aside the citizen.—George Washington

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Mission 12-500 # clusters

6. Feb. 19, 1945 — Frags — Ship 262
Target - Takao Town, Formosa
Time 11:20 Total Time 34:55
Points 3 Th points 13
Remarks - No hits Bombed by Radar through clouds and missed target. 20 min. over target Heavy Ack-Ack about 300 bursts No fighters

7. Feb. 22, 1945 Ship 808
Target - Clark Field, Ft. Stotsenburg, Luzon
Time - 7:45 Total Time 42:40
Points - 1 Total 14
Remarks - 100 % Hits 8-1000 lb Bombs Ground Support.

8. Feb. 26, 1945 Ship 395
Target - Manila, Luzon Time 7:00
Total - 4940 Points 1
Total - 15

When duty whispers low, *Thou must*,
The youth replies, *I can*.—Emerson

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cont'd
Remarks - Carried 6-1000 lb Bombs 100 % hits No Ack-Ack 20 min over Tgt.

9. Mar. 1, 1945 Ship 430
Target - Tainan, Formosa
Time 11:05 Total 60:45
points 3 Total 18
Remarks - carried 9-500 lb frag. clusters 100 % hits 10 min over Tgt. 150 Bursts of Ack Ack Lt. Sills Ship hit We burned the city to the ground Givin' Them hell now.

— McGuire Strip Mindoro —

10. Mar. 8, 1945 Ship 395
Target - Clark Field, Ft Stotsenburg, Luzon
Time - 12:25 Total - 73:10
Points - 3 Total - 21
Remarks - carried 8-1000 lb Bombs
(over)

Independence now and Independence forever!
—Daniel Webster

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cont'd
Supposed to bomb Jap troops but had to return with bombs because The Jolly Rogers bombed our own troops No Ack-Ack.

10 March 13, 1945 Ship 428
Tgt. - Formosa
Time none
Pts. none
Remarks - had to return No 2 Engine Throwing oil had to feather it. Salvoed Bombs There went $8000 of the Taxpayers money in the drink

12 Mar. 14, 1945 Ship 256
Target - Mako Is. Formosa
Time - 10:00 Total - 83:10
Points - 3 Total - 24
Remarks - Dropped 8-1000 lb. Bombs Went after Gasoline Storage

Even God lends a hand to honest boldness.—Menander

Tanks. Got a few hits and started large fires. Got about 30 bursts of Ack-Ack. Lt Lewis' & Olmstead's planes hit. At this point missions were getting rough.

13. Mar. 17, 1945 Ship 028
Target - Toyohara, Formosa
Time - 10:15 Total - 93:25
Points - 3 Total - ~~93~~ 27
Remarks - carried 12-500 lb. weather closed in had to drop them in the drink again. We did get Ack-Ack. We were holed in the left wing, Right wing, and right horizontal Stabilizer Ack-Ack getting worse

14. From Clark Field

Let it be your pride to show all men everywhere not only what good soldiers you are, but also what good men you are.—Woodrow Wilson

14. Mar. 23, 1946 Ship 430
Target — Sitsugetsutan, Formosa
Time - 8:15 Total - 101:40
Points - 3 Total - 30
Remarks — dropped 4-2000 lb bombs with 100% hits on the power plant that supplied 3/4 of the power for all Formosa. Smoke up to between 6 & 8000 ft. before leaving Target. Plenty of Ack-Ack, 2 ships hit.

15. March 28, 1945 Ship 256
Target - Belete Pass, Luzon
Time 4:30 Total - 106:10
Points 2 Total - 32
Remarks — dropped 8-1000 lb bombs with 100% hits on Jap troops No Ack-Ack. Flew pretty low and got a rifle shell through our Wing Size of hole was Jap .31mm or 7.7

A mysterious bond of brotherhood makes all men one. —Carlyle

16. Apr. 1 Easter Ship 866
Target — Giran A/D, Formosa
Time - 8:45 Total - 114:45
Points 1 Total 41
Remarks — dropped ~~32~~-120 lb frags went after parked planes started 5 on fire. Very light Ack-Ack. On account of the holiday our tail gonner said a prayer over the interphone just before going over the target. It relieved tension.

17. Apr. 5, 1945 Ship 395
Target — Hong Kong, China
Time - 9:40 Total - 124:35
Points - 3 Total - 44
Remarks - dropped 8-1000 lb bombs on shipping at Victoria docks by Radar. Went over Tgt. 4 times, 1 hole in our ship. Heavy Ack-Ack.

Fear not.—Gen. XLII: 23

James Rodella Combat Missions Diary

18. Apr. 8, 1945 Ship 256
Target — Taito Town, Formosa
Time — 9:00 Total — 133:35
Points — 3 Total — 47
Remarks — dropped 28-120 lb frag. clusters. Bombs in target 100% Bombed from 19,500 ft. Ice on plane Lt. Woolard's ship hit 13 times with Ack-Ack.

19. Apr. 13, 1945 Ship 865
Target — Hongkong harbor, China
Time — 9:30 Total — 142:05
Points — 3 Total — 50 half Way
Remarks — dropped 8-1000 lb. bombs on shipping in the harbor, got 2 direct hits. Ack-Ack pretty thick, it bounced our ship all over the sky. Lt. Olmstead's ship hit by flack. About 100 bursts — wow!

Million: for defense but not a cent for tribute.
—Robert G. Harper

20. Apr. 16 1945 Ship 543
Target — Matsuyama A/D, Formosa
Time — 10:05 Total — 153:15
Points — 3 Total — 53
Remarks — dropped 40-120 lb. frag. clusters on parked planes started a couple on fire. A sky full of Ack-Ack too many to count. Japs getting a lot of practice

21. Apr. 18 1945 Ship 854
Target — Giran A/D Formosa
Time — 10:00 Total — 153:15
Points 3 Total — 56
Remarks — dropped 12-540 lb frag. clusters on planes again. Heavy Ack-Ack from railroad guns. Lt. Fiter's ship hit, 52 holes in his ship. Bomb hits unknown, Bloody hole thru the Lt's No. 2 gas Tank A cat followed him all the way in.

Safeguard the health both of body and soul.—Cleobulus

22. Apr. 25 1945 Ship 853
Target — Belete Pass, Luzon
Time — 4:25 Total — 167:40
Points — 1 Total — 57
Remarks — dropped 3-2000 lb bombs on a bridge used for Jap retreat. Hit 2 near misses breaking middle span. No Ack-Ack Ground Support.

23. Apr. 25 1945 Ship 853
Target — Tamsui, Formosa
Time — 10:00 Total — 177:40
Points — 3 Total — 60
Remarks — dropped 24-260 lb frags. with proximity fuses set to go off at 50 ft. to wreck float planes. Search lights on but couldn't get thru the clouds. Ack-Ack was low could see it burst. There

Valor is the soldier's adornment.—Livy

Night Mission
were fighters in the area. We had one following us, we could see The flame from his exhaust stacks were we glad he never made a pass. The longest night I ever spent.

24. May 1, 1945 Ship 543
Target — Tainan Town, Formosa
Time — 8:10 Total — 185:50
Points — 3
Remarks — dropped 16-520 lb incindiaries on the city to burn it out. Started big fires and ruined a big section of town. Heavy Ack-Ack about 100 bursts. 3 ships holed.

25. May 8, 1945 Ship 543
Target — League A/D Luzon, Cagayan Valley
Time — 4:15 Total — 190:05
Points — 1 Total — 58 with 19 extras

Worth, courage, honor, these indeed
Your sustenance and birthright are.—E. C. Stedman

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Remarks – dropped 32-360 lb frags on Jap troops trying to evacuate To formosa by Transport plane All bombs hit Target. Ground Support.

26. May 10, 1945 Ship 390
Target - Canton A/D, China
Time - 7:45 Total - 203:30
Points - 1 Total - 59
Remarks – Ran into terrific weather and had to turn back.

27. May 16, 1945 Ship 768
Target – Taichu A/D, Formosa
Time - 10:00 Total - 213:30
Points - 3 Total – 62 20xtra
Remarks - dropped 9-500 lb frag. clusters on enemy aircraft. All bombs hit Target. Very heavy Ack-Ack and accurate, 300 bursts, 1 hole in bomb-bay

Where liberty dwells there is my country.
—Benjamin Franklin

28. May 24, 1945 Ship 865
Target - Appari A/D, N. Luzon
Time – 6:45 Total – 220:15
Points - 2 Total - 64
Remarks – dropped 4-2000 lb bombs and wrecked the strip. Ground Support.

29. May 26, 1945 Ship 865
Target – A/D in Cagayan Valley, Luzon
Time – 4:20 Total - 224:35
Points - Nil
Remarks – dropped 4-2000 lb. bombs and hit Target. Ground Support.

30. May 30, 1945 Ship 853
Target – Koshun, Formosa
Time 6:40 Total – 231:15
Points – 2 Total - 66
Remarks – dropped 28-260 lb.

It is better to lose a battery than a battle.
—General Zachary Taylor

frags. No Ack-Ack. Lost No. 2 engine at the southern tip of formosa and picked the town closest. No military target.

31. May 31, 1945 Ship 543
Target - Taihoku Town, Formosa
Time - 10:15 Total - 241:30
Points - 3 Total - 69 1 xtra
Remarks – dropped 8-1000 lb G.P.'s 5 min. over target, Ack-Ack heavy and accurate, over 200 bursts 2 ships holed or hit. Bombs were 100% hits

32. June 5, 1945 Ship 853
Target – Koshun, Formosa
Time – 6:40 Total - 248:10
Points 2 Total - 71
Remarks – dropped 40 - 120 lb.

He went forth conquering and to conquer.—Rev. VI: 2

frag. clusters. Didn't reach primary No. 3 engine out. Blew a cylinder head came back. Were jinxed. failed to take off twise, came back the third.

33. June 12, 1945 Ship 543
Target – Hong Kong, China
Time – 10:00 Total - 258:10
Points – 3 Total - 74
Remarks – dropped 8-56 gal. drums of Napon on shipping in the harbor and at Victoria docks Bombs 100% in target. Our ship got holed by heavy and Accurate Ack-Ack. There was a sky full up there. Ran into bad weather on the way back —.

Fight the good fight of faith.
—I Tim. VI: 12

James Rodella Combat Missions Diary

34. June 15, 1945 Ship 543
Target - Taichu A/D, Formosa
Time - 9:25 Total - 267:35
Points - 3 Total - 77
Remarks — dropped 40-120 lb. frag. clusters on Jap suicide craft to take tension off the boys At Okinawa Bombs in Tgt. 100%. Ack-Ack was Heavy, Accurate and concentrated Two ships Holed. 200 bursts.

35. June 18, 1945 Ship 768
Target - Kiirun Town, Formosa
Time - 9:35 Total - 277:10
Points - 3 Total - 80
Remarks — dropped 8-1000 lb. bombs right through the center of town. Ack-Ack heavy and concentrated and accurate, about a 100 bursts 2 ships holed, one was ours.

The greater the difficulty, the greater the glory.—*Cicero*

36. June 20, 1945 Ship 975
Target - Shinchicku A/D, Formosa
Time - 10:00 Total - 287:10
Points - 3 Total - 83
Remarks — dropped 12-500 lb. frag. clusters. Bombs in target 100%. Ack-Ack moderate and accurate about 40 bursts. Three ships holed. one was ours.

37. June 29, 1945 Ship 262
Target - Shinchicku, Formosa
Time - 10:00 Total - 297:10
Points - 3 Total - 86
Remarks - dropped 8-1000 lb. bombs. over tgt. 5 min. Bombed Synthetic Rubber factory. 100% hits. Target well Camouflaged. Started large fires. Our ship got holed. Moderate Ack-Ack.

Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.—*Robert E. Lee*

from: Birch Strip, Ei Shima, Japan.

38. July 24, 1945 Ship 384
Target - Shanghai, China
Time - 9:05 Total - 306:15
Points - 2 Total - 88
Remarks - dropped 12-500 lb. frag. clusters. Over Tgt. 5 min. 100% hits on revetments. Very little Ack-Ack — Less resistance

38. July 27, 1945 Honshu. Ship 384
Target - Kuri, Kyushu, Japan
Time - 9:15 Total - 315:30
Points - 2 Total - 90
Remarks — dropped 6-1000 lb. bombs, went after 2 aircraft carriers, Target was clouded in so we bombed by Radar and got 1 hit. They were camouflaged and hard to hit No Ack-Ack No fighters.

We have room for but one loyalty, loyalty to the United States.
—*Theodore Roosevelt*

40. July 31, 1945 Ship 494
Target - Nagasaki, Kyushu, Japan
Time - 8:30 Total - 324
Points - 5 3/5 Total - 95 3/5
Remarks - dropped 4-2000 lb bombs Over target 5 min. Bombing 100% on docks. After leaving the target 3 Nip fighters came in on us and made passes. The Third one I fired on I think I hit as his engine started to smoke. It's a probable but I'll never find out whether I got him or not. Heavy and accurate Ack-Ack. it was bouncing us all over the sky. The interception was a co-ordinated attack. I saw one seventh Air force B-24 go down in flames —

The cause of freedom is the cause of God.—*W. L. Boules*

James Rodella Combat Missions Diary

41. Aug. 1, 1945 Ship 543
Target - Nagasaki, Kyushu, Japan
Time 6:40 Total - 330:10
Points - 2 2/5 Total - 98
Remarks - dropped 8-1000lb bombs on shipping in docks and warehouses. with 100% score. over Target 5 min. Ack-Ack heavy and accurate, we got three holes in our ship. one piece almost got me. A pretty close shave for me.

42. Aug. 5, 1945 Ship 973.
Target - Kagashima, Kyushu Japan
Time - 7:25 Total - 337:35
Points 2 1/2 Total - 100 1/2
Remarks - dropped 12-500lb incindiaries on the town. It was burned out. Smoke up to 12,000 ft. We left it a mass of flame.

The roll of honor consists of the names of men who have squared their conduct by ideals of duty.—*Woodrow Wilson*

No fighters. Moderate Ack-Ack
I finished Today happy day

Tour of Duty Ended
finis

Ship No.	Name
1. 428	Coctail Hour
2. 429	Michigan
3. 430	Hip Parade
4. 262	Oklahoma Outlaw
5. 028	Mickies Menace
6. 973	The Dragon's his Tail
7 865	Last Horizon
8 256	Cherry
9 853	it aint so funny
10 854	Mabel's Labels
11 768	Million $ Baby II
12 384	
13 494	
14 543	

Our country! in her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong!—*Decatur*

Ship No.	Name
15. 975	
16. 395	BOB's HOPE

Point System

Points	Reason
1	Every 5 hours flying combat
1	Flack or Ack-Ack Hole in ship
1	Interception with fighter cover
3	Interception without fighter cover
5	Crash Landing
5	Bail out
5	Ditching

The world was never more unsafe for democracy than it is today.—*Stanley Baldwin*

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Army of the United States

Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

JAMES RODELLA

13189472 Staff Sergeant 64th Bombardment Squadron (H)

Army of the United States

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.

This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.

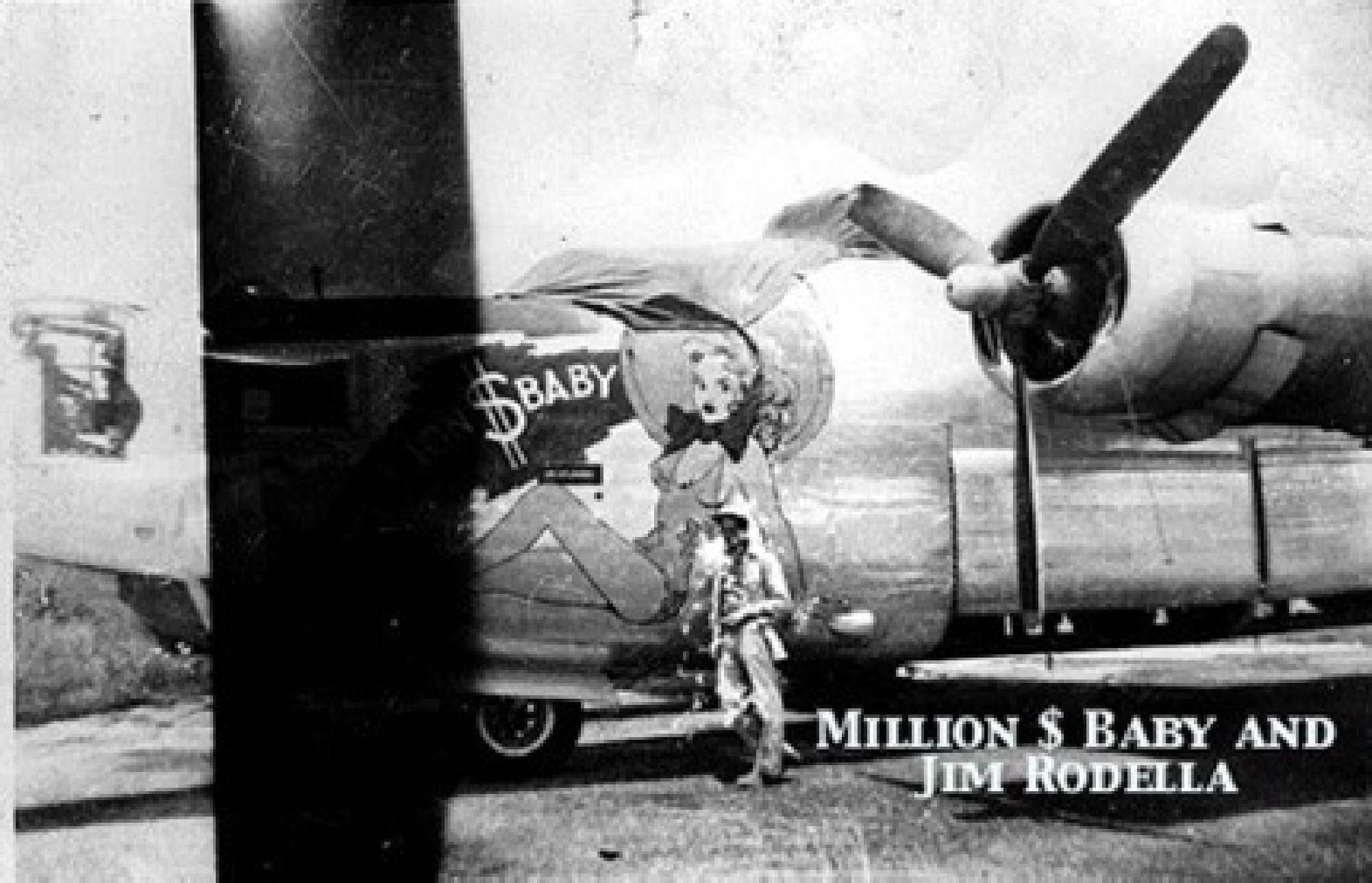
Given at Separation Center
Camp Atterbury Indiana

Date 26 October 1945

Reid H. Mc Lain

REID H. Mc LAIN
MAJOR. A. C.

WINDY CITY KITTY
& JOE JANCOSKO 64TH



MILLION $ BABY AND
JIM RODELLA

Give a Great big smile!

BOB'S HOPE 64TH SQDN.
CHRISTENED BY BOB HOPE ON
HIS USO PACIFIC TOUR.