

Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

136

HENRY R. GRIFFIN 14 149 343 CORPORAL 425 BOMB SQUAD

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 Monest and Faithful Service to this country.

Given at

SEPARATION CENTER
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

Date

9 DECEMBER 1945

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Andre H. Collins

Andre H. Collins

BEN B. MABSON SR. LT COL CE

ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION

PAGE 272

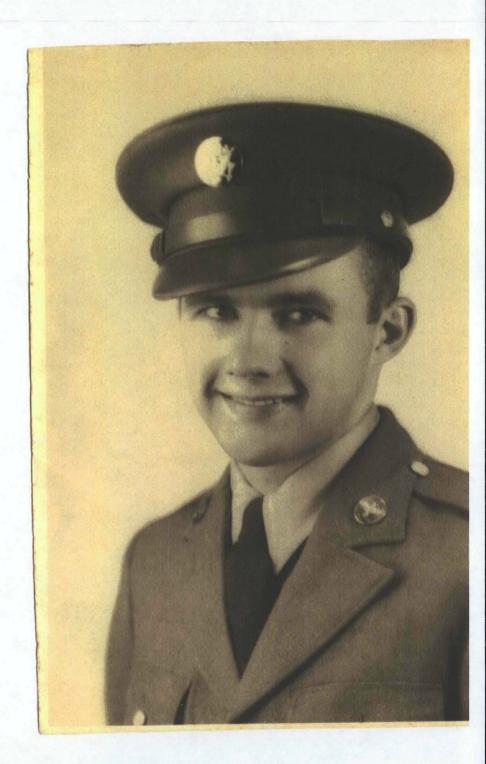
HONORABLE DISCHARGE

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL	2. ARMY SERI	IAL NO.	3. GRADE	4. ARM OR SERVICE	5. COMPONENT
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6. ORGANIZATION	7. DATE OF	SEPARATION	8. PLACE OF S		RATION
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Henry R. Diskin		1ST		1000	lier JL
WD AGO FORM 53:55 This form supersedes all previous editi	ions of	101		/	(

1 November 1944

WD AGO Forms 53 and 55 for enlisted persons entitled to an Honorable Discharge, which will not be used after receipt of this revision.





Col. Griffin Has the Unit Citation

Rupsi, India — Cpl. Henry R. Griffin, 300 W, Vance St., Wilson, N. C., today was authorized to wear the Distinguished Unit Citation for his work while a member of the 308th Heavy Bombardment Group, the famous "Liberators of China." Cpl. Griffin, who has been overseas 30 months, also wears 2 battle stars on his Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, and has received the Good Conduct Medal, and the Oak Leaf Cinster on the Distinguished Unit Citation.

The record of his outlit, which has twice been cited for its heroic achievements, stands out as one of the most spectacular war tales to emerge from the Asiatic The-

Battling from behind enemy lines, forced to evacuate three bases before onrushing Jap infantry, blasted continually by enemy bombers, the 308th commanded by Colonel William D. Hopson of Little Rock, Arkansas, doggedly slugged back at the enemy with surprising success. The story of this small group of embattled armen is dramatically told, in the cliation, which reads:

"Between 24 May, 1944 and 28 April, 1945, this group preved relientlessly on the Japanese sea shipping lanes between the Japanese homeland and her conquests throughout southern Asia and adjacent insular territories. During most of this period, this Group was the only organization among all the Alied Forces in a position to conduct interdiction operations against this vital supply line.

Operating from bases in China, the Group swept the East and South China Seas, the Straits of Formosa, and the Gulf of Tonkin through all kinds of weather, sinking and damaging nearly three-quarters of a million tons of vital Japanese shipping. They sank 1.7 merchant vessels and 12 enemy naval vessels, including three cruisers and seven destroyers. They probably sank 29 vessels and damaged 48, for a total of 427-252 tons of shipping sank, 102,765 tons probably sank and 187,045 tons damaged.

Pressed by the constant need for economy of operations from air-supplied China, the Group forspook the usual high altitude style of bombing to attain accuracy and minimum expenditure of bombs. Heroically and deliberately, the combat crews developed and employed low altitude tacts that brought their slow, heavy bombers down to within four hundred feet of their targets during attacks. This exposed their aircraft to murderous fire from the armed merchantmen and naval vessels they attacked. On a number of occasions, the crews carried out attacks at 460 feet over entire convoys of eight to twelve armed merchant and naval ships.

Throughout the cited period. the Group was forced to fly much of its own gasoline and bombs over the "Hump" (Himalaya Mountains) into China, and in the same period was forced to evacuate from three bases before the

mined attack Only after the 30th Group crews had shot down fifty seven enemy aircraft, probably de stroyed thirteen and damaged two did the enemy break away and the stroyed the tenemy break away and the stroyed the bombers were shot down by enemy fire and all of the others were damaged. All though the battle continued over the target and an intense antializeraft fire was encountered over Hankow, the bombers scored aperfect bomb pattern along the entire length of the dock area causing extensive destruction. The exceptional heroism, gallantry, determination and espirit de corpodemonstrated in the face of overwhelming odds reflect the highest credit on the 308th Heavy Bombardment Group."

ientiessly on the Japanese sea ship ping lanes between the Japanese homeland and her conquests throughout southern Asia and adjacent insular territories. During most of this period, this Group was the only organization among all the Allied Forces in a position to conduct interdiction operations against this vital supply line.

Operating from bases in China, the Group swept the East and South China Seas, the Straits of Formosa, and the Gulf of Tonkin through all kinds of weather, sinking and damaging nearly threequarters of a million tons of vital Japanese shipping. They sank 197 merchant vessels and 12 enemy naval vessels, including three cruisers and seven destroyers. They probably sank 29 vessels and damaged 48, for a total of 427. 252 tons of shipping sank, 102, 765 tons probably sank and 187,-045 tons damaged.

Pressed by the constant need for economy of operations from air-supplied China, the Group forsook the usual high altitude str'e of bombing to attain accuracy and minimum expenditure of bombs, Heroically and deliberately, the combat crews developed and employed low altitude tacts that brought their slow, heavy bombers down to within four hundred feet of their targets during attacks. This exposed their aircraft to murderous fire from the armed merchantmen and naval vessels they attacked. On a number of occasions, the crews carried out attacks at 400 feet over entire convoys of eight to twelve armed merchant and naval ships.

Throughout the cited period. the Group was forced to fly much of its own gasoline and bombs over the "Hump" (Himalaya Mountains) into China, and in the same period was forced to evacuate from three bases before the advance of enemy ground forces. For several months, the Group launched its sea search missions from a base behind enemy lines in east China.

The phenomenal achievements of the 308th Heavy Bombardment Group in its interdiction of these result of extraordinary heroism, gallantry, determination and espirit de corps demonstrated by the members of this organization Their attainments are consonant with the finest traditions of the

American military service." This is the second citation of its type. The Initial decoration was also awarded for outstanding performance in duty against the enemy in China, when after flying over the "Hump" into India and back for their own gasoline, the Group's B-24's attacked Hankow, which was at that time the most important Japan supply and communications center in interior China. As the fourteen unescorted bombers drew near the target, they were intercepted by eighty Zeros. To quote from the cita-tion: "For twenty-seven minutes To quote from the citathe interceptors pressed a deter-

mined attack Only after the 30th Group crews had shot down fiftyseven enemy aircraft, probably destroyed thirteen and damaged two, did the enemy break away and has Two of the bombers were shot down by enemy fire and all of the others were damaged. Although the battle continued over the target and an intense antiaircraft fire was encountered over Hankow, the bombers scored a perfect bomb pattern along the entire length of the dock area causing extensive destruction. The exceptional heroism, gallantry, determination and espirit de corps demonstrated in the face of overwhelming odds reflect the highest credit on the 308th Heavy Bombardment Group."

FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

HOMEWARD BOUND

You have satisfactorily completed the processing necessary for your separation from the service. You have been told about the many rights and benefits available to you upon your return to civilian life. In order to assist you further, the following information is provided. Read it carefully.

DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE - While traveling home carry it on your person for identification as a veteran. On arrival home have your Discharge Certificate recorded by your county clerk.

WEARING YOUR UNIFORM - After discharge - If you are honorably discharged you are allowed to wear your uniform from the place of discharge to your home provided that you arrive home within ninety days after discharge. You may also wear your uniform on ceremonial occasions of a military character.

SELECTIVE SERVICE BOARD - It is required by law that you should report in person, or by letter if not returning directly home, to your Selective Service Board within 10 days after leaving this post. If you report by letter state: Name - Serial Number - When Inducted - Place of Discharge - Where You Can Be Reached - When You Expect to Return Home - and your Selective Service Number, if known. When you report in person, take with you your Form 100, and your Discharge Certificate. If you are confused about any of your rights as a veteran see your Local Selective Service Board which is legally responsible for assisting you with your problems.

RE-EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS - If you wish to return to your old job you must make application to your old employer within 90 days after discharge and he is required to reinstate you in the same position, or in one of like seniority, status and pay unless circumstances have changed to a point where it is not possible or reasonable for him to re-employ you. If you and your former employer do not see eye-to-eye on this subject and you feel that his decision is unfair, the first step for you to take is to see the re-employment committeemen at your Local Draft Board for help in adjusting your claim.

UNEMPLOYMENT - Contact your United States Employment Service Office for information on unemployment compensation.

GETTING A NEW JOB - For information see your Selective Service Board or the Veterans Employment Representative at the United States Employment Office nearest your home.

GOVERNMENT INSURANCE - Send your premiums direct to Veterans Administration, Collections Subdivision, Washington 25, D. C. Make checks or money orders payable to the Treasurer of the United States. Contact Veterans Administration for conversion to permanent insurance, or other information on insurance.

WAR RATION BOOKS - They are available at the War Price and Rationing Board nearest your home.

RED CROSS - Will assist in personal or emergency financial problems. Will furnish information as to address of service agencies such as United States Employment Service, Veterans Administration, etc.

MEDICAL ATTENTION - HOSPITAL CARE - DISABILITY PENSIONS - The Veterans Administration will accept your application and review your request.

PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER - Is located at all Posts, Camps or Stations, and in many large cities. He will assist any veteran or his dependents with any problems pertaining to military service such as allotments, Back Pay - Family Allowance - Soldiers deposits (savings) etc.

APPRENTICE TRAINING - VOCATIONAL TRAINING - EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES - See your United States Employment Service or Veterans Administration Representative for information.

DISABILITY DEATH PENSION FOR DEPENDENTS - BURIAL EXPENSES - Information is available thru the Veterans Administration.

R - 10 (Revised 11 Apr. 1945)

Hq, 4th SvC, Atlanta, 13654 8 - 20 - 45, 75,000

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HEADQUARTERS 308TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF Office of the Commanding Officer A: P. O. 431, c/o Postmaster New York City, New York

1-1/tb

31 August 1945

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SUBJECT: Battle Participation Credit.

: To Whom It may Concern.

- 1. Personnel of this organization have been authorized battle participation credit for two campaigns and are entitled to wear two bronze battle stars on the Asiatic-Facific Theater Ribbon. The first star, for the China Campaign, was authorized by General Orders No. 9, Fourteenth Air Force, dated 27 January 1944, and the second, for the India-Burma Campaign, was authorized by General Orders No. 97, Fourteenth Air Force, dated 1 August 1945.
- 2. This headquarters has recently forwarded requests to higher headquarters for the following four additional battle stars. These requests have been approved by Fourteenth Air Force and by China Theater:
 - a. Western Pacific Campaign.

b. Air Offensive, Japan.

c. Southern Philippines Campaign.

d. Luzon Campaign.

For the Commanding Officer:

RICHARD Major Major Anjutant

HEADQUARTERS 308TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF Office of the Commanding General A. P. O. 431, c/o Postmaster New York City, New York

8 October 1945

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

1. Cpl Henry R Griffin 14149343 was assigned to and served Monorably with the 308th Bombard ent Grand during all (part) of the period from 17 October 1944 to 28 April 1945.

- 2. During the period 17 October 1944 to 28 April 1945 this Group was engaged in extensive operations over waters adjacent to the Philippine Islands from Formosa on the north to Saigon and Cape St Jacques on the south. More than a hundred anti-shipping strikes and long range recomnaissance missions were flown by the Group over those waters during the period in question, and the Group sank 150,250 tons, probably sank 62,850 tons and damagedlll0,900 tons of enemy merchant shipping. In addition to the merchant shipping listed above the Group during the same period also sank seven naval vessels, including two cruisers, three destroyers, one troop transport, and one submarine chaser. All of the foregoing operations were over the routes to and from the Philippines, over adjacent waters thereto, and were in direct support of the Philippine Campaign. On a large percentage of those missions, enemy ground, air, or naval fire was actually encountered and a substantial number of casulties were sustained by the Group during the operations.
- 3. War Department Circular No 136, dated 7 May 1945, authorizes the Philippine Liberation Ribbon to personnel who participated in combat during the campaign and states:

"An individual will be considered as having participated in combat if- - - -

- (b) He was a member of and present with a unit actually under enemy fire or air attack".
- 4. In view of the foregoing fact it is believed that the member of this organization named above is entitled to the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, but since there is some uncertainty as to whether this is the meaning of War Department Circular 136, the entry has not been made on his records.

For the Commanding Officer:

RICHARD M. BECKER Major, Air Corps

Adjutant



SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD

SAVE THIS FORM. IT WILL NOT BE REPLACED IF LOST

This record of job assignments and special training received in the Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. In its preparation, information is taken from available Army records and supplemented by personal interview. The information about civilian education and work experience is based on the individual's own statements. The veteran may present this document to former employers, prospective employers, representatives of schools or colleges, or use it in any other way that may prove beneficial to him.

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL GRIFFIN HENRY R			MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS				
		10. MONTHS	11. GRADE	12. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY			
2. ARMY SERIAL NO. 14149343		246 10 5629	3 9 - 27	Pvt	Basic Airplane mechani		
	t., Wilson, Wi		2.1	Cpl	AAF Supply techn	TATE OF THE PARTY	
6. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE 29 Aug 42	7. DATE OF SEPARATION 9 Dec 45	8. DATE OF BIRTH					
9. PLACE OF SEPARATION	ENTER, FORT BR	AGG, N. C.					

SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS

13. TITLE-DESCRIPTION-RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

A.A.F. SUPPLY TECHNICIAN Requisitioned, stored, issued hand tools, mobile repair equipment and a variety of small parts used in servicing or repairing airplanes and equipment. Maintained stock levels and kep records of articles an requisition. Warehouse Record Clerk.

MILITARY EDUCATION 14. NAME OR TYPE OF SCHOOL-COURSE OR CURRICULUM-DURATION-DESCRIPTION CIVILIAN EDUCATION 15. HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED 17. YEAR LEFT SCHOOL OTHER TRAINING OR SCHOOLING 16. DEGREES OR DIPLOMAS 20. COURSE-NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL-DATE | 21. DURATION 4 yrs H.S. Diploma 1940 18. NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED None Charles L. Coon H.S., Wilson, N. C. 19. MAJOR COURSES OF STUDY Academic CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS 22. TITLE-NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER-INCLUSIVE DATES-DESCRIPTION

FUNERAL ATTENDANT Employed by Thomas -Gelverton Co., Wilson, N. C. funeral directors. Assisted in preparing for and conducting of funerals. Placed coffin, arranged lights and flowers. Drove hearse and ambulance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

23. REMARKS

None

24. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED

25. SIGNATURE SEPARATION CLASSIFICATION

26. NAME OF OFFICER (Typed or Stamped)

E E DUNCAN Capt AUS

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INFORMATION FOR PERSONS BEING DISCHARGED OR RELEASED FROM ACTIVE SERVICE

After discharge you may need advice and assistance in connection with claims and benefits handled by the Veterans Administration, such as pension, insurance, hospitalization, and vocational rehabilitation. According to Public No. 844, 74th Congress, the following national service organizations, which have representatives in offices of the Veterans Administration, are authorized to perform this service:

American Red Cross
American Legion
Disabled American Veterans
X Veterans of Foreign Wars

In addition to these, the following authorized organizations have representatives in certain Veterans Administration offices:

Catholic War Veterans
Jewish War Veterans of the United States
Military Order of the Purple Heart
National Jewish Welfare Board
Regular Veterans Association

The assistance of state service officers and other organizations is also available in many states.

	You (have)) filed a claim	for disability	benefits 8	Ded	1945
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KEEP THIS WITH YOUR DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE

APPLICATION FOR SERVICEMEN'S READJUSTMENT_ALLOWANCE

4 Ale 10 4		COMPENSATION COMMISSIO			
	UNEMPLOYMENT	COMPENSATION COMMISSIO	N OF	NORTH	CAROLINA
SERIAL OR	SERVICE NUMBER			100	

MILL COMPANION CONTINUES IN

Army corps Corps

SOCIAL SECURITY NO.

(First)

(Last)

300 West Vance Street 2. HOME ADDRESS (Number)

(County, city (zone), town, or po

(State)

Periods of service in armed forces when separation is after September 16, 1940

Date of entrance upon active duty	Date of separation from active duty	Reason for separation		
August 29, 1942	December 9, 1945	Honorable Discharge Point System		
		•		

I hereby make application for Readjustment Allowances under Title V of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944.

PENALTY PROVISION.—Title V, Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944: "Whoever shall obtain or receive any money, check, or allowance under this title, without being entitled thereto and with intent to defraud the United States, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both."

on the

day of

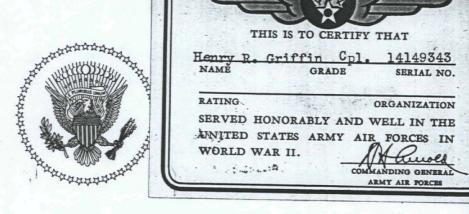
Service listed above entitles veteran, if eligible, to _52 payments.

Information as to service and entitlement certified to by

Patterson Field, Ohio, Nov. 29
Preparing a "Tiger Shark" for
pattle again is Pfc. H. R. Griffin, 916 Gold street, Wilson, N. C. Pfc. Griffin is stationed with the China-Burma-India Air Service Command in central India according to information received from headquarters, Air Service Command, Patterson Field, Working with Pfc. Griffin are Sgt. A. W. Chamberlain, of Brady, Texas, and Sgt. T. J. Williams of Highland Park, Mich,

A picture received in the Times Office showed the trio at work on he plane.





HENRY R. GRIFFIN

o you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ARMY AIR FORCES

Certificate of Appreciation

FOR WAR SERVICE



TO

Henry R. Griffin

CANNOT meet you personally to thank you for a job well done; nor can I hope to put in written words the great hope I have for your success in future life.

Together we built the striking force that swept the Luftwaffe from the skies and broke the German power to resist. The total might of that striking force was then unleashed upon the Japanese. Although you no longer play an active military part, the contribution you made to the Air Forces was essential in making us the greatest team in the world.

The ties that bound us under stress of combat must not be broken in peacetime. Together we share the responsibility for guarding our country in the air. We who stay will never forget the part you have played while in uniform. We know you will continue to play a comparable role as a civilian. As our ways part, let me wish you God speed and the best of luck on your road in life. Our gratitude and respect go with you.

COMMANDING GENERAL

ARMY AIR FORCES



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

REGIONAL OFFICE
310 WEST FOURTH STREET
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

May 27, 1958

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: 3018/261

•Mr. Henry R. Griffin 914 W. Gold Street Wilson, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

We have received your inquiry stating that you wish to apply to the Veterans Administration for a direct loan.

No loan can be made you at the present time as the funds for making direct loans have been exhausted. We may, however, be able to make you a loan in the future, but this will depend upon our obtaining more funds with which to make direct loans. Under the provisions of the law, the direct loan fund is a revolving fund; and as Veterans Administration receives monthly payments on mortgages now held or sells such mortgages to private lending institutions, additional funds are thereby made available for making more direct loans. We do not know when we will have sufficient additional funds from these sources to enable us to make you a direct loan. Accordingly, it will be necessary for you to wait for a direct loan until more funds are available and your turn is reached; other veterans are similarly obliged to wait their turn.

In view of the uncertainty as to whether or when we will have sufficient funds, we are not forwarding you an application at this time. Instead, your inquiry will be filed as of the date it was received. In the event there is a reasonable likelihood of sufficient funds becoming available to enable loans to be made to those applying as of the date of your inquiry, you will be notified and forwarded application forms and advised of the requirements which must be met to obtain a direct loan.

If it becomes possible to accept your application for a direct loan, it will be necessary for you to establish your eligibility for loan benefits. In order to do this, you should submit to this office at this time a completed copy of the enclosed Request for Determination of Eligibility and Available Loan Guaranty Entitlement, VA Form VB 4-1880, together with your original discharge or separation papers from your most recent period of military service and any previously issued Certificate(s) of Eligibility, VA Form VB 4-1870.

Very truly yours,

W. D. JONES, JR.

Chief, Loan Processing Section

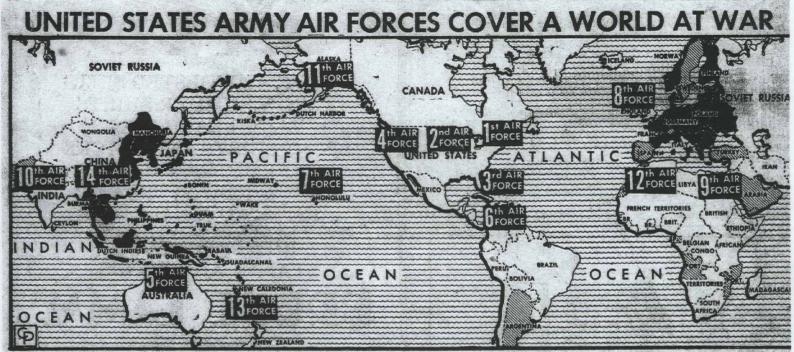
Loan Guaranty Officer

or Designee

Encl.

FL VB 4-500 Sep 1957

An inquiry by or concerning an ex-service man or woman should, if possible, give veteran's name and file number, whether C, XC, K, N, V, H, RH, RS, or loan number. If such number is unknown, service or serial number should be given.



SPOITED AT STRATEGIC POINTS throughout the globe, air force commands of the United States are turning the tide of battle against the Tokyo-Rome-Berlin axis. An enlightening view of the swift growth and far-flung activities of our aerial fighting force can be gained from a study of the map which shows the location of the 14 separate forces. Sicily, now under invasion.

only four of which are in the continental United States. The Fifth and Thirteenth Commands in Australia and New Caledonia back the big Solomons offensive. The Ninth and Twelfth Commands in the North African theatre are responsible for the present staggering blows against Sicily, now under invasion. (International)

PASS

Pfc. Henry R. Griffin, 14149343, has my permission for a pass from 0800 hrs. 3/9/44 to 2400 hrs. 3/11/44.

CLAUDE S. ASP, 1st Lt., Air Corps, Commanding. 308 Bomb Gp (H) AAF.