OVER HERE



American Men Ferry Pilots in WWII

The Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA)

The Air Transport Auxiliary



1939

Formed in 1939 to ferry new and repaired aircraft from factories and maintenance units to RAF and Fleet Air Arm bases

A civilian organisation, administered by BOAC – not part of the RAF.

b. 1 Jun 1906, Bexley, Kent

M.10 - Sir Gerard John Regis Leo d'Erlanger CBE

Creator and Commanding Officer of the ATA

ATA American Airmen – First Batch, August - September 1940

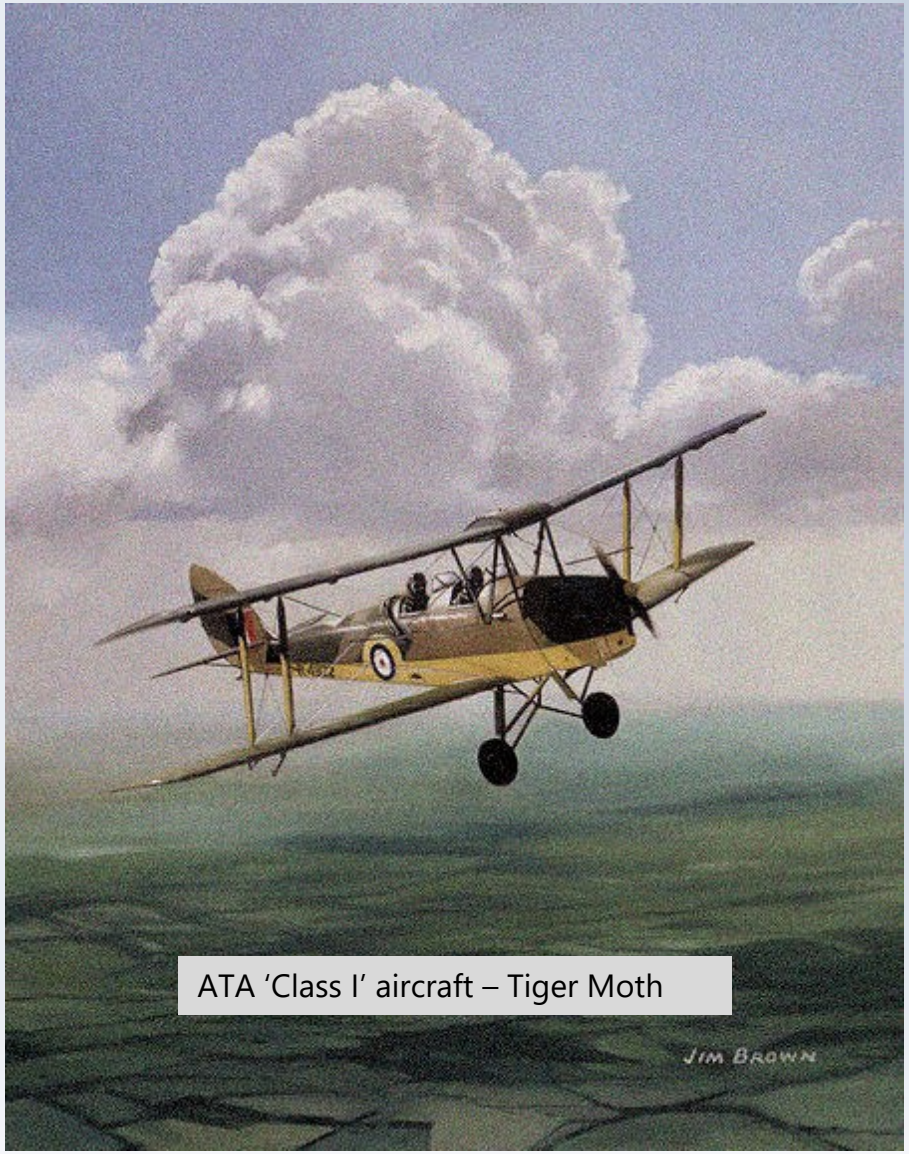


At the height of the Battle of Britain in August and September 1940, 68 American airmen - all experienced pilots with at least 350 hrs - were offered lucrative one-year contracts by Clayton Knight (a friend of Lord Beaverbrook) to join the ATA via BOAC.

The pay was $150 a week (tax free), plus $10 a day whilst in transit, $100 relocation expenses, and a $500 bonus at the end of a year.

A further 23 would follow before the end of the year.

ATA American Airmen

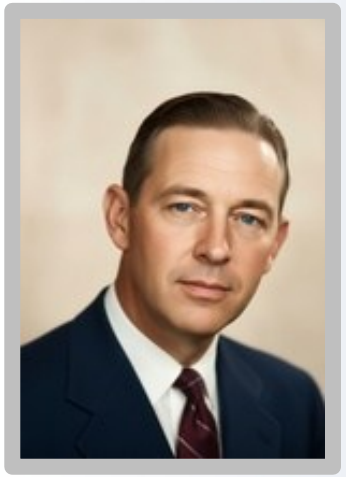


ATA ‘Class I’ aircraft – Tiger Moth

Painting by Jim Brown

1940

91 American airmen joined in 1940

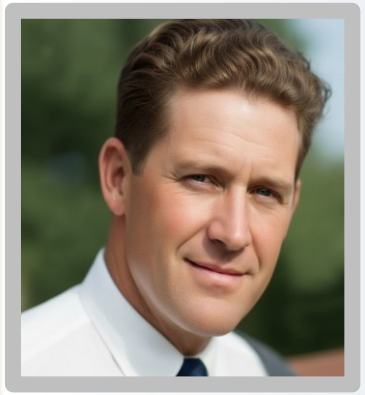


b. 9 Feb 1896, Malden, Middlesex, Massachusetts

M.— Lawrence Sprague King

3 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

First Officer ···



b. 18 Apr 1902, Kansas City, Kansas

M.— Chester Harold Pickup

3 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 29 Aug 1913, Spokane, Washington

M.— Ernest Alfred Towers

3 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 2 May 1906, Fulton, New York

M.177 – Leonard Wright Cramer

7 Aug 1940. Transferred to Atfero, 20 Mar 1941.
Died in RAFFC, 1945

First Officer ···



b. 24 Feb 1915, Jersey City

M.84 – Stanley Michel 'Mike' Kolendorski

3 Aug 1940. Transferred to RAF Eagle Sqn, 3 Sep 1940.
Died in RAF, 1941

Second Officer ···

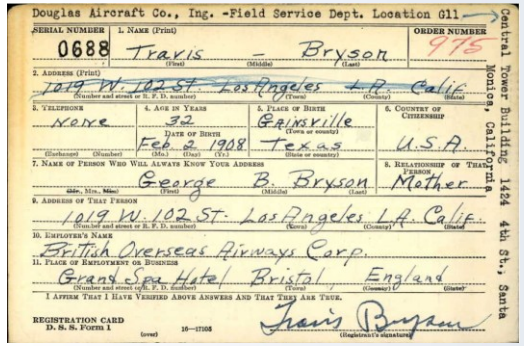


b. 2 Nov 1904, Atlanta Georgia

M.577 – Charles Barnett Whitehead

3 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 2 Dec 1941.
[RAF Eagle Sqn, Sep 1940 – Jul 1941]

Second Officer ···


Douglas Aircraft Co., Inc. -Field Service Dept. Location G11

SERIAL NUMBER 0688 | 1. NAME (Print) Travis – Bryson | ORDER NUMBER 975

2. ADDRESS (Print) 1019 W. 102 ST. Los Angeles L.A. Calif.

3. TELEPHONE None | 4. AGE IN YEARS 32 DATE OF BIRTH Feb 2. 1908 | 5. PLACE OF BIRTH Gainsville Texas | 6. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.

7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS George B. Bryson | 8. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Mother

9. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON 1019 W. 102 ST. Los Angeles LA. Calif.

10. EMPLOYER'S NAME British Overseas Airways Corp.

11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Grand Spa Hotel Bristol England

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE. Travis Bryson

REGISTRATION CARD D. S. S. Form 1

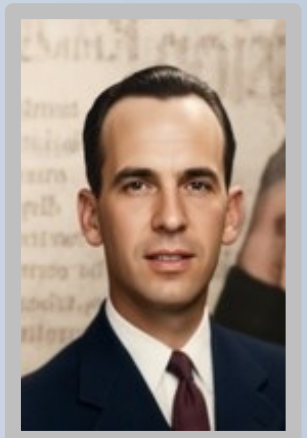
Central Tower Building 1424 4th St., Santa Monica, California

b. 2 Feb 1908, Gainsville, Texas

M.— Travis Bryson

3 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer

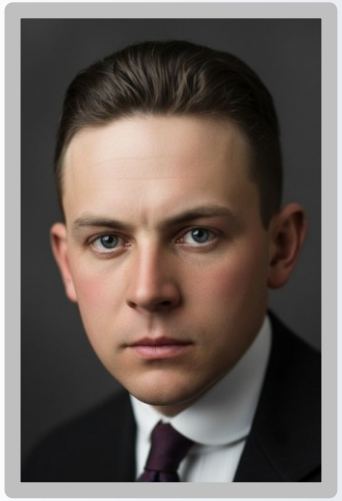


b. 1 Jul 1905, Redding California

M.—- Allen Albert Crane

7 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer



b. 15 Jan 1899, Newark, New Jersey

M.— Everitt Fisher

3 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer

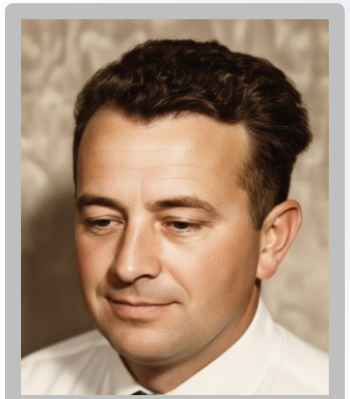


b. 21 Aug 1903, Ozona, Florida

M.—- William Duane Wood, Jr

7 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer

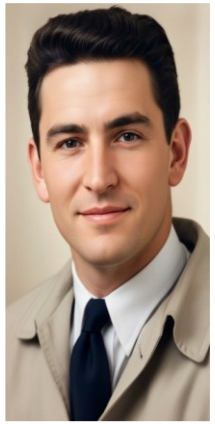


b. 29 Jul 1895, New Orleans, Louisiana

M.— Harry Clay LaGuardia

3 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer

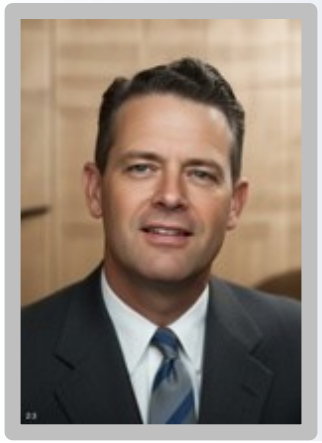


b. 27 Dec 1905, Lawrence, Kansas

M.227 – George Thomas Harris

7 Aug 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 1 Dec 1940. Died in RAFFC, 10 Aug 1941

First Officer



b. 18 Nov 1900, Contra Costa, California

M.— Eugene Winslow 'Gene' Moraga

7 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by AT… 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer



b. 5 Jan 1908, Dunsmuir, California

M.197 – Kenneth Kelvin Kleaver

9 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 10 May 1941

First Officer



b. 26 Mar 1914, Almeda, California

M.— Frederick William o'Hanlon

7 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer



b. 1 Dec 1904, San Francisco, California

M.221 – Ralph Vincent Canning

7 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 8 May 1941

First Officer



b. 13 Feb 1902, Minneapolis, Minnesota

M.110 – Horace Crowell Heising

10 Aug 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 13 Jan 1941

First Officer



b. 31 Oct 1907, Manhattan, New York

M.— Edward Charles Thord-Gray

12 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer



b. 10 Jan 1912, Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

M.193 – Earl Hill Ortman

12 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 15 Jan 1941

First Officer ···

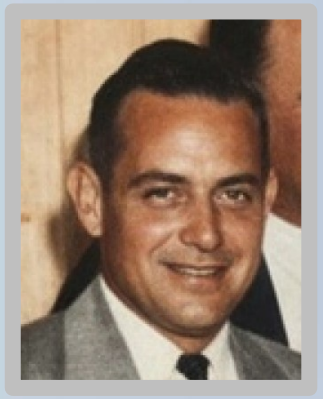


b. 26 Oct 1905, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

M.195 – Paul Theodore Miller

12 Aug 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 9 Jan 1941

First Officer ···

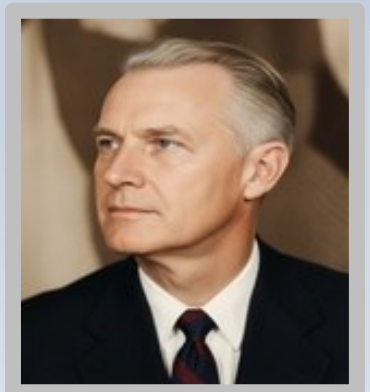


b. 8 Jan 1903, Canton, Ohio

M.— Thomas Edgar Palmer

12 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 13 Oct 1894, Paterson, New Jersey

M.—- William Hamlet 'Bill' Alexander

12 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 30 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 5 Mar 1901, Lees Summit, Missouri

M.— James Harvey Laudeman

13 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 30 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···

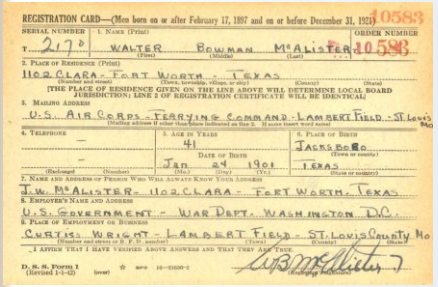


b. 29 Aug 1898, Kansas

M.153 – James Arlington 'Eddie' Edison

13 Aug 1940. Transferred to RAFFC, 23 Sep 1941

First Officer ···



REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921) 10583

SERIAL NUMBER 2170 | 1. NAME (Print) WALTER (First) Bowman (Middle) McALISTER (Last) | ORDER NUMBER 10583

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 1102 CLARA - FORT WORTH - TEXAS

THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL)

3. MAILING ADDRESS U.S. AIR CORPS - FERRYING COMMAND - LAMBERT FIELD - St Louis Mo

4. TELEPHONE — | 5. AGE IN YEARS 41 | DATE OF BIRTH Jan 24 1901 | 6. PLACE OF BIRTH JACKSBORO TEXAS

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS J.W. McALISTER - 1102 CLARA - FORT WORTH - TEXAS

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS U.S. GOVERNMENT - WAR DEPT. WASHINGTON D.C.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS CURTIS WRIGHT - LAMBERT FIELD - ST. LOUIS COUNTY Mo

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE. Walter McAlister

D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 1-1-42) (over) 16—31639-1

b. 24 Jan 1901, Jackboro, Texas

M.—- Walter Bowman McAlister

14 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 30 Apr 1901, Elgin, Kansas

M.—- Francis Dawson 'Chief' Bowhan

14 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 2 Oct 1940

Second Officer ···



b.20 Jul 1906, Boulder, Colorado

M.— Everett Vandaver McCory

16 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 13 Oct 1894, Paterson, New Jersey

M.92 – John Avery McDonald

17 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 8 Sep 1942

Captain ···



b. 25 Apr 1912, Fort Worth, Texas

M.111 – Harold Cecil Phillips

17 Aug 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 13 Jan 1941

First Officer ···



b. 14 Dec 1905, Baltimore, Maryland

M.228 – Philip Francis Lee Jr

17 Aug 1940. Seconded to AtFero, 20 Mar 1941
Died in ATA Service, 14 Aug 1941

First Officer ···



b. 23 May 1905, Melrose, Massachusetts

M.—- Ralph Theodore Wickford

17 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1940

Second Officer ···

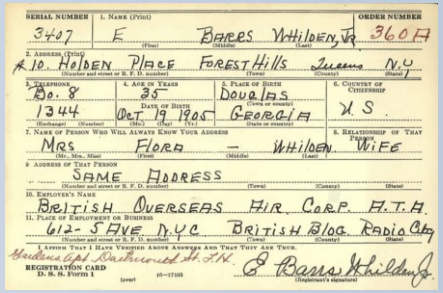


b. 5 Nov 1904, Clinton, Iowa

M.94 – Lyman Verne Voelpel

19 Aug 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 3 Apr 1941

Second Officer ···



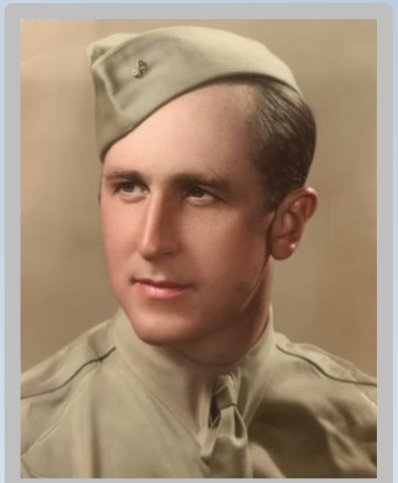
SERIAL NUMBER 3407 | ORDER NUMBER 3607
1. NAME (Print): E. Barrs Whilden, Jr.
2. ADDRESS: 10 Holden Place, Forest Hills, Queens, N.Y.
3. TELEPHONE: Bo. 8 1344
4. AGE IN YEARS: 35
5. PLACE OF BIRTH: Douglas Georgia
6. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: U.S.
7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS: Mrs. Flora Whilden, Wife
8. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON: Same Address
9. DATE OF BIRTH: Oct. 19 1905
10. EMPLOYER'S NAME: British Overseas Air Corp. A.T.A.
11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: 612 - 5 Ave. N.Y.C. British Bldg. Radio City
REGISTRATION CARD D. S. S. Form 1
E. Barrs Whilden Jr.

b. 19 Oct 1905, Douglas, Georgia

M.117 – Ethelred Barrs 'Bill' Whilden

21 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 4 Apr 1941

First Officer ···



b. 10 May 1905, County Kerry, Ireland
Naturalised USA 1934

M.—- Patrick Francis 'Patty' Breen

22 Aug 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 12 Sep 1942

Cadet ···



b. 5 October 1916, New York, NY

M.88 – Hubert Theodore Timmermans

24 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 7 Apr 1945

First Officer ···



b. 9 Jun 1908, Fort Worth, Texas

M.112 – Walter Lee 'Buster' Trimble

25 Aug 1940. Died in ATA Service, 14 Aug 1941

First Officer ···



b. 28 Jun 1918, Hartley, Iowa

M.209 – Erwin E Theodore Heering

24 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 30 Nov 1945

Captain ···

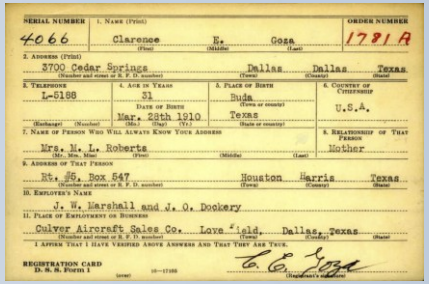


b. 22 Sep 1911, Bridgeport, Connecticut

M.229 – Irving Gustave Nelson

27 Aug 1940. Transferred to RAFFC, 26 Aug 1941

First Officer ···



SERIAL NUMBER 4066 | 1. NAME (Print) Clarence E. Goza | ORDER NUMBER 1791 A

2. ADDRESS (Print) 3700 Cedar Springs, Dallas, Dallas, Texas

3. TELEPHONE L-6186 | 4. AGE IN YEARS 31 | 5. PLACE OF BIRTH Buda, Texas | 6. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP U.S.A.

DATE OF BIRTH Mar. 28th 1910

7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. M. L. Roberts | 8. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Mother

9. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON Rt. #5, Box 547, Houston, Harris, Texas

10. EMPLOYER'S NAME J. W. Marshall and J. O. Dockery

11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Culver Aircraft Sales Co. Love Field, Dallas, Texas

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE. E. E. Goza

REGISTRATION CARD D. S. S. Form 1

b. 28 Mar 1910, Buda, Texas

M.242 – Clarence Edward 'Speedy' Goza

30 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 29 Aug 1941

First Officer ···



b. 29 Dec 1907, St Louis Missouri

M.244 – Clyde Erskine 'Scottie' Gray

30 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 25 Jun 1941

First Officer ···



b. 27 Feb 1914, Newark, New Jersey

M.303 – Gilbert Sheppard Tobin

30 Aug 1940. Left ATA, 329 Aug 1941

First Officer ···

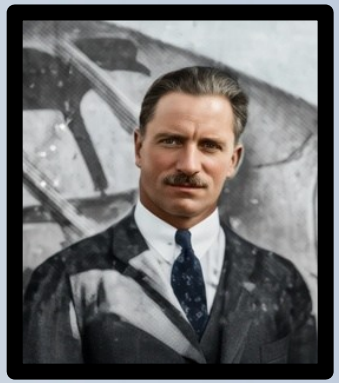


b. 24 Feb 1915, Los Angeles, California

M.249 – Philo Beveridge Pringle

4 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 30 Nov 1945

First Officer



b. 24 Jan 1893, Bethany, Nebraska

M.114 – Jay Herald Cordner

8 Sep 1940. Died in ATA Service, 2 Mar 1944

Flight Captain



b. 6 Mar 1912, Collingswood, New Jersey

M.301 – Albert Sparks Robbins

4 Sep 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 7 Mar 1942

First Officer

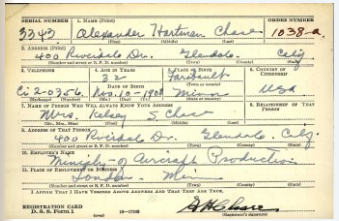


b. 12 Dec 1903, San Francisco, California

M.248 – Robert Edmund 'Bob' Perlick

9 Sep 1940. Seconded to AtFero, 20 Mar 1941

First Officer

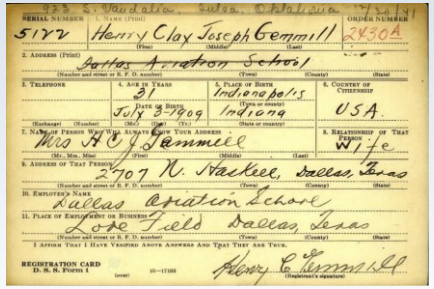


b. 10 Nov 1908, Fairbault, Minnesota

M.306 – Alexander Hartman Chase

4 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 30 Sep 1945

Flight Captain



b. 3 Jul 1909, Indianapolis, Indiana

M.—- Henry Clay Joseph Gemmill

12 Sep 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 23 Dec 1940

First Officer

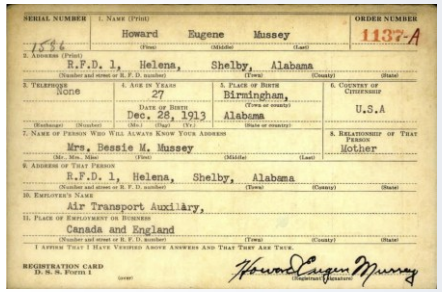


b. 17 Aug 1908, St. Paul, Minnesota

M.302 – Harold Gordon 'Buzz' Slingsby

12 Sep 1940. Seconded to AtFero, 3 Apr 1941

First Officer ···



b. 28 Dec 1913, Birmingham, Alabama

M.115 – Howard Eugene Mussey, Jr

14 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 30 Nov 1940

First Officer ···



b. 18 Oct 1908, Telluride, Colorado

M.246 – Thomas Leonard 'Tom' Livermore, Jr

14 Sep 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 15 Mar 1941.
Died in RAFFC, 14 Oct 1942

First Officer ···



b. 26 Sep 1913, Hardwick, Minnesota

M.164(1) – Clarence Joseph Webber

14 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 13 Sep 1941
[AtFero 20 Mar to 29 May 1941]

First Officer ···

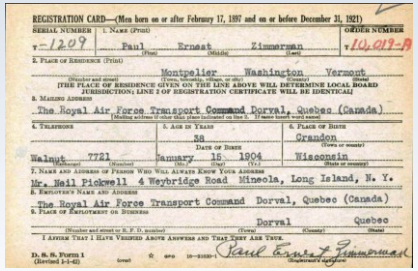


b. 22 Oct 1904, Lola, Georgia

M.309 – William Franklin Cummings

19 Sep 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 27 Jun 1941

First Officer ···



b. 15 Jan 1904, Crandon, Wisconsin

M.317 – Paul Ernest Zimmerman

25 Sep 1940. Seconded to RAFFC, 31 Oct 1941

First Officer ···

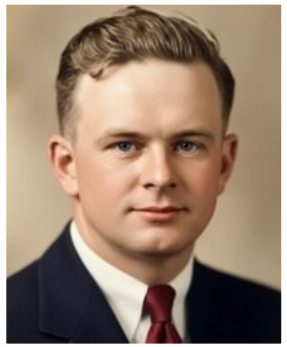


b. 25 Jan 1902, Oskaloosa, Iowa

M.118 – Rodger 'Rolley' Inman

25 Sep 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 26 Oct 1940

Second Officer ···



b. 27 Aug 1915, Fort Monroe, Virginia

M.154 – Clark Loring Trumbull Jr

25 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 8 Jul 1942

First Officer ···

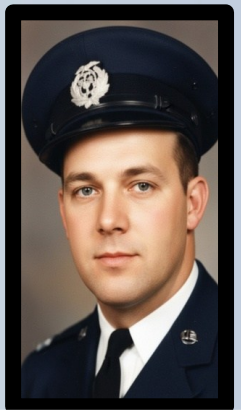


b. 15 Jan 1912, Dallas, Texas

M.116 – Edward 'Booger Red' Vencill

26 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 30 Nov 1940

First Officer ···



b. 1913, New York

M.234 – Martin Joseph 'Marty' Wetzel

26 Sep 1940. Seconded to AtFero, Apr 1941. Died in RAFFC, 14 Aug 1941

First Officer ···



b. 23 Aug 1915, Fort Smith, Arkansas

M.235 – Constant Penn Wilson III

26 Sep 1940. Transferred to RAFFC, 25 Sep 1941

First Officer ···



b. 28 Apr 1915, Princetown, New Jersey

M.237 – Franklyn Rule Mershon Jr

26 Sep 1940. Left ATA, 25 Oct 1941

Officer ···



b. 20 Jan 1907, San Francisco, California

M.14 – Lewis Warren Hunter

26 Sep 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 6 Jun 1941

First Officer



b. 11 Apr 1905, Rosebud, Texas

M.316 – Elbert Beard 'Tex' Anding

26 Sep 1940. Seconded to AtFero, 20 Mar 1941.
Died in ATA Service, 14 Aug 1941

First Officer



b. 10 May 1911, Lees Summit, Missouri

M.1 – Emmitt Eugene Beville

3 Oct 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 13 May 1941.

First Officer

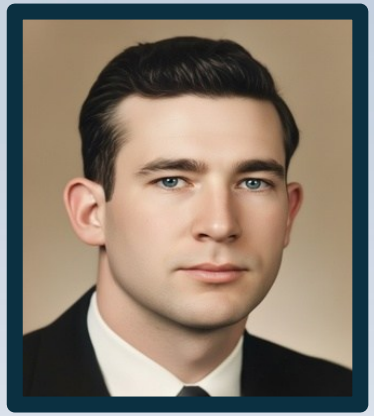


b. 8 Jan 1911, Springfield, Illinois

M.155 – Stanley Walter Klusek

3 Oct 1940. Seconded to RAFFC, 31 Oct 1941

First Officer



b. 19 Feb 1915, Greenville, Texas

M.31 – Francis Dean Carragher

8 Oct 1940. Died in ATA Service, 1 Feb 1941

First Officer



b. 18 May 1905, Lockport, New York

M.167 – Charles John Smith

8 Oct 1940. Left ATA, 30 Sep 1945

Captain

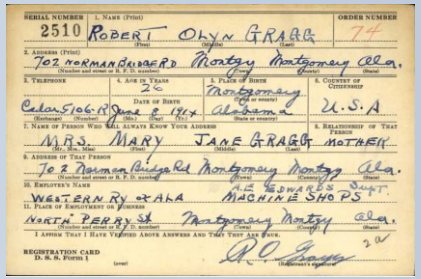


b. 7 Nov 1915, Stroh, Indiana

M.165 – Donald Lee Annibal

12 Oct 1940. Left ATA, Jul 1942

First Officer ···



b. 18 Jun 1914, Montgomery, Alabama

M.173 – Robert Olyn Gragg

18 Oct 1940. Left ATA, 23 Apr 1943

First Officer ···

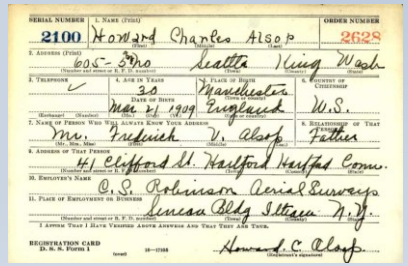


b. 4 Jun 1915, Vernal, Utah

M.164(2) – Roy Edwin Wimmer

12 Oct 1940. Left ATA, 9 Jan 1943

Flight Captain ···



b. 21 Mar 1909, Manchester UK (Naturalised 1916)

M.163 – Howard Charles Alsop

19 Oct 1940. Resigned, Feb 1941

First Officer ···



b. 29 Sep 1915, Memphis, Tennessee

M.162 – Dan Belton Jacques

17 Oct 1940. Transferred to AtFero, 25 Feb 1941

First Officer ···

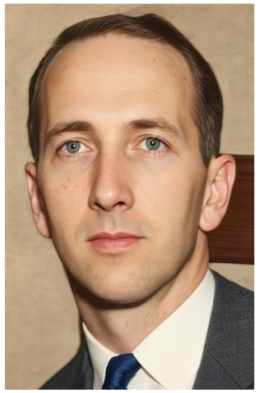


b. 1904, Lopez, Sullivan, Pennsylvania

M.122 – Francis Everett Bender

20 Oct 1940. Died in ATA Service, 3 Aug 1941

First Officer ···

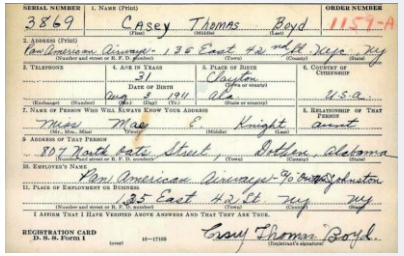


b. 19 Jan 1909, Boston, Massachusetts

M.161 – Malcolm Ferguson Stewart

21 Oct 1940. Left ATA, 8 May 1941

First Officer



b. 3 Aug 1911, Texasville, Alabama

M.176 – Casey Thomas Boyd

25 Oct 1940. Transferred to RAFFC, 24 Apr 1943

First Officer

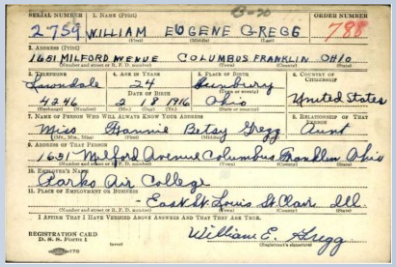


b. 16 Oct 1903, Cumberland, Mississippi

M.240 Claude Porter Cole

28 Oct 1940. Left ATA, 27 Oct 1941

First Officer



b. 18 Feb 1915, Sunbury, Ohio

M.175 – William Eugene Gregg

13 Nov 1940. Left ATA, 12 Nov 1941

First Officer



b. 28 Feb 1905, Salt Lake City, Utah

M.189 – Lionel Duane Kay

18 Nov 1940. Left ATA, 19 Sep 1944

First Officer

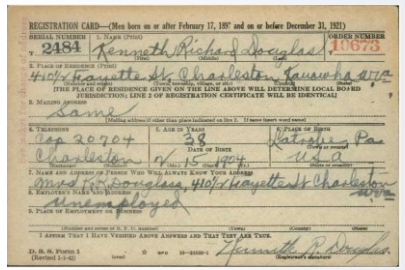


b. 14 Oct 1910, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

M.247 – Kenneth Meryl Seeds

19 Nov 1940. Died in ATA Service, 8 Oct 1941

First Officer



b. 15 Feb 1904, Latrobe, West Virginia

M.217 – Kenneth Richard Douglas

25 Nov 1940. Left ATA, 24 Nov 1941

First Officer ...

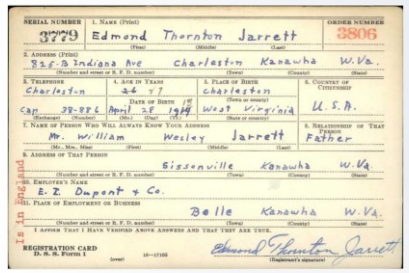


b. 18 Oct 1913, Charleston, West Virginia

M.208 – Edwin Keatley Whittington

25 Nov 1940. Left ATA, 24 Nov 1941

First Officer ...



b. 28 Apr 1914, Charleston, West Virginia

M.321 – Edmund Thornton Jarrett

29 Nov 1940. Left ATA, 17 Mar 1943

First Officer ...

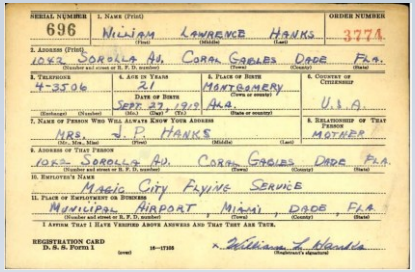


b. 4 Aug 1904, Bucyrus, Ohio

M.212 – Omar William Crim

29 Nov 1940. Left ATA, 24 May 1941

Second Officer ...



b. 27 Sep 1919, Montgomery, Alabama

M.238 – William Lawrence Hanks

3 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 2 Dec 1941

First Officer ...

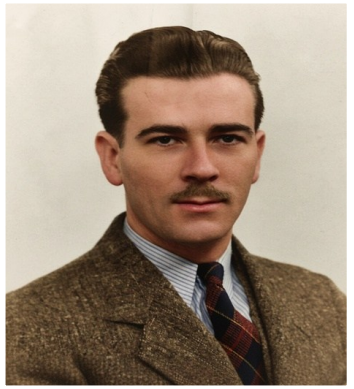


b. 5 Oct 1908, Jacksonville, Florida

M.273 – Frank Pope Skillen

3 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 2 Dec 1941

First Officer ...



b. 7 Oct 1916, Chicago, Illinois

M.218 – Robert Harris Vinson

3 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 19 Oct 1941

First Officer ···

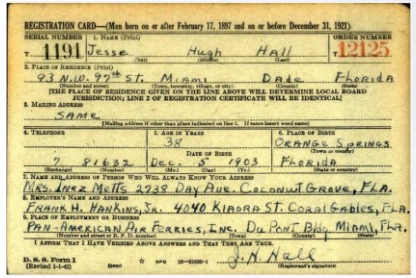


b. 27 Dec 1913, Fort Wayne, Indiana

M.241 – Paul Liefer Lowman

5 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 4 Dec 1941

First Officer ···



REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921)

SERIAL NUMBER 1191 — ORDER NUMBER 12125

1. NAME: Jesse Hugh Hall

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE: 93 N.W. 97th St. Miami, Dade, Florida

3. MAILING ADDRESS: SAME

4. TELEPHONE: 7-81632

5. AGE IN YEARS: 38

6. PLACE OF BIRTH: Orange Springs, Florida

DATE OF BIRTH: Dec. 5 1903

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS: Mrs. Inez Wells 2738 Day Ave. Coconut Grove, Fla.

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Frank H. Hawkins, Jr. 4040 Kiadra St. Coral Gables, Fla.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: Pan-American Air Ferries, Inc. Du Pont Bldg. Miami, Fla.

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE. J.H. Hall

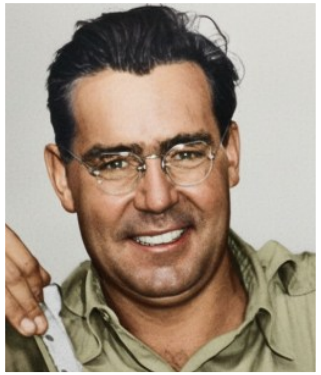
D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 1-1-42)

b. 5 Dec 1903, Orange Springs, Florida

M.252 – Jesse Hugh Hall

5 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 29 Sep 1941

First Officer ···



b. 10 Sep 1914, Gainesville, Florida

M.219 – Steven Calhoun Beville

7 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 9 Dec 1941

First Officer ···

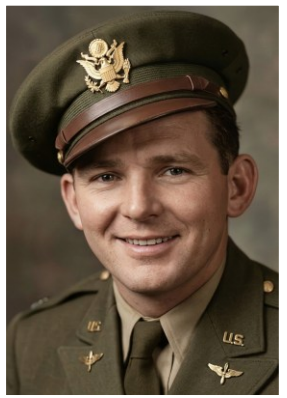


b. 1 Jun 1909, Georgia

M.—- George Washington Holcomb

12 Dec 1940. Died in ATA Service, 27 Mar 1941

First Officer ···



b. 27 Jun 1909, Columbus, Georgia

M.270 – Joseph Benjamin 'JB' Holloway

12 Dec 1940. Left ATA,11 Dec 1941

First Officer ···



b. 6 Mar 1907, Orlando, Florida

M.289 – Conley Guy Shreve

14 Dec 1940. Left ATA, 30 Jun 1945

Flight Captain ···



b. 3 May 1910, Valley Stream, New York

M.—- August 'Gus' Michelson

27 Dec 1940. Contract Terminated by ATA, 24 Mar 1941

Second Officer ···