The Descriptive Finding Guide for the William Tascher Personal Papers
SDASM.SC.10167

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San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
7/16
2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
San Diego 92101
URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives

Title: William Tascher Personal Papers

Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10167

Physical Description: .5 Cubic Feet

Description: There are two archival banker-sized boxes, each measuring 15.75"L x 9.75"H x 12.75"W. Box 1 also contains a smaller archival storage box inside, measuring 12.75"L x 3"H x 9.5"W containing patches, “Short Snorter,” two silk escape maps, two books, and ID cards.

Content Notes: This collection contains service records, associated papers, rosters, year books, log books, very detailed service records and personal papers, awards, class books, commemorative books, albums, etc. Photos have been removed from the frames and envelopes for conservation and duplication to the photo files.

Date (bulk): bulk

Abstract: Tascher graduated from pilot training as part of class 44A in January 1944 and was assigned to North American B-25 training at Columbia AAB, SC with additional training at Mather Field, CA. In December 1944, he was assigned to the 341st Bomb Group, 491st Bomb Squadron at Yangkai air base in China, flying combat missions against the Japanese in various models of the B-25 Mitchell and earning a DSC and Purple Heart for his service.

Biographical / Historical

William V. Tascher was born in Denver, Colorado, on February 9, 1921. He attended Horace Mann Junior High, graduated from Hoover High School in 1939, and graduated from San Diego State University in 1942. Between June and September, Tascher earned a private pilot’s license flying a Piper J-3 Cub at the Speer Flying Service in San Diego. He enlisted in the USAAC on September 11, 1942 and, upon his graduation from college, received his primary flight training with class 12th Se-L at Thunderbird Field, Mesa, AZ, in June 1943. He subsequently received basic flight training in Vultee BT-13s at Pecos AAB, TX; advanced training (twin engine) at Fort Sumner AAB, NM in Cessna AT-17s. Tascher graduated from pilot training as part of class 44A in January 1944 and was assigned to North American B-25 training at Columbia AAB, SC with additional training at Mather Field, CA. In December 1944, he was assigned to the 341st Bomb Group, 491st Bomb Squadron at Yangkai air base in China, flying combat missions against the Japanese in various models of the B-25 Mitchell and earning a DSC and Purple Heart for his service. At the end of the war, Tascher returned to the United States and was mustered out of active duty in December 1945. He would continue to serve in the Reserves until 1953. Tascher passed away in 2012.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to research by appointment.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The collection was donated to the San Diego Air and Space Museum.

Scope and Contents

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Related Materials

391st Photos.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/albums/72157630136243728>

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Speer Flying Service
341st Bomb Group
391st Bomb Squadron
North American B-25 Mitchell
Volte BT-13
Tascher, William V

Box 1 of 2
Series I: Personal Records

Archival Box 1 of 1


Folder 1 - Horace Mann Junior High School Graduation program, 1934
Folder 2 - Hoover High School Graduation program, 1939

Series II: Correspondence

Folder 3 - Personal Letters

Physical Description: Six Letters to younger brother, John Tascher, Aug 14, 1943 - July 30, 1944.

Series III: Military career-related material

Folder 4 - Squadron 57 Roster, April 17, 1943
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Folder 6 - Fort Sumner AAF Pilot School, graduation class 44-A, Jan. 7, 1944
Folder 7 - St. Catherine’s Military School, graduation ceremony, 1946
Folder 8 - Advanced Training Records, January 1944 to October 1944
Folder 9 - Orders, 1943 to 1945
Folder 10 - Orders, January 7, 1944 to November 8, 1945
Folder 11 - Individual Flight Record, August 1943 to September 1945
Folder 12 - Administrative Records, January 1944 to October 1945 1. Purple Heart Citation June 3, 1945.
Folder 13 - William V. Tascher 4th Air Force, September 1945 to 1953 Reserves
Folder 14 - AAF Certificate of Appreciation
Folder 15 - VA Benefits, 1946-47
Folder 16 - 22nd Bomb Squad Association
Folder 17 - 14th Air Force Association
Folder 18 - Photocopied diary of Lt. Clifford G. Schillinger, 491st Bomb Squad (M) AAF, 1943-44

Series IV: Photographs

Folder 22 - Photographs

Series V: Newspapers
Series V: Newspapers

Folder 23 - Roundup Newspapers Two Roundup Newspapers, June 22, 1944 and Aug. 23, 1945.
Folder 24 - Newspaper Clippings Two newspaper clipping on Flying Tigers “Active Duty” status, July 6 and 7, 1991.

Series VI - Charts

Folder 25 - Two Aeronautical Flight Charts, San Diego and Los Angeles, 1954

Series VI: Albums