

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Histories are written or oral accounts of events that have happened in time. Contained herein are the recordings of the things the men of the 506th have done to make history. Each of you have contributed to this effort.

The preparation of this document represents endless hours of correspondence, organizing, typing, and retyping. I think it only fair to first acknowledge the contribution of my wife, Dorthy, in allowing that time to be taken from our lives. Also, she saved all of my letters to her and they are used in this document.

I would be amiss not to recognize the contribution of material, permission to make extracts from his publications, and the beginning-to-end encouragement of Will Lundy.

Others deserving of special recognition are Mark and Rose Morris, and Robert Struble. They volunteered to proof my drafts and make suggestions for improvements. The fellows also contributed diaries and personnel accounts of events.

One only needs to read this history to see the extensive use that I made of the diary of Ray Marner. This diary covered almost the entire time that the Squadron was in existence.

Additional diaries, accounts, photographs, and newspaper articles were obtained from over one hundred individuals. Space does not allow a complete listing of these contributions. Therefore, in fairness to all, I will not try to select. However, I will acknowledge that this work was enriched by the contributions of the many. I thank you for allowing me to use your material.

In part, the microfilm records, furnished by the Historical Research Center, USAF, Maxwell AFB, Alabama, were used to cover events not reported by individuals. Roger A. Freeman's, *Mighty Eighth War Diary*, was used to confirm the spelling of European cities and dates contained in accounts submitted by individuals. Background information, contained in *Ploesti*, by James Dugan and Carroll Stewart, was used in conjunction with individual accounts of 506th personnel who made this raid. To give credence to the author's remembrance of some events in the desert, reference is also made to the Dugan and Stewart article in the January, 1962, *Airpower Historian*, published by The Air Force Historical Foundation.

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