

**Veterans History Interview of**

**of**

**WWII Veteran**

**TSgt. Charles E. Gallagher**

**Engineer and Top Turret Gunner**

**95<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group**

**336<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron**

**8<sup>th</sup> Army Air Force**

**Interviewer: Joan E. Hamilton  
Monday, December 31, 2007**



**Charles E. Gallagher**

## JOHN A. "Jack" Cotner's CREW

**8th Air Force 13th Combat wing 3rd Division**

**95th BG(H) 336th Sq. Station 119 Horham**

	Pilot		John A. "Jack" Cotner
	Co-pilot		Valgene M. Mathews
	Bomardier		Lowell L. Wagner
	1 <sup>st</sup> Navigator		Albert L. Hillman
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Navigator		Albert T. Mosiman
	T/T Eng.	T/Sgt.	Charles E. Gallagher
	Radio	T/Sgt.	Raymond V. Ptacek
	Waist Gunner	S/Sgt	Kenneth D. Barning
	Waist Gunner	S/Sgt	Daniel E. Matthews
	Ball Gunner	S/Sgt	Donald C. Matthews
	Tail Gunner	S/Sgt	Carroll S. Watts

### COTNER CREW MISSION LIST

Mission #	1944	Hours	Mission	AirCraft
1	July 08	5.5	Tactical Beaumont Fr.	297194
2	July 12	9	Munich (J. S. Redin KIA 2nd Mission)	297334
3	July 16	6.7	Stuttgart (Munich)	231989

4	July 17	8.75	Tactical Joigne Larich, FR RR Bridge	231989
5	July 18	5.5	Tactical Hemmigstalt Oil	231867
6	July 19	8	Schweinfurt POW A.D. Hamlik 4th Mission	297334
7	July 21	10	Regensburg Aircraft Factory	231376
8	July 24	6.7	St. Lo Invasion Front	2102560
9	July 25	6	St. Lo Invasion Front	2102560
10	July 31	9.5	Munich Engin Factory	337801
11	Aug 4	7.5	Hamburg Oil Plant	231989
12	Aug 6	10	Rammel (Gydnia) A/C Repair Landed in Poltava	231989
13	Aug 7	10.5	Trzebinia SE of Warsaw Oil Ref.	231989
14	Aug 8	9	Buzau Air Field near Ploesti Landed in Foggia	231989
15	Aug 9	10	Toulouse Southern Invasion Airfield Horham	231989
16	Sept 3	7.75	Tactical Brest Peninsula	297894
17	Sept 5	10.2	Stuttgart Truck Factory	297894
18	Oct 2	7.5	Kassel Tank Factory	338617
19	Oct 22	6.5	Munster Marshaling Yard	46583
20	Oct 25	7	Hamburg Oil Refinery	297844
21	Oct 30	4	Mersberg Abandoned Oil Refinery	338584
22	Nov 4	7	Neunkichen Oil Steel (No Bombed)	338584
23	Nov 26	6.5	Guterslon Rail Marshaling Yard	338584
24	Dec 2	6.5	Koblenz Marshaling Yard	48272
25	Dec 10	7	Kobelz Marshaling Yard	338584
26	Dec 12	8	Darmstadt marshaling Yard	338584
27	Dec 16	8+	Stuttgart Marshaling Yard	338584
28	Dec 24	8	Biblis Wurm Air Field	338584

29	Dec 27	8.5	Fulda Marshaling Yard	338584
30	Dec 29	7.5	Frankfort Marshaling Yard	338584
	1945			
31	Jan 7	8	Cologne Bridge	338469
32	Jan 13	6.5	Mainz Bridge	48604
33	Jan 21	7.5	Manheim Bridge	48604
34	Jan 23	6	Neuss (Dusseldorf) Marshaling Yard	48604
35	Jan 28	5.5	Duisburg Bridge RR	48604

# Veterans History Interview of TSgt. Charles E. Gallagher

## Family Background and Jobs

State Highway Commission Job [Tape Counter at 14]

Dad's Creamery

Lockheed [Tape Counter at 30]

## WWII

Drafted [Tape Counter at 30]

### Training

Basic, Gunnery, AM School [Tape Counter at 63]

Becoming the Flight Engineer [Tape Counter at 77]

Crew Training [Tape Counter at 85]

### Horham

Quonset Hut [Tape Counter at 101]

Crew Member Story [Tape Counter at 126]

Mission Story: Flak Magnets [Tape Counter at 150]

Squadron of Four

Siblings [Tape Counter at 185]

Basic Training [Tape Counter at 212]

AM School [Tape Counter at 228]

Aircrew Training at Dalhart [Tape Counter at 237]

Going Overseas [Tape Counter at 249]

Arriving in England [Tape Counter at 269]

Horham [Tape Counter at 283]

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Crew—Twins Story [Tape Counter at 287]

Mission #10: 31 July 1944, Munich

Mission Story: Flak [Tape Counter at 325]

Mission Story: Rudder [Tape Counter at 335]

B-17s [Tape Counter at 356]

Ground Crew [Tape Counter at 364]

Crew Members [Tape Counter at 412]

Carroll Watts Story

Top Turret/ Engineer	[Tape Counter at 486]
Mission #10: 31 July 1944, Munich	[Tape Counter at 492]
Mission Story: Hydraulic Pump	
Extremes of Temperature	[Tape Counter at 562]
Extreme Cold, Hamburg	

**End of Tape 1, Side A  
Tape 1, Side B**

Extreme Heat, P2V Program	[Tape Counter at 655]
P2V Program	
Civilian Contractor in England	[Tape Counter at 669]
Mission #6: 19 July 1944 Schweinfurt	[Tape Counter at 674]
Mission #12: 6 Aug 1944, Gydnia	[Tape Counter at ~680]
Mission #13: 7 Aug 1944, Trzebinia	[Tape Counter at 685]
Oil Refinery	
Bomb Hanging Crooked Story	
Mission #14: 8 Aug 1944 Ploesti	[Tape Counter at 728]
Mission #15: 9 Aug 1944 Southern France	[Tape Counter at 745]
Ruhr Valley	[Tape Counter at 747]
Last Mission, #35: 28 Jan 1945, Duisburg	[Tape Counter at 754]
Going Home	[Tape Counter at 775]
Convalescent Hospital	
CO/ Flak Shack Story	[Tape Counter at 813]
Air Medals and Points	[Tape Counter at 871]
Discharge	

**After WWII**

Lockheed	[Tape Counter at 925]
Engineering Flight Test	[Tape Counter at 951]
CAA Certification	
<i>Constellation</i>	
P2V <i>Neptune</i>	[Tape Counter at 969]
F-90, Breaking the Sound Barrier	[Tape Counter at 973]

*SpaceshipOne* [Tape Counter at 1017]  
Peter Siebold

F-104 *Starfighter* [Tape Counter at 1075]

F-94 *Starfire* [Tape Counter at 1090]

Test Track [Tape Counter at 1129]

SR-71 *Blackbird*  
December 1966 Story [Tape Counter at 1222]

End of Tape 1, Side B  
[Tape Counter at 1276/ start of Tape 2]  
Tape 2, Side A

Engineering Flight Test at Burbank [Tape Counter at 1289/13]

*S-3 Viking*

Instrumentation at Yuma

*H-56, Cheyenne*

Marriage to Marilyn(1973) [Tape Counter at 1310/34]

More about H-56, *Cheyenne* [Tape Counter at 1331/55]

*P-3 Orion* [Tape Counter at 1360/84]

The Maintenance Shop

RETIREMENT [Tape Counter at 1428/152]

Portland, Oregon and Family [Tape Counter at 1445/169]

Marriage to Pat (1947) [Tape Counter at 1474/198]

Families

End of Interview  
~110 minutes  
[Tape Counter at 1533/257]