

**NAME:** William

**RANK:** Staff Sergeant

**ORGANIZATION:** IX Bomber Command

**OVERSEAS WARTIME SERVICE:** European Theater of Operations

- The following excerpt is directly from an original wartime letter written by William. This is the only letter from William in the site curator's possession.
- The following excerpt is presented under fair use provisions for educational purposes.
- No controversial material has been omitted from the following excerpt. No grammatical or spelling errors have been corrected.

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**William writes a friend in the United States:**

“SEPT. 7, 1944

Today I received your letter, and I was certainly glad to hear from you...

...I guess by now you have heard about my misfortune. I went into operations as soon as I returned from the states and I had n't flown but a few missions until they got me. I was wounded about a month ago and have been in the hospital ever since. I was n't hurt too serious, but it will be some time before I have normal vision out of my left eye. No noticable scars or any thing like that of course I'm not allowed to give you the full details as yet. My combat flying career is over with. I expect to be sent else where for further treatment – that sounds very good to me – so heres hoping we'll see you all soon.

Sincerely,

William”

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- William made it through the Second World War but when he passed away is unknown.
  - **For visual context, this link connects to an original wartime film in the public domain that covers William's organization (viewer discretion advised):**  
<https://archive.org/details/CF111AAFReport1944>
  - **For additional detail, this link connects to the Wikipedia article that covers William's wartime organization, the IX Bomber Command (reader discretion advised):**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bomber\\_Command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bomber_Command)