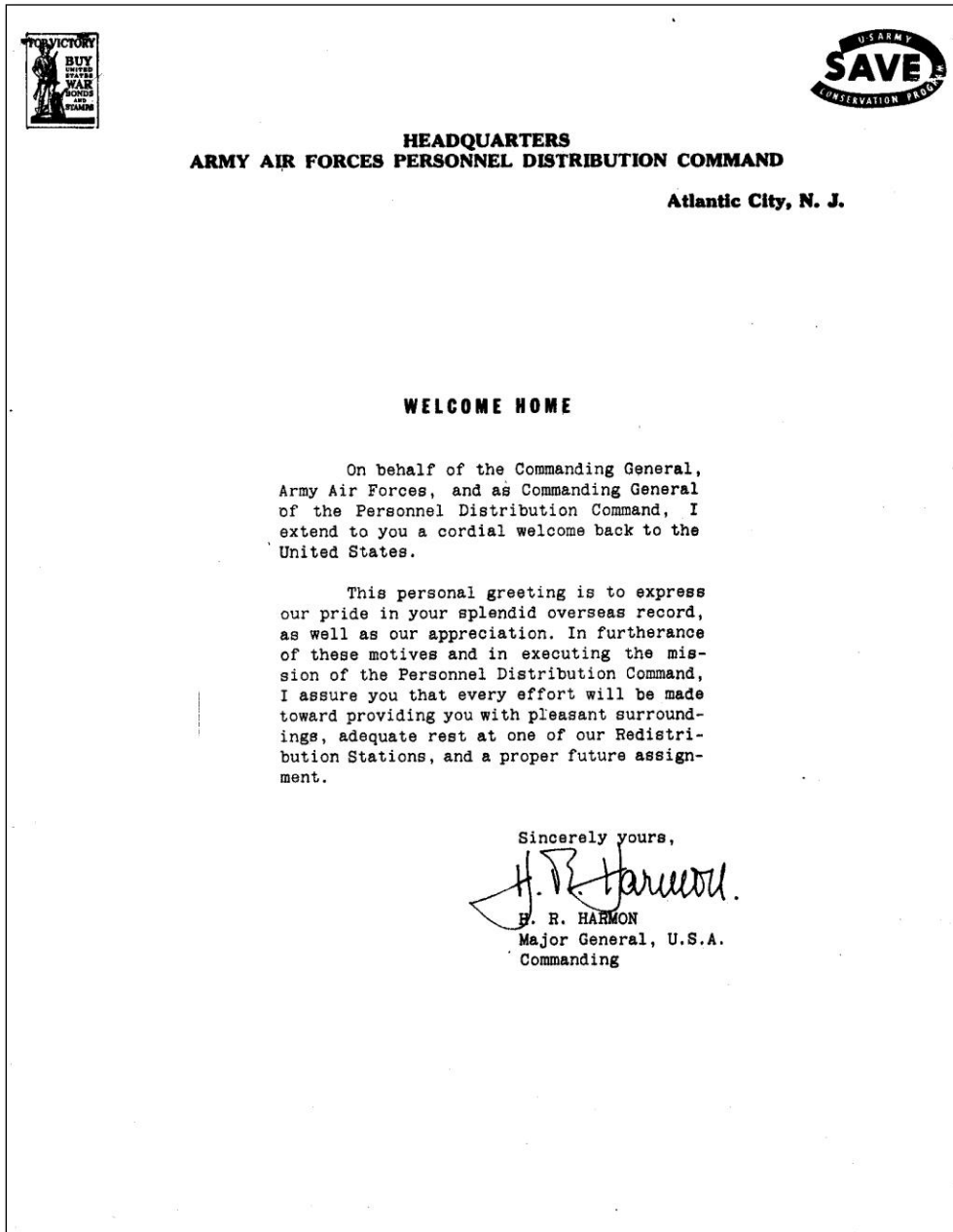


Back Home in the United States

Stepping off the troopship in Boston meant you were home – but it didn't mean you were done.



Some men would be reassigned to the war effort, some would be admitted to military hospitals and others placed on extended leaves and furloughs. But first, all men would be processed by the AAF Personnel Distribution Command and assigned to one of five Redistribution Stations. Those returning to northeast were usually assigned to Atlantic City and often found themselves right back in the same reception station where they had started three or four years earlier – Fort Dix, New Jersey.

PORT LIAISON OFFICE
AAF PERSONNEL DISTRIBUTION COMMAND
ASF RECEPTION STATION NO 2
FORT DIX, NEW JERSEY

1. GENERAL. The Commanding General, AAF Personnel Distribution Command desires that you be given assistance by the AAF Personnel Distribution Command and port Liaison Officer at this station. The undersigned and his staff will assist you with any personal problems and answer questions you may have regarding your stay at AAF Personnel Distribution Command Redistribution Stations. Undoubtedly, you are primarily interested in beginning your period of leave or furlough. Your departure will be expedited if you cooperate with all personnel involved in the brief processing which is necessary at this station.

2. LEAVE OR FURLONGHS. You will be assigned to the proper AAF PDC Redistribution Station, granted an appropriate delay enroute plus travel time. Unless great emergency exists, such as illness or injury, it is impossible to extend your leave or furlough. Request for such extensions result in unnecessary waste of money to yourselves, as well as additional paper work in answering telegrams.

3. ILLNESS. If illness or injury occurs while on leave or furlough, communicate with or report to the nearest Government operated hospital for treatment. The hospital should, in turn, advise the AAF PDC Redistribution Station as to your status. In the absence of Government facilities, local physicians may be consulted under the following provisions only:

- a. Military medical attendance cannot be procured in time to cope with the urgency of the situation.
- b. The individual cannot be moved to any Army or other Government hospital for necessary treatment.
- c. Necessary medical care is emergency in nature. If a local physician is consulted, request the physician to notify by telegram, the AAF PDC Redistribution Station to which you are assigned, stating the date illness occurred and the probable date of return to duty. Upon completion of illness or incapacity, secure a written statement from the physician for submission to the Commanding Officer of the AAF PDC Redistribution Station.

4. HOUSING OF WIVES AT REDISTRIBUTION STATIONS. The War Department has granted authority for your wife only to remain with you at a Government operated hotel. Information in this connection and necessary forms for requesting reservations for her will be made in this office. Government facilities are not always available, and you are advised not to bring your wife to the Redistribution Station unless you have been notified by the Station Housing Officer that Government accommodations will be furnished. If you bring your wife without such notification, you will probably have to expend personal funds for her accommodations. In these resort cities, costs of hotel rooms are usually high. A nominal charge is made for the housing of wives at Redistribution Stations.

5. COMPLIANCE WITH TRAVEL ORDERS. Overseas returnees are given special authorization for a delay enroute to AAFPDC Redistribution Stations plus necessary travel time. Special orders granting such delay, specify the date you will report to the Redistribution Station. **YOU MUST** report to your Redistribution Station on the date indicated in your orders. Failure to comply with the above orders constitutes a serious military offense and necessitates disciplinary action.

6. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS. If you are entitled to decorations or awards which have been noted in General orders but not issued to you personally, application may be made for such decorations in accordance with Sec II, WD Cir 337, 1944.

7. VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL. Because of unsettled home conditions during the war, health authorities have found the venereal disease problem one of increasing concern. Experience with returning personnel has proved that we must warn all returnees of this danger and request their use of caution in this respect. Emphasis is placed on this warning for the good of the service and for your own well-being.

8. SECURITY. The inclosed Hq AAFPDC Letter addressed to all AAF Personnel Returning from Overseas, Subject, Security of Military Information, dated 1 September 1944, will be carefully read. You are cautioned to govern yourself accordingly.

9. FOOD AND GAS RATIONING. While at home you are entitled to meats and processed food, ration coupons, and gasoline coupons (if there is a car at home). Present a copy of your special orders to your local ration board as authority to be issued these coupons for use while on leave or furlough. If your orders provide for TPA for any part of your travel to an AAF PDC Redistribution Station, the Port Liaison Officer will assist you in obtaining the gasoline coupons necessary for such travel.

10. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. If advice is needed for filing income tax returns, claims for loss or damage of personal property, revision of wills or other personal legal problems, take all necessary data with you to the AAFPDC Redistribution Station where the Judge Advocate will assist you.

11. CONDUCT. You represent the Army Air Forces to the General public. Consequently, it is highly important that you conduct yourself at all times in such a manner as to reflect credit to the Army Air Forces - be courteous, neat in appearance, and present a military bearing.

12. BUS SERVICE. Buses from Main Gate direct to Philadelphia and to Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Trenton, run at frequent intervals. US Army Buses from Port Liaison Office through Reception Station Area run every 45 minutes, terminating at the Main Gate. Use "New York Avenue" Bus.

13. BAGGAGE. Baggage can be handled in the following manner from the Checking Station in Warehouse #2:

- a. Sent to your furlough address, express collect or Government Bill of Lading;
- b. Forwarded express prepaid from the American Express Office adjoining Warehouse #2;
- c. Checked on your railroad ticket.

If your baggage has not arrived prior to your departure from this station, leave your baggage checks at the Checking Station, and it will be forwarded to you express collect.

14. POST INFORMATION. OFFICERS - The Main Officers PX is at Pemberton Road & Maryland Ave., (Camp St.) diagonally across from checking Station, Warehouse #2. Use New York Avenue Bus. Branch Officers PX is at Newark Ave., at 14th Street. Main Officers Club is at Maryland Ave., & 1st St. Use New York Avenue Bus. Cafeterias at Service Club #2, Newark Ave., at 17th St., at Main Officers Club and Main Officers PX. Telephones at Newark Ave., & 16th St. Theaters # 2 or #5 may be reached by taking the New York Avenue Bus in your area.

ENLISTED MEN. There is a PX in your company area. Cafeteria at Service Club #2, Newark Ave., at 17th St., Telephones at Newark Ave., & 16th St. Theaters #2 or #5 may be reached by taking New York Avenue Bus in your area.

15. ADDRESSES OF AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATIONS.

AAF Redistribution Station #1
Atlantic City, New Jersey.

AAF Redistribution Station #2
Miami Beach, Florida.

AAF Redistribution Station #3
Santa Monica, California.

AAF Redistribution Station #4
Santa Ana, California.

AAF Redistribution Station #5
Camp Davis, N. C.

1 Incl:
AFPDC Ltr. 1 Sep 44.

James M. Wiley, Jr.

JAMES M. WILEY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Port Liaison Officer,
AAF Personnel Distribution Command.

For many others the war went on. The war in the Pacific would continue for another three months so security of information was still a high priority. The following memorandum had been written in September of 1944 and was distributed to all returning POWs through the remainder of the war.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY AIR FORCES PERSONNEL DISTRIBUTION COMMAND

IS Atlantic City, N.J.
SUBJECT: Security of Military Information 1 September 1944.
TO: All AAF Personnel Returning From Theaters.

1. The Commanding General, AAF, has directed that the following information be disseminated to you immediately upon your return from theaters:

a. While in this country it will be easy for you to talk indiscriminately about your recent experiences and thereby be responsible for the enemy's getting a better shot at your friends and comrades who are still in the thick of things.

b. It will be natural for you to want to talk to your family and friends about your experiences and for them to urge you to do so. It will also be natural for the enemy agent to pick up all the information he can from your talk.

c. Some of our units have already been ripped apart because the enemy intelligence has been able to put our plans together from small bits of information. This information was given out, in conversations such as you will be tempted to have, by military personnel like yourselves, who did not realize they were disclosing information of importance. The enemy is as greatly benefited by information disclosed by you as he is by information disclosed by one who is an enemy.

d. However, it is possible to talk in general terms about the "show" you have been through, without giving aid to the enemy. To do this your talk must be confined to:

- (1) General description of the countries you have been in.
- (2) Discussion of the peoples of those countries, their customs, habits, etc.
- (3) Your personal experiences in battle, without mention of the units or the equipment involved.
- (4) Name of the port of embarkation and port of debarkation, but not until more than one week after you have landed in the U. S.

But remember that this is for conversation only. Any of this information, if to be used for a press release or newspaper story or over the radio, must be cleared through Public Relations. (If you are a returned escapee, evadee, or internee, even clearance through Public Relations will not protect you in the event of any violation of security. All returned escapees, evadees, and internees are reminded of their special instructions in this connection.)

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R E S T R I C T E D

e. YOU MUST NOT, under any circumstances, give information to anyone—wife, parent, or friend:

- (1) which would disclose the number of troops in the area from which you have come, or their disposition or equipment;
- (2) which would disclose the size or type ships of the convoy or its escort, which accompanied you, or its route;
- (3) which would indicate the facilities, present or in construction, at ports, cities, or camps in which you have been;
- (4) which would disclose new equipment being used in the field;
- (5) which would disclose the tactics being employed or your idea concerning what future tactics will be or should be employed;
- (6) which would indicate the geographic location of APO numbers;
- (7) which would disclose the designations of units in the field.

f. DO NOT engage in political or other discussions concerning our Allies. Remember that the Russians and the English stemmed the Axis tide before we entered the war, and they and the French and others are our Allies. DO NOT start criticisms of our friends.

g. An alert, persistent, and capable enemy intelligence system exists. No bit of information is too small for its use. Your loyal friends will understand, if, when they question you, you say "I can't talk about the details of that show yet." Their sons and brothers will be safer as a result, and you will be fulfilling your continuing obligation to the men you have left behind.

By command of Major General HARMON:

/s/ HENRY M. BAILEY,
/t/ HENRY M. BAILEY,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Chief of Staff

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R E S T R I C T E D

From the records I have found I have little information about Lt. Harrison's last days of service, discharge and re-integration into society. The only items I have found are a handwritten indication on his Missing Air Crew Report ("eus" - [entered US?] June 21, 1945) and a letter from his former commander written in October of 1946 supporting a promotion to Captain. The letter leads me to believe he remained in the service for at least a few more years.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 9187

Classification changed to **RESTRICTED** by E. A. BRAGUNAS, Lt. Col., AG by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AG Date: MAR 15 1946

**WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON**

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled in quintuplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an airplane is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION:** Location AAF STRIP #740 Command or Air Force NINTE
Group 48TH FTR GP Squadron 482ND FTR Sq (SS) Detachment
- SPECIFY:** Point of Departure AAF STRIP #4 Course BASE, RESEARCH, TARGET
Intended Destination A/R GERMANY Type of Mission RESEARCH/RECONNAISSANCE
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:**
7/10 THIN CLOUDS AT 4,000 FEET; HOLE IN CLOUDS OVER TARGET
- GIVEN:** (a) Date 27 SEPT. 1944 Time 0805 and Location 2 MILES WEST OF BOHLSDEN, of last known whereabouts of missing airplane. GERMANY
(b) Specify whether (X) last sighted; () last contacted by Radio; () Forced down; () Seen to crash; or () Information not available.
- AIRPLANE WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS RESULT OF:**
(Check only one) () Enemy Airplane; (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other circumstances as follows:
- AIRPLANE:** Type, Model and Series P-47 D-28; AAF Serial No. 42-28661
- ENGINES:** Type, Model and Series R-2800-58; AAF Serial No. P.V. 004078
- INSTALLED WEAPONS** (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial No.) SHOWN TO COLLIER
RIGHT (a) 1274099 (b) 1273517 (c) 1274145 (d) 1275688
LEFT (a) 1274088 (b) 1274128 (c) 1275820 (d) 1274094
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS:** (W) Battle Casualty XX
or (b) Non Battle Casualty
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE:** Crew 1 Passengers Total 1
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 10 persons were aboard airplane, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
1.	<u>HARRISON, JAMES W. JR.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-815329</u>

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRPLANE, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME.

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Force Landing
1. <u>WENTWORTH, GEORGE R.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0814703</u>	<u>X</u>			
2. <u>UPDELL, JAMES M.</u>	<u>Capt.</u>	<u>0688800</u>			<u>X</u>	

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1 October 1946

SUBJECT: Promotion to Captain of Lt. James W. Harrison, O-815329

TO: Brigadier General C. C. Matt
A. O. A. M. D.
Newark 5, New Jersey

1. Lt. James W. Harrison, O-815329 was under my command from 1 July 1944 until 27 September 1944 at which time he was shot down while on a dive-bombing mission over Germany. During that period I was Commanding Officer of the 492d Fighter Squadron, 48th Fighter Group. Lt. Harrison served in a superior manner while with the squadron both as a combat pilot and as an officer. Had he remained with the squadron, he would have been promoted to a Captain and fulfilled the duties of a Flight Commander.

2. I take great pride in making this recommendation for Lt. Harrison. He was admired and respected by all the officers and non-commissioned officers for his flying ability, sound judgment and keen sense of duty. I would be particularly pleased to have him serve with me again in any capacity.

Jerome J. McCabe
JEROME J. McCABE
Lt. Colonel, Air Corps