

S/Sgt. Andrew J. Currie - "Life in Italy, 1944 & 1945."
When we arrived in Italy on Feb. 10th, 1944, I was part of the Ordnance Section of the 758th Sq. Ordnance Section consisted of 27 enlisted and one Officer. Our job was to bring bombs from the Bomb Dump to plane side. After the bombs were loaded by the Armament Section, Ordnance would then insert fuses in the nose and tail of the bomb, and add the tail fin.

About July/August of 1944, word came from Gen. Nathan Twining that he was "Damned sick and tired of the 8th Air Force getting all the credit and publicity for the bombing of Europe!!!" He wanted people to know about the 15th Air Force!!!

From my civilian job I knew typing and shorthand, and had a high Army Intelligence score so I became the Public Relations Specialist for the 758th Sqd. My job was to interview new crews as they arrived - take individual picture - get home addresses, some personal history, and a record of their local newspaper(s). Then I would mail the data with pictures thru Group Hq. to the local newspaper.

If any crews/planes were damaged and all or part of crew saved, I would interview. I would write story to send to hometown paper, or in some cases write a radio script and take the crew person to Rome to Armed Forces Radio. Make a tape and have AFR send to crew's local radio station.

After May 8th 1945 I did some more stories, but was then transferred to an Occupation Air Force Group. In this Group the Sqd Captain asked me to set up and write a weekly newspaper for a lot of new, green personnel. I did this until Sept. 28. 1945 when we went back home.