

## Floyd E. Beel—World War II Army Air Force Service Collection

Processed by  
Mary Alice Wills  
Fall 2014

### Collection Information

Volume of Collection:	One Box.
Collection Dates:	1943 – 1946, 2014
Restrictions:	Some brittle documents. Use photocopies unless authorized by Librarian / Archivist.
Reproduction Rights:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History.
Location:	Archives
Notes:	

### Historical Sketch

Floyd Everett Beel was born to Leown Iri and Emma Jane Calvert Beel in Decatur, IL, on February 9, 1922. He joined the United States Army Air Corp, 8th Air Force in 1943, and was “specially selected for pilot training.” Lieutenant Beel piloted the B-24 Liberator heavy bomber for 27 missions over occupied Europe during World War II. He was responsible for eight crew members at the age of 21. Lieutenant Beel was discharged from the Armed Services in December 1945, and awarded the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters.

Upon being discharged, Beel enrolled at Logan College of Chiropractic, graduated in 1949, and began practice in Bloomington-Normal the same year. He retired in 1989 from a successful career of 40 years. Dr. Beel lived another 25 years, passing away March 21, 2014, at the age of 92. Before his death, he confided that he had been lucky and had had a good life.

## Scope and Content Notes

This collection covers Floyd Everett Beel's time in the Army Air Force from 1943 to his discharge in 1945. Included are mission orders, maps, flying logs, and notebooks containing runway diagrams. There are formal Army Air Force photos as well as snapshots. Also included are 4 yearbooks from flight school graduation and special mission training.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: Floyd E. Beel Training Service Record

- 1.1.1 Two 1 page copies of efficiency reports Jan. 1 – Jun. 1, 1945, and attached list of locations and dates, 1943-45, mostly Germany, 1 each France, Austria.
- 1.1.2 Training file in hard folder attached w/metal clasps holding 5 categories of questions, certificates, tests, and assignments on one side, and flight experience on the other, 4 loose sheets, all 1943 – 48.

### Folder 2: Correspondence to Parents

- 1.2.1 To: Mr. Leown I. Beel, from G. C. Brant, Major General, U. S. Army Commanding, re: Floyd has been selected for pilot training, March 13, 1943, w/envelope.
- 1.2.2 Formal Graduation announcement for the Class of 43-K and note from Floyd, w/envelope dated November 30, 1943.

### Folder 3: Insurance Certificate, Power of Attorney

- 1.3.1 Veteran's Administration, National Service Life Insurance certificate issued to Floyd Everett Beel for \$10,000.00, February 10, 1943.
- 1.3.2 "General Power of Attorney," of Floyd E. Beel to father Irl L. Beel, April 20, 1944, 2 copies.

### Folder 4: Orders 1943

- 1.4.1 To: Aviation Cadet Floyd Everett Beel, From: J. E. McCord, Lieut. Colonel, A. G. D., December 5, 1943, Subject: Temporary Appointment.
- 1.4.2 "R E S T R I C T E D, Personnel Orders, Headquarters Army Air Forces Central, Flying Training Command," Randolph Field, Texas, November 20, 1943, w/list of those rated as Pilot, effective 5 Dec. 43, two copies, 7 pages, and 8 pages.
- 1.4.3 "Emergency Addressee and Personal Property Card," naming Leown Beel (father) as person to be notified, clipped to "Report of Entry on Active Duty, Lubbock Army

Air Field,” and “Distribution of Orders Made 5 December 1943,” 5 pages of names, serial numbers, and home addresses – 5 copies.

“Headquarters, Lubbock Army Air Field,” Special Orders, 4 December 1943 – 3 pages both sides.

“Headquarters Lubbock Army Air Field,” Distribution of Orders Made 5 December 1943 – 5 pages both sides, 5 copies.

#### **Folder 5: Orders 1944**

- 1.5.1 “Headquarters Liberal Army Air Field, Army Air Forces Pilot School, (Specialized 4-Engine) Liberal, Kansas,” 31 March 1944, Special Orders, 2 pages – both sides, 6 copies.
- 1.5.2 “Headquarters 273<sup>rd</sup> AAF Base Unit (SB) Lincoln Army Air Field,” Lincoln, Nebraska, 14 April 1944, Special orders, 2 pages – both sides, 7 copies.
- 1.5.3 Headquarters Davis-Monthan Field, Tucson, Arizona 26 June 1944, R E S T R I C T E D, Special Orders, 9 pages – both sides, 2 copies
- 1.5.4 “Secret,” Grenier Field, Manchester, N.H. 8 July 1944 1 page – both sides, 2 copies.
- 1.5.5 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters Topeka Army Air Field, Topeka, Kansas, 7 July 1944 1 page – both sides, 2 copies.
- 1.5.6 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters Eighth Air Force Replacement Depot, Special Orders, 16 July 1944, 2 pages-both sides.
- 1.5.7 For Immediate Delivery To Lt. Floyd Beel: R E S T R I C T E D, Station Headquarters, 389<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, Special Orders, 1 page, 8 August 1944.
- 1.5.8 R E S T R I C T E D, unreadable, 1 page, 15 September 1944.
- 1.3.9 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters Eighth Air Force, Special Orders, 25 September 1944, 1 page, 3 copies.
- 1.5.10 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Division, General Orders, 20 October 1944, 1 page.
- 1.5.11 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Division, General Orders, 3 November 1944, 1 page.
- 1.5.12 R E S T R I C T E D, Station Headquarters, 389<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, Special Orders, 26 December 1944, 4 pages-both sides.

#### **Folder 6: Orders 1945**

- 1.6.1 Letter copy from Robert E. Lawlor, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Air Corps, Adjutant appointing Beel as Flight Commander vice Capt., 19 February 1945.
- 1.6.2 Letter copy from Robert E. Lawlor, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Air Corps, Adjutant appointing Beel as Flight Commander vice Capt., 20 February 1945.
- 1.6.3 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Division, General Orders, 15 October 1945, 1 page.
- 1.6.4 R E S T R I C T E D, Army Service Forces, Sixth Service, Command, Fort Sheridan, Illinois, Special Orders, 11 June 1945, 4 copies.
- 1.6.5 R E S T R I C T E D, Army Service Forces, Sixth Service, Command, Fort Sheridan, Illinois, Special Orders, 14 July 1945, 2 pages-both sides, 4 copies.
- 1.6.6 R E S T R I C T E D, Headquarters 593<sup>rd</sup> AAF Base Unit (6<sup>th</sup> Operational Unit) Charleston Army Air Field, Charleston, South Carolina, Special orders, 15 August 1945, page-both sides, 4 copies.

- 1.6.7 RESTRICTED, Headquarters, 553d AAF Base Unit (3D Ferrying Group), Romulus Army Air Field, Romulus, Michigan, Special Orders, 17 October 1945, 12 copies.

#### **Folder 7: Physical & Commission, 1946**

- 1.7.1 "Physical Examination For Flying," 10 Sept. 1946, 1 page-both sides, 2 copies.  
1.7.2 "The President of the United States of America," certificate w/seal awarding commission to Floyd Everett Beel, 23 May 1946.

#### **Folder 8: Pilot's License. Flying Log, Notebooks**

- 1.8.1 Pilot's License issued December 11, 1945 to Floyd Everett Beel in leather folding case.  
1.8.2 Pilot Log: identification page to Beel, Floyd E. w/signature, dated 5-28-43. Entries through December, 1943.  
1.8.3 2 small spiral notebooks, 1 small memorandum notebook, all with pencil notes and runway illustrations.

#### **Folder 9: Cloth Maps**

- 1.9.1 Zones of France  
1.9.2 The Pyrenees, France (North West), Belgium, (West and Central), Holland (part of), and other nearby locations – 2 sided map.  
1.9.3 Germany (North), Protectorate Bohemia, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary (North), and other nearby locations. - 2 sided map.  
1.9.4 Holland, Belgium (except West Coast), France (North East), Germany (West & Central) and other nearby locations – 2 sided map.  
1.9.5 Spain (North East), France (South West), Portugal (North), Spain (North West) and other nearby locations – 2 sided map

#### **Folder 10: Graduation Announcement, Reunion 1993**

- 1.10.1 Formal Graduation announcement for the Class of 43-K  
1.10.2 "Lubbock Army Air Field, Lubbock, Texas, Twin engine 43K", FIELD ROSTER, 16 Mar 92, 2 pages.  
1.10.3 List of class members accounted for by category, 1992.  
1.10.4 "Master Rosters" newsletter, 30 Jan 93, 2 sides.  
1.10.5 "43-K – Det Roster #1 As Of 22 Jan '93," 2 sides.  
1.10.6 "Lubbock Army Air Field, Lubbock, Texas, Twin engine 43K, FIELD ROSTER, 29 Jan 93. 5 pages, 2 sides.  
1.10.7 "43-K – Det Roster #2 As Of 22 Jan '93," 3 pages, 2 sides.

#### **Folder 11: Photos**

- 1.11.1 18 Snapshot photos: 1 of 9 crew members w/names on back, July 6, 1944, 17 taken in flight.

- 1.11.2 2 formal photos of Beel: portrait in dress uniform, and in flight uniform getting into cockpit.

**Folder 12: *Stars and Stripes* newspaper, *Air & Space* magazine articles**

- 1.12.1 *Stars and Stripes*, VE-Day edition, May 8, 1945, 4 pages.  
1.12.2 “Willow Run,” by Don Sherman, p.p.74 - 84.”The Wild Blue Yonder Goes To The Beach,” preview of *Air Force Eagles* by Water J. Boyne, p. 86, *Air & Space*, August/September 1992.

**Folder 13: French Bank Notes**

- 1.13.1 Four French Francs notes.

**Folder 14: Bible**

- 1.14.1 One pocket size Roman Catholic version – New Testament.

**Folder 15: Miscellaneous**

- 1.15.1 “Dr. Floyd Beel,” by Steve Troyanovich, D.D., biography, June 14, 2014, 2 pages.  
1.15.2 “Notes From The Editor,” by Steve Troyanovich, D.D., Editor, *Chiropractic History*, Vol. 33, No.2, p. 3.  
1.15.3 Obituary for Dr. Floyd E. Beel, 2 pages.  
1.15.4 “McLean County Historical Society, Gift Agreement,” from Steve Troyanovich, WWII materials of Dr. Floyd Beel.  
1.15.5 *Chiropractic History*, Volume 33/Number 1, Winter 2013-2014.  
1.15.6 *Chiropractic History*, Volume 34/Number 2, Summer 2014.

**Graduation Year Book: SLIPSTREAM**

Garner Field, Uvalde, Texas, Class of 43-K, 25 pages.

**Graduation Year Book: Wings Aloft**

Lubbock, Army Air Field, Lubbock, Texas, Army Air Forces Advanced Pilot School (Twin Engine), December 1943, 50 pages w/ loose programs, snapshots and photos.

**Graduation Year Book: CAVU, Forty-Three K**

Class of 43-K, Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, California, flying techniques, 35 pages w/ loose snapshots and photos.

**Graduation Year Book: 389<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group**

133 pages with directory, loose snapshots and photos.