

Rancho Concho
14 June 78

Dear Mr. Strong:—

Just returned from a long trip and
found your request for Special Order
and other and other personal papers.
Sorry but I lost one complete file during
one of my moves just about 7 years ago.
I would have been glad to help you

Sincerely

Henry J. Phinck

2473 Summit Blvd N-219

Rancho Concho Co.

95070

Henry Schmidt received Legion of Merit when Andy Vangelis and crew put plane back in operation in 13 hours, with two engines to change and wing repairs after plane had landed on one wheel. Other wheel would not come down.

1. LAST NAME: **WOT** FIRST NAME: **Henry** MIDDLE NAME: **Julius** 2. MILITARY NUMBER: **0 442 017**

3. BIRTH DATE: **2 Nov 1908** 4. PLACE OF BIRTH: **Chicago, Ill.** 5. CITIZENSHIP: **None** 6. RACE: **W**

7. MARITAL STATUS: **Married** 8. DEPENDENTS: **Wife 1 Children 1** 9. PRESENT ESTABLISHMENT OR NATIONALITY: **None**

10. RELIGION: **Lutheran** 11. SERVICE RECORD: **None** 12. GRADES (Include): **None**

13. HEIGHT: **5'8"** 14. WEIGHT: **138** 15. COLOR HAIR: **Brown** 16. COLOR EYES: **Brown** 17. CLASSES (Include): **Reading Only**

18. FULL NAME: **Henry Julius Wot** 19. RELATIONSHIP: **None**

20. STREET ADDRESS: **None** CITY: **None** STATE: **None**

21. EDUCATION

| Level | Name of School | Year Attended | Year Graduated | Class Standing | Degree |
|-------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
| HS | Waller High School | 2 | 1921 | General | None |

22. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER: *Henry J. Wot*

23. SPECIAL DESIGNATION OR CLASSIFICATION OF OFFICER: *Commissioned* STATION: **2022** DATE: **28Apr45**

24. FOREIGN SERVICE (Ind. U. S. I. - II) AND RESIDENCE

| Country of Assignment | Approx. Inlt. Dates | Area of Service | Qualifying Status | Duties of Station or Position |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | |

25. SPECIAL AND GENERAL COURSE SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLS FOR SPECIALIZED TRAINING

| NAME AND PLACE OF SCHOOL OR TRAINING | Level of Course | Success | Grades | DESCRIPTION OF COURSE |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------|-----------------------|
| | | | | |

26. REMARKS (Keep in Paragraph No.): **Cat. 1. I elect to continue on active duty for an unlimited length of time. HWP ratings transcribed correctly from 10-1.**

27. COMMENTS: **None**

28. DATE E.A.D.: **20 Apr 1942** 29. ACTIVITY: **Ltr A70 WD dtd 20 Apr 42**

30. PERIOD ADDRESS OR PLACE FROM WHICH ORDERED TO E.A.D. (City & State): **Frederic, California** 31. DATE OF ACTIVE SERVICE: **20 Apr 42**

32. LIMITED SERVICE (Include): **None** 33. ACTIVITY: **None** 34. DATE: **None**

35. DETAIL (Include): **None** 36. GRADE: **None** 37. DATE: **None**

38. DETAIL FROM OVERSEAS (Last Detail Station): **Detachment** 39. DATE: **17 Jun 46**

37. CONDITION AND APPOINTMENT DATA

| Component | Area or Serv. | Grade | Date Cont. | Class. Code | Specialty | Specialty - Cont. Date & Grade |
|-----------|---------------|--------|------------|-------------|-----------|--|
| AUS | AC | 1st Lt | 12Apr46 | None | None | Discharged to accept status Commission |

38. SERVICE RECORD (From Date Present Appointment - See 27-A) 1

| U. S. Army Serial No. | AC - '45 | GRADE | | | | DATE | | REMARKS |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|-----------|------------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| | | A. S. S. | AC - '42 | Other | Effective | Terminated | | |
| | | 1st Lt. | | | 20 Apr 42 | | Ltr A70 WD dtd 20 Apr 42 | |
| | | Capt. | | | 12 Aug 42 | | SO216 P21 dtd 12Apr42 | |
| | | Maj. | | | 26 Dec 42 | | Ltr Hq 8th AF Comd. Gen. dtd 26Dec42 | |
| | | Lt. Col. | | | 1 Oct 44 | | SO267 P12 dtd 1 Oct 44 Hq 8th AF | |

39. LANGUAGE (I - Fluently, II - Possibly)

| Language | Level | Oral | Written | Language | Level | Oral | Written |
|----------|-------|------|---------|----------|-------|------|---------|
| French | P | P | P | | | | |
| German | F. | F. | F. | | | | |

40. RESERVE - U. S. ACTIVE DUTY (Under Description of Station in 25)

41. ACTIVE DUTY TRACK: 1 Year, 2 Year, 3 Year

42. U. S. ACTIVE DUTY: In, Out

43. FOREIGN SERVICE ACT (Inlt. Dates): **A. S. S.** STATION AND PLACE: **None**

44. SPECIALTY STAGES (Inlt. Dates): **A. S. S.** STATION AND PLACE: **None**

45. DISCHARGED FOR DUTY OR QUALIFIED FOR U. S. A.

46. **15Apr46 (P) 4823 Asst Maint Off. 10Feb44 ROT 2120 Asst Off. 1Jun44 WFL 2186 Unit Off. Non-Tact 1Jan44 WFL**

SEND TO DEPT OF AF PER TRANSMITTED ORDER 1 NME 26 SEPT 1946

P.O.B. 5171
El Dorado Hills, Ca., 95630

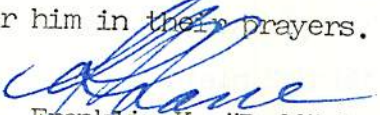
April 23, 1984

Dear Russell:

Enclosed is a copy of the eulogy, (military and retirement part) delivered for Colonel Henry J. Schmidt, who passed away on 10 April. . Henry had about two months of serious illness before his passing. Chaplin (Lt. Colonel) Brooke, Mather A.F.B. did the eulogy, and expanded upon the copy to include the service that all who risk their lives in the military. His eulogy was genuine, warming, and well received.

For your information, his widow resides at the address you have. I am his Son-in-law, married to his daughter (only) Betty.

I hope that you can see fit to say something in your publication so that others may remember him in their prayers.


Franklin K. "Budd" Lane
L/C, U.S.A.F., Retired .

and was again promoted.

After completion of the war in Europe, Colonel Schmidt was returned to the U.S. and assigned to Mather Air Base, where he was to serve in a number of capacities, rising to the appointment as Deputy Air Base Commander. He later served at McClellan A F.B. where, on the 31st of December 1953, after thirty years of service, he retired.

Soon after retirement, Colonel Schmidt went to work at Folsom Prison as a Guard, and then went on to ^{CCAN. S. P. 1/100} ~~Conseiling~~ Inmates. At this time he established his home in "Hidden Valley" a community north of Folsom,

U.S.A.F.

1984

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rough its initial activation, g and its deployment into i Bomb Group to penetrate was stationed in England, return to the U.S. to see his and his country well. He ded the Legion of Merit, and the e Guerre, for "exceptional o Major. He continued to serve

HENRY J. SCHMIDT, COLONEL, U.S.A.F.

(RETIRED)

2 November 1905 - 10 April 1954

In Chicago, Illinois, on November 21, 1923, a young man, just nine ^{TEEN (19)} days after his eighteenth birthday, went to nearby Fort Sheridan and enlisted in the United States Army. This young man, Henry J. Schmidt, spent a number of years with the Army's Cavalry Corps, before transferring to the Air Corps in the thirties.

As England was fighting for survival in the early 1940's, Schmidt, then a Captain, was assigned to a newly forming Bomb Group. The unit was flying P-18 aircraft at Wendover Army Air Field, in Utah. That unit, the 306 th Bomb Group, was receiving the latest bombers, the B-17 Flying Fortress's, the workhorses of WWII. Captain Schmidt was the units Engineering Officer, and it was his job to assure the maintenance and supply of the unit and its aircraft.

Captian Schmidt stayed with this unit through its initial activation, its growth to full strength, its training and its deployment into combat. The 306th was the first American Bomb Group to penetrate the german territory in WWII. The unit was stationed in England, and for four years, without a break to return to the U.S. to see his family, Captain Schmidt served his unit, and his country well. He served so well in fact, that he was awarded the Legion of Merit, and the distinguished French award, the Croix De Guerre, for "exceptional Meritorious service", and a promotion to Major. He continued to serve and was again promoted.

After completion of the war in Europe, Colonel Schmidt was returned to the U.S. and assigned to Mather Air Base, where he was to serve in a number of capacities, rising to the appointment as Deputy Air Base Commander. He later served at McClellan A F.B. where, on the 31st of December 1953, after thirty years of service, he retired.

Soon after retirement, Colonel Schmidt went to work at Folsom Prison as a Guard, and then went on to ^{CCUN. SP/ING} Consulting Inmates. At this time he established his home in "Hidden Valley" a community north of Folsom,

SCHMIDT, FRED W. J.

where he became quite active in community affairs. He was active in the Hidden Valley Property Owners Association and instrumental in the formation of the South Glacer Fire Department. He was to serve as a volunteer fireman for the community for many years.

After moving his wife to Rancho Cordova, Colonel Schmidt became concerned with the problems of the Mobile Home owners, and in the early '70's became President of the Northern California Chapter of the Golden State Mobile Home Owners League.

This man. was instilled with determination and filled with concern and service to his fellow man, as the review of his life testifies.

Colonel Schmidt lost his first wife, the mother of his stepson, James Freeman and his daughter, Betty Wilson Lane, in 1974. He was married to Josephine nine years ago, and they had many happy years together, in harmony and in close relationship with his family, and hers. He is also survived by four grand children and three great grand children. He is also survived by his brother Fred Schmidt, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Schmidt, Henry J 0449917

S-4 7/1/42

C.O. 449th S&B DEPOT 4/22/44

LEGION OF MERIT 5/20/44

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Thomas of Boise, Idaho; and four grandchildren.

The family requests that any remembrances be sent to the American Cancer Society.

Henry J. Schmidt

Rites are scheduled Friday for Henry J. Schmidt, who began his military career at age 18 as an Army cavalryman and retired 30 years later as an Air Force colonel.

The retired officer, who had made his home in the Sacramento area since closing his career at McClellan Air Force Base in 1953, died Tuesday in Rancho Cordova following a short illness. He was 78.

Col. Schmidt was a volunteer fireman for the South Placer Fire District and had been a correctional officer and a counselor at Folsom State Prison. He belonged to the Hidden Valley Home Owners Association and was president of the Northern California chapter of the Golden State Mobile Home Owners League in the mid-1970s.

The Texas native was the engineering officer of the 306th Bomb Group, which he helped activate at Wendover Field, Utah, in early 1942. His was the first American group to fly missions over Germany in World War II. The group won a presidential citation. He was awarded the Legion of Merit and the French Croix de Guerre. Col. Schmidt was deputy air base commander at Mather Air Force Base for a time after the end of World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Josephine of Rancho Cordova; daughter, Betty Mae Wilson Lane of Folsom; son, James E. Freeman of El Dorado Hills; brother, Fred of Arizona; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Military services will be held at noon in Mount Vernon's Church of the Valley.

The family requests that any remembrances be sent to a charity of the donors's choice.

Tuesday 12 Sept 1981 Sacramento CA Bee

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Lt.-Col. Henry J.

SCHMIDT