

BIOGRAPHY - WALTER FAIRCROK

I enlisted in the Army Air Force on July 8, 1940. Then attended the Casey Jones School of Aeronautics in Newark, New Jersey. After which, I was assigned to Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

In July 1943, I requested assignment into Aviation Cadets. After passing necessary tests, physical, etc., I was assigned to Maxwell, Alabama for Pre-Flight Training.

Then to Douglas, Georgia for Primary Training. Bill Bright was my instructor in Class 43J. Then to Blytheville, Arkansas for Advance. Earned my Wings on November 3, 1943.

Took B-17 Transition training at Lockburn Air Force Base in Columbus, Ohio. After that, was assigned to the 390th Bomb Group, 571st Squadron, 3rd Air Division, 8th Air Force, stationed at Framlingham, England. I flew 35 missions over Europe (Germany)

After Europe, was assigned to Gulfport, Mississippi for B-29 transition and instructor pilot - checking crews for the Japan theater.

In 1946, I participated (as a Photo Pilot F-13) in the Atomic Bomb Tests at Project Crossroads-Bikini Atoll-Marshall Islands.

After that, flew B-29's with Air Weather Service, Travis Air Force Base, California.

Then I returned to Roswell, New Mexico, reverted to Master Sergeant and was assigned to Olmsted Air Force Base, Middletown, Pennsylvania in 1948 as Chief of Training.

On June 13, 1948, married Vera Bohovka Fairchok (a hometown girl).

Lived at Middletown, Pennsylvania until recalled to Officer Status, February 2, 1951. Then assigned to Westover, Air Force Base, Massachusetts (1254th MATS).

During summer of 1951, was assigned to Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas for C-97 transition.

In September 1951, was assigned to Special Air Missions, 7167th Squadron at Wiesbaden, Germany. Flew VIP's over Europe.

At own request, was released from flying status in early 1952 because of an optic problem. Then assigned to Headquarters USAF, A-2 as an Intelligence Officer.

In September 1955, I returned to the United States and was assigned at the Pentagon as an Intelligence Officer.

I retired as a Major from the United States Air Force on December 31, 1960. Then worked as a civilian at the Defense Intelligence Agency in Arlington, Virginia until May 1971, also at Central Intelligence Agency.

Underwent 2 craniotomies and radiation in Aug. 1961, Feb. 1973 and May 1974 for pituitary tumor. Suffered a right hemisphere stroke on July 15, 1979 and February 6, 1990. Currently confined to home in Alexandria, Virginia.

I am a proud wearer of the following Medals:

The Distinguished Flying Cross

2 Air Medals

5 Battle Stars in European Theater

Pre-Pearl Harbor

Air Defense

Good Conduct Medal

and in August 1983 was awarded the Polish Home Army Cross for participation in the "Drop Supplies" mission on September 18, 1944 during the Warsaw Uprising.

I also proudly flew the following airplanes:

AE-9 Groundlooper

AE-10 (Which I liked)

YC-64 Canadian Nordsman

YFF-1 at Gander

A-20 at Gander

B-17

B-29

C-97

C-47