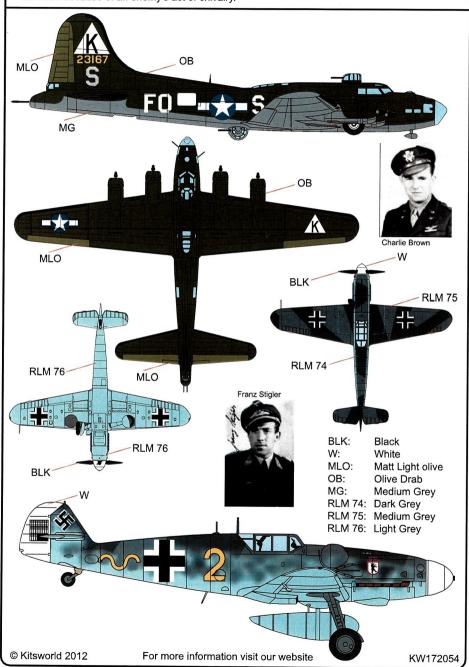
Brown's B-17 was perhaps the most heavily damaged bomber to return from combat. It survived because of an enemy's act of chivalry.





B-17F 42-3167 'Ye Olde Pub' Pilot: Charlie Brown

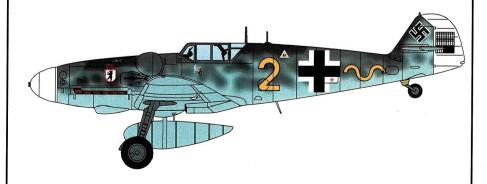
Me109G 'Pilot: Franz Stigler

B-17F 42-3167 FO-S 'Ye Olde Pub' Pilot Charlie Brown 527th BS 379th BG



Badly damaged by AAA & fighters on raid to Bremen Dec 20, 1943 Crew turned for home when discovered by Lt Franz Stigler of JG 27/6. He did not shoot them down as ordered. He escorted the plane to the North Sea & then saluted and flew away. The plane landed safely in UK, but too badly damaged to fly 1 KIA, 4 injured

Charlie Brown lived in Seattle and Franz Stigler had moved to Vancouver after the war. When they finally met they discovered they had lived less than 200 miles apart for the past 50 years!



Me109G ' Pilot Franz Stigler JG 27/6
"I cannot kill these half-dead people. It would be like shooting at a parachute."

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