

25 Feb 2002

Alan,

*I hope this is mailed to a valid address. It was in blue print on your e-mail.*

*A brief commentary on the ad, a poor B&W of a very good color page. I just realized I probably just finished navigation school at Hondo on the issue date---Nov 27, 1943, because I was commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Louie shortly after that time. Good thing I didn't see the ad then, because I didn't smokim' until after college, then had to be sociable as a young professional.*

*That Camel add really rang bells and whistles when I discovered it. I had navigated 51 missions in the 15<sup>th</sup> AF, flying out of Italy over the southern portion of France, central and northern Italy, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.*

*He shouldn't have had a Camel pack on his miniscule table, a cigarette in his right hand while trying to calculate his position with his hand-held circular slide rule. I really smile at the upper left picture. You have to shoot 3 star bodies, because 2 won't enclose a third leg of a small triangle, in the center of which you hope you are....the bigger the triangle, the less accurate.*

*However, as we crossed the equator from Natal to Dakar during the equinox in Mar '44, I had one of the bigger thrills of capturing 3 shots of a single body---the sun--- at high noon, directly overhead, as it swung from east to west in a matter of 10 minutes or so. I was able to create the triangle and fix my position over the Atlantic. The navigator had a gun on both left and right side of the nose, as the Bombardier manned the nose turret.*

*So, their info regarding cigarettes wasn't too accurate either! That's all for now,*

  
Vince