

## A B-17 in the Luftwaffe

On Mission 26, Bell, 42-30336, *Miss Nonalee II*, landed in Denmark. When Bell landed safely, all but the pilot were captured by German troops. They had landed in the area of Oksbol not far from some German barracks. At 11:15 Bell had made a perfect wheels down landing in a field belonging to Norholm Gods estate. He tried to set the aircraft on fire but could not get it to burn, and when he saw people approaching the aircraft he ran away. He made contact with two Danes named Keld Schou and Sigurd Nielsen who helped him to get to Bredsten near Vejle where Mrs. Laura Stammer took over and led Bell to Kobenhavn where he was housed by Laura Stamer's son Reverend Th. Stamer until arrangements for Bell's further trip to Sweden could be made. On 24 October, Bell sailed to Sweden and by 29 October 1943 he was back in England. He was then transferred to China where he flew fighters. When after the war the Air Force was separated from the Army, Bell chose the Army and served in Japan, Korea and Germany. He retired in 1962 with the rank of Major and died in 1999 aged 78.

The Germans decided to fly "*Miss Nonalee II*" out of the field and all guns, radio equipment etc. were removed to lighten her. "*Miss Nonalee II*" was flown to Esbjerg airfield by German test pilot Hans-Werner Lerche. After being re-equipped 42-30336 was flown to Schwerin and Rechlin for evaluation. It was given the code 7+8 and is known to have flown for the Luftwaffe until December 1944.



*Miss Nonalee II* as German 7+8