

2 New England Men Star In First Berlin Daylight Raid

By GIL HAMMOND
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LONDON, March 8 (By Press Wireless)—When the war's all over, they may start arguing about which heavy bomber crew made the first American daylight air raid on Berlin.

For the New England record book put down these two names while they're hot—John J. O'Neill of Maiden and Daniel White, North Bennington, Vermont. O'Neill, as staff sergeant, manned a waist gun. White is a technical sergeant and top turret gunner and by virtue of his position in the ship was technically first enlisted man in the Flying Fortress over what fliers call "Big B" along with nine other men who went in the first ship on a long, eagerly-awaited mission to Germany's capital city. O'Neill and White are objects of intense envy

at the fort station to which they returned in a Saturday's dusk after the now-celebrated "mission 12."

The New England pair agreed: "A lot of us were sweating, but we got back."

Miles away, but still in Britain, two Massachusetts men bumped into each other at a snack bar in an American Red Cross club at Grimsby.

T. Sgt. Emil Dihlmann and Pfc. Gustav Dihlmann of Shutesbury, Mass., met in brotherly astonishment. Emil showed Gustav a newly-won air medal and oak leaf, told of life of a radio technician in a Fortress. Gustav produced letters from Shutesbury, and the rest was home town talk of three other brothers in the forces and a sister ready to go. Brother Henry is in the air force,

Lt. Herman in the navy and Carl in the air corps.

Sister Pauline is waiting to join the WACs on her 18th birthday and she is getting close to it. Father Dihlmann came from Germany to become an American citizen and the other Dihlmanns from Czechoslovakia.

"With five of us in this war," said Emil, "it's about time a couple of Dihlmanns met overseas."



SGT. JOHN J. O'NEIL