

Lady Karen

Lady Karen is credited with completing thirty one combat missions in Italy during WWII. Many of her flights were over sectors where whole towns were being pulverized by shell fire. She also escaped heavy anti aircraft fire while getting the message through. This blue feathered female carrier was hatched on January 29, 1944 in San Prisco Italy. Her unusual grace and poise won her the title of "Lady"

Yank

This bird carried many important messages in the French Moroccan and Tunisian Campaigns during WWII. On March 17, 1943, Yank made a 90 mile flight in 115 minutes, bringing the first news of the fall of Gafsa. Another famous flight was achieved on April 1, 1943 when other forms of communication were unavailable because of intense enemy activity and extremely bad weather. He carried this vital message from Lieutenant General George Patton, a distance of 90 miles in 100 minutes.

Cher Ami

Cher Ami is one of the best known hero pigeons. A black check hen, she delivered 12 important messages from the Verdun front to Rampart, France during WWI. She is credited with saving the "Lost Battalion. Flying through intense machine gun and artillery fire she was wounded. With the message capsule hanging from a tendon, and a bullet hole through her breast bone, Cher Ami delivered a message that referred to artillery fire. The message read "For God's sake, lift the fire." Cher Ami was awarded the French Croix de Guerre Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and was honored by General Pershing. She is now on display at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC.

G.I. Joe

G.I. Joe is believed to have made the most outstanding flight by a homing pigeon during WWII. He carried the message from the British 10th Corps Headquarters which resulted in saving 1,000 British Soldiers. The British 56th Infantry Division requested air support to break the German defensive lines at the heavily fortified village of Colvi Vecchia, Italy. On the morning of October 18, 1943, just in time to intercept a unit of Allied XII Air Support Command planes about to take off for the bombing, G.I. Joe arrived with the message that the British had just captured the village of Colvi Vecchia. G.I. Joe made this historic flight of 20 miles in 20 minutes which avoided a great catastrophe. In 1946, the Lord Mayor of London personally presented G.I. Joe with the Dicken Medal, awarded for gallantry. He later received congressional recognition in this country. G.I. Joe was hatched on March 24, 1943 at the Pigeon