

**BIEL, Hipolitus T.**

**“Tom” “Hippo”**

**B:** 28 July 1916 St. Paul, MN

**D:** 24 April 1944 near Worms, GER



*“At 7,000 feet this FW-190 comes in from the left at a slight dive. I gave him a short burst and seeing no results - the FW-190 then pulled off to the left in a steep spiral climb and at the same time ready to flick on his back - gave him a 3-seconds burst at about a ring and a quarter deflection. I immediately saw an explosion around his engine and cockpit which enveloped in a mass of flames”*

*- Hipolitus “Tom” Biel, from his combat report of 14 JAN 44*

**Hometown:** St. Paul, Minnesota

**Rank:** 1st Lieutenant

**MOS:** 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

**Unit:** 334th Fighter Squadron

**Aircraft:**

P-47 QP-T

P-51B-7-NA 43-6941 QP-T

P-51B-7-NA 43-6972 QP-T *Miss St. Paul*

**4th Service:** 7 September 1943 – 24 April 1944

7 DEC 43 Promoted to 2nd Lieutenant

28 JAN 44 Promoted to 1st Lieutenant

24 APR 44 Downed in aerial combat after the group engaged a gaggle of 34 FW-190's and ME-109's.

KIA. (MACR 4311)

**Victories:**

11.33 (5.33 air / 6 ground)

**Highlights:**

11 APR 44 - Me-410, ME-110

**Decorations:**

Distinguished Flying Cross (3 OLC), Air Medal (3 OLC), Distinguished Unit Badge, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Purple Heart.