

## **KELSEY, Benjamin S.**

B: 9 March 1906 Waterbury, CT

D: 3 March 1981 Stevensburg, VA



**Hometown:** Waterbury, Connecticut

**Rank:** Colonel

**MOS:** Chief of Operation Engineering Section, 8th AF HQ

**Unit:** 336th Fighter Squadron

**Aircraft:**

P-51B-7-NA 43-6876 VF-V

P-51D-5-NA 44-13315 VF-N

**4th Service:** 17 June 1944 – 6 July 1944

Senior 8th AF engineering officer on Detached Service to the Group for the Shuttle mission. Went on one mission with 336 prior to the Shuttle. Flew each leg of the Shuttle mission, but did not fly on operations staged from Russia or Italy.

4 missions

21 JUN 44 Participated in Operation FRANTIC II, the Russia Shuttle mission. (RTB 5 JUL)

**Victories:**

None

**Post 4th Fighter Group:**

FEB 45 Materiel Division, Air Corps Headquarters

JUL 45 Materiel Command, Chief of All-Weather Operations Section, Wright Field, Ohio

DEC 46 Chief of Personnel/Administration at Wright Field, Ohio

FEB 48 Chief of Control Group, Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Material, Air Force Headquarters

JUN 48 Instructor, National War College

JUN 52 Deputy Director of R&D, Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Development

DEC 55 Retired from the USAF as a Colonel

Author, *The Dragon's Teeth?: The Creation of United States Air Power for World War II*

**Decorations:**

Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal (2 OLC), Croix de Guerre, Belgian Croix de Guerre, Legion of Merit.