



Clark Gable, Hollywood Legend

Well beyond draft age and an established major Hollywood movie star, 41-year-old Clark Gable enlisted as a private in the Army Air Forces on Aug. 12, 1942, in Los Angeles. Gable didn't stay in the enlisted ranks for long. He was sent to Officer Candidate School and was commissioned Oct. 28, 1942. He then attended aerial gunnery school, and in February 1943, at the behest of Gen. H.H. "Hap" Arnold, he went to England to make a motion picture featuring aerial gunners. Assigned to the 351st Bomb Group at Polebrook, UK, Gable flew on several B-17 combat missions over Europe. In 1944, he was relieved of his active duty obligation because he had become overage for combat. He returned to Hollywood where he made 21 more films. He died in 1960.