

Many of the 448th men had completed their missions weeks before the announcement of VE Day and below are a few statements of how they received the news and how they celebrated.

Robert D Sampson 714th Bomb Squadron completed his 35th mission on April 16th 1945. He was still in England on VE Day waiting at a Port Of Embarkation for transportation home *"What a night long celebration that was in the town that was near that base"*



Maurice O Holmen completed his 35th mission on April 7th 1945 and was heading home when VE Day was announced *"We were on the high seas on May 8th when the word came that the Germans had surrendered. But we still had to sail slowly home in convoy again. There were German submarines still out there in the Atlantic who hadn't gotten the news "The war is over!" And it was feared they'd want to get in some final pot-shots at us. It took nineteen days for us to reach Boston Harbor."*

Dale VanBlair had completed his missions and was back in the states when VE Day was announced *"VE Day came and went with no celebrating at Lowry Field because, for some reason that was not given, we were all restricted to the base. It had begun to look as if Japan could not last much longer, so perhaps the big shots thought we could wait and do all our celebrating at once"*

