



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE®
1100 SPAATZ STREET
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433-7102

July 22, 2016

Steve Rossi
Spectex LLC
88 Airport Drive
Rochester, NH 03867

Dear Steve,

On behalf of the restoration staff and volunteers at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, I wish to thank you for providing felt for use on the *Memphis Belle*. This aircraft is a national treasure that is being restored accurately to the greatest extent possible.

As you may be aware, the *Memphis Belle* was the first B-17 bomber to complete twenty-five bombing missions over Europe during WW II with its original crew. A documentary featuring this aircraft was made during the war, and then it returned to the United States to go on a war bonds tour. It finished the war as a training aircraft, and subsequently was placed on display in Memphis. After nearly sixty years of sitting outdoors, the *Belle* was returned to the U.S. Air Force for complete restoration and eventual display at the Museum.

We at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force take great pride in the accuracy of our restoration work. The felt you provided will be used in restoring the plywood floor in the radio operator's compartment. We're following the original Boeing drawings that called for your product. For historic accuracy, using correct materials is essential; obtaining them from the original manufacturer is an added benefit.

The *Belle* should be completed and placed on display in the Spring of 2018, in time for the seventy-fifth anniversary of its last bombing mission. It will be configured and marked as it appeared at that time.

Thank you again for your help in restoring this rare national treasure. If you're ever in Dayton, we invite you to visit the Museum and the restoration facility.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve".

Steven R. Markman
Restoration Volunteer