

## The Candy Bombers

*[Written in honor of Gail (Hal) Halvorsen, Lucius Clay,  
my deceased friend and travel companion, Norman Ward, one of the British fliers,  
and everyone else who was involved in the Berlin Air Lift.*

*I believe that it was this humanitarian action that really won World War II.*

*It won the hearts of the people.*

*Please see Hal Halvorsen's comments on my "Reviews" page.]*

September 11: An elderly lady took to the streets of Berlin.  
She cried as she said, "They're hurting our friends – our friends – the Americans."  
Her name was Helga, she was only four. Her life in the ruins was grey.  
She saw it coming – a C-54, but she didn't run away.  
It was trying to land with an overload that could easily lead to trouble,  
Dodging an apartment building that stuck out from the rubble.  
This plane was different: It wiggled its wings. It dropped parachutes and more.  
Children came running. It was candy from heaven. They'd never had candy before.

**Those were the Candy Bombers – yes, the Candy Bombers –  
The Candy Bombers – the Candy Bombers –  
On a mission of mercy – across the seas –  
The Candy Bombers – they won the Peace.**

His name was Lucius, the war was done. He ruled over ruins that the Allies had won:  
Ruins of the dead and those who survived, ruins of buildings, ruins of lives.  
Berlin was an island in a Soviet Sea. The Soviets didn't want Berlin to be free.  
They closed the roads that brought food to Berlin, and everyone thought Berlin would give in.  
Everyone except Lucius Clay, he tried to keep hunger at bay.  
He sent one plane, then two, then three. Plane followed plane – Berlin remained free.

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His name was Hal, he flew a C-54. He wanted to go home from the war,  
But he couldn't go there – he had a new task – bigger than any before.  
When he was approaching Tempelhof with only a minute to land,  
He saw children's faces look up at his plane, and he quickly forged a plan:  
With rationed candy and handkerchiefs, he made parachutes for the kids.  
He wiggled his wings while he dropped them. Others found out what he did.  
They asked people at home, even factories: More and more pitched in.  
They made sure that pilots could drop tons of candy for children they'd never seen.

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