**Complexity Band Level** (provide range): Quantitative measures generally place this text in the 6-8 grade level band.

**Lexile or Other Quantitative Measure of the Text**: Lexile level = 1130L; ATOS = 7.2.

**Meaning/Purpose:** *(Briefly explain the levels of meaning (Literary Text) or purpose (Informational text.)* Author Michael O. Tunnell’s purpose is clear and straightforward as he tells the story behind Lt. Gail Halvorsen’s efforts, along with other pilots in his unit, to spread good will and offer hope to starving children of Berlin, and how becoming the Candy Bomber changed his life.

**Text Structure: *(****Briefly describe the structure, organization, and other features of the text.)* While the main ideas of the text are simple and pretty sequential, the text features and graphics (photos, maps, drawings, and letters) are more essential and moderately complex to help readers understand the political and social events of the time period.

**Language Features: *(****Briefly describe the conventions and clarity of the language used in the text, including the complexity of the vocabulary and sentence structures.)* Language conventionality and sentence structure are only slightly complex and quite easily read and understood. The vocabulary is moderately complex, especially with German terms and subject-specific terms.

**Knowledge Demands: *(****Briefly describe the knowledge demands the text requires of students.)* Subject matter knowledge and intertextual references are both moderately complex. Background knowledge of WW II Germany will be beneficial.

**Qualitative Measures**

**Text Complexity Analysis of**

***Candy Bomber***

**by Michael O. Tunnell**

**Recommended Complexity Band: Gr. 6-8**

Optional: Created by Julie Aikins, KS; April, 2012) Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(name, state, e-mail, date)

Below are factors to consider with respect to the reader and task (See attached guiding questions to assist each teacher in filling out this section for his or her own class):

**Potential Challenges this Text Poses:** Prior knowledge of a basic understanding of WW II and the Berlin Airlift is helpful. Knowing the Allied and Axis powers is helpful. Deciphering German terms, words, and phrases is secondarily important.

**Major Instructional Areas of Focus (3-4 CCS Standards) for this Text:**

CCS standards that correlate to this book include R.2 (central ideas); R.3 (events and ideas), and L.6 (academic-specific vocabulary)

**Differentiation/Supports for Students:**

Some students may need supportive instruction in vocabulary; enrichment links would include additional resources on current efforts to rebuild war-torn countries.

**Considerations for Reader and Task**

**Briefly describe the text.** Two sticks of gum changed Lt. Gail Halvorsen’s life forever near the end of WW II. IN 1948, Lt. Halvorsen ‘s encounter with hungry German children in Berlin was the beginning of the Berlin Chocolate Airlift, and this is Lt. Halvorsen’s incredible story of spreading chocolate and hope.

**Text Description**

**Quantitative Measure**

**Briefly explain the recommended placement of the text in a particular grade band**. *Candy Bomber* is suitable and interesting informational reading at the middle school level. Additional resources on the Berlin Airlift, the Candy Bombers, and Gail Halvorsen can be found at various websites and in additional print sources. The author’s website (wwwmichaelotunnell.com) also contains additional information.

**Recommended Placement**

