



THE

457th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION



THE 457TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION NEWS

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16th Stateside Reunion of the 457th Bomb Group

at the Savannah Hilton in

Savannah, Georgia
September 18-22, 2005

Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum
Memorial Service
Tours, Banquet

Visit with old friends...make some new friends

RCVD 1-28-5.



The Prez Sez...

I continue to be very proud of the 457th, both for what they did during the war and for what our association has been doing since. Our reunions are well attended and we are attracting more children and relatives of our members. The mini-reunion held in England in May/June 2004 was the largest such reunion yet, mostly due to the dedication of our new memorial monument at Glatton. Many bomb groups have given up holding their own reunions because of shrinking membership. Some hold small annual meetings in conjunction with the annual meeting of the 8th Air Force Historical Society. We have been invited to hold our reunions with them, with some time devoted to our own group. But, I turned them down twice because we continue to have such a good turnout. As our membership shrinks, we may want to join the Historical Society in the annual meetings.

When the Board met in Rapid City, SD on August 31, 2003, they approved an expenditure for the memorial monument to be placed at our old Glatton base. It was recognized that contributions might not cover the full cost, so it was approved to take any shortage from the Life Membership fund if necessary. That fund has been used in the past for special needs, and certainly this monument fit that. The monument, landscaping, flag poles and benches are magnificent due to the hard work of Will Fluman and Ray Pobgee. This cost more money than we originally thought, but we ended up with what I think is the best bomb group memorial in all of England. The British apparently think so as well, because many are still stopping there to visit it. And, the villagers of Connington are also very proud of it. Our members dug deep into their pockets for contributions to cover the added cost, but it still did not cover the total cost. That total cost was \$50,335. Contributions totaled \$43,884, leaving a shortfall of \$6,451. That last figure will be the amount we take from the Life Membership fund. Ray Pobgee created an organization known as "British Friends of the 457th Bomb Group", with annual dues of 10 English Pounds or \$20 U.S. The dues money will be used to defray the cost of maintenance of the monument site, water bills and liability insurance. I'm sure Ray would welcome any additional members.

Our website was getting so many "hits" that it could no longer store all the incoming messages. I increased the storage from 600 up to 900 messages in July, 2004.

The 8th Air Force Historical Society sent us a list of their members who were with the 457th. Several were not members of our association, so Nancy Henrich sent a letter to those people and several have since joined our organization.

The year 2005 is up[on us and we are looking forward to another good reunion in Savannah in September. I pray the god will give all of you a healthy, happy year.

-----Don Nielsen, President
457th Bomb Group Association

Also from Don Nielsen:

We have been approached by a Michelle Gagner for any information any of us have about our medics who may have patched up any of us or our crew members during the war. Michelle is the Editor of a publication called, "Birthplace Chapter, 8th AFHS Newsletter" in Savannah. I earlier gave permission to use photos that are on our web site in her publication.

She is particularly looking for any stories about your experiences with the medics, pictures of our ambulances, etc.

If you have something to offer, please email it directly to Michelle at the following email address: mgagner@comcast.net

May 30, 2004...Most of you will recognize Sadie Bains in this photograph taken at the mini-reunion. We met up with Sadie for our Memorial Ceremony at Connington Church. Doesn't she look wonderful! Sadie is accompanied by her son, John. They were able to attend most of the reunion activities. R--Jeanne Sellon, L--Nancy Henrich

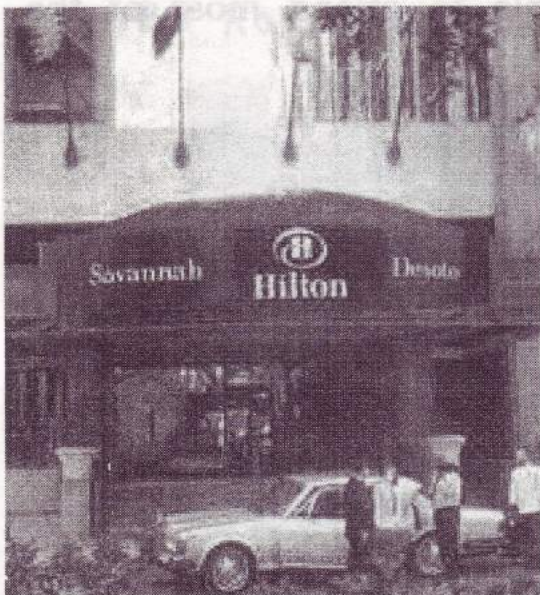


See You in Savannah in 2005!

Our hostess, Lori Barnett, has been hard at work planning and preparing for a great Reunion. The next newsletter will have lots of details for your own planning and preparing to attend.

Lori has planned the event so that it will not interfere with the dates of the 8th Air Force Historical Society Reunion.

The Savannah Hilton is located in the heart of historic downtown Savannah, and overlooks Madison Square. It is 14 miles from Savannah International Airport and within walking distance of River St, the civic center, visitor center, and City Market.





IN MEMORIAM

IF ONLY...



*If only there were something that friends could say or do--
Some way they might express their thoughts
and help to comfort you--
And yet, perhaps just knowing that there are those who care
Will help at least in some small way to ease the loss you bear.*

The following are reported deceased since last newsletter.

JOSEPH M. BUDICH

September 23, 2003

First reported in newsletter #56 November 2003 by Robert J. Huels. The following note was posted on the message board by Joseph's grandson, Nick.

Nick wrote: "My Grandfather flew with the 750th from June 2, 1944 through October 17, 1944 when he was shot down on the B.T.O. He recently passed away. One day I found myself wondering what he did and where he went during the war and this web site really enlightened me. Thank you." (Joseph was a S/Sgt...Tail Gunner, Crew C232---the Chapman crew.)

EDMUND GOHMAN COOMES

September 26, 2004

Reported by daughter Diana Coomes Reynolds

His daughter wrote: "My father was Edmund G. Coomes. He was a B-17 bomber pilot with the 457th bomb group." Edmund was USAF Retired when he passed away at his home in Corvallis, WA. He was with the 750th SQ." His notice reads in part: "He was 87. He first entered active military service in March 1943. He received his commission at the completion of Aviation Cadet Training nine months later. During WWII, he served in the European Theatre of Operations as a B-17 pilot. He completed 30 combat missions with 250 combat hours. He also served overseas in the Far East, in the 'Berlin Airlift', as a recruiter in Portland, OR, flight operations in the Azores Island, San Antonio, TX, Moses Lake, WA, and was a Commander in Homer, Alaska. He retired a Lt. Col from Adair Air Force Station in 1963. During his military service, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with six Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart, in addition to many other decorations and awards."

An association member said, "Eddie was a pilot's pilot."

IN MEMORIAM



CHARLES R. BLACKWELL

June 2004

Reported by Craig Harris, who wrote, "Charles R. Blackwell, a pilot in the 750th SQ, who had been shot down on his 29th mission (14 June 1944, LeBourget/Melun), and - with the help of the French underground - evaded capture and returned to duty. As pilot, he was the last to leave the aircraft. He was laid to rest 18 June 2004, in St. Louis, MO. His death was reported by Scott Kelly, the husband of his niece."

HAMILTON DOHERTY

September 15, 1977

Reported on message board by son Stephen, who writes, "My father, Hamilton Doherty served in the 750th Bomb Squadron very late in the war. He told me that he was a bombardier because of his poor depth perception. He said that he only ever flew over Europe a couple of times after the surrender of Germany. He died 15 September 1977. He was loved as a husband and father, respected in his community and is missed by all who knew him."

PATRICK HENRY

July 13, 2003

Reported in January 2004 by William J. McKelvey
William McKelvey wrote, "I recently received word from Mrs. Nan Henry that Pat passed away last summer. Capt. Henry was our 748th SQ Navigator from 1943 until September 17, 1944 when he was lead navigator with Maj George Hozier. They were shot down over Holland and became POWs. I have been in touch with Pat through the years. He was our Cadet navigation class 43-10 instructor at Selman Field in 1943. We met again at Grand Island, Neb overseas Processing Center when Pat requested me to join the 457th to replace the navigator on the Paul Chapman crew. Pat was a quiet thoughtful officer who I always admired."

WALTER W. HUNT

March 20, 2004

Reported by Walt's wife, Belva, who wrote: "He always enjoyed the reunions and was sorry when illness prevented his attending after Colorado Springs. How he would have enjoyed the trip to Glatton."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Elsewhere in this newsletter, please find Walt's story about the mission to Frieham, 4/11/1945.



IN MEMORIAM

LEONARD LUCHONOK

June 29, 2003

Reported by Doug Simonis, who wrote: "I was sad as I found out after I wrote a card to Len that he had passed away on June 29th, 2003. His wife had passed away on Feb. 16th, 2003. I wrote regularly to Len and his wife and wondered why I received no answer for so long. Len's daughter-in-law called me and told me about his passing. I told her I would relay the message. Len was a gunner on Lew Bredeson's plane and they were our first loss on Feb 21st, 1944. With Len gone, he follows his pilot, co-pilot, navigator and Bill Schenkel who was KIA on that day. If anyone knows the addresses of the rest of the crew, I would be happy to have them..."

T/Sgt Howard Collins (Pops)

Sgt Louis Rigaud

Sgt John Lewis

Sgt Walter Jutze

They were on their first mission to Gutersloh, Germany. Schenkel was the only one killed."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Doug, the only address of those that I show is for John Lewis, Box 97 - Vaughan, NM 88353

ROBERT T. PAYNE

May 18, 2004

Reported on message board by daughter Leslie Anne Payne Washburn...

She says, "My father, Robert T. Payne, served in the 457th. He passed away 5/18/04. Unfortunately, he never talked (at least to me) about his time in the service. He is missed by all."

Robert was a T/Sgt...Radio Operator...750th SQ

WILBUR S. PURSELL

December 21, 2003

First reported in newsletter 57, March/April 2004 by Will Fluman. The following additional information was taken from the message board...

Wilbur was a 2nd Lt with the 750th SQ. He flew as Co-Pilot on D.C. Meyers crew C339 and on Will Fluman's crew. His wife said they have two adult sons, both of whom serve as officers in the Air Force. One has retired, the other is a Colonel stationed in the Colorado Springs area, but not a part of the Air Force Academy.

IN MEMORIAM



EDWARD J. REPPA

March 2, 2004

Reported by his daughter, Carole Cluney. Carole wrote, "My father, Edward J. Reppa, a life member of your group, died March 2, 2004 in Tucson. It is so sad to keep losing those of this greatest generation. Your group was very important to my Dad. He lived for the last 19 years in Tucson. His career included early years as a golf professional, service in World War II as a B-17 pilot in the 457th (at Glatton from January through June of 1944), continued military duty as an Air Force Reserve officer, 20 years as a firefighter for the city of Dearborn, Michigan, and 10 years with the Ford Motor Company. In retirement, my father was a proud military retiree who took great pleasure in reunions and gatherings of his WWII Air Force colleagues. Accounts of two of my father's 29 bombing missions are included in the book Black Puff Polly edited and published by Roland O. Byers in 1991. One was Mission No. 4, February 15, 1944--target the Messerschmidt airplane factory in Augsburg. Dad and his crew completed the mission but due to engine damage crash landed in England upon their return. The other was Mission No. 73 to Berlin, June 21, 1944, during which Dad and his crew returned safely to Glatton after having two engines go out over Berlin due to heavy flak. Services were held in Tucson at Our Mother of Sorrows Church on Saturday, March 6. For information, contact Carole Cluney (520)575-0179, 8597 N. Arnold Palmer Drive Tucson, AZ 85742."

NOTE: Ed Reppa was our Association President 1980-81.

LEONARD P. SOENKE

January 31, 2004

Reported by Curtis Overdahl. Leonard was 87 years of age. No other information received.

RAYMOND A. SYPTAK

February 9, 2004

Posted on the message board by Michael Poole
The message reads, "It is with heavy heart that I tell you all that a true American hero and member of the 457th, Col. Raymond A. Syptak, passed away last week. He truly represented 'The Greatest Generation' and will be sorely missed."



IN MEMORIAM

GLADYCE MCKELVEY

July 30, 2004

Wife of our Life Member William McKelvey. Gladyce passed away at the age of 82. Her notice reads in part, "Mrs. McKelvey was a graduate of the registered nursing program of the Columbia Hospital School of Nursing at Wilkesburg, PA. She married William on Sept. 25, 1943 at the Dalhart Texas Army Air Field. When Bill left in January 1944 in a new B17 bomber from Grand Island, NE, to join the Eighth Air Force in England, Mrs. McKelvey returned to her nursing duties at Columbia Hospital. She will be remembered as a gracious, caring lady with many wonderful friends."

BEVERLY PRISK

July 4, 2004

Wife of our Association member, Bob Prisk, who wrote: "My dear wife Beverly died July 4 at the UC Med Center at 5:25 AM. We have been in the 457th Association since about 1980. Our first reunion was in 1986 and we returned to Glatton in 1988. We had made many friends over the years."

If you know of someone who has passed away and it has not been reported in a newsletter, please let Nancy know. Contact information is on the inside back cover of this newsletter.

Sometimes it seems

*they're just away one moment...
and how our hearts all wish that it were so—
another chance for saying all we meant to...
just one more hug before the letting go.*

Sometimes it seems

*they're still right here beside us,
our memories are so powerful and clear...
and it's a comfort knowing that in some ways,
those we loved so much are always near.*



MEMBERS WHO UPGRADED TO LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Add to your Roster:

CHARLES J. BRADY...748th SQ...1/Lt
Norden Bombsight Officer
979 Mildred J. Ct.
Brighton, MI 48116

JOHN JEFF FOWLER...son of John J. Fowler
Sr. (dec)
72 Brunswick Ave
Lebanon, NJ 08833

ELROY JOHN PETERS...750th SQ...1/Lt
Bombardier/Navigator for
Pilot Ralph Evans
2261 Country Lane
Columbia, MO 69261

ARTHUR R. TIEMANN...749th SQ...2/Lt..Pilot
12414 Deer Track
Austin, TX 78727

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Add to your Roster:

ROBERT L. BALL...748th SQ..Lt..Bombardier
300 E. Adams St.
Three Rivers, MI 49093

FRANK DePRISCO...749th SQ...PFC...Ground
Crew
56 Peirce Road
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

RALPH I. EVANS...rejoining after several yrs
750th SQ...1-2/Lt...Pilot
2357 Morningside Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

JAMES R. FURR...brother of Pilot Arnet Furr
749th SQ
2929 S. 26th St.
LaCrosse, WI 54601

NEW LIFE MEMBERS ...cont.

JAMES M. GRAVES...750th SQ..Lt..Co-Pilot
to Will Fluman and was
a Pilot himself
804 7th St. PO Box 1027
Chama, NM 87520

JAMES G. GRANTHAM...748th SQ...S/Sgt
Ball-Turret Gunner
to Pilot W. Tweten
4404 Simsbury Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28226

ALFRED HANSEN...flew with all squadrons-
never with the same crew
twice which he regrets.
1st/Lt..Radar,Bombardier,
Navigator
1035 Whitwell Rd.
Hillsborough, CA 94010

HARRY H. JOLLY, JR....748th SQ...T/Sgt
Radio Operator to Pilot
Arthur Jellinek
543 Homewood Avenue
Burlington, NC 27217

ELMER H. LEDERHAUS, JR....748th SQ
S/Sgt...Radio/Gunner to
Pilot Wilbur Rose
7185 Chestnut Ridge Rd.
Lockport, NY 14094

ALBERT PORTA...Albert, send Nancy some
information: SQ?, rank? wartime duties?
3302 Deer Ridge Ct.
Reno, Nv 89509

WILLIAM T. WILBORN...750th SQ...Capt
Bombardier...rejoining after
losing touch for several years.
Was 1st 457th Association
President in 1973-75
25731 Barclay Dr.
Murrieta, CA 92563

NEW MEMBERS...

Add to your Roster:

**KENNETH CRICK...Interested in Aviation
History**

10 Derwood Grove Werrington
Peterborough PE4 5DD
UK

**FRANK CASCANO...son of Gasper Casciano
750th SQ...T/Sgt...Left
waist gunner-Pilot Salo**

1712 Route 77
Attica, NY 14011

**JAMES DERK...New 457th Bomb Group
Association Web Master
and son of a Fireballer**

10286 Wexford Court
Newburgh, IN 47630

**JOEY GACNIK..... son of Nancy Henrich and
grandson of Joe Toth...751st SQ
S/Sgt...Tail Gunner of Pilot
A. Sikenga and others**

1619 Santa Fe Ave.
LaJunta, CO 81050

**J.M. "MICK" GALYEAN...son of a Fireballer
(Mick, send more info)**

3033 Horseshoe Bend
Iowa Park, TX 76367

**CORY GETZ...grandson of Morris/Joan Shuff
749th SQ...1/Lt...Pilot**

22155 Pheasant
Lake Forest, CA 92630

**ROBERT HADLEY...749 SQ...T/Sgt....Photo
Lab Chief**

16927 Wetherby Rd.
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

NEW MEMBERS...

...cont.

**EARLE J. LAUR..748th SQ..2/Lt..Bombardier/
Navigator of Pilot Glenn Harris
Earle, please send Nancy
your story about the lost
flight of El Lobo II.**

316 Norman St.
Caro, MI 48723

**JIM PERRY...interested in Aviation history;
retired from USAF**

5028 Hidden Forest Lane
Charleston, SC 29420

**ROBERT REED...Robert, please send Nancy
some info about yourself**

9008 Gainsborough Dr.
Spring Branch, TX 78070

**JUSTIN ROUNSFELL...grandson-Don Sellon
748th SQ...1/Lt...Pilot**

3708 Old Lodge Road
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

**EDWIN "TED" VAN INGEN SHAW...cousin of
Jack Van Ingen...748th SQ
2/Lt...Co-Pilot**

326 Fourth St. Apt. #1003
Juneau, AK 99801

**JACK S. SCARBOROUGH... of a Fireballer
(Jack, please send more info)**

5211 S Main St. PO box 1332
Shallotte, NC 28459

**ROBERT C. TEMPLIN, Sr...751st SQ...S/Sgt
Tail Gunner for Pilot Arthur Ford**

2424 West John St.
Grand Island, NE 68803

***For corrections, additions and/or new
information, or if you have never received a
membership card, please contact the
secretary. Contact information is inside the
back cover of this newsletter.***

GUARANTOR

Robert T. Benos
Willmore Fluman
G. Tucker & Joseph D. Grau in honor of 1/Lt. George J. Grau
C. Craig Harris
Nancy & Bob Henrich in honor of Joseph A. Toth
Elizabeth C. Kieley in memory of Lt. Owen B. Coffman
Cynthia K. McCurry in honor of George D. McCurry
Melinda J. McCurry
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 John W. Schwikert
 Mary (McCall) Sherman, memory of Gen. William R. McCall
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 Murray F. Swerdlove
 George W. Thompson
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 Robert A. Whitby
 Bernard F. Wroblewski

DONATION CATEGORIES

Guarantor	\$1,000 up
Sponsor	\$500 to \$999
Benefactor	\$250 to \$499
Associate	\$100 to \$249
Patron	Up to \$99



In the last newsletter we ran an article with pictures of Don Sellon, Joe Toth, and Joe's daughter Nancy taking a ride on a B-17 through the Collings Foundation "Wings of Freedom Tour". Since then, some members have asked how they might find out about taking such a ride themselves. For those of you with internet access, visit www.collingsfoundation.org for their schedule. I'm including their schedule of 1/14/2005-3/20/2005 for your convenience.

JANUARY 2005

1/14 - 1/16 **New Smyrna Beach, FL**
New Smyrna Beach Municipal Airport

1/17 - 1/19 **St. Augustine FL**
St Augustine Airport

1/19 - 1/21 **Brunswick, GA**
Malcolm McKinnon Airport

1/21 - 1/24 **Jacksonville, FL**
Cecil Field Airport

1/24 - 1/26 **Lake City, FL**
Lake City Municipal Airport

1/26 - 1/28 **Orlando/Kissimmee, FL**
Kissimmee Gateway Airport

1/28 - 1/31 **Venice, FL**
Venice Municipal Airport

FEBRUARY

1/31 - 2/2 **St Petersburg/Clearwater, FL**
St. Petersburg/Clearwater Int'l Airport

2/2 - 2/4 **Sarasota, FL**
Sarasota/Bradenton Int'l Airport

2/4 - 2/6 **Punta Gorda, FL**
Charlotte County Airport

2/7 - 2/9 **Fort Myers, FL**
Page Field

2/9 - 2/11 **Marco Island, FL**
Marco Island Airport

2/11 - 2/14 **Naples, FL**
Naples Municipal Airport

2/14 - 2/16 **Marathon, FL**
The Florida Keys Marathon Airport

2/16 - 2/18 **Miami, FL**
Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport

2/18 - 2/22 **Fort Lauderdale, FL**
Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport

2/22 - 2/24 **West Palm Beach, FL**
Palm Beach International Airport

2/24 - 2/28 **Boca Raton, FL**
Boca Raton Airport

2/28 - 3/2 **Sebring, FL**
Sebring Regional Airport

MARCH

3/2 - 3/4 **Leesburg, FL**
Leesburg Regional Airport

3/4 - 3/6 **Melbourne, FL**
Melbourne International Airport

3/7 - 3/18 **Maintenance Break**

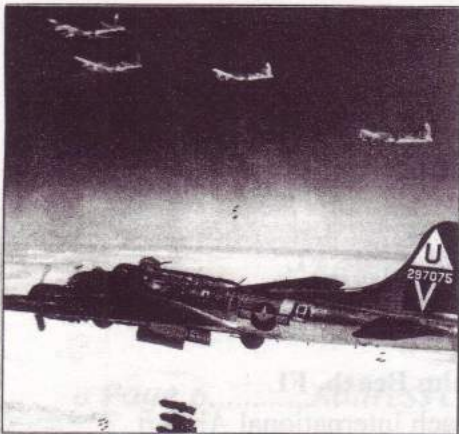
3/18 - 3/20 **Dunnellon, FL**
Dunnellon/Marion County Airport



**RESERVATIONS ARE HIGHLY
RECOMMENDED FOR FLIGHTS...
CALL 1-978-562-9182**

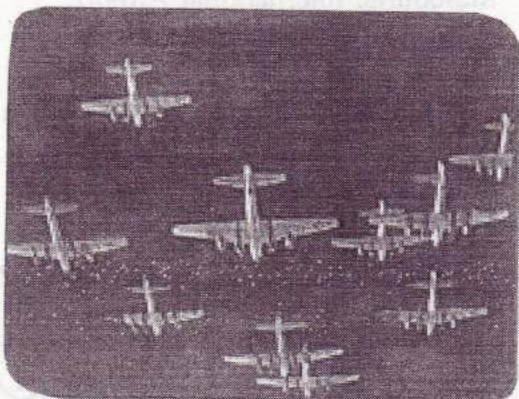
The Eighth starts in Savannah

The headquarters of the Eighth Air Force was founded in Savannah, GA in January 28, 1942 in the old National Guard Armory on Bull Street. During World War II Mighty Eighth's bombers carried the War deep into the enemy's territory and contributed substantially to the final victory over Nazi Germany.



The Eighth was initially formed to support the invasion of North Africa, but its mission soon changed to carrying out the strategic bombing of German targets in Europe.

The Eighth's headquarters element arrived in England in February 1942, soon followed by operational elements. The Eighth flew its first mission on July 4, 1942, in DB-7 Boston light bombers borrowed from the British. Six weeks later, on August 17, 1942, the Eighth flew its first all-American heavy bomber raid from England, using B-17s, against Rouen, France.



From 1942 to the end of the war in 1945, the Eighth flew B-17 Flying Fortresses and B-24 Liberators in daylight bombing operations against Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe.

Daytime bombing was especially hazardous. The British had tried it and abandoned the concept as too costly. The Eighth's B-17s and B-24s suffered heavy losses over Europe, especially after the bombing of Germany started in January 1943. The heavy bombers had the range to reach almost any target in Germany, but in the early months there were no Allied fighters that had the range to follow. Once the Allied fighter escorts turned back, the Eighth's bombers were vulnerable to attacks by German Luftwaffe fighters.



Defensive tactics pioneered by Colonel Curtis LeMay and others helped but could not dissuade the German fighters or the fierce anti-aircraft defense. During the spring, summer, and fall of 1943 Eighth Air Force losses of planes and men sometimes reached 12% for a day's raid. One in four airmen were being lost. At one point, it became statistically impossible for a bomber crewman to survive a 25-mission tour of duty. At Schweinfurt and Regensburg, for example, on August 17 and Schweinfurt on October 14, sixty B-17s, each with a crew of ten men, were shot down over enemy territory.

When the Eighth Air Force fighters became able to escort the bombers all the way to their targets and back, the losses slowly began to drop back, although they remained high. The Eighth Air Force ended World War II with a high casualty rate. In the process of conducting this bombing campaign, it played the major role in disrupting Germany's war economy and transportation system.



ROSTER CHANGES, AND CORRECTIONS:



- Page 2.....Address change: Wesley C. Akins: 6021 Canyon Trail
McGregor, TX 76657
- Page 4.....Address change: Earl R. "Rollie" Bolier: 7686 Palisades Ave. NE
Otesego, MN 55330

Address change: Jerry Briggs: 3580 Perport Rd.
Crestview, FL 32539
- Page 5.....Address change: John H. Byrd: 805 Country Club Dr. SE Apt 1G
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Address change: Fred F. Castle: 9234 Deer TRL
Tucson, AZ 85710

Address change: Edward J. Celani: 3264 Anchorage Ct.
Spring Hill, FL 34607
- Page 6.....Address change: William Clarkson: 140 Cheltenham Dr.
Aiken, SC 29803
- Page 7.....Address change: Lindsey Todd Darnell: 1440 Cameron Ct. Apt. C
Wilmington, NC 28401

Address change: James R. Day: 21617 Emerald Rd.
Carlyle, IL 62231

Address correction: Lewis D'Ambrosia: Number should be "23" Acres Dr.
- Page 8.....Rank correction: Hiram M. Drache: should have been "Capt"

Address change: Champe Dobler: 801 Harbor Dr. #101
Alameda, CA 94502

Andress change: Thomas J. Elliott: 274 Lake Dr..
Eufaula, AL 36027
- Page 9.....Address change: Raymond Field: 200 Wyndemere Cir. Apt W104
Wheaton, IL 60187

Address change: William F. Fiedler: 80 Chestnut Ave. #23
Red Bluff, CA 96080
- Page 10.....Address change: Jack Gumm: 901 Seminole Blvd. #327
Largo, FL 33770

ROSTER CHANGES, AND CORRECTIONS:



- Page 10.....Address change: Bailey J. Gaudinier: 11501 15th Ave. NE Apt. 305
Seattle, WA 98125
- Page 11.....Address change: Mary Worth Hansen: 620 A1A Beach Blvd. #24
St. Augustine, FL 32080
Address change: Richard N. Helm: 8 Azalea Ct.
Fairhope, AL 36532
- Page 12.....Address change: Medford E. Hollis: 10522 63rd Dr. NE
Marysville, WA 98370
Address change: Robert J. Huels: 1259 Chickadee Court.
Centerville, OH 45458
Address change: Ted Hoffman: Eskaton Lodge
11390 Coloma Rd., #B-112
Gold River, CA 95670
- Page 15.....Address change for new member: Lucian Klejbuk: 1929 Graham Ave
St. Paul, MN 55116
- Page 16.....Address change: Shirley Marx: 1320 SE 2nd St. Apt 1108
Evansville, IN 47713
Address change: Charles J. McClane: 2214 Heather Ct.
Wilmington, DE 19809
Address correction: Wesley R. McDonald: city should be "Middle River"
- Page 17.....Address correction: Joseph S. McNichol: city should be "Palmetto Bay"
- Page 18.....Address change: Kenneth Morrow: 10 Mountain Laurels Dr. Apt. 208
Nashua, NH 03062
c/o T. Theriault
- Page 20.....Address correction: John Pearson: Zip code should be "23238"
Address change: Scott Pemberton: 708 N. 1st St. #1
San Jose, CA 95112
Address correction: Elroy J. Peters: Zip code should be "65261"
- Page 21.....Address change: Robert H. Prisk: 61317 Fairfield Dr.
Bend, OR 97702

ROSTER CHANGES, AND CORRECTIONS:



- Page 22.....Address change: Albert L. Rothbauer: city should be "Jefferson Hills"
- Page 22.....Address change: David W. Schellenger: 8535 Sweetbrier Loop SE
Olympia, WA 98513
- Page 23.....Address change: Harry Selling: 2200 Bayside Dr.
Corona Del Mar, CA 92625
- Page 23.....Address correction: Roy E. Truba: street should be "Moss Oak"
city should be "Jacksonville"
- Page 26.....Spelling correction: William R. Wagener: should be spelled "Wagner"
- Page 54.....Address change: Albina Akins: 6021 Canyon TRL
McGregor, TX 76657
- Page 56.....Address correction: Elizabeth McGibbon: "1075 South Caln Road"

DECEASED:	Page 4:	<u>Charles R. Blackwell</u>	Page 17:	<u>Augustine Moore</u>
	Page 6:	<u>Edmund G. Coomes</u>		<u>Gladyce McKelvey</u>
	Page 11:	<u>Ramsey Hale</u>	Page 20:	<u>Robert T. Payne</u>
	Page 12:	<u>Walter H. Hunt</u>	Page 21:	<u>Edward J. Reppa</u>
	Page 15:	<u>Len & Christine Luchonoke</u>	Page 21:	<u>Beverly Prisk</u>
	Page 17:	<u>William J.P. Meng</u>	Page 23:	<u>Leonard Soenke</u>
			Page 55:	<u>Virginia Goslee</u>

ADD THE FOLLOWING WIDOWS TO PAGE 57:

<u>Billie Rose Blackwell</u>	511 Pilgrim Ave Wentzville, MO 63385	<u>Nelda Reppa</u>	8401 S. Kolb Rd. #295 Tucson, AZ 85706
<u>Lois Coomes</u>	26160 Greenberry Rd., #156 Corvallis, OR 97333	<u>Grace Soenke</u>	3127 So Moore St SE Olympia, WA 98501

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have or know of corrections that need to be made in the ROSTER, please let Nancy know. There will NOT be another printing of the ROSTER, so please make these corrections directly to your copy.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Nancy Henrich



457th Email Directory

New emails shown with **

Bartley, Leo S.
leos4411@aol.com

Bird, William
birdw@cox.net

Cobourn, Walter S.
cob1326@msn.com

****** Patrick J. Connelly "Pat"
coma88@hotmail.com

Fiedler, William
bfiedler@webtv.net

Harris, Craig
charris4@nc.rr.com

****** Harold L. Kapp
kappkids@comcast.net

Kravetz, Frank
FRANKAKRAVETZ@aol.com

Lacey, Jay
dualspt@i-1.net

McDonough, Owen
OLMCDONOUGH@webtv.net

McGraw, Earle
exbigred@msn.com

John P. Medica
jpmedica@aol.com

Merlone, Felix
chuck@merlone.com

****** Don Nielsen
dnielsen@highstream.net

O'Donnell, Edgar
poppopod@aol.com

Peterson, Rod
LRod@pobox.com

Phillips, Speedy
snphil@austin.rr.com

Pobgee, Ray
RayPobgee@aol.com

Radakovich, George
rad457@webtv.net

Rickert, Louis
ricknfay@yahoo.com

Robertson, Beverly C. "Robby"
tapsco@airmail.net

Swordlove, Morris
m.swordlove@attbi.com

Thole, Jeffery
jthole@juno.com

****** Lee Zimmerman "Zim"
hlzim@acd.net

EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR OFFICERS ARE LISTED ON THE BACK PAGE.

This directory will be updated and printed only as additions and corrections are received. If you would like yours included, email it to Nancy at:

mylittldarlings@aol.com

457th Bomb Group ROSTER

NOW AVAILABLE

New Format...Larger Print...New Information

129 Pages in 6 Sections:

Section 1..Active Members and addresses

Section 2..Memoriams

Section 3..Widows

Section 4..Pilots/Flight Crews

Section 5..Ground Personnel

Section 6..457th B-17 Aircraft

In addition...the roster contains extra pages and spaces to record new members as they appear in future newsletters.

The following prices include postage:

- ... \$18.00 for Roster and postage to mail in the U.S.
- ... \$20.00 for Roster and postage to mail to Canada
- ... \$26.00 for Roster and postage to mail overseas

Order now, while supply lasts. We will not be reprinting. Make additions, corrections and changes directly into your own copy.

Use the order form below -or- use the order form on the 'PX' page.

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Number of Rosters requested: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

MAIL ORDER TO: JOE TOTH 449 SUNSET LANE PUEBLO, CO 81005

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: "457TH BG PX"

BOOK by 457th Association Member KEN BLAKEBROUGH

Titled "A B-17 Co-pilot Remembers",
subtitled "An 8th Air Force Memoir",
is an autobiographical work in which I present my personal
experiences as a pilot during Hitler's War.

Beginning with the first days of my aircrew being assembled in
Nebraska to the conclusion of the attack on Berlin, I create a
profile of the eventful life of an airman. Included are details of
the camaraderie of the men, the beauty and companionship of the
women who brightened the dark days, and the sheer misery of
war.

The chronology recollects wartime experiences and continues
through to a current listing of the whereabouts of aircrew and
friends from this era with whom I have maintained contact.

This narrative has 90 pages,
26,500 words, 19 photo pages,
soft cover, size 8.5" x 11".

THE DEDICATION READS:

*"This story is dedicated to the
American Warriors
who served at Clatton.
2 Timothy 4:7"*

To order your copy of "A B-17 Co-Pilot Remembers"

contact Ken Blakebrough
28432 Borgona - Mission Viejo - CA - 92692
(949)770-5021 ardenken@juno.com

A B-17 Co-pilot Remembers



An 8th Air Force Memoir
by
Ken Blakebrough

MEMBERS WHO UPGRADED NEW LIFE MEMBERS

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING COPIES OF YOUR OWN

MISSION LOADING LISTS, read on...

- HERE IS A PARTIAL LOADING LIST SHOWING 3 CREWS OF THE 751ST SQ MISSION ON 3 JANUARY 1945.

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON
457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
Office of the Operations Officer

3 January 1945

Crew No. 422

Low Sqdn. Ship No. 887

P	1st Lt.	MEDFORD E. HOLLIS	0-755439	
CP	Capt.	DONALD E. LADY	0-393783	
N	1st Lt.	JOHN F. KELLY	0-719091	
B	1st Lt.	RICHARD I. HINMAN	0-771921	
AEG	T/Sgt	Charles Calcaterra	32781304	TT
ROG	T/Sgt	Leonard O. Vittow	38369954	RO
AAG	S/Sgt	Chester L. Mohler	13090424	BT
AG	S/Sgt	Mario D. Terenzio	32799826	TG
AAG	S/Sgt	Louis H. Pena	38307363	WG

Crew No. 450

Ship No. 885

P	2nd Lt.	RICHARD L. MACK	0-811110	
CP	2nd Lt.	DONALD H. SCHICK	0-829569	
N	2nd Lt.	JOHN S. NIERENGARDEN	0-2064635	
B	2nd Lt.	RALPH L. BELL	0-783102	
AEG	S/Sgt	Raymond V. Hunter	14160328	TT
ROG	S/Sgt	Charles Held	17113745	RO
AAG	Sgt	Lloyd R. Kennedy	39213772	BT
AG	Sgt	Frank J. Eichenlaub	13104958	TG
AAG	Sgt	Robert F. Reublin	6992764	WG

Crew No. 442

Ship No. 123

P	2nd Lt.	ROBERT H. WOOD	0-566478	
CP	1st Lt.	FRANK S. FOSTER	0-763988	
N	1st Lt.	MAX NMI ANDERSON	0-773013	
TOG	S/Sgt	Joseph H. Jones	16113650	
AEG	T/Sgt	Ralph W. Libby	11068613	TT
ROG	T/Sgt	John Prendergast	37262847	RO
AAG	S/Sgt	Jessie T. Gill	14172155	BT
AG	S/Sgt	Richard J. Cambria	12206753	TG
AAG	S/Sgt	David M. Fleming	13169477	WG

- Loading Lists are available for nearly all missions.

- Use the order form below to order copies of your mission loading lists.

Name: _____ Squadron: _____ Date of 1st or last Mission: _____

Address: _____

Total # of Loading Lists requested: _____ @ \$1 per mission = _____ + \$2 postage = Total _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: JOE TOTH

HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR OWN HEART ATTACK...ALONE

FROM: F. DANIEL ROCHMAN, MD

Let's say it's 6:15 p.m. and you're driving home (alone of course), after a tiring day. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home; unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You've been trained in CPR but the guy that taught the course neglected to tell you how to perform it on yourself. Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, this article seemed to be in order. Without help, the person whose heart stops beating properly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness. **However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.**

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest, and a cough must be repeated about every 2 seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save a precious life.

Health Cares Rochester General Hospital, via Chapter 240s Newsletter AND THE BEAT GOES ON. (reprint from the Mended Hearts, Inc. publication, Heart Response)

IS IT A STROKE?

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster for the stroke victim. Now, doctors say any bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- Ask the individual to smile.
- Ask him or her to raise both arms
- Ask the person to speak a simple sentence

If the individual has trouble with any of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

From Joe Toth:

AND YOU THINK YOU'RE HAVING A BAD DAY AT WORK!!

Although this looks like a picture taken from a Hollywood movie, it is in fact a real photo, taken near the South African coast during a military exercise by the British Navy.

It has been nominated by Geo as "THE photo of the year".



457TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

New ☐

Renewal ☐

Address Change ☐

Fireballer? ☐

or Relative? ☐ relationship _____

Other ☐ _____

Name _____ Nickname _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ Squadron # _____ Rank _____

Dates Assigned _____ Duties _____

Plane Names and # _____ Pilot's Name _____

POW?/Evadee?...Date of capture/escape/release: _____

Retired? _____ Rank? _____ Birthdate _____

DUES INFORMATION:

Annual Dues: \$25 for 2 years

-or-

<u>Life Dues:</u>	Under 60 years of age:	\$110.00
	61-65 years of age:	\$90.00
	66-70 years of age:	\$75.00
	71 + years of age:	\$60.00

Make checks payable to: 457th BG Association

Mail top of this form and check to:

John Pearson, Treasurer
457th Bomb Group Association
1900 Lauderdale Drive, C-315
Richmond, VA 23238

Your canceled check is your receipt.



Secretary's Station 130

* * *

I need to start out by correcting misinformation I have printed about the cost of the updated 2003 Rosters.

The cost to purchase a Roster is \$15.00
-plus-

\$3.00 postage to mail in U.S.=total \$18

\$5.50 postage to Canada=total \$20.50

\$6.00 postage overseas=total \$21.00

Please order your Roster now. It is unlikely we will ever reprint, and there are a limited number left.

For all other PX items, please include
\$4.00 postage.

(Postage costs include not only the necessary postage, but envelopes/boxes, etc)

* * *

We hope that many of you were able to see the History Channel on December 19 when the story of Roy Allen's crew being shot down on a mission was told. Association member, William Goldsborough was part of that crew and appeared on the program. If you missed the program, you can buy the video from
HistoryChannel.com

The title was, "Shot From the Sky."

I also want to give credit where credit is due. It was Craig Harris who engineered and wrote the letter explaining our urgent need for donations for the Memorial Monument. He did a super job! I had the easy part...mailing it. Thanks Craig!

Secretary, Nancy Henrich

* * *

Please check to see if your dues were due by December 31, 2004. On your mailing label, there is a year listed...your dues will expire on December 31 of that year. If that's you, please mail your dues payment to John Pearson. There is an application included in this newsletter. Don't miss any 457th news...send your dues today.

* * *

Anyone interested in attending the Eighth Air Force Historical Society Reunion will need the following information...

the dates are 27 Sept to 2 Oct, 2005
in Arlington, VA

You do not need to be members of the Historical Society to attend.

Contact: Jim Erskine, Chairman
568 Colima Dr. Toledo, OH 43609

phone: (419) 382-8595

fax: (419) 382-4242

email: jimjake2@juno.com

* * *

IF THERE IS STILL A MEMBER OR A LIFE MEMBER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A MEMBERSHIP CARD, OR YOU JUST WANT A NEW ONE, PLEASE LET NANCY KNOW RIGHT AWAY. HER CONTACT INFORMATION IS ON THE INSIDE BACK COVER OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

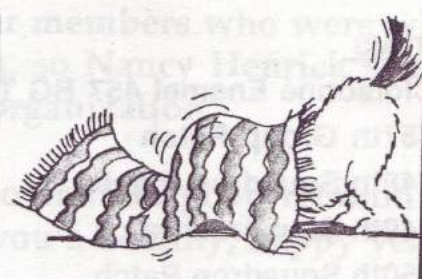
* * *

THE EDITOR'S PLIGHT

The typographical error is a slippery thing and sly; you can hunt it 'til you're dizzy, but somehow it will get by. 'Til the pages are off the press, it is strange how still it sleeps; it shrinks down in a corner, and it never stirs or peeps. That typographical error is too small for human eyes, 'til the ink is on the paper, when it grows to mountain size.

HELP NEEDED!!!

I have received mail returned by the post office for various reasons. Please look over the list and let me know if you might know the whereabouts of any of the following members:



Name

Last Known Address:

Elizabeth Bowman

3828 Fort Lowell Rd. #218
Tucson, AZ 85716-1783

Harley L. Danforth

10056 Palmer Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351-3919

Reese McCormick

Rte. 1 Box 98
Courtland, VA 23837-9736

Albert Barr

1327 Portland Avenue
Orlando, FL 32803-2620

Ruthann Rogers

12271 Coit Rd. Apt. 2301
Dallas, TX 75251-2314

Dean Erickson

4970 Ashley Ln. Apt. 112
Inver-Grove Hts. MN 55077

Mrs. Jim Havey

2400 Crystal Cove Ln. 1-204
Destin, FL 32541

William T. Niedhardt

509 No. 7th
Alpine, TX 79830

Robert J. Allison

15985 W. El Tiro Road
Marana, AZ 85653-9327

If any of these addresses are near you, would you please try to check on these people. Appreciate any help you can give. Nancy Henrich

..PX.....PX.....PX.....PX.....PX.....PX.....PX.....PX.....PX..

ITEMS	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Cloisonné Enamel 457 BG Tac Pin	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
457th Group Patch	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
748th Squadron Patch	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
749th Squadron Patch	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
750th Squadron Patch	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
751st Squadron Patch	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
Gunner's Wings Patch	\$5.50 ea	_____	_____
ANY 5 or more pins or patches	\$5.00 ea	_____	_____

457th Bomb Group HATS...Royal Blue	\$12.00 ea	_____	_____
PENS-Air Force Blue with gold trim---black ink	\$5.00 ea	_____	_____
IMPRINTED IN GOLD...457TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION "FAIT ACCOMPLI"			
457th License Plate Holder	\$10.00 ea	_____	_____
8 x 10 color photographs of our chapel window at the 8th AF Museum in Savannah	\$10.00 ea	_____	_____

TOTAL COST OF ITEMS ORDERED: _____

PLUS POSTAGE: \$4.00

TOTAL: _____

ALSO AVAILABLE NOW:

BG Roster.....U.S.	\$18.00 *	_____	_____
Canada	\$20.50 *	_____	_____
Overseas	\$26.00 *	_____	_____

* price already includes postage

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "457TH BG PX"

Mail order and check to...

JOE TOTH...449 Sunset Lane....Pueblo, CO 81005

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone # _____

THE 457TH BOMB GROUP

2003-2005 OFFICERS & APPOINTMENTS

PRESIDENT

DONALD NIELSEN 9142 WEST KERRY LANE - PEORIA, AZ 85382-4623 TEL: 623-561-2644 FAX: 623-825-1878
email: dlnielsen@highstream.net

VICE PRESIDENT, RECORDING SEC., AND LEGAL ADVISOR

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email: mylittldarlings@aol.com

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FAX: 804-740-7403 - email: jonpearson@worldnet.att.net

DIRECTOR (2 YR), ROSTER, AND UNIT CONTACT

JOE TOTH 449 SUNSET LANE - PUEBLO, CO 81005-1140 TEL: 719-566-1714 FAX: 719-564-6458
email: jandjtoth@juno.com

DIRECTOR (4 YR)

RICHARD GIBBS 301 W. 5TH ST. - VERMILLION, KS 66544-8635 TEL: 785-382-6835
email: winter - barbndic@pocketmail.com summer - barbndic@bluevalley.net

DIRECTOR (6 YR)

GEORGE GRAU P.O. BOX 1473 - GULF SHORES, AL 36547 TEL: 251-968-2673

IMMEDIATE PAST PRES.

WILL FLUMAN 120 S. RIDGE ROAD - BOILING SPRINGS, PA 17007 TEL: 717-258-3090 FAX: 717-258-0560
email: oakgrove35@aol.com

WEB MASTER

JAMES DERK 10286 WEXFORD COURT - NEWBURGH, IN 47630 TEL: 812-831-7741
email: derk@sigecom.net

PAST- WEBMASTER

WILLARD (HAP) REESE 11 FLETCHER CT. - PALM COAST, FL 32137 TEL: 386-445-5773
email: awreese@bestnetpc.com

SEC/TREAS/NEWSLETTER ED. (ret)

MICKY BRIGGS - 811 NW "B" STREET - BENTONVILLE, AR 72712 TEL: 479-273-3908

457TH B.G. ENGLISH HISTORIANS AND/OR F.O.T.E. MEMBERS

GORDON TOWNSEND - "QUAKERS REST" - MAIN STREET, KINGS RIPTON HUNTINGDON CAMBS PE17 2NW - ENGLAND
TEL: 44 1487 773493

JOHN WALKER - 29 CHANCERY LANE - EYE, PETERBOROUGH PE6 7YF - ENGLAND TEL: 44 1733 222994

RAY POBGEE - 23 EASTERN AVENUE, PETERBOROUGH PE1 4PH - ENGLAND TEL: (01733) 340282

ERIC BRUMBY - 82 BLUE BELL AVE - PETERBOROUGH UK PE1 3XH - TEL: 01733-709811

MIKE JACKSON, HISTORIAN - 11 WHISTON GRANGE - MOORGATE - ROTHERHAM S60 3BG - ENGLAND TEL: 44 1709 371547

PAST PRESIDENTS

1973-75 -- WILLIAM WILBORN.....OK
1976 -- HOWARD LARSEN (D).....KS
1977-79 -- WILLIAM SILER.....NM
1980-81 -- EDWARD REPPA.....AZ
1982-83 -- DANIEL GRAHAM (D).....IN

1984 -- WILLIAM GOOD (D).....KS
1985 -- DAVE SUMMERVILLE.....CA
1986-87 -- CLAYTON BEJOT.....NE
1988-89 -- DONALD SELLON.....CO
1990-91 -- JOHN WELCH.....SD

1992-93 -- ROLAND BYERS.....ID
1993-97 -- BILLY HIGHTOWER (D).....TX
1997-99 -- LEON ZIMMERMAN.....MI
1999-01 -- CRAIG HARRIS.....NC
2001-03 -- WILL FLUMAN.....PA

457th Bomb Group Association
453 Sunset Lane
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Strange and fascinating facts

from a book entitled:
World War II 4,139 Strange and Fascinating Facts
by Don McCombs and Fred L. Worth

A Card

U.S. gas ration card. It indicated the lowest priority of gas rationing and entitled the holder to three gallons of gas per week.

T Card

U.S. gas rationing card that entitled the holder to unlimited gasoline. Truckers fell under this category.

X Card

U.S. gas rationing card that entitled the holder to unlimited gas supplies and was the highest priority of the U.S. gas rationing system. Over 200 Congressmen received these cards, to the consternation of those who legitimately needed them. Ministers also fell within the category.

Oboe

British system of directing bombers to their targets at night. It consisted of transmitting from England two radio beams that intersected over the selected target. The pilot flew along one beam until he met the crossing beam, then released his bombs, knowing that he was over the target.

1,364 days, 5 hours, 44 minutes

Length of the war between the U.S. and Japan from December 7, 1941, to September 2, 1945.

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