

THE 457th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
811 NORTHWEST "B" STREET
BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS 72712

APRIL 1980

Dear Fireballers:

A short letter, if I may, to start off with. We have been slow with this newsletter due to sickness, traveling, Mickey returning to hospital work part time-going to overtime, now back to part time. I have worked pretty much filling in at the station. When finally ready for printing, the Chamber of Commerce's mimeograph machine broke down. This was a free service given to us as a Community project, so then scouted out the best and cheapest way to go.

I believe each reunion is a better reunion, as we gather more men to take part & add their ideas. Omaha was really a great one. We owe Howard & Fern Larson a great deal for traveling back and forth to Omaha and setting up our Hotel accommodations, meals and OFFUT base activities. It was very well planned and went smooth with the help of our President Bill Siler. A big thanks to Bill for all the work he did as President for threes.

Hurchel & Florence Teague, Ken & Blanche Kurode, Mickey and myself planned the very first reunion and when the Teagues couldn't make it to the reunion, we went to N.C. to fill them in on it. They were sorry to have missed Omaha and all their friends. We are all proud the Association and reunions have went as well as they have. I also attended the 8th AFHS reunion in Phoenix, Arizona along with my son, Jerry. I have told you of our experiences later on in the letter. Hoping this finds everyone well and let us hear from you-on our newsletter and news for future newsletters. We are hoping for a great 1981 reunion, tentative plans for Colo Springs, Colo. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit with George and Ena Townsend of Sawtry and Gordon Townsend, their son from Peterborough. Gordon is planning to attend the 1981 reunion with his family. They enjoyed the reunion and visiting with the members of our group. They invite each and everyone who travels to England to look them up and they will give you a tour of the remembered haunts of 'back then'.Best wishes.....Homer Secry-Treasure.

P.S. Mickey is learning to fly our Cessna...Starting regular lesson this spring.

LETTERS:

Vice Pres Dan Graham writes "Norma and I thoroughly enjoyed the Omaha reunion & meeting all the folks again. Appreciated all the efforts of Silers, Larsons, Briggs and all the those working for the reunion."

Harry Foyle is recuperating from a January heart attack.

Don Keller 11975 SW 95th, Tigard, Ore 97223 (tel 1-503-639-3075) writes "I am researching the history of Boeing B-17 & the people associated with it. I am currently a member of Friends of the 94 BCMA. I would like to become a member of your organization. He also wants any emblems, patches, or decals. Wants anyone to contact him".

BOOKS * * ADDRESSES:

Please remember any books, sales of anything are not, cannot be promoted or recommended by Homer Briggs or the Group. Only facts are passed on to you as they come into the Groups address.

"The Fireball Outfit", Author Ken Blakeborough (457th 750 sqd) can be obtained by contacting Ken Blakeborough, 26095 Avenida Bonachon, Mission Viejo, Ca 92691

"Eighth Air Force Album" Author John Woolnough (8th AF'er) Box 4738, Hollywood Fla 33023. Pictures included from 457ers Homer Briggs, Tom Goff, Dr Richard Barnes, Edward Jackson, Lester Peterson, and Bernard Bains from England.

"Impact" for information on "Impact" Book form (8 books), the Army Airforce's Picture History of WW II. Contact James Parton & Co, Inc. Publishers, 15 East 48 St New York, NY 10017. Royalty received will help support program of "Authentic recording of AF history"

"Tail-End Charlie" by Jim Harris straight forward accounts day to day life of a B 17 bomber crew in action over Germany 1943 WW II crew nickname LONLEY'S MOURNERS., based in England. Craftsman Aero Publications, Box 263, Lublock, Tex 79408.

B 17 tie tack:

Deep Six Miniatures, Box 134, Northboro, Ma 01532

MEMBERSHIP:

Voted by 1976 reunion attendees: As your initial dues are paid you will be sent a permanent membership card to be kept. When future dues are paid, pay by check marked the year dues paid, keeping the canceled check as a receipt. Yearly dues are \$5.00 due January of each year. ONLY those who do not want to be a member but on the mailing list only send one dollar yearly for postage. Do not send \$6.00 Anyone who has never received the membership card after paying dues, or have lost theirs, please contact Homer Briggs and one will be sent to you.

NEWSLETTERS: Mailed at least once a year, or when the officers feel it necessary. No vote has ever been taken on it. We do need you (this is your newsletter) to send us any news pertaining to any B 17 or WWII experience that you want to share, or any current news of your self.

EIGHT AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS:

There are 69 457'ers that also belong to the 8th AFHS. Insert of one letter:
 'The reason the 8th Historical Society was founded was to bring our guys & gals of the 8th together again. We started out with an idea & the 8th AF Clearinghouse in late 1974. The 8th AFHS was formed in May of 1975. In 1980 we passed the 6,000 member mark. During the same time around 6500 lost 8th AFers were put in touch with their unit organizations.'

'You can help us help your unit & every other 8th AF unit by joining with us in this worthwhile cause. Everytime we advertize an 8th AF event (we try to do it at least two times a year), we find hundreds of lost 8th AFers. The next one found could be your buddy. Your unit representative (we call them Unit Contacts) will tell you that a good number of your lost members have been found through the 8th AFHS.' (They have found over 150 457th 'ers)

Not only will you be helping find lost 8th AF'ers, you will benefit much by receiving one of the best newsletters (four times a year) on the 8th AF. The 8th AF News is crammed with interesting war stories about 8th AF friends in England and Europe, as well as news on some of our VIP are included in each issue. A portion of the 16 pages are reserved for letters from you. This has become a most favored part of the paper. You will also have an opportunity of tasting the thrill of getting together with hundreds of 8th AFers at our Annual reunions (mid to late October) 1450 met in Phoenix in 1979.

8th AFHS Membership:

to join send \$6.00 check with First and Last name, address AF Group, Depot or HQ and assigned or attached to and Location. Send to 8th AFHS, 495 NE 157th Ter, Miami, Fl 33162.

457th Members:

Tom Goff, Lt. Col and Art Fitch are 8th AFH Museum Society Directors and will help you in anyway you wish. Addresses: Tom Goff (after May 10, 1980) 339-303 Gatewater Ct., Glen Burnie, Md 21061. (Present address):
 255 E Woodhill Dr, Glen Burnie, Md 21061

Arthur K Fitch: 118 Pleasant Valley Rd, Westwood, Ma 02090.

Tom Goff, Lt Col writes:

(1) Woolnough is working on another book & looking for new or unused pictures not already in the 8th AF Album. The 457th had a good representation in the 8th Album, hope we can again. He will return all photos. (Homer has sent several, including an earlier picture of our 'Stone American Monument' in England) (Which Woolnough was very interested in.).

(2) We have been invited to try for a 457th Unit Mini Rendezvous at Orlando, Fla 1980 at the 8th AF Historical reunion. (You might contact Tom your views on this)

(3) I still solicit ideas from our Group for 8 AFHS activities.

8th AF Yearbook:

is the name of the new book that Tom talks about sending pictures. Publication is planned mid to late 1980. Send pictures to them marked what they are and 457th, your name and address. They are returned promptly.

8th AF Reunion Return to Europe:

Sept 3 thru 23, 1980. Write to 8th AF Friendship Holiday Box 1304, Hallandale, Fla 33009 (Identify WWII Unit and England location). IF you are interested in joining this tour, write immediately. Several of the 457'ers have already signed on to go this Sept.

8th AF Historical Society Reunion:

The 5th reunion was held Oct 25-28, 1979 Phoenix, Az. 457'ers attending were: Jerry & Homer Briggs, Tom Goff, Art & Jean Fitch, D Adams, Ken & Arden Blakebrough, D Cooke, J H & Wife Derling, F. Don, Joe & Iris Falcone, J Navarro.

Banquet Speakers: English Robin Higham-currently professor of History at Kansas State Univ & editor of AF Historical Foundations magazine Aero Space Historian.

Banquet guests: Lt Gen & Mrs. James Doolittle, CMH, Lt Gen & Mrs John B McPherson, Lt. Gen Edgar S Harris, C G 8th AF, Maynard Smith, CMH, and John Morgan, CMH.

An airshow at Luke Air Force Base (training airmen-both American and West German) Planes taking part in the airshow were: WW I Fokker DR-I Triplane (German); SE-5A (RAF); WW II: Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress (USAAF); North American P-51D Mustang (USAAF); North American Harvard MkII (RAF); North American Harvard Mk IV (RCAF) North American AT-6 'Texan' (USAAF); Spitfire Mk IX (RAF); Piper L-4 (USAAF)

Lockheed P-38 Lightning; Stearman PT-13 Trainer (USAAF).

The HIGH LITE OF THE ATTENDING 457'ers - a B 17 painted in the 457th colors Triangle U 750 sqd "SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY" with Betty Gable painted on it. Art Fitch, Jerry & Homer Briggs traveled to Falcone Field early that morning and among the crew climbed aboard & had the flight of their life. Stopping for lunch at Deer Valley after making a thundering pass above the State Capital where former 8th AF Commander & hero of the Tokyo Raid, General James Doolittle was placing a wreath at the Frank Luke Memorial. Joined by rest of planes gave an airshow at Luke Air Base each landing, after a very low pass down the runway, for a 2 hour static display, then again back to Falcon Field. This B 17 is permanently based in Phoenix, Az.

6th Stateside 8th AFHS Reunion:

Oct 29th thru Nov 2, 1980 Orlando, Fla. Vaughn Monroe orchestra, shows "Battle of Century", "B-17, B-24", Highlights "Kenney Space Center", "Sea World" to reserve write: 8th AF Reunion % Rambling Tours, PO Box 1304, Hallandale, Fla 33009

CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE:

Arizona Wing, Suite 200, 700 West Dunlap Ave, Phoenix, Az 85021

Contact Man: Col. Rick Mazola, Public Information Officer.

HOME OF "SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY"this wing was formed in July 1977. January 1978 the Arizona Wing located and purchase a Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress which first flew with the US Army Air Force in 1944.

At Boeing Field, Seattle, Washington, on July 28, 1935, a four-engined prototype bomber designated the XB299 completed its maiden flight and accolades began building.

"Faster than a pursuit ship. Better than anything in the world. Just a little ship...only a little bigger," said Boeing test pilot Les Tower.

"Aerial battle cruiser," commented another pilot.

"The deadliest air weapon in the world," editorialized a newspaper.

And when this airplane was accepted by the military, as the B-17 Flying Fortress, and had earned her battle ribbons, Gen. Carl A Spaatz, WW II Chief of Staff, said this: "She has earned a place in history as the backbone of the daylight bombing campaign over Europe. Without the B-17, we might have lost the war."

Early in WW II, the B-17 was indeed a formidable foe. She had speed to match the fighters. She could fly at altitudes beyond most flak levels. She embodied all her original military specifications which called for a bomber with long range, high altitude, precision bombsight, armament and defensive gunnery, self-sealing gasoline tanks, daylight operations, delicate instrumentation, formation flying, and all-weather capabilities.

The B-17 carried a crew of ten, a four-ton bombload, and up to ten .50 caliber machine guns, plus two .30 caliber machine guns. This armament made her a porcupine to be approached with caution from any angle. And her first combat mission was flown months before Pearl Harbor, on July 8, 1941, when B-17's of No. 90 Squadron of the Royal Air Force bomber Wilhelmshaven, Germany, from a height of 30,000 feet.

Although the mainstay of American long-range bombers throughout the air war in Europe, the B-17 also served in the Pacific and flew reconnaissance missions in both theaters of the war.

The B-17's ferocious attacks on Berlin, Schweinfurt, Hamburg, Cologne, Essen, and other heavily defended targets, wrought havoc on Germany's military and industrial facilities.

And when escorted in later years by the new and long-range fighter escorts of P-51's, P-38's, and P-47's, Hitler's plans for a thousand-year Reich were doomed.

From 1935 to 1945, more than 12,500 Flying Fortresses were built. At war's end, thousands were chopped up for parts or melted for scrap aluminum. A few were maintained for air-sea rescue patrols, or were sold to the air forces of less ambitious military powers such as Brazil and Sweden.

Less than 100 B-17's have survived the 34 years since the end of WW II, and few of these remain in flying condition.

Yet two are maintained by Confederate Air Force (CAF) Wings in Arizona and Texas.

Arizona carries the colors of 457th Bomb Group 750 sqd wore during WW II. Texas

also carries the colors they wore during WW II. They are all-flying reminders of an era pioneered by the late Gen. Billy Mitchell. Their is one at Duxford Museum, England painted in the 457th 749 sqd "Sally-B".

And as long as there is a Confederate Air Force, there will be B-17's .

B-17 FLYING FORTESS:

USAAF WWII Memorial Flight "Sally B", painted in authentic WW2 markings represent 749 Sqd, 457 Bomb Group of 8th AF stationed at Glatton in Huntingdon. This is based at Duxford Museum, England. It is flown to all air shows and on display. In order to keep her going they have to rely on people sharing their enthusiasm, with donations and etc. They are selling items to help share the cost of her up keep. Some of items include Painting of Sally B, USAF Pilot wing, originals, miniature wing, 8th Af Shoulder Patch, 8th AF Stickers, B 17 stickers, button badge, B17 crew tie, Sally B pen, among a host of others. to get price list write to B-17 Sales, % Euroworld, 277-279 Chiswick High Road, London W4, England Europe. The 8th AF Historical Society is also enlisting your help in this project. Art Fitch and Tom Goff can also furnish you with more information on this.

HISTORIAN: Pictures, data, etc have stopped coming in. Nothing has been added for many months. I am compiling a list of planes and the crews. Please send yours even if not complete and any history you have on your plane, dates etc.

REUNION: 4th July 29-30-31, 1979 Omaha, Ne Holiday Inn Hotel.
 Homer traveled to Joplin, Mo Friday 24th to pickup Gordon Townsend from England, then on to Bentonville to pickup Mickey, boys & guests George, Ena Townsend, England traveling on to Witicha, Ks Howard & Fern Larson then joining us, to Omaha, Ne. Tired checking in, but finding old and new friends enabled us to stay up late. Sunday, July 29 found the women registering & the men reminiscing over the Historian books, pictures, data brought in by other men to view. Several new addresses were found. Brunch was at OFFUTT Base, then evening found us all at the Happy Hour, Cold Dutch Buffet at the Holiday Inn. Dan Graham played piano with Ruth Siler playing the violin-beautiful. Ena Townsend, England also played many tunes on piano, group singing.

Monday July 30th we went to OFFUTT Base, 91 attending the SAC lecture and slides, we learned a lot of our country's defence, also Russia's. 86 were at the luncheon at the Officers Club. We then toured the SAC AF Museum. There were 27 Aircraft, seven Missiles. Bombers: B17, B25, B26, B29, B36, RB-45C, B-47, B52 B57, B58. Fighters: F84F, XF-85, F86-H, F-101, F-102A. Cargo: C-47, C-54, KC-97, C-119, C-124, C-133. Rescue Aircraft: HU-16B, UH/HH-19, CH-21. Trainers: T-29A, T-33. Missiles: Atlas ICBM Blue Scout, Bomarc, Hound Dog, Snark, Thor, Titan I. Everyone, including Mickey climbed aboard the B 17 and had a turn at the controls. Camera's clicked that day up into the hundreds. That evening we returned to Strategic Air Command Base for the banquet.

Stanley Kleiner, Lancaster, California Mayor was the banquet Master Cermomies. The guest speaker was Lt. Col. Pollock, bombardier B52-Viet Nam conflict based at OFFUTT. Kleiner thanked the officers for the work on the banquet and the whole of the reunion. Mickey Briggs was thanked for her work thru out the years as Historian and Homer's secry. Mickey gave a Poem "B 17"

You hear folks talk of graceful yachts that sail the seven seas,
 And some will talk of streamlined trains that cross the States with ease.
 But give me the queen of the airways, a throbbing B-17.

She looks massive at seat in the bunker not seeming to worry or care.
 But as each engine soars into life, She is eager to take to the air.
 She strains at the end of the runway, impatient to soar into flight,
 Once airborne she is graceful and steady, and ready to show off her might.

She is a nasty devil in combat, with guns spewing lead from each side,
 And tho bullets and shrapnel may pierce her, no Jerry or Jap will injure her pride.

No matter how much she is wounded, no matter the odds she must face,
 She knows it is her dying duty to return you safe to your base.

Soon when this war is all over and the earth has been rid of the scum.
 You will be able to look at the records and see what the Fortress has done.
 Then when my last flight is scheduled, and I leave this earthly scene,
 Please let me fly up to HeavenIn my own B-17.

Memorial Service: Clayton Bejot gave an impressive Memorial service with the help of Dan Graham on piano, with different members lighting five candles, each honoring the service of, all ground personnel; all flying personnel; for wives, children and family members; for our English friends who helped us in so many ways; memory of those who didn't return home and those who are no longer with us, for service to "457th Bomb Group and of the "The Mighty Eighth Air Force", and the United States of America. Then a member, often a friend, placed a small American flag among the candles as each deceased member was added to our Memorial Scroll. Those added: Jack Merrill - Jack Costello - Roman Becker - Wm Scharshorst Robert Nelson, Lawrence Stroyeski - Don Kehler - Jack Hotaling - Lt Robert Snow William Oden - Raymond Woff - Al Roeckle - Mario Tomassi, - A Ladner - Arthur Hoffman, Sr.

Gordon Townsend, Peterborough spoke to the group of the Historians working in England and of some of their finds. He also said he enjoyed being with the group. George Townsend, Sawtry Caretaker of "The Stone American" at Conington, for the last 13 years also spoke. He gave the Eschortation

They shall not grow old - - As we that are left grow old - - Age shall not weary them - - Nor the years condemn - - At the going down of the sun - - And in the morning - - We will remember them.

Piano music and visiting then to the hotel. Dan Graham showed slides and tapes of previous reunions were played.

Tuesday July 31st Business Meeting was called to order by Pres. Bill Siler. Present were Vice Pres. Howard Larson, secry Treasure Homer Briggs. Board members Ken Kinyon, Ed Reppa, Dee Owsley, & Dan Graham. A motion to recommend to members that we repair or replace "The Stone American" monument at Glatton. Donations for this project are to be sent to the treasure for this fund. A new bylaw added: states reunion meetings to be held every two years instead of three. President Bill Siler thanked Howard Larson and Fern for all their hard work lining up SAC Air base and Motel activities. Also thanked Homer and Mickey for their work. Minutes and Financial statements were read and approved. New Officers elected were Pres. Ed Reppa, Vice Pres Dan Graham, Secry Treas Homer Briggs, Board members Bill Siler, Dee Owsley, Ken Kinyon, Howard Larson.

1979 OMAHA REUNION: ATTENDEES (If I have missed someone's name let me know.)

Sqd 748 : Aaron, Violet Ayres; Stephen, Agnes Billisits; Roland, Elaine Byers (750); James Carey; Lester, Rose, Fried; Walter Ginter; Lloyd Larson; Howard, Fern Larsen; Joseph, Mary Jane Lucas; Ken Luck; Wesley R McDonald; Waldron, Elizabeth McGibbon; Owen, Marion (grandson) McDonough, Wm. J., Gladys McKelvey; Allie McDonald; Enoch, Thelma Naverson; Edward Reppa; George, Mildred Stateman; Dave Summerville; Bill, Ruth Siler; Don, Jeanne Sellon; Robert Tangney. (22 Men)

Sqd 749 : George, Norma Anderson; "Andy", Margaret Anderson; Homer, Mickey, Lee, David Briggs; Paul, Rhoda Birchen; Geo, Phyllis Conover; Arthur, Jane Diehl; Stanley, Bess Kleiner; Ken, Donna Kinyon; Bill, Erika Morse; Dee, Marquerite Owsley; Clifton, Margaret Rabideaux; Ken, Blanche Rurode; Bill, Grace Watts; Robert, Flavia Young. (14 men)

Sqd: 750: George Beere; Clayton, Marie Bejot; Dale Cook; Tom Goff; Stephen, Kay Griff; Frank Hallen; Wayland, Lela Keefover; Alvie, Donna Kirdendall; Henry McKinnis; Sumner, Elizabeth Marshall, Niece Claudia from Germany; Speed, Helen Phillips; Leslie, Mildred Peterson; Clarence, Lois Schuchmann; Robert Seastrand, Robert, Marcella Dwork; Sid, Helen Brunick. (16 men)

Sqd 751: Henry, Ella Friedrich; Royden Green; Leroy, Lois Hiebert; Francis, Eleanor Heekins; Claude, Phyllis, daughter, Triplett. (5 men)

428 Air Service: Dan, Norma Graham

? : William Good; Curt Overdahl.

Caretaker of "The Stone American" English Historical Society:

George and Ena Townsend

English Historical Society:

Gordon Townsend

Total Men attending: 62

Pictures:

I believe that Dan Graham made some group pictures, if you want one inquire to him.

Stanley Brown:

On leaving Omaha, we recieved a Nite-Telegram from Stan and Vista Brown. They were pre-registered and didn't show, many asked about them. Quote: 'Dear Fireballers Unexpected medical problems developed on the 26th of July so we had to cancel all vacation plans. Sorry. Hi to all and Especially the Marshalls. We had counted on seeing & visiting with all of you again, but there is always a next time, so carry on the festivities and all have a good time. Our latch string is always out for Fireball Travelers passing through. Come see us anytime. Stan'

Tuesday Night July 31st: after most of the group had left for home, we gathered together the ones who stayed behind and enjoyed a German Supper. Those attending were: Frank & Margaret Anderson-Ga, Joe & Mary Jane Lucas-Oh, Dan & Norma Graham-Ind, Dee & Marquerite Owsley-Mo, Bill Good-Fla, Steve & Kay Griff-Ill, Tom Goff-Md, Lester & Rose Fried,-NY, Gordon, George, Ena Townsend-England, Homer, Mickey, Lee, David Briggs,-Ark.

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR, INC:

Herman E. Molen, National Commander, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc, 4299 Calimesa Street, Las Vegas, Nev 89110 (702)643-3990

Writes: in part "We have now located up to date addresses of approximately 800 of the 4400 who were in the camp. (He was in 305th BG and at Stalag 17-B) We sometimes help a man locate a buddy for a statment for a claim. Many of the men are anxious to contact old crew members too. I will be traveling to London to attend the Bomber Command reunion in April" He would like to have any prisoners of war contact him and give unit. He would be glad to contact all POWs, not just 17-B.

ROSTER LISTS:

These were compiled begining 1971. Additions & corrections being made each year. This is several pages long & expensive. Only corrected pages are inserted as the printed ones are depleted. It would be very much work & extra expense to do an alphabetical listing each Year. We have a possible 600 members at present, not all choosing to become members. We do send roster lists in a roll third class. Anyone asking for these will be mailed one.

LESLIE PETERSON: 3921 Arthur St, Hollywood, Fla 33021 attended the reunion and had quite an excellent collection of 5" by 7" pictures of various B 17's & airbase. He would be glad to sell some to anyone contacting him--profits would be donated to Bomb Group.

"The STONE AMERICAN" monument :

The Connington Church Officials rejected the stainless steel monument, because it would not be in keeping with the newly-remodeled church and surroundings. Other plans are in the process of being done. Donations are needed if we plan to continue on with the monument which the 1979 reunion attendees voted for. The donations are needed now, as the monument has nearly crumbled completely away and is past any repair. We have a very small amount in this fund at present.

English Historians Society:

Eric Brumby made a short trip to the northern states visiting Tom, Art Fitch, Clayton Bejot and others. A phone call to the Briggs. He was delighted with his trip and expressed his disappointment at not being able to attend the 1979 reunion.

Bernard Baines

Has retired from his career and plans to , among other things, go into more of the Bomb Group's History. He still invites all visiting men to contact him when visiting in England.

John Walker also still keeps in contact, he along with Bernard Baines, Eric Brumby Gordon Townsend, George Townsend (monument caretaker) are all eager to take visitors around, they all can supply history and memories of 'back then', they have collected many pictures, items, data etc. They want you to contact them with anything pertaining the group and help their collection grow. Their addresses are included in this letter in the associate member roster list.

George, Ena Townsend, Sawtry and Gordon Townsend, Peterborough both attended the Omaha, Ne reunion in July 1979. They wanted to express to the membership their appreciation of the invitation to the reunion and a great big thanks to everyone. They enjoyed meeting everyone and their hospitality, friendliness, to them.

Another New associate member was gained July 1979, which is another contact when visiting England. John B Wilson 8 Anthony Close, Peterborough, PE 13 XU Cambs, England

John writes: "I would like to convey my sincere thanks to the officers and members for this honor to become an associate member of the 457th Group. You will see from enclosed clipping from UK "Aviation News" I was closely associated with the group-particularly the 749th sqn. I have met Tom Goff, Les Fried and Ed Benson. We are desperately trying to obtain photos to complete our knowledge of 457th, so will appreciate anyone writing to me and relating anything. Thanks again, yours sincerely" John.

In a newspaper article John has wrote: Demonstrations of the Boeing B 17G now owned by Euroworld at Duxford and Alconbury and Co-incidental availability of Monogram's 1:48th scale modeling the colours of the 457th BG bring back many memories of the "Fireball Outfit" operating from Glatton airfield, Hunts during 1944-45 particularly as the red painted spinners identified the 749th Bomb Squadron which I was privileged to know from early operations to the end of their stay in England. At the time I was a 16-year old cadet with No. 115 Squadron Air Training Corps at Peterborough and my first contact early in March 1944 was with the officers and men of "What Next?" Pilot Lt. R. M. Stohl. The crew mentioned were instrumental in obtaining my first-ever flight. Later I received POW cards from Stohl and Milham stating they were OK. I received 55 hours covering the usual exercises of navigation, formation, shooting landings, slow turning engines, practical bombing, night flying while visiting with the 457th BG at Glatton.....

Mickey

This has been rather a large undertaking for my part, trying to type this letter perfect for copying, with my hands. However, it is a labor of love, and since I am not working full time, do intend to keep up with the future correspondence daily to any of the 600 members. I do apologize for all the mistakes, and the slowness of this letter. Thank you.....

1980-1981 Officers:

PRESIDENT: Edward Reppa
2632 Edgewood
Dearborn, Mich 48124

VICE PRESIDENT: Dan Graham
21 Redbud Lane
Brownsburg, Ind 46112

SECRETARY TREASURE:

Homer L Briggs
811 Northwest "B" Street
Bentonville, Ar 72712

HISTORIAN:

Mickey (Lourrene)
Briggs

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Past president-Bill Siler
2661 Nutmeg
Morro Bay, Ca 93442

Past vice President-Howard Larsen
4200 NW Morley Rd
Topeka, Ks 66618

Dee Owsley

Ken Kinvon

Roster additions - - April 1980

NEW NAMES

Clarkson, William
Star Rt Box 140-A
Bluffton, SC 29910

Dee, William E
400 Palmetto Drive
Miami Springs, Fl 33166

Don, Franklin
409 N Cameron
Casa Grande, Az 085222

Taylor, George R(Bobby)748
PO Box 1149(Merchants Bank)
Cleveland, Tn 37311

Hummer, Warren
PO Box 225
Lake Katrine, NY 12449

King, George W
3748 Beulah Rd
Columbus, Oh 43224

Rado, Thomas K
103 N 5th St.
Allegany, NY 14706

Keller, Charles C -749 pilot
Law offices
Peacock, Keller, Yohe, Day &
Ecker-East Beau Building
70 East Beau Street
Washington, Pa 15301

Windell, Ralph - 750
1100 Somerset Ave
Austin, Tex 78753

Ball, Clifford E
718 E 21st Ave
Apache Junction, Az 85220

Barber, John (Jack) R
5726 N 16th Pl
Phoenix, Az 85016

De Cunzo, Louis P -749
149 Westervelt Av
Hawthorne, NJ 07506

Larson, Lloyd E -748
603 1 Pinemeadow Dr
Sparks, Nv 89431

O'Connor, William P
1154 Kirsopp Ave
Pittsburgh, Pa 15220

Lucas, Joseph J -748
4254 N Lockwood
Toledo, Oh 43612

Graham, Harold E(Pop)
559 DeArmond Pl
Santa Maria, Ca 93454

Gorman, Lee R -750
8209 WH Burges Dr
El Paso, Tx 79925

Bierman, William (Ssgt751)
Box 206 crew chief
Tribes Hill, NY 12177

Woloszyn, Andrew -751
333 Richmond Ave
Syracuse, NY 13204

Toomey, Patrick
PO Box 26
Westfield, Ma 01085

Duffy, Charles
12 Seward Dr
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Rabideauz, Clifton J -749
4421 G St
Omaha, Ne 68107

Mercer, Robert
5902 Penrod Rd
Muncie, In 47304

Goss, Donald K
40150 Littleriver Airport
Rd
Littleriver, Ca 95456

Muse, Thomas F -750
Rte 10 Box 572
Tyler, Tex 75707

Boyes, Wallace F
1714 Utah NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Trusselle, William H
19 Liberty St.
Braintree, Mass 02184

Bolier, Earl R
7170 Annapolis Circle
Maple Grove, Minn 55369

Pelletier, Edwin W
Rt 4 Box 330
La Grange, NC 28551

Overdahl, Curt
1616 Garden Ave
St Paul, Minn 55113

Bozowdes, John S
Box 2934
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062

Jones, Col.David B,retUSAF
6601 Harwood Place -749
Springfield, Va 22152

Peters, Robert E 751
921 - 2nd Ave S
Wisconsin Rapids,Wi 54494

ADDRESS CHANGES

Lambertson, Karl
190 Sierra Bonita
Bishop, Ca 93514

Scott, Russell
3307 Flint Dr
Rapid City, SD 57701

(After May 10,1980)
Goff, Tom Lt Col ret -750
339-303 Gatewater Ct.
Glen Burnie,Md 21061
(Director 8th AFHS)

Siler,William W -748
2661 Nutmeg
Morro Bay, Ca 93442
(Past President)
(180-81 Board Member)

O'Neil,Paul -749
Box 5993
So Lake Tahoe, Ca 95729

DECEASED

David E Callaghan Oct 79
A.L Ladner(428 AS1790)
1978

Roster addition July 1979

New Addresses:

Larson, Lloyd E 748
603 - 1 Pinemeadow Dr.
Sparks, NV 89431

Solmon, Charles N
4407 Little Creek Lane
Richmond, Va

Col. Parker, John B , ret
Rte 2 Box 90
Idabel, Ok 74745

Robert Minick
423 Washington Ave
Cliffside Park, NJ 07010

Lt. Col. Vacealo, Vincent, ret
138 Teddrick St
Clarks green, Pa 18411

Col Tredici, Thomas J, USAF 751
MC Chief, Ophthalmology
Branch, Dept of Air Force
USAF School of Aerospace
Medicine (AFSC) Brooks Air
Force Base, Tex 78235

Henson, Leonard S
RR 1
Keens, Ill 62851

Ofiesh, Gabriel D
PO Box 7045
North Station
Arlington, Va 22207

Julian Branch
572 E First St
Pahokee, Fla 33476

Lt. Col. McDonald, Allie, Jr.
754 North 74th Ave
Omaha, Ne, 68114

Cooper, John A
1510 Ohio Street
Helena, Mont 59601

Coakley, Robert C
107 S Lindsay
Flandreau, SD 57028

Gaudinier, B. J.
11336 30th Ave NE
Seattle, Wa 98125

Stoner, Mel K
2706 Cherokee
Independence, Mo 64057

Burningham, Haven R 748
530 East Mill Street
Bountiful, Utah 84010

Howell, Earl S 748
11 Circle Drive
La Grange, N. C. 28551
POW (Lt Vernon Moland drew)

Address changes

Kenneth E Rohde
Route # 6 Box 523
Franklin, Ky 42134.

Neal Spencer, Jr
RR #1 Watha, N Car

Deceased

Adolph Renner, Jr
A. L. Ladner, 1978
Art Hoffman, Sr (751) 1964