DEAR FIREBALLERS:

THIS NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN DELAYED SOME BY THE NEWS OF OUR PRESIDENT ED REPPA, FALLING OUT OF A TREE - BREAKING HIS BACK. AFTER A LONG STAY AT THE HOSPITAL HE IS AT HOME CONValesCING. WE OFFER HIM OUR PRAYERS AND GOOD WISHES FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY.

HOMER AND MICKEY Invite ANY AND ALL FOR A VISIT AT ANY TIME TO INSPECT THE HISTORIAN BOOKS AND THINGS SENT TO US TO KEEP FOR THE GROUP. HOMER IS AT HOME MOST ALL TIME. 273-3908.

MICKEY WORKS AT COOPER COMMUNITIES, INC., BELLA VISTA VILLAGE- 855-9313.

1981 REUNION: PLANS ARE IN THE MAKING FOR THE REUNION TO TAKE PLACE IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO. SEPTEMBER 25-26-27, 1981 HAS BEEN RESERVED AT THE FOUR SEASONS MOTEL IN COLORADO SPRINGS, THIS BEING A LESS BUSY TOURIST SEASON. TENTATIVE PLANS ARE BEING MADE FOR TOURS AT NORAD AND THE TRAINING ACADEMY. CHANGES OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE DEFINITE PLANS AT PRESENT. WE NEED TO HAVE SOME IDEA AS TO HOW MANY FOR THE HOTEL TO HAVE AN IDEA WHAT TO RESERVE. WE REALIZE YOUR PLANS WILL POSSIBLY CHANGE BY THEN, HOWEVER, IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE ABLE TO ATTEND PLEASE CONTACT HOMER WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, WE THEN WILL TELL THE MOTEL WHAT TO EXPECT. A NEWSLETTER WILL BE OUT IN THE EARLY PART OF 1981 IN PLENTY OF TIME FOR YOU TO RESERVE YOUR OWN ROOMS. FOR SURE AT THAT TIME. ALL THE DETAILS AND MOTEL ADDRESS WILL BE GIVEN AT THAT TIME. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR QUESTIONS CONTACT PRESIDENT ED REPPA, OR DONALD SELLON, WHO IS HEADING UP THE REUNION PLANS.

Lt. Col. Donald Sellon, 2396 South Lansing St., Aurora, Colorado 80014.

Fred W. Coleby, Jr., 8821 So. 65th Pl., Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133 has promised to bring some CAF FILMS SHOWING THE RESTORATION OF THE PLANES, THAT ARE AT THE HARLINGEN, TX. MUSEUM.


MEMBERSHIP : WE USE THE DUES COLLECTED FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND POSTAGE TO MAIL OUT LETTERS. WE NEED THEM ALL TO BE UP TO DATE. SORRY TO REPEAT EACH NEWSLETTER...VOTED BY 1976 REUNION ATTENDEES AS YOUR INITIAL DUES ARE PAID YOU WILL BE SENT A PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP CARD TO BE KEPT AS A PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP CARD. WHEN FUTURE DUES ARE PAID, PAY BY CHECK MARK THE YEAR DUES YOU PAY ON THE CHECK, KEEP THE CANCELED CHECK AS A RECEIPT. YEARLY DUES ARE $5.00 DUE JANUARY OF EACH YEAR............SOME ARE UNABLE TO BECOME MEMBERS OR DO NOT WANT TO, BUT TO STAY ON THE MAILING LIST PLEASE SEND $1.00 FOR POSTAGE. IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR DUES, BUT NEVER RECEIVED A CARD, PLEASE CONTACT HOMER AGAIN AND WE WILL HAVE THE CARD MAILED TO YOU. WE HAVE TO HAVE THE PRESIDENT OF SIGN THE ALSO AND IT TAKES A LITTLE LONGER, IF WE DON'T HAVE THEM ON HAND, PLEASE BEAR WITH US.

You have paid for the years of

_1928 - 29_
NEWSLETTERS:
ARE MAILED AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR, OR WHEN THE OFFICERS FEEL IT NECESSARY. WE DO NEED YOU TO SEND US NEWS, PERSONAL OR EXPERIENCES IN WW II, THAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO SHARE WITH US. PLEASE WRITE US AND LET US KNOW WHETHER YOU LIKE THE NEWSLETTER OR WHAT CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ONE.

8th AFHS:
MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE $6.00. SEND CHECK WITH FIRST AND LAST NAME, ADDRESS AF GROUP, DEPOT OR HQ, ASSIGNED OR ATTACHED TO AND LOCATION SEND TO 8th AFHS, 495 NE 157th TER, MIAMI, FLA. 33162.

8th AFHS REUNION:
IF YOU ATTEND THE ORLANDO, FLA 8th AFHS REUNION, INQUIRE AS TO WHERE YOUR 45th GROUP WILL MEET, AS YOU RESIST THERE, BRIGGS CANNOT ATTEND THIS YEAR. THOSE WHO HAVE WRITTEN THAT THEY WILL ATTEND ARE ART FITCH, DAN GRAHAM, KEN BLAKBROUGH, TOM GOFF, AND ED REPPA.

NEW ADDRESSES:
THE 8th AFHS ARE STILL FINDING US A FEW NEW MEN!!! THANKS.

8th AFHS REUNION:
OCT. 29th THRU NOV. 2, 1980. ORLANDO, FLA. WRITE RAMBING TOURS, PO BOX 1304 HALLANDALE, FLA. 33009.

HISTORIAN:
MICKEY WOULD LIKE MORE PICTURES AND DATA, DIARIES (COPIES), TO PUT WITH OUR GROWING COLLECTIONS, WOULD APPRECIATE HISTORIES ON YOUR PLANE AND OR CREWS. WE HAVE MANY AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN AUTHORS WRITING FOR INFORMATION ON YOUR EXPERIENCE PERTAINING TO A CERTAIN PLANE, PILOT AND CREW AND OR CERTAIN MISSION, WE WILL PUT HIM IN TOUCH WITH YOU, IF WE HAD THE INFORMATION. THEY ALSO TELL US DIFFERENT FINDS AND WHERE.

ENGLISH HISTORIANS:
THIS PAST YEAR THE ATTIC OF THE CONNINGTON CHURCH RECTORY WAS BEING CLEARED AND A PAINTING, DONE BY PERSONNEL OF THE 457th BASE WAS FOUND. IT WAS THE PROPERTY OF CANON WILKINSON AND HAD BEEN THERE ALL THOSE YEARS. IT WAS GIVEN TO GEORGE TOWNSEND, SAWTRY, WHO IN TURN HAD HIS SON, GORDON TOWNSEND, PETERBOROUGH TO GO SEE ABOUT IT AND SEE WHAT CONDITION IT IS IN. HE WILL ADD IT TO THEIR COLLECTION SO THAT ANYONE GOING TO ENGLAND MAY SEE IT. GEORGE SAID IT WAS OF THE CHURCH AND B 17'S.

THE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS INVITE ANY VISTOR TO ENGLAND TO LOCK THEM UP AND THEY WILL GUIDE YOU AROUND THE OLD BASE. THEIR NAME AND ADDRESSES ARE IN THE 1979 ROSTER ADDITION LIST.

ERIC BRUMBY, BERNARD BAINS, GORDON TOWNSEND, JOHN WALKER, JOHN WILSON OF PETERBOROUGH, THEIR PHONES ARE LISTED IN THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY. GEORGE TOWNSEND IN IN SAWTRY NEAR CONNINGTON, JOHN WALKER AND GORDON TOWNSEND ARE TALKING OF POSSIBLY ATTENDING THE COLORADO REUNION, AS WELL AS GEORGE WOULD LIKE TO. WE INVITE THEM ALL TO ATTEND AND HOPE THEY WILL COME. THE ENGLISH HISTORIANS HAD A 457th EXHIBITION IN OCTOBER BOTH 1979 & 1980.

ENGLISH AIRFORSCE AIR SHOW:
OCT. 9-12, 1980 HARLINGTON A.X. "SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY" B-17, ARIZONA WING......WITH 457th MARKINGS ......FLEW IN THE AIR SHOW.

FRANK HAIN, 433 NW 33RD ST, CORVALLIS, OR 97330 (94th BM GRF) HAS FOUND US A NEW MEMBER.

HE ALSO WANTS TO EXCHANGE NEWSLETTERS. SEVERAL OTHER GROUPS ALSO SEND US THEIR NEWSLETTERS. THESE ARE KEPT IN THE HISTORIAN'S YEARLY BOOK. WE HAVE FOUND SEVERAL MEN THRU THEM, IN TURN WE HAVE LOCATED SOME FOR THEM.

HOWARD LARSEN, HAS FOUND HIS CREW'S CO PILOT WHO WILL BE ON THE 1981 ROSTER LIST.

ARTHUR SHERANI, 3402 CHERRY, PITTSBURG, PA 15205. PO/W 7487H.

MONUMENT:
8th AF NEWS, JOURNAL OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY...AUGUST 1980 ISSUE HAS ON PAGE 7 A PICTURE OF OUR 457th BG CONNINGTON. THIS IS A PICTURE TAKEN SOME YEARS AGO.

HAROLD R. JENSEN, BERSTEINELAAN 14 B, 2542 KA THE HAGUE THE NETHERLANDS. WRITES IN RE: THE PICTURE OF A "ARMAR BULLETIN 1939 1945", I HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED FOR MORE THAN 1 YEAR WITH A HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION INTO AN AMERICAN BOMBER THAT CRASHED AFTER AN ATTACK ON OSNABRUCK'S HUGO RAILROAD MARSHALLING YARDS ON 26 SEPTEMBER 1944, NEAR LISSE HOLLAND. THE B-17G BELONGED TO THE 457th BOMB GROUP AND THE SERIAL NUMBER WAS 42-32079. THE PILOT OF THE PLANE WAS LT. CARL GOOCH, HIT BY GERMAN FLAK. TWO CREW MEMBERS WERE KILLED, ONE MEMBER WAS TAKEN PRISONER AND THE REST OF THE SURVIVORS HID WITH SYMPATHIZING DUTCH. I WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO GET IN CONTACT WITH RELATIVES OF SGT PARKER AND SGT REILLY, ASKING FOR MORE INFORMATION AND PHOTO'S. PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU KNEW THESE MEN......HE INCLOSED PHOTO'S OF THE TWO PROPELLERS OF LT. GOOCH'S B-17. ONE READS:

IN MEMORIAM ENGINER WILBERT H PARKER OF THE USA AIRFORCE FALLEN LISSE HOLLAND 9/26/44...THE OTHER READS: IN MEMORIAM DONALD J REILLY OF THE USA AIRFORCE FALLEN AT KAGER LAKE NEAR SASSBEIN HOLLAND 9/26-44.

8th AF EXHIBIT AT DUXFORD OPENS 1st DUXFORD, ENGLAND. THE 8th AF EXHIBIT WAS OPENED ON 22 MAY 1980. THE EXHIBIT INCLUDES THE ILLUMINATED MAP OF 8th AF AIRFIELDS WITH LIGHTS THAT SHOW THE LOCATION OF GROUPS OF AIRFIELDS BY AIRCRAFT TYPE. A DISPLAY OF THE COMMANDERS AND THE COMMANDS INCLUDES THE UNIFORM OF MAJOR GENERAL EDWIN W HILL, COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE VIII AIR FORCE COMPOSITE COMMAND. NEARBY IS A DISPLAY OF PHOTOS DEPICTING DUXFORD'S ROLE IN THE 8th AIR FORCE. AN ADJACENT EXHIBIT AREA HAS SIX ALOCES DISPLAYING, THE PLAN OF THE COMBINED BOMBER OFFENSIVE, HEAVY BOMBERS WITH FULLY DRESSED CREW AND TATTS OF PRECISION BOMBING, COMPLETE WITH A NORDON BOMBSIGHT, THE ENEMY COUNTERACTION DESCRIBES FIGHTING AND FLAK FACED IN OUR AIR WAR, 8th AF FIGHTER'S, COMBAT FIGURE, STORY ON THE HUGE AMOUNT OF GROUND EFFORT NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE "MIGHTY EIGHTH". THIS EXHIBIT WILL BE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF OUR LOST COMRADES ON 7 SEPTEMBER 1980. (WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE), MUSH THANKS GO TO E.O. INMAN, KEEPER OF DUXFORD AIRFIELD, AND ROGER FREEMAN, TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM AND A DIRECTOR OF THE 8th AF MEMORIAL MUSEUM FOUNDATION, INC. FOR THEIR HARD WORK THAT LED TO THE EXISTANCE OF THIS FINE EXHIBIT, WE NEED TO THANK THOSE WHO DONATED TREASURED ITEMS TO THIS 8th AF EXHIBIT AS WELL AS ALL OF YOU WHO, THROUGH YOUR 8th AFHS DUES AND SEPARATE CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE PROVIDED FOR PURCHASE OF SOME DISPLAYS.
LETTERS:

IVO M. TONG, JULIANAstraat 25, 2351 CW LEIDERDORP, HOLLAND, WRITES... ON MAY 28th, 1944 A B-17 FROM 388 BG CRASHED IN GNOCHEM IN HOLLAND. I AM RESEARCHING THIS CRASH FOR ALREADY TWO YEARS, BUT DO NOT WANT THE OTHER BOMB GROUPS WITH LOSSES ON THAT DAY. FROM A FRIEND OF MINE I HEARD THAT THREE B-17'S FROM 457th BG WENT DOWN (LT. STOEK, LT. HAUF AND LT. KIPPER). I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW MUCH MORE ABOUT THESE CRASHES. CAN YOU PLEASE TELL ME THE NAMES AND RANKS OF THE CREW's MEMBERS OF THESE B-17's AND IF THERE ARE ANY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THESE CRASHES? I REALLY SHOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THESE. WHAT WERE THE SERIALS OF THESE BOMBERS? WHAT WAS YOUR TARGET? WHAT WERE YOUR TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, WHO WERE MANNED ON THAT DAY? Etc. I ASK YOU POLITELY TO HELP ME WITH MY RESEARCH INTO THESE 457 BG PLANES.

SINCERELY YOURS...

Mr. R. MILBourn, 41, Chilham close, Pitsea, Basildon, Essex, SS 13 2AQ, England writes...

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO I CAME ACROSS A BOOK CALLED "THE FIREBALL OUTFIT", THE 457th BOMBARDMENT GROUP IN THE SKIES OVER EUROPE, BY KENNETH BLACKBROUGH PUBLISHED 1968, THE BOOK CAME INTO MY POSSESSION WHILST LOOKING AROUND AN OLD BOOK SHOP AND IS NOW AMONGST MY COLLECTION OF WWII AVIATION. I BELONG TO AN HISTORICAL AIRCRAFT GROUP CALLED THE ESSEX AVIATION GROUP, WHICH RESEARCH AND RECORD ACTUAL EVENTS. OUR VICE PRESIDENT IS MAJOR URBAN L. DREW, US 9th AAF RETIRED. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON HIM? PLEASE COULD YOU GIVE ME ANY INFORMATION ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF CYCLONE 1820/973A WITH SOME LIFE LEFT IN THEM? HAVE ANY MORE BOOKS ON THE 457th BOMBARDMENT GROUP BEEN PUBLISHED. IF ANY OF YOUR MEMBERS REQUIRE RESEARCH ON INFORMATION CONCERNING WWII, I WOULD BE GLAD TO OBLIGE. IF ANY OF THE MEMBERS HAVE TO PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD B PLANES WITH THEIR HISTORY, PLEASE WRITE.

YOURS SINCERELY...

GORDON H. HUNSBURGER, SECRETARY, 355th FG ASSN. 75 Congo road, Box 71, Gilbertsville, PA. 19525. WRITES... ATTACHED YOU WILL FIND A STORY ON ONE OF YOUR FORMER PILOTS. L.T. RICHARD T. BENNETT, JUST RECEIVED BY THE WRITER. IT STATES THAT ON JULY 12, 1944, HE JOINED THE 355th FIGHTER GROUP AND CRASHED IN A P-51 ON JULY 26, 1944. I HAVE SEARCHED THROUGH ALL OF THE RECORDS OF OUR ORGANIZATION AND CANNOT FIND SUCH A PILOT ASSIGNED TO OUR GROUP. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THIS MATTER FROM OTHER SOURCES AND THAT IS THE REASON FOR WRITING TO YOU AND SEVERAL OTHERS. WHERE CAN I OBTAIN HIS SERIAL NUMBER SO THAT I MAY DO MY MORE RESEARCH AT THE ARCHIVES IN WASH, DC? IF ANY OF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS MATTER, PLEASE CONTACT ME, SINCERELY... EXPLANATION OF HUNSBURGER'S LETTER... FROM PAUL ?? WHO HUNSBURGER TO RON BUTCHON, 390th BOMB GROUP MEMORIAL MUSEUM 634 NACTON ROAD, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND IP3 9QE. (CURATOR OF THE 390th BG CONTROL TOWER MUSEUM (FOTI) QUOTE: BACK IN JULY 1971, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT A P-51 WAS LOCATED IN THE FARM OF A FARMER IN THE VILLAGE OF HENBERG, NEAR SOUTHWICK. I DON'T KNOW HOW THIS WAS DETERMINED. BUT IT WAS LOCATED BY A FARMER AND HE CHECKED OR THE DETAILED RECORDS HELD BY THE LOCAL POLICE DEPT. THIS INFORMATION WAS CORRECTED FOR THE FARM ON THE RECORDS ON JULY 26, 1944 AT 2115 PM AFTER RECEIVING PERMISSION FROM THE FARMER TO DIG ON HIS PROPERTY. RON AND SEVERAL HELPERS OPENED UP A HOLE THAT MEASURED 18 FT. WIDE BY 10 FT. DEEP TO FIND THE ENGINE (A PACKARD ROLLS ROYCE) WITH THE BENT PROP AND WHITE SPINNER STILL ATTACHED, ENOUGH OF THE FUSELAGE FOLLOWED THE ENGINE INTO THE SOFT GROUND TO READ THE MARKING ON THE SIDE AND FINALLY IDENTIFY THE PLANE AS ONE FROM THE 355th FG. MOST OF THE EXTERIOR OF THE PLANE, (THE WINGS AND TAIL ASSEMBLY) WERE RIPED OFF WHEN IT PLUNGED INTO THE GROUND. THESE ON THE SURFACE PIECES HAD LONG BEEN REMOVED BY LOCALS WHO SOLD THE ALUMINUM FOR SCRAP METAL VALUE. HOWEVER, THE LANDING GEAR WAS NOT RECOVERED, ONE RUDDER PEDAL, THE ENGINE, A TIRE, AND SEVERAL OTHER ITEMS WERE RECOVERED FOR DISPLAY AT THE TOWER MUSEUM. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE SKELETON OF THE PILOT OR ANY OTHER PERSONAL ITEMS WERE RECOVERED, BUT rflw HAS A COMPLETE DIARY OF HIS RECOVERY DIGGINGS. ANOTHER INTERESTING ITEM WAS THE FACT THAT ALL OF THE P-51's AMMUNITION BOXES WERE FULL WHICH MEANS THAT HE MUST HAVE BEEN ON A TRAINING MISSION WHEN THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED. FROM FURTHER RESEARCH, IT WAS PROVEN THAT THE PILOT'S NAME WAS L.T. RICHARD T. BENNETT WHO JOINED THE 355th ON 12 JULY 1944. JUST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE ACCIDENT, HE WAS A FORMER PILOT WITH THE 457th BG AND HAD COMPLETED 30 COMBAT MISSIONS WITH THE B-17... PAUL ?? WRITE TO RON BUCHON, IF YOU CAN HELP, ALSO TO GORDON HUNSBURGER.

JOSEPH J. PEARCE, JR., 10 Elizabeth street, Milford, Del 19963 writes...(THIS IS A REPEATED LETTER WRITTEN APRIL 1979. HAVE NEVER HEARD AGAIN ON THE OUTCOME, MAYBE SOME OF YOU COULD HELP HIM ALSO, WRITE TO HIM AND ASK HOW YOU CAN.) QUOTE: AS A FORMER B-17 COMBAT PILOT, AND NOW POSTMASTER OF MILFORD, DELAWARE, 1963, I HAVE PROPOSED TO THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE THAT A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP OR POSTAL CARD BE ISSUED FEATURING THE B-17, FLYING FORTRESS. THIS WOULD BE TIMED TO TIE IN WITH THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAST KNOWN COMBAT B-17, "SHOO SHOO BABY" AT DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, DOVER, DELAWARE 19901, BY THE 512th MILITARY AERIALFIGHTER GROUP. THE FOLLOWING HAVE ENDORSED THE PROPOSAL SO FAR; DELAWARE'S GOVERNOR DUFORT, SENATOR ROTH, CONGRESSMAN EVANS, AND DOVER POSTMASTER AS WELL AS OTHER POSTAL OFFICIALS. SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER HAS RESPONDED FAVORABLY AND THE 512 TH MAW HAS WRITTEN TO THE POSTAL SERVICE ENDORSING THE PROJECT, IS THERE ANYONE IN YOUR GROUP WHO MIGHT LIKE TO SEE THE FORTRESS SO COMMORATIVE IF SO PLEASE HAVE THEM WRITE TO THE FOLLOWING: U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, CUSTOMS AND COMMUNICATIONS, 1100 POSTAL, WASHINGTON D.C. 20260. BACK UP THIS PROPOSAL WITH LETTERS AND CAN IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE ONE NIGHTY B-17 IS NOW A WAR RELIC, SINCERELY YOURS, (IF ANYONE HAS INFORMATION ON THIS PLEASE CONTACT HOMER BRIGGS, ALSO)

Owen S. O'BRIEN, JR., 748 SQUADRON FIGHTERPLANE... 1111 W GIMON CIR., MOBILE, AL 36605 writes...DO YOU HAVE ANY AVAILABLE TO A ROSTER(PARTIAL OR OTHERWISE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE 748th SQDN), ESPECIALLY BETWEEN SEPT 1944 AND MAY 1945?

AUTO-PAGE CO. 144 E. SANTA CLARA STE., ARCADIA, CA 91006... INSERT SENT ALONG WITH LETTER.

(this was in an earlier newsletter, but repeating for the benefit of the newer members)
457th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

CONSTITUTED AS 457th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ON 19 MAY 1943. ACTIVATED ON 1 JULY 1943. TRAINED FOR COMBAT WITH B 17's. MOVED TO ENGLAND, JAN-FEB 1944, AND ASSIGNED TO EIGHTH AF. FLEW FIRST MISSION ON 21 FEB 1944 DURING BIG WEEK, TAKING PART IN THE CONCENTRATED ATTACKS OF HEAVY BOMBERS ON THE GERMAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY. UNTIL JUNE 1944, ENGAGED PRIMARILY IN BOMBARDMENT OF STRATEGIC TARGETS, SUCH AS BALL-BEARING PLANT, AIRCRAFT FACTORIES, AND OIL REFINERIES IN GERMANY. BOMBED TARGETS IN FRANCE IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE 1944 IN PREPARATION FOR THE NORMANDY INVASION, AND ATTACKED COASTAL DEFENSES ALONG THE CHERBOURG PENINSULA ON D-DAY. STRUCK AIRFIELDS, RAILROADS, FUEL DEPOTS, AND OTHER INTERDICTORY TARGETS BEHIND THE INVASION BEACHES THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF THE MONTH.


STATIONS: GEIGER FIELD, WASH., 1 JULY 1943; Rapid City AAB, SD, 9 JULY 1943; EPHRATA AAB, WASH., 23 OCT 1943; WENDOVER FIELD, UT, 4 DEC 1943, 1 JAN 1944; GATTON, ENGLAND, 22 JAN 1944; JUNE 1945; SIOUX FALLS, AAF, SD, 20 JULY, 28 AUG 1945.

COMMANDERS: COL. HERBERT E. RICE, 24 JULY 1943; LT. COL. HUGH D. WALLACE, 3 SEPTEMBER 1943; COL. JAMES R. LUPF, 4 JAN 1944; COL. HARRIS E. ROYER, 11 OCT 1944-AUG 1945.

CAMPAIGNS: AIR OFFENSIVE, EUROPE; NORMANDY; NORTHERN FRANCE; RHEINELAND; ARDENNES-ALSAKE; CENTRAL EUROPE.

DECORATIONS: NONE INSIGNE: NONE.

THIS AUTO BADGE CO MAKES BADGES TO GO ON CARS OR PLAQUES TO YOUR CHOICE. LIMITED TO 19 LETTERS AND SPACES PER LINE. WRITE FOR INFORMATION.

....IF YOU CAN ANSWER ANY OF THESE REQUESTS, PLEASE LET HOMER KNOW ALSO.....

LOST: WILLIAM COUCH-ATTENDED 1976 REUNION, HAVE NEVER HAD AN ADDRESS FOR HIM. WIFE: BETH, FROM TENN. ANYONE HAVING HIS ADDRESS PLEASE CONTACT HOMER.

ROSTER LISTS:

ROSTER LISTS WERE COMPILED BEGINNING 1971, EVER CHANGING. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS BEING MADE EACH YEAR. THIS IS SEVERAL PAGES LONG & EXPENSIVE. ONLY CORRECTED PAGES ARE INSERTED AS THE PRINTED ONES ARE DATED. IT WOULD BE VERY MUCH WORK AND EXTRA EXPENSE TO DO AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING EACH YEAR. WE HAVE A POSSIBLE 650 MEMBERS AT PRESENT, NOT ALL CHOSING TO BECOME MEMBERS, IN FACT LESS THAN HALF. WE WILL SEND ROSTER LISTS IN A ROLL, THIRD CLASS. ANYONE ASKING FOR THESE WILL BE MAILED ONE.

"THE FIGHTER OUTFIT", AUTHOR KEN BLAKEBOROUGH (457th SQDN) CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING KEN BLAKEBOROUGH, 26095 AVENIDA BONACHON, MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691.

"EIGHTH AIR FORCE ALBUM" AUTHOR JOHN WOOLNOUGH (8th AFR) BOX 4738, HOLLYWOOD, FLA 33023 PICTURES INCLUDED FROM 457'ERS HOMER BRIGGS, TOM GOFF, DR RICHARD BARNES, EDWARD JACKSON, LESTER PETerson, AND BERNARD BAINS FROM ENGLAND.

1980-1981 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: EDWARD REPPA, Lt. Col. 2632 EDGEWOOD DEARBORN, MICH 48124

VICE PRESIDENT: DAN GRAHAM 21 REDHED LANE BROWNSBURG, IND 46112

SECRETARY-TREASURER: HOMER R. BRIGGS 811 NORTHWEST "B" STREET BENTONVILLE, ARK 72712 PHONE 501-273 3908

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% GOOD SAM CLUB
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AGOURA, CA 91301

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613 S.E. 36th
ALBANY, OR 97321

DECREASED

LT. COL. ARTHUR F RIEHL, JR 1980
(COLO SPRS, COLO. ATTENDED 1979 REUNION)