



748th
Bomb Squadron



749th
Bomb Squadron



750th
Bomb Squadron



751st
Bomb Squadron

457th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

Association The FIREBALL OUTFIT

1983-1985 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
WILLIAM A GOOD, JR
3647 BAYSHORE BL. NE
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33703

VICE PRESIDENT:
DAVE K SUMMERVILLE
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VISTA, CA 92083

SECRETARY-TREASURE:
HOMER L BRIGGS
811 NORTHWEST "B" STREET
BENTONVILLE, AR 72712

BOARD OFFICERS:
PAST PRES:
DAN GRAHAM
10323 OSO GRANDE RD. N.E.
ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. 87111

PAUL BIRCHEN
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HASTINGS, MN 55033

STEPHEN F BILLISITS
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HISTORIAN:
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NEWSLETTER:
HOMER & MICKEY BRIGGS

HONORARY MEMBERS:

MICKEY BRIGGS
BARBARA TREADWAY
AUDREY ROECKLE
LEONA TOMASSI
FERN LARSEN
DVM ARTHUR HOFFMAN
CONNOR DOZIER
JAMES ROGNER

ENGLISH HISTORIANS:
GEORGE TOWNSEND
GORDON TOWNSEND
ERIC BRUMBY
BERNARD BAINS
JOHN WALKER, JOHN WILSON

PAST PRESIDENTS:

1973-1975
WILLIAM WILBORN
1976
HOWARD LARSEN
1977-1979
WILLIAM SILER
1980-1981
EDWARD REPPA
1982-1983
DAN GRAHAM

8th AFHS VICE PRES:
LT COL THOMAS A GOFF

FIREBALLERS:

WE HAD A GREAT TIME IN HOUSTON, TEXAS FOR THE 6th REUNION OF THE 457th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION. WE MET INCONJUNCTION WITH THE 8th AFHS REUNION. WE ENJOYED BOTH REUNIONS. WE VISITED WITH FRIENDS FROM PAST REUNIONS AND MET NEW FRIENDS. WE VOTED ON THE FUTURE REUNION TO BE SEPARATE FROM THE 8th AFHS. IT WILL BE IN RAPID CITY, SD IN 1985. ANY QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED

TO: COL. JOHN F. WELCH
2933 COUNTRY CLUB DR.
RAPID CITY, SD 57701
(REUNION CHAIRMAN)

AS SOON AS HE AND PRESIDENT WM. GOOD HAVE PLANS THEY WILL BE PRINTED IN THE NEWSLETTER. TENTATIVE PLANS ARE FOR SEPT 85.

PLANS ARE IN THE MAKING TO HAVE A PAINTING OF THE 457th MARKINGS ON A B17 COMPLETED AND HUNG IN THE AIRFORCE ACADEMY AT COLORADO SPRINGS, CO.

NEW OFFICERS WERE ELECTED AND ARE LISTED TO THE LEFT.

WE HAD A VERY IMPRESSIVE CANDLE LIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE CONDUCTED BY JOHN WARD, CHAPLAIN OF RENO, NV VETERANS HOSPITAL. NAMES WERE READ AND FLAGS PLACED IN THEIR HONOR, AND ADDED TO THE SCROLL. FOTE MEMBERS IN ENGLAND SENT A COPY OF THE WALL OF THE MISSING WHICH WAS READ. THEY WERE ADDED ALSO TO THE SCROLL.

THIS LIST OF ATTENDEES AT THE RIGHT IS NOT COMPLETE, AS I HAVE NOT RECIEVED A COMPLETE LIST FROM THE 8th HISTORICAL SOCIETY YET. IF YOUR NAME IS NOT LISTED AND YOU WERE THERE OR, YOU ARE LISTED AND YOU DID NOT ATTEND PLEASE CONTACT ME, SO THE RECORDS WILL BE CORRECT. THE CORRECTIONS WILL BE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER. LISTED IS A TOTAL OF 103.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME A	FIRST NAME B
ADAMS	DAR	
ANGIER	* JOHN FRANCIS	MADELEINE
AYRES	* AARON	VI
BARRIS	* HAROLD	
BEJOT	* CLAYTON	MARIE
BILLISITS	* STEPHEN	AGNES
BIRCHEN	* PAUL	RHODA
BOLIER	* ROLLIE	HELEN
BRANSTETTER	* GEORGE	
BREIT	* NORM	ARLENE
BRIGGS	* HOMER	MICKEY
CORNELL	* HARRY	GERTRUDE
DASCOMB	GEORGE <i>guest</i>	
DERLING	* JOHN	
FALCONE	* JOE	IRIS
FITCH	* ART	JEAN
FITZHUGH	* DICK	ALICE
FORTNA	* LLOYD	WANDA
GOFF	* TOM	
GOOD	* BILL	PEGGY
GRAHAM	* DANIEL	NORMA
GREEN	* ROYDEN	
HART	LESTER <i>guest</i>	
HEEKIN	* FRANCIS	ELEANOR
HIEBERT	* LEROY	LOIS
HUNNEN	KLAUS <i>guest</i>	
KANNE	* DAVE	SHIRLEY
KIEFFER	* MEL	ESTHER
KINYON	* KEN	DONNA
LANDAUER	ANNA MARY	
LARSEN	FERN	
LEWIS	* GEORGE	MARGUERITE
MAITLAND	* ROBERT	
MC GIBBON	* WALDRON	ELIZABETH
MC KELVEY	* BILL	
MC LEOD	* DONALD	MARILYN
NETZGER	* GEORGE	LAROSE
NAVARRO	* JOSEPH	EMILIA
O'ROURKE, JR.	* OWEN	MARYLYN
OWSLEY	* DEE	MARGUERITE
ROMINE	COLEMAN <i>guest</i>	
SHEAKLEY	* ALLEN	
SILER	* WILLIAM	
SIPE	* MARSHALL	
SITEK	* BERNARD	
SMITH	* W.L.	LAURIC
STEVENS	* NORM	BARBIE
SUMMERVILLE	* DAVE	LILLIAN
TRUSSELLE	* BILL	
WARD	* JOHN	
WATTS	* WILLIAM	GRACE
WELCH	* JOHN	ALBERTA

COUCH	WILLIAM	BETH
CAREY	JAMES	1 GUEST
GUSTAFSON	CARROL	
RACINE ??	EMILE	MARGARET
UMOFF	A. PAUL	
REPPA	ED	NELDA
PARKER	GEO	
LAMBERSTON	WINFRED	
WEIBEL	CARL	
WINDHAM	TEX	
FRIEDRICH	HENRY	ELLA
RURODE	KEN	BLANCHE
TOMKO	GEORGE	AGNES
FULBRIGHT	TOM	MARTHA
DAHLER	L.A.	LEE
HARPER	GUEST	MARSHA
HICKS	GUEST	LISA

THE FOLLOWING REPORT, SCHEDULE AND FORM HAS BEEN WITTEN BY PRESIDENT WILLIAM A GOOD, JR.
ALL CORRESPONDENCE PERTAINING THIS MUST BE RETURNED TO HIM.

ENGLAND TRIP PLANS WILL ONLY BE SENT TO THOSE INTERESTED IN THIS. ALSO IF YOU HAVE SENT THE FORM BACK TO HIM. PLEASE DONOT SEND IT TO THE SECKY TREASURE.
THANK YOU.

IF YOU CARE TO CHECK OUT A VERY GOOD RATE FOR PLANE FARE PEOPLEXPRESS AIRLINE, NEWARK NJ IT LANDS AT GADWICK AIRPORT SOUTH OF LONDON. OTHERS LAND AT HEATHROW AIRPORT.

At the recent Annual Meeting, we decided to hold a Reunion and Dedication of our new Monument at Conington in 1984. A professional Travel Agent made a pitch to handle the trip for us but the general consensus was that it could be done on our own for less money.

It was decided to take the trip in the latter part of May since all Airline rates go up on June 1st. Some thought will be given to group travel. A lot will depend on your responses. If interest is sufficient to go forward with plans, there will be certain expenses connected with making arrangements. These expenditures will necessarily have to be borne equally by all members taking the trip.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE IN PETERBOROUGH, ENGLAND

MAY 1984

24	Thursday	Arrive - Rest and Recuperation
25	Friday	Sightseeing and Shopping on your own
26	Saturday	Dedication of Monument and visit to Old Base and a Banquet
27	Sunday	Trip to Cambridge Cemetery and Lunch at Lakenheath Air Force Base
28	Monday	On your Own

There are many Travel Agencies in London that provide Tours all through England that you can contact on arrival to arrange side trips on your own if you desire to arrive early or extend your trip. Also be aware of D-Day ceremonies on June 6, 1984 in France.

TIME IS VERY SHORT FOR PLANNING SUCH AN OPERATION. IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO ALL COMMUNICATIONS IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST.

For your information the Pound is approximately \$1.50 at the present time.

3
HOMER & MICKEY ATTENDED THE CONTACT WORKSHOP: "SEARCH & RESCUE" "LOST SOULS"
WE NEED EACH ONE OF YOU TO HELP. HERE ARE SOME TRIED AND SUCCESSFUL METHODS FOR
YOU TO FIND YOUR BUDDY AND THEN TURN HIS NAME AND ADDRESS IN TO THE SECY-TREASURE.
THIS TAKES SOME OF THE WORK OFF THE SECY'S SHOULDERS.
SOME SUGGESTIONS BY OTHER GROUPS THAT FIND THEIR "LOST SOULS".

JOHN NEFF, CHAIRMAN SEARCH & RESCUE OF THE 7th PHOTO GROUP ASSOCIATION WRITES:

I spend a lot of time on the phone but it is a less costly way of searching when you use your phone on Saturday, Sunday, or before Eight A.M. or after Eleven P.M.. It is even cheaper than mail if you put a return stamped envelope in your letter; and, you get a better response, and, you may get suggestions of where to search. You get more detail by the phone than you would by the mailing. However, mailing is a good source of finding "Lost Souls," and we will dwell on that a bit.

If you have a full address, including a street number or a rural route number of the "Lost Soul" you are trying to find you can write to him at that address; and add after his name, 'Or Anyone Who Knows of Him.' This was a first method I used in finding "Lost Souls of the 14th Photo. Of course, after you find somebody they often will give you other addresses or mention another name and you can start a search of the new "Lost Soul." We found a great percentage of the "Lost Souls" of the Fourteenth this way. If the letter is returned to you, or you have no response, you could write to the occupant or resident of that address. If this is returned to you, or you have no response, you can use other methods. Be sure to always enclose a card or a stamped envelope for their answer. Also be sure that you have the proper zip. In case of larger cities where there are different zips for different streets, you can find such zips at the post office, if you do not have the large zip book.

If this method fails you can still write letters and make finds of "Lost Souls." A letter to the Chamber of Commerce if the population is over 2,000; or the Police Department if it is under 2,000; or the public library. I mentioned before that the Public Library is a source of finding ones who have unlisted telephone numbers. But it is also a good source of finding the "Lost Soul." From the library, if they have a City Directory opposed to a phone directory, they will often times have information of the wife, the occupation of the "Lost Soul," perhaps his age; depending upon the Directory and various other materials under his listing. You can have the Librarian start her search for 1945 and trace it through from year to year or whenever they have directories until the directory fails to include the name of the "Lost Soul." Perhaps the first address they have of the "Lost Soul" is the address of the parents. It may be that they can give you the parent's name, if the "Lost Soul" name is not listed separately. By use of the parents you can find out if they are deceased, then you could go to the Probate Court, or write to the Probate Court. (The Probate Court has different names in different states.) In the State of Nebraska it is called a County Court. If there has been an Estate Proceeding for the deceased parent of the "Lost Soul," you are trying to find, they can give you the address of the "Lost Soul" at that time. He will be listed with an address because he is a participant or an heir. You can then start tracing from the new address.

In letters to the Police Department the police will give you the information that you desire. I have a form letter which I use to get other information from Police Departments, Chamber of Commerce, and Public Library asking for addresses of school alumni, address of the American Legion, V.F.W., of Senior Citizen Organizations, and other possible sources of help. I have found "Lost Souls" through each one of these various sources. The Alumni Association will work or even the school, if he has gone to school in the town or the city where you have an address.

In one instance, a 'Resident Letter' to North Carolina was turned over to the daughter of the former owner. She went to quite a bit of trouble to locate the "Lost Soul" Pilot and did so after some friend of hers told her that he believed that he remembered that name at some distant town than the one that she lived in, Winston Salem. She then went to the trouble to look for our "Lost Soul" in that town and located his divorced wife who then gave her the address of the "Lost Soul" Pilot. My helper called me in prime time and was so

excited and said that her friends thought she should be in the F.B.I.. I assured her that I thought so too. You will find that most people are very cooperative in helping you find "Lost Souls" and don't hesitate to ask them. I've always sent a letter or 'thank you' to such people including the Librarians or Police or any other person who responds to my letters with positive answers.

I cannot repeat too often that you should put in a return stamped envelope or a card with each mailing.

I have mentioned it before but I want to emphasize that in case you do not know the exact zip and particularly in cities where they have zips for different streets, you can get that information at the Post Office from their large zip code book.

Once in awhile I will find an address of a City that doesn't seem to be in existence. I have written to the Post Master General in Washington, D.C., and he has told me if this town is a discontinued Post Office and what Post Office has taken over the duties of the discontinued Post Office. He has been even more helpful in getting addresses of the person that I was trying to seek.

I will mention the use of the Veterans Administration. However, for "Lost Souls" in the Operational Squadrons in the 7th Photo George Lawson has taken over a great deal of that burden and has paid out of his own money the Two Dollars required for each search. With the other organizations, such as the 325th, the 55th, and M.P.s, if you have a listing that shows the "Lost Soul's" serial number you can write to the Veterans Administration and they will tell you if they have an address for that person. You can write a letter to such person, send it to the Veterans Administration, in a stamped envelope for the "Lost Soul" and be sure to include a stamped card for the "Lost Soul's" answer. The V.A. will fill in the address and City and mail it on. Some of their addresses are quite old and quite ineffective for that reason. Once in awhile in various Veteran Administration offices they will tell you that he has a residence address in such a place as Los Angeles but the address is obsolete. It depends upon the size of the V.A. office and if you go personally to get that information I have discovered by such information a "Lost Soul" in Los Angeles. We had no idea about him because his original home was in Michigan. But by calling the operator in Los Angeles I was able to get a number and finally located him. The V.A. did not have a good address but they slipped and said that he had been in Los Angeles, and that was all that was needed.

In the event that you know somebody who lived in North Carolina, as an example, but you have no other information or the town that you have him listed in does not respond write to the Driver's License Bureau in the Motor Vehicle Division and they will give you his address if they have a driver's license for him. Some of these State Agencies charge quite a bit. Often times the charge is only Two Dollars. You can get the same information from the local police, if they are cooperative and if you know them pretty well. They can put it on a teletype for any State in the Union and they can get you the name of the "Lost Soul" you are trying to seek, especially if you know his age. You can give an approximate age and it might be well even to guess at his birthday, like March 31, 1908, or whatever. You know about what his age should be and they will do the search for you. In one instances, in Ohio a friend, who was a member of the 14th, had a friend in the Police Department and he got several names from the Police Department as the name of the "Lost Soul" he was searching. He would then take the ones whose age corresponded more to the one that he was trying to seek. He wrote letters to them and he found several of them this way.

Remember Pilots are about sixty years old; and the rest of us, Ground Forces, would be sixty-five or older.

If you are in a location where the City Libraries have good City Directories you can search and find names from the City Directories yourself, which is much more satisfactory. You can take your time doing it and you can get in the localities and the information you want more specifically than the Librarian will give you if you write to her or call her. Some libraries, such as San Francisco, have a great many phone directories and City Directories. The City Directory will give you more information than a phone directory. For instance, in Chicago they have so many suburbs and they have a listing of the suburbs in separate books which relate to Chicago or near Chicago.

Another source: The American Legion has helped me by giving me the names the same as the "Lost Soul" who are members of the American Legion. However, I have not been very successful there because usually while they have the same name such as the "Lost Soul" it isn't THE "Lost Soul" that we are seeking. However, it is a source you can use. I do not know whether the Disabled Vets or the V.F.W. has the same service.

Do follow up on your Chamber of Commerce and your 'Occupant' letters and use your initiative. Sometimes Churches and Senior Citizen Groups will help and they do like to work for you. I've found different "Lost Souls" by using all of the different methods. I must include the fact that you should use the system that is best for you. Enlist as many helpers as you can. The more helpers that you have the more "Lost Souls" you will find. If you have some helpers that will visit the old address himself, he will find somebody in that area who also has lived there a long time, who is very helpful in giving suggestions as to how you can find the "Lost Soul" who has moved away from that address. As an example: Amos Ellerd drove to one town, the man did not live there but they suspected that he lived in another town. So he went to the other town and went to the Post Master. The Post Master said, I can't give you his address, but I can nod my head where he works. You can take it from there." So he went to the window and nodded his head at a Manufacturing Place and Amos went over there, found the "Lost Soul" he was seeking.

Recently I have found a very good source of finding "Lost Souls" from phone books. As a prime example: I have had difficulty in finding people in Brooklyn, Bronx, New York City, and Long Island. A friend of mine sent me the '516' code phone books which are two volumes including all phone numbers in Long Island. Many of the "Lost Souls" from these areas have moved to the cities and towns in Long Island. As a result I have found many "Lost Souls" from these two books. The same would be true if someone could get books from Connecticut. I have all the books from Northern California but I only have one book from Los Angeles. I have used these to success in locating a number of "Lost Souls." Of course, Los Angeles is only a City of eight million persons, so they have many books and even several volumes for the main City; and then many more for the suburbs.

Sometimes you have trouble finding lists of "Lost Souls" but if you persist you will find that many Veterans have in their attic or their own personal files, Orders of Promotion in which other Veterans, names of the other squadrons are also listed and sometimes their address is given. The address is always given in the case of a Pilot receiving medals and such orders will give the home address of the person receiving the medal; such as an air medal, or cluster, or whatever it might be. If you can get our members to search their attics and come up with such lists, you will find a great deal of help in locating "Lost Souls" from such sources. The difficulty is getting our members to search their attics. Another source not listed above is the use of banks in the home town of the "Lost Soul" person you are hunting. Also the use of the Alumni. I think I have mentioned that before, the High School.

You can also use the local taxing authorities. For instance, if there are personal taxes and the "Lost Soul" paid personal taxes, his name would be listed in 1945 and succeeding years. All of a sudden it may be cut off. He may own a car at that time and the certificate on the car would have to be transferred to the State where he moved. If he is deceased, the car may be owned under joint tenancy and the next year owned by his wife. That's a good source if you can go to the Court House or write to the County Court Clerk or the keeper of the records for driver's licenses, motor vehicle licenses, and tax lists. Some clerks are very helpful and some are not, and you may waste your postage in asking. However, it is just one more source in finding the "Lost Soul." It is worthwhile to keep a list of your different methods of finding "Lost Souls." One other thing too, if you have an unlisted phone number so that you know the person is apt to be in a town such as New York City, or somewhere, you can send a Western Union telegram and Western Union would deliver the telegram to the person. However, this is a rather expensive way in locating "Lost Souls" who have unlisted phone numbers. I would first use a library and other systems as listed above.

Sometimes a letter to a Postmaster will help. However, they are limited to the information they can give you but in the small localities they don't mind giving you more information regardless of regulations.

I have mentioned my Department of Motor Vehicles in Nebraska has been very helpful in locating the "Lost Souls" in Nebraska. Also, I have found, for instance, Pilot Crane had a Nebraska address in Elbe, Nebraska. I am sure he never lived there. I went to the Probate Court, the County Court, the Police, and other sources without success. My guess was that his wife lived there and if I just happened to know her name, her first name or her last name, I think I could locate where Crane is located now or maybe they are divorced by this time. At least it would be a help.

The use of notices of reunions in the publications of Veteran's Magazines, and particularly in States' Publications of Veterans Organizations such as American Legion, V.F.W., Disabled Veterans, etc.. Each time that you have a reunion, make out a notice and send it to them and have them use your own name and address, and tell them the date of the reunion, the place of the reunion, and the organization. I have often times used a notice as follows:

"All the Air Force personnel at Mt. Farm Air Force Base and Chalgrove Air Force Base during World War II please contact (your name and address) for information of a reunion to be held on _____ at _____."

I've read recently that such organizations as the Social Security Administration and the Census Bureau might help you under certain circumstances. I have never used this source so I know nothing about it except that it was printed in the paper and you might try it. If you have difficulty in this regard your Congressman will be glad to help you. I have not used my Congressman but I have threatened to use her on several different occasions. I still think that I will on some of the things that I want to find out about.

One of the things that I have on the back burner is finding the code or interpretation of the serial number. If you will remember your own, the first number, if you are an enlisted man, indicates if you enlisted or were drafted. The second number is the Corps area such as the 9th would be the 9th Corps Area which includes the States of Washington, Oregon, California, and perhaps Montana. I'm not sure of all of the Corps areas but that gives you an idea. The 7th Corps would be Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and I am not sure about Kansas and the Dakotas. Following up, I'm sure that the serial numbers then would show the location of the board. I have this on the back burner and will explore it more and I think I'll use my Congressman because I've been, so far, unsuccessful in getting the code book showing the information.

I cannot repeat often enough do not get disappointed in the people who say they will help and don't help, or your failures. I have a person in mind, who lives in Illinois, and is an employee or has been an employee of the telephone company and has free use of the telephone. Over the phone he said he would be glad to help out. I have waited three months and no response from him and I only submitted to him a list of about ten names in Illinois for him to search. It would be easy for him to do, at no cost to him, as it costs me quite a sum of money out of my own pocket. You realize that you have to pay out of your own pocket all costs of searching because there is no source of help from the group.

One source that I have not indicated, any member of the Air Force, even though retired, can write to the Air Force Base at Randolph Field for a search for a "Lost Soul," and if he continued in the Air Force or is retired they will have his address. This has found several "Lost Souls."

You also find the area codes and the states they cover in the telephone book or you can get the information from the Information Operator. The Post Office will show how the United States is divided, the first number on the zip being the clue, for the zip area -- '6' covers Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, etc., Texas has '7' and that include Oklahoma and the states of Louisiana and Arkansas. So, that if you know that you have a zip code but don't know where it is located, such as a zip code beginning with '3' it would just be the Tennessee, Alabama Mississippi, and Florida area.

If you have sent notices to your local organizations or to the National Organizations and it is printed, be sure to send a copy and also the date of the publication to your 7th Photo Contact, Claude Murray. The more publications you can get from radio or newspapers the more apt you are to find "Lost Souls." Do not give up any avenue of search, or any avenue that might help. In the newspapers you can get some of the notices published in the "Letter to the Editor." Or, in our State newspaper, it is called, "The Action Editor." There is also a "Letter to the Editor" and often times I have had the notices printed in both of the columns.

Another thing that I have not emphasized enough is to use your own initiative. Do not be afraid of being a failure. Do not be afraid of the operators or any other person you are contacting. People like to be helpful, as I said before, even operators. You can call one operator who will be no help. In a few hours call another operator and she will give you a vast amount of information. As a matter of fact, I have found several "Lost Souls" by calling the second and third time the Information Operator and she has given me the information that helped to locate the "Lost Soul." Use your initiative and do not be scared if you fail to make contact. Try and try and eventually you will find the "Lost Soul."

How it can be done.

1. If the man is retired write to AFMPC/MPCDCO3, Randolph AFB. TX. 78148. This service is free to retired members, \$2 to others.
2. If you have the manserial number write to VA Center, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20420-Cost \$2.00 per name.
3. If you have an old address write to the Chamber of Commerce in big cities, write to the Police Department in small cities.
4. Write to the public library they have city directories going back to 1945 and in many case telephone books going back 30 yrs.
5. Check with alumni organizations, American Legion, VFW and other service orientated organizations and publications.
6. Write to the County Court Clerk or the keeper of records for Drivers Licenses, Motor Vehicle Licenses and Tax Lists.
7. Solve the unlisted phone number by sending a Western Union telegram.
8. Postmasters will some times help especially in small towns.
9. The use of notices of reunions in local, state and national publications will always bring replies and good leads.
10. If you have the serial number and the man was drafted you can determine the area from the number, the first number indicates whether a man enlisted or was drafted, the second number is the Corps Area, i.e. a:7 indicates the man came from the 7th Corps Area which was Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri, the 9th includes Washington, Oregon and California. We are attempting to obtain the entire code book.

8th AIRFORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REUNION WAS HELD IN HOUSTON, TEXAS. OCT 13-16, 1983

THE BRIGGS ARRIVED AND ATTENDED THE OCT 13th CONTACT BREAKFAST AND WORKSHOP. A 40's AERO CLUB DANCE FEATURING THE HQTRS 8TH AF PARADE SAC BAND, WAS HELD THAT NIGHT. A GET TOGETHER WITH THE EARLY ARRIVALS.

WWII MOVIES WERE HELD ALL THRU THE REUNION.

FRI WAS BREAKFAST WITH THE GROUP, BUSES TOOK US TO THE HOBBY AIRPORT FOR A CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE BOMBER /FIGHTER STATIC DISPLAY. WITH 2 FLY IN'S. THEN ON TO NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER, WITH 8AF CONCERT BAND AND SPECIAL TOURS OF THE CENTER. A LIGHT LUNCH AT NASA. MEMORIAL WREATH LAYING 8AF MILITARY SERVICE(FLORAL OFFERINGS BY THE RENDEZVOUS UNITS(HOMER BRIGGS REPRESENTED THE 457th AND LAID A YELLOW ROSE AT THE WREATH SITE) AT THE SATURN ROCKET DISPLAY SITE. NASA MILITARY GUARD & ASTRONAUT DR. STOREY MUSKGRAVE SAID, IN PART " YOU MEN STARTED THE TECHNICAL ADVANCED AREA OF FLYING. IF IT HADN'T HAVE BEEN FOR YOU MEN, THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN A LATER SPACE PROGRAM." IT WAS TELEVISED. WE HAD OUR 457th BUSINESS MEETING, FRIDAY AFTER NOON, AND A UNIT DINNER IN THE EVENING WITH VISITING AND A GROUP PICTURE. (PLEASE WOULD THE ONES WHO TOOK THE PICTURES PLEASE SENT A COPY TO MICKEY. WE WILL SEE IF ANY TURNED OUT GOOD ENOUGH FOR COPIES TO ONES. WHO WISH ONE.)

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST TOGETHER AGAIN AND THE MEN ATTENDED THE 8th AFHS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. SAT NIGHT THE 8th AIRFORCE BAND "FLAG" SALUTE AND HONOR CEREMONY WAS VERY IMPRESSIVE, FOLLOWED BY "SPIRIT OF TEXAS" GALA REUNION BANQUET(WITH THE UNITS SITTING AT ADJOINING TABLES. TEX BENEKE AND HIS BAND FURNISH 40's AND LATER TUNES TO DANCE TO, MANY VISITED. A GREAT TIME BY ALL. SUN. A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND A BIG SAD GOODBYE TO OUR FRIENDS ONCE MORE UNTIL THE NEXT TIME.

PHILIP SHEBELL WRITES: "MANY OF THE OFFICERS LIVED IN HUT 5 NEAR THE ORDERLY ROOM. IN HUT 5 WAS A ROCKING CHAIR. ON ONE OF THE ARMS WAS CARVED THE NAME OF EACH OFFICER AS HE FINISHED HIS MISSIONS. WHEN I CAME HOME I BROUGHT THE ARM OF THAT CHAIR WITH ME! HERE ARE THE NAMES IN ORDER: 1. KABIN, 2. HERBOLD, 3. SUBJECT, 4. KNAPP, 5. MELLOW, 6. OESCHER, 7. LYNCH, 8. GRAY, 9. PARKER, 10. KELLER, 11. DUNDAS, 12. KATZ, 13. BENSON, 14. HEDRICH."

MORE LETTERS TO COME IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER, KEEP SENDING US THINGS TO WRITE ABOUT REMEMBER WE NEED DUES TO KEEP PRINTING AND MAILING. WE NEED ADDRESS CHANGES, WHEN YOU MOVE. WE NEED NEWS TO PUT IN YOUR NEWSLETTER. HAVE PATIENCE WHILE WAITING FOR AN ANSWER, CORRESPONDENCE IS VERY GREAT.



November 9, 1983

Seattle Sheraton Hotel

3000 1st Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101

DIXIE & PINE PO BOX 2906
SEATTLE, WA 98111
(206) 621-9000

Mr. Homer L. Briggs
811 N.W. B Street
Bentonville, AR 72712

Dear Mr. Briggs:

World War II Bombers, mark your calendars for Friday, July 25, 1985...that's the date The Boeing Management Association will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the B-17 Bomber in Seattle, Washington.

What better place to gather for your annual reunion. The 91st, 351st and 398th Bomb Group have already committed to Seattle.

The Seattle Sheraton has worked with several WWII reunion groups, most notably the 4th Marine Division and WWII Glider Pilots.

We cordially invite your consideration of Seattle and the Seattle Sheraton for July 1985.

I'll plan to contact you soon to further discuss the possibilities.

Hope to see you all in Seattle for the celebration!

Sincerely,

SEATTLE SHERATON HOTEL

Douglas R. Collins
Sales Account Manager

DRC/ddt
Enclosures

NEW CURRENT NAMES AND ADDRESSES NOT ON THE ROSTER LIST YET:

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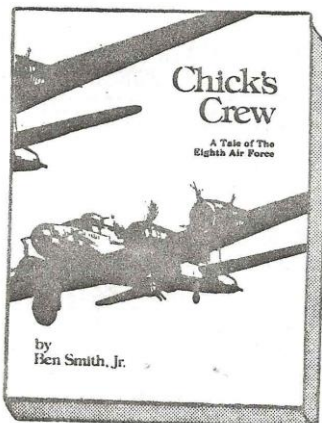
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IF YOU ATTENDED THE HOUSTON TEXAS REUNION, YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED 2 SHEETS OF THE LATEST ROSTER, IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THEM, PLEASE CONTACT ME AND I'LL MAIL THEM. MANY OF YOU THAT HAVE NOT PAID ANY DUES, DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE NEWSLETTERS OR A ROSTER (38 PAGES OF LISTINGS OF 800 CURRENT ADDRESSES). IF YOU WANT THE ROSTER, PLEASE SEND SELF ADDRESSED LONG ENVELOPE 90 CENT STAMPED. EACH NEWSLETTER HAS ADDITIONAL ROSTER SHEETS AS WE ACQUIRE THE CURRENT ADDRESSES.

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October 21, 1983

Homer Briggs
457th Bombardment Group (H)
Bentonville, AR

Dear Briggs:

Here are a few photos that obviously once belonged to a member of the 457th. These were given to me by an ex-airman who said he found them in an airplane at the end of WW2.

As an airman myself, I send them to you as contact person for the 457th. There is enough information for you to possibly identify the person who intended bringing them home. If you cannot identify the person they may have value to your group archives.

Best wishes

(NOTE FROM HOMER: 23 PHOTOS
WERE INCLUDED, TWO OF WHICH
ARE INCLUDED IN THIS LETTER,
ONE BELOW AND ONE ON THE BACK
OF THIS PAGE.)

T/Sgt Roscoe M. Pierson
Armorer-gunner/tail gun
Crew number 1
508th Bomb Sqdn (H)
351st Bomb Group (H)

(HOMER CONTINUED: THE ONLY
NAMES ON ANYTHING WERE: GLEN
R. SEWELL, "LUKE" "STILL GOING"
ANDY, F/O A.C., ALVIN G. HAZLETT,
JAMES D. TOUSCHER, NAVIGATOR 2nd
LT. AC)





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