



THE

# 457<sup>th</sup> BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION



ACTIVATED

1 JULY 1943 "THE FIREBALL OUTFIT"

DEACTIVATED

28 AUG 1945



THE 457<sup>th</sup> BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION NEWS

ESTABLISHED JULY 1971

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BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS 72712

ISSUE 37

MARCH 1995

# GO RENO YOU REUNION KNOW NOVEMBER 12-15 At The Sands Regency

DON'T FERGIT!

Name Tags? BRING 'EM! IF YOU HAVE 'EM  
DUES? PAY 'EM!





## THE PRESIDENT SEZ:

FIRST ITEM IS A REPORT ON THE PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL MEMORIAL MARKER. SINCE THE LAST BULLETIN, WITH THE HELP OF BERNIE BAINS, WE HAVE RECEIVED ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE MAYOR'S ASSISTANT, MR. J. P. HARDY, THAT THE CHURCH MIGHT ALLOW US TO PLACE A SMALL METAL MARKER OR A STAINED GLASS IN, ON, OR ABOUT THE CATHEDRAL. NO PROMISES. IT APPEARS THAT THEY ARE NOT GOING TO ACCEPT OUR BENCH.

BUT, ALL HAS BEEN SILENT SINCE THEN. I CALLED BERNIE BAINS THIS MORNING (MARCH 1) AND HE ALSO HAS NOT HEARD A WORD FROM THEM. AT THIS POINT WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO WAIT. PERHAPS WE WILL HAVE A POSITIVE REPORT BY THE TIME WE GO TO RENO.

IN THE MEANTIME WE HAVE OTHER BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF. THE FIRST BEING THE "ENGLISH HISTORIANS FUND". IT IS DEPLETED. THEIR NAMES ARE LISTED ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE BULLETIN. THEY ARE INVALUABLE TO US AT THE MINI-REUNION IN PETERBOROUGH AND ON OUR PERSONAL VISITS. OF COURSE, BERNIE AND SADIE BAINS WORK FOR THE 457TH THE YEAR AROUND. AND, THEY ARE ALL OUR DEAR FRIENDS. I AM SENDING HOMER AND MICKEY A CHECK TODAY, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO DO THE SAME, SO WE CAN ASSIST AS MANY OF OUR ENGLISH FRIENDS TO ATTEND THE REUNION AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE DESIGNATE TO HOMER AND MICKEY THAT IT IS FOR THE ENGLISH HISTORIAN'S FUND. I KNOW YOU WILL BE GENEROUS.

NEXT, I FIRMLY BELIEVE WE HAVE REACHED THE TIME IN OUR GREAT ASSOCIATION WHEN WE MUST MAKE A DECISION REGARDING THE QUESTION OF WHERE WE ARE GOING TO DEPOSIT THE MEMORABILIA WE HAVE ACCUMULATED OVER THE YEARS. I PROPOSE WE MAKE THIS "HARD" DECISION IN RENO. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT RON BYERS' ARTICLE IN THE LAST BULLETIN POINTED OUT THE URGENT NEED FACING US TO MAKE THIS DECISION. I FEEL THE WORST THING WE COULD DO IS POSTPONE FACING THIS ISSUE AND END UP WITH NO PLACE TO GO. I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT .. WE NEED TO THINK IN TERMS OF "NOW".

THESE MEMORABILIA ARE GENERALLY PHYSICAL ARTIFACTS , OR THOSE IN THE FORM OF WRITING, PICTURES AND ILLUSTRATIONS. THEY ARE INDIVIDUALLY OWNED OR THEY BELONG TO THE ASSOCIATION. MANY OF US WOULD RATHER KEEP OUR PERSONAL MEMORABILIA IN THE FAMILY TO BE HANDED DOWN TO SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS. SOME OF US FEEL WE WOULD RATHER DONATE THEM TO A MUSEUM. MOST OF THOSE OWNED BY OUR ASSOCIATION ARE PUSHING THE WALLS OUT AT THE BRIGGS' RESIDENCE IN BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS.

STORY OF THE 457TH IF WE COULD AGREE TO PLACE THEM ALL IN ONE MUSEUM. IT ALSO SEEMS OUR CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING THIS MUSEUM WOULD BE ITS PERMANENCY, HOW CENTRALLY IT IS LOCATED IN THE COUNTRY, AND HOW ACCESSIBLE IT IS TO MAJOR HIGHWAYS. EQUALLY IMPORTANT MIGHT BE THE KIND OF CONSIDERATION WE WOULD GET FROM THE MUSEUM AS TO PROMINENTLY DISPLAYING OUR MEMORABILIA, MUSEUMS HAVE A HISTORY OF ACCEPTING PEOPLES PROPERTY AND MONEY, PILING THEM UP (NOT THE MONEY) IN A STORAGE ROOM AND NEVER PUTTING THEM ON DISPLAY.

THE MOST PREVALENT MUSEUM NAMES WE HAVE USED IN THE PAST ARE (1) THE AIR FORCE MUSEUM AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON FIELD IN OHIO; (2) THE 8TH AIR FORCE MUSEUM AT BARKSDALE AFB, LOUISIANA; AND (3) THE MIGHTY EIGHTH AIR FORCE HERITAGE CENTER NOW BE CONSTRUCTED ON 12 ACRES IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.. AND; NOW COMES A STRONG "PITCH" FROM IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT RON BYERS, FOR A NEW FORMING MUSEUM AT WENDOVER FIELD, UTAH .... WHERE THE 457TH GATHERED IN 1943 BEFORE WE PROCEEDED TO GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA AND THENCE ON TO GLATTON. I PLAN ON DRIVING TO RENO AND GOING BY TO TAKE A LOOK AT WENDOVER FIELD.

THE FLOOR IS GOING TO BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION IN RENO TO DISCUSS THESE MUSEUMS OR ANY OTHERS YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS. IF YOU WOULD HAVE A PREFERENCE, PLEASE BE PREPARED TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF IT. I WILL OFFICIALLY WRITE AND COMMUNICATE WITH ALL FOUR OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED MUSEUMS AND WILL HAVE A WRITTEN REPORT IN YOUR RE-UNION ENVELOPE TELLING YOU WHAT I WILL HAVE FOUND OUT. IF YOU FAVOR ANOTHER LOCATION, PLEASE WRITE ME THE DETAILS AND I WILL INCLUDE IT IN MY REPORT.

ONE OTHER THING. HOMER AND MICKEY HAVE INFORMED ME THAT OUR LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND HAS NEVER BEEN TOUCHED AND THAT WE ARE APPROACHING THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE RE: BY LAW. I AM NOT SUGGESTING THAT WE GET BUSY AND SPEND IT. BUT I AM SAYING THIS MIGHT BE A PLACE TO JUDICIOUSLY USE AT LEAST A PORTION OF IT.

IT SEEMS IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO PUT MOST OF OUR WRITTEN MATERIAL ON MICROFILM, OR SOME KIND OF FILM, FOR IT TO BECOME A PERMANENT RECORD. THIS WILL TAKE TIME AND MONEY. YOUR THOUGHTS, PLEASE.

THE FLOOR IS GOING TO BE OPEN, ALSO, FOR SOMEONE (OR MANY) ... WE HOPE SOMEWHERE IN THE EAST ... TO GIVE US A GOOD PLAN TO HOST THE 1997 REUNION. DON'T FORGET, THE BEST PLAN USUALLY WINS.

MOST SINCERELY YOURS,  
*Billy Hightower* , PRESIDENT



# NOTICE OF MEETING !!

NOTE - - - REUNION DETAILS ! ! !

THIS IS THE OFFICIAL NOTICE THAT A MEETING OF THE 457TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION WILL MEET AT THE SANDS-REGENCY HOTEL IN RENO, NEVADA, ON NOVEMBER 12-15, 1995. THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL CONVENE IN SESSION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1995, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M. O'CLOCK, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING REPORTS OF OFFICERS, ELECTING OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FOR ENSUING TERMS OF OFFICE, AND TO TRANSACT SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING. REGULAR AND LIFE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE VOTING DELEGATES TO THE MEETING AND ARE ENTITLED TO VOTE ON EACH MATTER PROPERLY COMING BEFORE THE MEMBERSHIP REQUIRING A VOTE.

signed: James Bass - Legal Advisor

## ARE YOU WONDERING?

SOME OF YOU HAVE INQUIRED CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE BOMB GROUP THAT IS BEING COMPILED. IT IS STILL IN THE COMPILATION AND EDITING STAGES AND IS ANTICIPATED TO BE AVAILABLE AT THE RENO MEETING.

**RENO**

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS SINCE OUR LAST BULLETIN

Berrier, Howard	Connors, Harry	Friedrich, Henry
Griff, Steve	Mueller, Robert	Prior, Tom
Reynolds, Ed	Tomascik, Joseph	Wood, Robert
Denny, Jack	Smith, Julius	



*loud  
'n  
clear*

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR RENO?



DONT DEPEND ON THESE GUYS TO  
GET YOU THERE -- FIND THE  
INSERT IN CENTER

CENTER INSERTS, SANDS REGENCY MOTEL CARD, REGISTRATION CARD ARE VERY IMPORTANT. BE SURE TO FIND AND KEEP. DO FILL IN & MAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ALSO READ REGISTRATION INFORMATION IN NEWSLETTER STARTING BEHIND THE INSERTS. IF YOU NEED THESE INSERTS AND DO NOT HAVE THEM IN THE NL CONTACT THE Briggs ANOTHER (SOMETIMES POSSIBLE TO MISS IT) WILL BE SENT TO YOU.

### PAN-A-VIEW PICTURE

IN REGARD TO THE 55 by 10 PICTURE WHICH WAS TAKEN AT PATTERSON WRIGHT AIR FORCE MUSEUM--

A 55 by 10 IS HARD TO FRAME AND EXPENSIVE.

MICKEY HAS FOUND AN INEXPENSIVE & EASY TO DO. PURCHASE AT A PRINTING OFFICE - A PIECE OF FOAM CORE (EITHER EXACT OR AN INCH OR SO LARGER.) WITH OR WITHOUT A BORDER AROUND PICTURE. SPRAY THE BACK OF PICTURE WITH SPRAY MOUNT (ARTS AND CRAFTS) AND ATTACH TO THE FOAM CORE. A CHROME FRAME KIT (HOBBY ARTS & CRAFT)... MAKES A NICE INEXPENSIVE FRAMED PICTURE IF MICKEY CAN DO IT--YOU CAN DO IT.



## OBITUARIES

**PAUL MCCREADY** - February, 1995

Frank Martin has advised us that Paul McCready of Oakdale, MN passed away in February, at the age of 72. Frank was a Crew Chief in the 750th Squadron and was a member of the North St. Paul VFW Post 1350 and was retired from the Burlington Northern Railroad where he had worked for 40 years. Interment was at the National Cemetery at Fort Snelling, MN.

**BLANCH RURODE** - February 17, 1995

Blanch Rurode, wife of 457th B.G. Director Kenneth Rurode, passed away at St. Joseph, MO. Blanch and Ken Co-Hosted the 1st 457th B.G. Reunion in 1971 with Homer and Mickey Briggs in Bentonville, AR, and Ken was a Co-Founder. They had attended nearly all the 457th Reunions and had been to the Mini-Reunion in England in 1992. Ken and Homer Briggs spent their entire military life of the 457th duties together both in the States and England. We shall all miss Blanch so very much. by Mickey & Homer

**JAMES M. COLE** - December 24, 1994

James M. Cole died of cancer on December 24, 1994 and had been a resident of Huntsville, Texas the past 41 years. He served in the U.S. Army Field/Coastal Artillery from 1936 to 1940. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served as a S/Sgt. with the 457th B.G., 750th Squadron. He was a tail gunner on the "Lady Margaret" and in June, 1944, while on his 23rd mission, his plane was heavily damaged by flak over Berlin and they were forced to make an emergency landing in Sweden. He was a retired Continental Trailways driver. by Thomas Knox - Stepson

**JOHN R. GRAHAM** - December 6, 1994

Paul Birchen has informed us that John Graham died December 6, 1994 at his home in Bangor, ME. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force with the 457th BG in the European Theater as a B-17 Gunner where he received the Air Medal, with Clusters and the Purple Heart. He was a factory representative with National Gypsum Company for 35 years and had also been with Bangor Hydro Electric and Florida Power Corp. He was a member of the Rotary Club, Sons of Union Members, GAR, Mystic Lodge No. 65 AF & AM of Hampden, Scottish Rite and Anah Shrine Temple.

## ERROR/OUR APOLOGIES:

*from/to H. M. Seyster*

"Received this date, 1-27-95, my Newsletter for December 94 (No.4 - Issue 36). In the Obituary column, page 4, reference is made to Watkins, Joseph - 749th Sqn. - FO - 1-94 Cancer.

Joe Watkins was our co-pilot. Back around April-May of the 1992 time period. I attempted to locate Joe. As a last resort, I wrote a letter that our local Social Security Office agreed to send out (they will not forward a letter for you). On 12 November 1992, I received a letter from a Brenda Henderson of Strasburg, Colorado, claiming to be his daughter. She stated she had found my letter put away among his belongings. She states that he had passed away on September 22, 1991.

I am very confused. Would you please let me know who provided the info for the current Newsletter." Sincerely, H. M. Seyster

[Ed note:] Thanks so much for your most informative letter and please accept my apologies for the obvious error. We receive many death notices/dates/burial sites corrections etc. each month and we do appreciate your contacting us to note the change. It is our policy to try to print all the information we receive, in fact in the roster we note "Need Info" under the remarks category as we would like to have as much info as we possibly can. If more members responded as you have, we would certainly have better facts. I can assure you that the info you gave is already a matter of record in the roster and that his name will be read at the Memorial Services in Reno. If someone reading this column have more info than we presently have, would you please drop H. M. Seyster a note at 7562 Vantage Drive - Huntington Beach, CA - 92647. [Dave S.]

## APOLOGIES, BIG TIME APOLOGIES!!

I will proof read more than once from now on. It was a Mickey's goof when reporting the info to David. and some how mixed up the information. The following was incorrect and this is the corrections:  
This also was a repeat from June 1994 Newsletter.

DUVALL, JOSEPH WAYNE-749 Sqn 1-94  
by Loyd Vanzant  
Watkins, Joseph B B?O-749 Sqn.9-  
22-91 by HM Seyster



OWEN McDONOUGH OF PA,  
ON HIS TRAVELS THRU  
FL READ THE FOLLOWING  
NOTICE IN A FL PAPER:

**Dale Worth Lee**

Dale Worth Lee, age 78, of Wil-  
lis Point, Texas, died Friday, Dec.  
16, 1994, in a local hospital.

He was born in Wichita, Kan.,  
and was a veteran of World War  
II with the 457th Bombardment  
Group II. Mr. Lee was a 32nd  
degree Master Mason; a member  
of the Castillian Masonic Lodge  
141 of Canton, Texas; Hella Tem-  
ple of Garland, Texas; Scottish  
Rite of Freemasonry S.J. of Dal-  
las; and Canton Chapter 667  
Order of Eastern Star.

DALE LEE WAS A SSGT,  
751.

**DECEASED SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER**

BASS, Alfred - 749th Sqd. - P.O. Notified - January 1995  
COLE, James - December 24, 1994 - by Thomas Knox  
GRAHAM, John R. - December 6, 1995 - by Paul Birchen  
McCREARY, Paul - 1995 - by Frank Martin  
WINTER, Wm - October 7, 1993 - Heart - by wife

BLACKWELL, Donald -751 Sqd.  
1-27-95 Heart-by John

Addison

LEE, Dale Worth-751 Sqd.  
12-16-94 -by Owen McDonough

ZILLMER, Elder Karl -Ord. 7-1993  
Diabetes. by wife.

**NEWLY FOUND MEN (W/ADDRESSES)**  
(not previously listed)

DELL, Lloyd - 2222 Armstrong Dr., Lake Orion, MI 48935  
HAVEY, Jim - 1412 Dakota NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110  
MUELLER, Robert - 7740 Henefer Ave. L.A., CA - 90045  
SCOTT, Charles T. - POB 7152 - Columbus, GA - 31906  
ZOLADE, Wm - 6147 No. Melvina - Chicago, IL - 60646

ELCOFF, Pando L-805 Wooster Pk.,-----  
Terrace Park, OH 45174

HUTCHINSON, Earl-1005 Cedar St.,-----  
Cortez, CO 81321

POPPELL, Joe B-394 Old Jesus Rd.,-----  
Brunswick, GA 31520

I can tell you're a veteran  
by the look in your eyes  
From the tears that flow when you see  
an American flag fly

I can tell you're a veteran  
by the way you hold your head  
Carried high and proud  
of the service you did

Most people don't understand  
And some don't give a damn  
about the events that happened in the past  
They don't give you a second glance

I can tell you're a veteran  
Your memory will always stand tall  
People can't look at your feats as small  
You've been through more than most will ever know

I can tell you're a veteran  
and a veteran you will always be  
America should never forget you  
because if there were no veterans  
our country would not be free

BY JILL V. CHANDLER  
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

**What Is a Hero?**

Some people think a hero is a man of great acclaim;  
A man so rich or famous everyone must know his name.

They feel he must be noted and his praises must be sung;  
and to publicize his glory, flashy banners must be hung.

"Webster's" says a hero is a man whose courage shows.  
That's a pretty good description as everybody knows.

I have some special heroes; men and women I've never met.  
And if you were to ask their names, why I'd just call them "Vets."

My heroes may not be within the public eye.  
They just went and did their duty; and didn't question "Why?"

And as I sit, I think of them, and what they've done for me.  
They fought to keep my precious land safe and ever free.

They may be in hospitals, in homes or market place;  
I don't even know their color, their beliefs, or creed, or race.

I only know I love them, and to them I owe a debt.  
One that I can never repay to each one whom I call "Vet."

Author Unknown

(From the 401st BG Newsletter, "Poop from Group")

8th AF NEWS, February 1995 (95-1)

ASSOC

CORBETT, Phillip Wayne-Col retUSAF-Dir  
Public Affairs 8th Heritage Museum  
GREENWOOD, John E -Pres 8AF Heritage



**IF THE VFW DEEMS THESE EXERCISES WORTHWHILE, PERHAPS IT WOULD DO MANY OF US IN THE 457TH TO TAKE HEED.** The Editors.

## EXERCISES YOU CAN DO

Exercises and information courtesy of  
Sports Rehabilitation & Physical Therapy Associates, Inc.,  
Kansas City, Missouri

The exercises listed here can serve as a starting point for a back exercise program. Keep the following points in mind as you work through each exercise:

- Do not hold your breath as you exercise. Try to breathe normally.
- Limit what you can do according to your pain level. Perform each exercise up until the point that you feel pain. It is still helping your back even if you only do a little, pain-free movement.
- If some problems exist that prevent you from doing an exercise, such as a knee problem, try to find a position where you can duplicate the same exercise movement.
- If you can only do a few repetitions of each exercise, try to do them two to three times a day.

### 1 Trunk Rotation



Lie on your back with your knees bent and feet flat on the floor or bed. Keeping your shoulders flat, slowly roll your knees first to the left, then to the right. Keep constant movement for two minutes. A smaller motion is better than a larger motion.

### 2 Pelvic Tilt



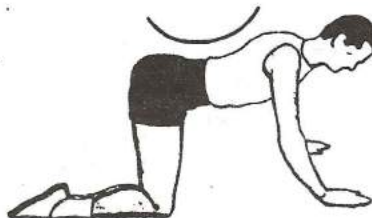
Lie on your back with your hands on your stomach. Bend your knees and place your feet flat on the floor or bed. Tighten your stomach muscles to flatten your lower back against the floor or bed. Hold for five seconds. Then relax. Repeat 10 times.

### 3 Single Knee to Chest



Lie on your back. Do Pelvic Tilt, then using both hands, grasp one leg behind the knee and pull your knee to your chest. Relax Pelvic Tilt muscles. Hold for five seconds, then slowly lower your leg. Repeat with other leg. Optional: Double Knee to Chest. Same as Single Knee, but before lowering leg, pull up the other knee to chest and hold both legs for five seconds. Lower one leg first, then the other. Repeat 10 times.

### 4 Back Movement



Assume a position on your hands and knees. With your head in a neutral position, allow your trunk to sag. Do not pull it down, but allow it to relax. Round your lower back up toward the ceiling, contracting your



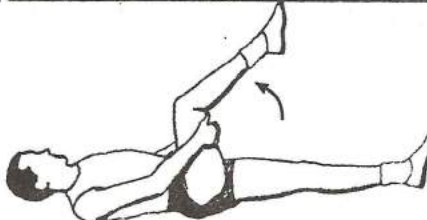
stomach muscles, but not your hip or thigh muscles. Move at waist level. Continue to alternate between sagging and rounding your trunk. Hold each position for five seconds. Repeat 10 times.

### 5 Lower Back Stretch



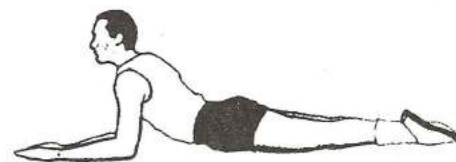
Assume a position on your hands and knees similar to the Back Movement. Slowly sit back on your feet and dip your head down in the same movement. Hold for 10-20 seconds. Slowly rise back up on hands and knees. Repeat 10 times.

### 6 Hamstring Stretch



Lie on your back with a pillow under your head. Do Pelvic Tilt, then grasp one knee from behind with both hands, and pull it toward your chest. Relax Pelvic Tilt muscles. Straighten your leg to the point of tightness, about a 45° angle. Hold for 10 seconds and relax. Repeat five times.

### 7 Prone Extension



Lie on your stomach. Prop your upper body on your elbows. Maintain for one minute. Optional: Prone Extension. Lie on your stomach. Keep your hips down and use only your arm muscles to push up your upper body. Extend only to the point of pain. Hold for five seconds and relax. Repeat 10 times.

Illustrations by James Fredericks



# WWII SMOKERS - DO YOU REMEMBER ?

CHESTERFIELD'S - THEY SATISFY !!!!

CALL FOR PHILLIP MORRIS !!!!

IF I'D WALK A MILE FOR A CAMEL !!!!

LUCKY STRIKE GREEN HAS GONE TO WAR !!!!

OLD GOLD - NOT A COUGH IN A CARLOAD !!!! (and then  
some wit added "Not a cigarette either !!)

All the little advertizing mottoes from the past generations. But for many people, unfortunately, the results of all that Chesterfield satisfaction, Mr. Lucky's war efforts, or exercise (I'd walk a Mile for a Camel is the serious lung disease known as Bullous Emphysema.

Ruth Siler (husband Bill is a past president of the 457th and was a Navigator in the 748th) suffers from this experience of her youth. She stopped smoking in 1975, but not before extensive damage was done. On 6 March 1995 she had an operation at the Wakabayashi Institute at Irvine California. This technique, developed in recent years, is Thoracoscopic Laser Pneumoplasty. The surgery Ruth had done reduced the Bullae (balloon-like air cysts that developed from smoking) in her right lung so as to give the lung increased expansion in the chest cavity. She is recovering nicely at the time of this publication and her many friends can expect to see her at Reno in November if all continues to go well. At some future time, she may return to the Institute for a left-lung procedure; most patients, but not all, eventually have both lungs treated.

## THE WAKABAYASHI INSTITUTE

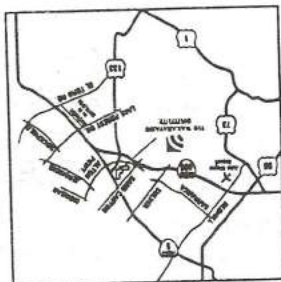
AT IRVINE MEDICAL CENTER

16300 SAND CANYON AVENUE, SUITE 100

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92718

(714) 753-2333 • (800) 500-2535 • FAX (714) 753-2559

Irvine Medical Center provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient medical services. A fully accredited health care facility, Irvine Medical Center is located on a 25 acre campus and features a five-story patient tower with 177 private rooms, state of the art ancillary building and a 10-story physician office building, housing many of the hospital's 750 medical staff members.



Ruth says "I have seen and talked with dozen ex-smokers while at the Institute who have benefited from this revolutionary procedure. I expect improvement in my physical activities and

less difficulty with restricted breathing. Bill talks of buying me a new "field plow" but he is just blowing smoke -- well I hope not -- I hope everyone quits actually blowing smoke. Incidentally, anyone interested can get a free brochure by calling the Wakabayashi Institute at 1-800-500-2535."

Ruth and Bill expect to be back home in Las Cruces, NM in early April. But if you come visiting, leave your cigarettes at home - YOU ARE WELCOME - but they are not.

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## 2LT Owen Coffman crash 21 APRil 1944

I'm anxious to learn more about the loss of 2Lt Owen B Coffman's aircraft on 21st April 1944 and hope you can help. I've recently visited the crash site and have landowner's consent to recover parts for a museum display in tribute to the 457th and to the six who died in the crash. At the moment the only names I have are 2Lt Coffman and Sgt Donald L Moore. If you could provide me with a full crew & where the casualties are buried, I would be very gratefull. I would also like to contact the survivors, if you have any of the addresses.

MY hope is to use the story of this A/C in a 2nd volume of "Eighth Airforce Bomb-er Stories"...Best wishes..

Ian McLachlan... 10 ALL SAINTS GREEN  
WORLINGHAM BEDDLES SUFFOLK  
NR 34 7RR ENGLAND.

( Editor's note: 2Lt Owen Coffman KIA 4-21-44 Buried in Cambridge GN B2 57.. I do have the Crew list, but cant find it at present, if any has this please resend or write to this man.)

## OUR YEARLY REMINDER !!!!!!!!!!!!!

About 4 or 5 times a year we get a letter from some member, criticizing us (and rightfully so), such as the one we just received from Edgar O'Donnell of the 751st B.S. and we quote: "The Newsletter I just received was the best so far, but still nothing ever about the Ground Forces." [Ed note: Thanks Edgar for your kind words about the Newsletter, but there is very little we can do about your request for more info on the Ground Forces activities. So, ground perssonel, let us hear from you and Edgar, now you know we really try to get some stories. I have asked Homer Briggs to write at least one story per issue if we have not received a story from some other member. Surprise us, let us hear from you. by Dave S.]



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### AMERICAN AIR MUSEUM IN BRITAIN

by Carl Ostlind - Feb. 1995

Enclosed you will find a letter from Lord Bramall, the Co-Director of the proposed American Air Museum in Britain. (Ed. note: since many of our members will have received the letter we will not reproduce it in this NL.) First proposed by the late General Jimmy Doolittle, former Commanding General of the "Mighty Eighth Air Force in England". Since the 457th served in England and not far from the proposed site of the museum, this would be (should be) of great interest to its members. There was a recent article in the NL.

For \$25.00 or more, your name would appear on the A.A.M.B. Honor roll for everyone to see. When submitting your request for membership, include your BG and Squadron's number and send it to: American Air Museum Campaign in Britain - 510 Eleventh St. SE - Washington CD - 20003. They, the British, have asked the National Lottery Commission for 6.5 million pounds toward the construction. Let us do our part.

**SIGN FOUND IN  
BENTONVILLE  
SQUARE AT THE  
"STATION CAFE"  
READS:**

### IF YOU ARE-

**GROUCHY,  
IRRITABLE  
OF JUST MEAN--  
THERE WILL BE**

**A \$10.00 CHARGE  
FOR PUTTING UP  
WITH YOU.**

## BAD TIME INC.

by William Carlisle

I have a special interest in the Aircraft Bad Time Inc, AC # 42-31545, call sign G, assigned to Station 130, Glatton. My father was a crew member on this aircraft.

I am also interested in the name, and any other info, of the aircraft piloted by Lt. Benny Flowers who was lost on his 26th mission. My father flew on this mission with his crew.

William Carlisle - 5041 Finn Ave. Cleveland, OH - 41427.

### THE MEMORIAL TRUST OF THE 2ND AIR DIVISION

from Phyllis DuBois

Noverre House, Theatre St.  
Norwich, Norfolk - NRH  
England

"You are probably aware of the disastrous fire that destroyed the Norwich Central Library on 1 August 1993. The 2nd Air Division Memorial was completely lost in this fire. We are now trying to rebuild the book collection and I wonder if you could help us find one or two copies of Ken Blakeborough's "The Fireball Outfit". Although the 457th BG was not in the 2nd Air Division Group, this fine unit history was very popular with our readers. I hope that it will be possible to obtain copies of the book so that we can replace the copies lost in the fire.

## MYSTERY PICTURE IN FEB. NEWSLETTER

by Ralph Windell

Just a note regarding the picture on page 52 of the last Newsletter. I agree that the identity is probably L/C Smith and the other one is most likely Capt. Roy Kerr, who was the Engineering Officer of the 750th Sqn. I would expect that closer examination of the actual would be more positive. Capt. Kerr was killed on a test flight and is buried at Madingley.

It is interesting to note that the picture just below is of "Flak Dodger". My only claim to fame is that I was the last Crew Chief on 075 and had the privilege to return her to Bradley Field flown by Col. Rogner with Col. Smith as the Co-pilot. This story was told in Roland Byers book the "FLAK DODGER".

Frank Taylor, S2 suggests that the Mystery Picture was L/C Smith and Major Dozier.

### EAGLE SQUADRON

from Andrew Brown, Jr.

I have a friend here who believes there is an Eagle Squadron Air Museum in Orange County. Do you know anything - one way or the other - about such. [Ed. note: I asked P.P. Bill Siler who was in an Eagle Squadron early in the war and he is not aware of one there. If you know, let's hear from you]

**DUES? PAY 'EM!**



## "THANKS" TO BERNIE BAINS

by Paul Conlon

My father, Francis J. Conlon of Braintree, MA was a member on your mailing list until he died in May of 1944. He was a Bombardier on a B-17 for the 457th BG, 751st Sqn. at Glatton England.

I have met Bernie and Sadie Bains in England when I was on a road trip for Pratt & Whitney aircraft in January of 1993. Bernie gave me a complete tour of the Glatton area while I visited him. It was sure my lucky day when I met Bernie. I was able to relive some of the history from somebody who lived in the Glatton area. [Ed. note: Hearing a story such as this one makes the publishing of the Newsletter so very enjoyable.]

# DUES?

## WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU "DON'T WE MICKEY?"

from Jack Denny

'I'm very grateful to you guys (Mickey too) who have taken it on yourselves to get this kind of information together and make it available to all. Many thanks.

I was with the 751st Sqn.; my crew didn't arrive until March, 1945. We flew on, I believe, 3 of the last four missions the Group made. I was the waist gunner on Lt. Homer Hagen's crew."

9



by Howard Berrier

The last Nesletter was full of surprises. The piece about Wendover was very interesting and my memories are not all that good, but it seems to me to be a lousy place to build an airfield. Glad I didn't have to stay there very long.

I remember a mid-air collision while there. We were flying in formation and the #4 plane came up and into the #3 plane. One plane crashed, killing everyone on board, and the other plane made an emergency landing. Later that day we were ordered to fly again. Our flight engineer refused to fly and was court martialed, reduced to private, which should indicate to all that flying was very "tough".

Our crew was short of gunners and as a result, one of the Gunner's on the crew that crashed, T.J. Shields, was assigned to Ken Burkhart's crew. We completed our tour in June of 1944 on a mission to Leipzig Bay, which was rough as we had to do a 360 and go over the target twice.

[Ed note: Howard also identified the mystery photo as L.C. Smith and Major Dozier]

## Last Flight of an Aerial Gunner

(From Florida Chapter Newsletter)

At 0800 on 27 September 1991, a bomber crew assembled in the briefing room of the 328th Bombardment Squadron, 93rd Bombardment Wing, Castle AFB, CA. A mission was being planned that was to be the last flight on which an Aerial Gunner would be a member of a bomber crew. This was a very sad moment in the history of the US Army Air Corps, the USAAF, and the USAF.

This flight brought to an end an era in which Aerial Gunners fought and bled to establish a great heritage. It was a "Last Flight" that made history, with a "live" gunnery training mission featuring Student Gunner Airman First Class Patrick J. Torres and Instructor Gunner Senior Master Sergeant John Stanton.

The Gunners did themselves proud, as did the maintenance men who prepared the ASG-15 fire control system. They went out in a blaze of glory, true to their heritage with a 100% "fireout."

At 1100 on 22 November 1991 a ceremony was held at Castle AFB to honor Aerial Gunners and to remove the guns from B-52 #2595 so that they could take their place in history in Castle Air Museum. Guest Speaker Brigadier General Phillip Ford, SAC Deputy Chief of Staff, stated that SAC crew gunners had done their job so well that they were no longer needed. The .50 caliber guns were then dedicated 'to all Gunners past and present for their steadfast vigilance, to all maintenance people for their never-ending support, and to all KIAs, MIAs, and POWs—WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOU.' (All bomber crews say AMEN to that! JWH)



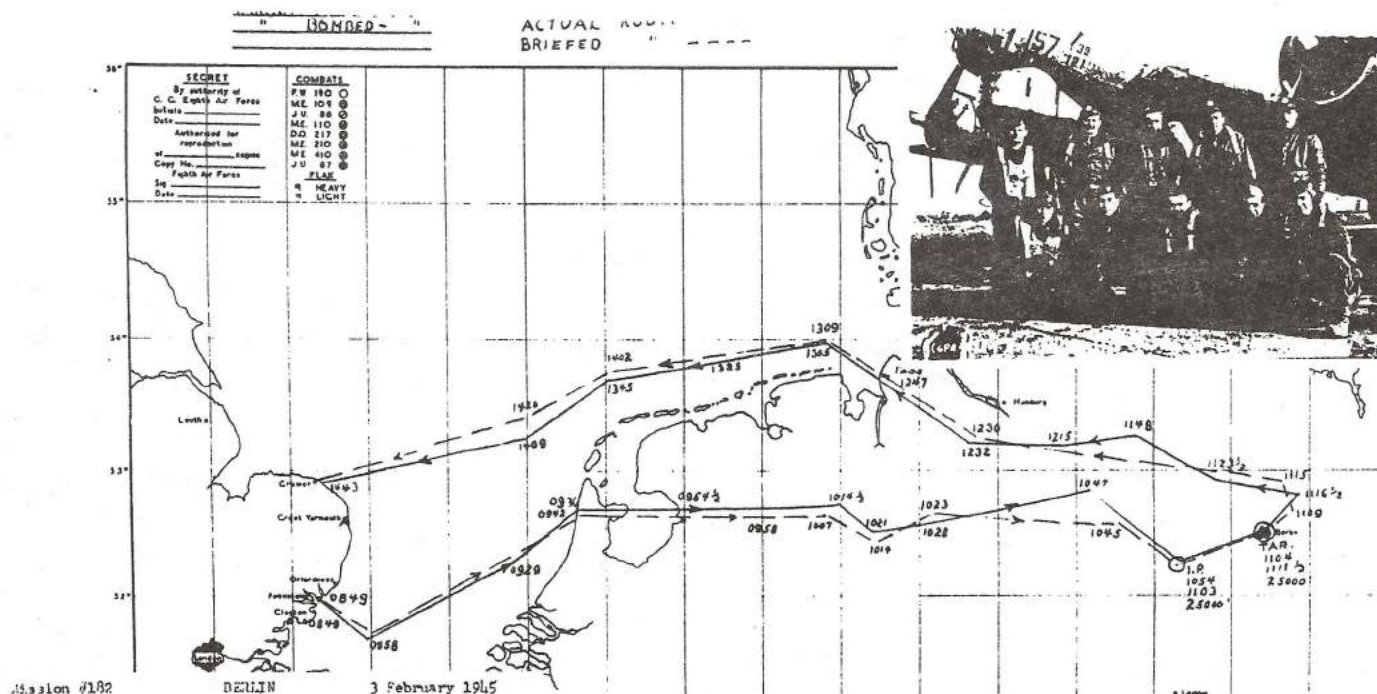
AREN'T YOU BEING A LITTLE OVERCONFIDENT?



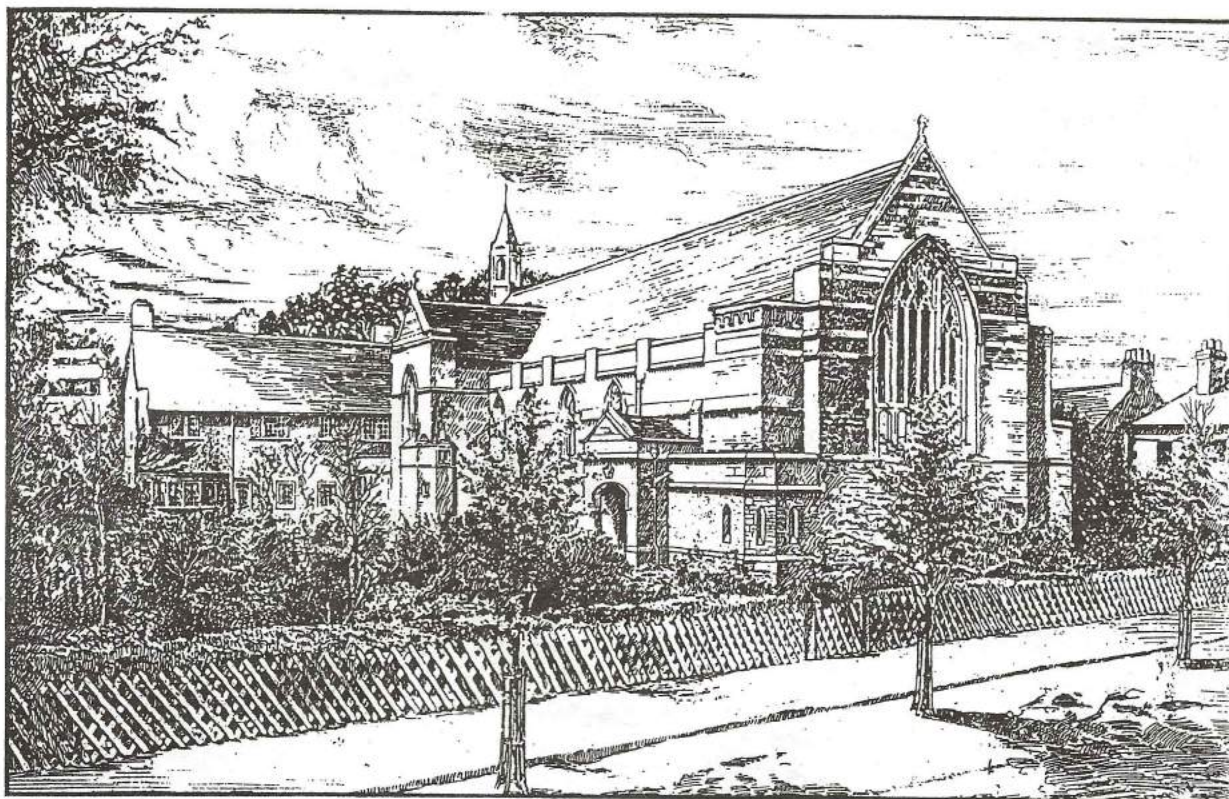
## FROM EDWARD P. ROGNER

"I am writing, first to thank you for sending me your 457th, Newsletter each issue, and secondly, to give you my change of address. I look forward to each issue and read it thoroughly. My father was apparently the last Commander of the Unit and it is gratifying to learn of his WWII service. I recently found these track charts and thought perhaps some of your members would have an interest in them. [Ed. note: Edward sent several, so we will run a serial on them, perhaps one or two each issue, and perhaps create additional interest. This issue we will just have one.]

As you may or may not know, my father was killed in a B-29 accident in 1951 at Barksdale AFB when I was 12 years old. He had spent the early years of my childhood in Europe during WWII, and then upon his return, he spent time in several schools and overseas assignments and then went to Korea. He was killed on his return flight, so I really knew very little about him. As for his 457th experience, I know he replaced a very popular Commander in Col. Luper, but that is really about all I know about him. I would sincerely appreciate any information any of your members who might have flown with him, or knew him might be able to give to me. Also, as a pilot myself, I would appreciate any mementos of the 457th that might still be available. I have looked at various fly-ins, but have not been able to find anything. My mother, who is still living near Fayetteville, NC has a few mementos of his career, but nothing from the 457th, as far as I know, so if you could give me any ideas where I might find something, I would appreciate it." Sincerely, Edward P. Rogner - 350 Golf Brook Circle, #206 - Longwood, FL - 32779 and Tel. #(407) 862-7362.







ST PETER AND ALL SOULS, PETERBOROUGH

A.D. MCMIV

## Iris and Joe – 50 Years

Members of the 8th Air Force Historical Society chapters in Massachusetts and Connecticut were recent guests at the 50th wedding anniversary of Iris and Joe Falcone of Walpole, Mass.

The Falcones were married in All Soul's Church, Peterborough, England on December 21, 1944. Joe was stationed at Glatton Airfield with the 457th Bomb Group, and Iris was from Stangrounds, Petersborough, England. She was a member of the British Women's Royal Navy Service.

Over 100 guests attended the party, which was given by the Falcone's three sons and their families. They have nine grandchildren. Five members of their family from Peterborough were also present, including two of their bridesmaids.

Shown in the photo:  
L to R are: Ed Heyn,  
Charlie Coughlin,  
Bill Davidson, Tom Dreher,  
Bernie Sitek, Roy Tripp,  
Barkey Hovsepian, Norman  
Menard, Cal Campbell,  
Bill Orphan, Art Fitch, and  
Herb Conroy. Seated in front  
are the happy couple,  
Iris and Joe Falcone.







# th AF NEWS

VOLUME 95, NUMBER 1

- Voice of "The Mighty Eighth" -

FEBRUARY 1995

GENERAL CARL A "TOOEY" SPAATZ,  
FIRST COMMANDING OFFICER OF  
"THE MIGHTY EIGHTH". PHOTO  
PROBABLY TAKEN WHILE HE WAS CG  
OF USAAF. (COURTESY OF BOB  
KULNERT, 355FG)





## 20TH ANNUAL 8TH AIR FORCE H.S. REUNION 457TH BG ATTENDEE'S LAST YEAR

We have been waiting since last October 4-9, 1994 for the 8th AFHS to give us a list of the attendees. They have paid us our pro rata share but no list. Therefore, we shall list those who were listed in the hand-out material at the San Diego Convention.

Barris, Harold & Nancy  
Boydston, Jr. Solon  
Brown, Andrew & Sally  
Doerr, James & Jean  
Friedman, Daniel & Angeline  
Goff, Tom  
Heekin, Francis & Eleanor  
O'Harra, William & Gloria  
Robbie, Carl & Jean  
Summerville, Dave

The main theme of the Reunion was the exploits of the "Carpetbaggers", the B-24's that landed behind the lines in Europe to rescue Americans in the occupied territories. I listened for nearly 2 hours of "first hand" stories in a forum presided over by Roger Freeman, and it was a real "eye-opener". by Dave S.

## Air Force Combat Crews May Have Been Treated With Excessive Radium Therapy

By Ray Pytel, 445th Bomb Group

An important article in the Sept. 10, 1994 issue of SCIENCE NEWS describes an experimental massive radiation treatment of some WWII high altitude airmen and submariners afflicted with aerotitis. Typical symptoms included pain in descent, temporary deafness, vertigo, nausea, ringing in the ears, bleeding, and even ruptured eardrums.

The treatment, called "nasopharyngeal-radium therapy, involved the insertion of encapsulated radium deep into the nostrils, which delivered a hefty dose of radiation to a small region at the base of the brain. Data in recent studies show increased risk of brain cancer in subjects receiving this treatment.

There apparently is no listing of those receiving this treatment, so a clearinghouse has been established for all servicemen in Quincy, Massachusetts called the Submarine Survivors Group. They provide information on possible risks, and have established a telephone hot line ( ). The mailing address is Submarine Survivors Group, Quincy, MA.

All WWII airmen who had ear problems with subsequent "therapy" are advised to contact the Submarine Survivors Group and also inform their physician of the possible radiation over-exposure while in the service.

8th AF NEWS, February 1995 (95-1)

When contacting 8AFHS, please use membership number.

(For Office Use Only. Do Not Write Above These Lines.)

A \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_  
U \_\_\_\_\_

8th AFHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

8th AF Unit \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Not in 8th. Sign me up as Associate Member ☐ To \_\_\_\_\_

If in Service — Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this form only for your first calendar year's dues (\$10.00 U.S. and \$15.00 non-U.S.). Send with your U.S. Dollar check (made out to 8AFHS) to 8AFHS Membership, 65 Bedding Lane, Strasburg, PA 17579. Your annual dues will be billed for subsequent years.



THE MIGHTY EIGHTH AIR FORCE HERITAGE CENTER  
P. O. BOX 1992, SAVANNAH, GA 31402  
1-800-421-9428 (912) 748-8888  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS: (Check one)

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL \$20  
☐ FAMILY \$30  
☐ ALLIES/ Out of USA \$35
- LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:  
☐ COMMANDER'S CLUB \$200- \$999  
☐ SUSTAINING MEMBER \$1000- \$4999  
☐ ANNIVERSARY PATRON \$5000- \$9999  
☐ MIGHTY 8TH PATRON \$10,000 & UP

8AF UNITS & DATES: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INTERESTS (POW, GUNNER, SHOT  
DOWN, MECHANIC): \_\_\_\_\_

POST-SERVICE ACTIVITY: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: The Eighth Air  
Force Heritage Center. You may also use your  
MasterCard, Visa, or American Express to  
contribute and join.

Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## WWII Memorabilia

Spent 20 mm and 12 mm weathered casings and bullets from S. D. Badland's Bombing and Gunnery Range of WW II era. Some bullets dented. Limited quantity. For 20 mm: \$13 1st set; \$11 additional sets. For 12 mm: \$7 1st set; \$6 add. set. For 20 mm and 12 mm: \$19 1st set; \$18 extra sets. PP. Allow 4 weeks. Send check.

Art Struempier  
813 Maxwell Court  
Fort Collins, CO 80525

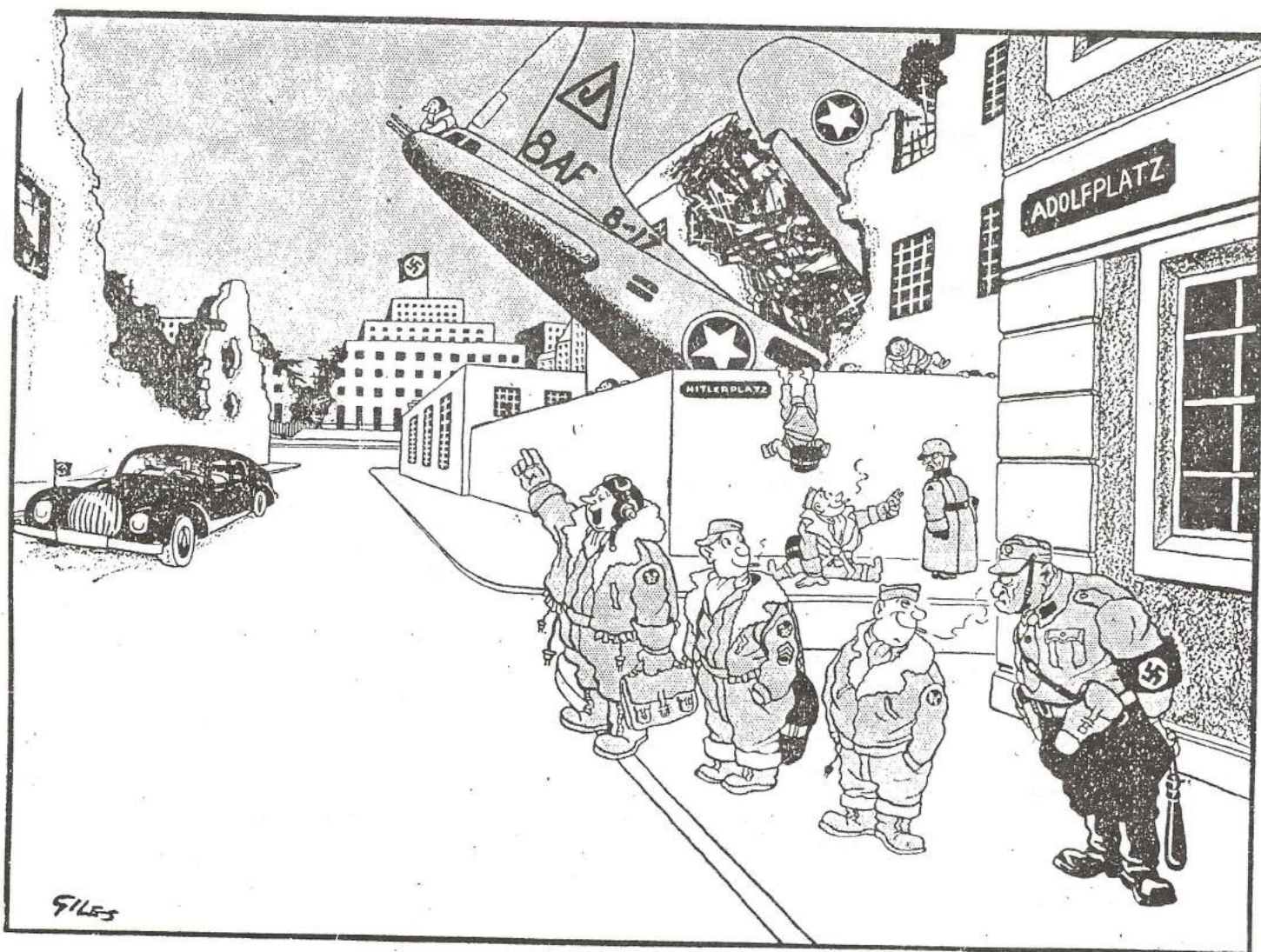
## REUNION

EIGHTH AFHS Reunion Sept 7-10 1995 -St Louis, Mo. For details - write to 8th AFHS.

## MINI-REUNION

457 BG: Mini Reunion (Social- Non Business) in conjunction with 8AFHS. St Louis, Mo. Sept 7-10, 1995. Contact 8AFHS-ONLY -Some 30 or so men, wives & guests attend.

**EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
There are 326 8AFHS members that are also 457th men, not all dues paying members of our ASSOCIATION.





8 January 1995 Alton, IL

Homer:

Enclosed is some information on the 8th AIR Force Memorial Control Tower DEDICATION at the U.S. AIR FORCE MUSEUM on SATURDAY, 22 April 1995.

See if you can spread the word among the 457th BGA.

The enclosed photo will indicate this is a project of which we will be proud. It is a first class Memorial and a good educational exhibit.

Thanks for your help.  
Best wishes,

*John E. Greenwood*



The 8th Air Force  
Memorial Museum  
Foundation, Inc.

JOHN E. GREENWOOD  
PRESIDENT

FAX (618) 462-2523

Office: (618) 462-2500

Home: (618) 462-6222

607 State Street  
Alton, IL 62002



THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE MEMORIAL MUSEUM FOUNDATION

CONTROL TOWER DEDICATION

On 22 April 1995, after 6½ years, the Control Tower Memorial has come to fruition. Of the many museum displays put in place by the 8th AFMMF this is by far the largest and most impressive.

A replica of the control towers which we had on our bases in England holds a commanding position along the entrance to the U.S.A.F. Museum, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. This is a fitting memorial to our fallen comrades and the many accomplishments of "The Mighty Eighth", as well as an educational exhibit for the youths of today and tomorrow.

Arrangements have been made with the Dayton Airport Inn and Conference Center for the following:

Hotel room (tax included) single or double)	\$50.00
Bus transportation to U.S.A.F. Museum on Sat.Rd trip	8.00
Buffet breakfast Saturday morning (tax included)	8.51
Buffet dinner Saturday evening (tax included)	18.37



The menus are as follows:

Breakfast buffet--

Assorted juices  
Cut up fresh fruit  
Scrambled eggs  
Sausage and bacon  
Breakfast potatoes  
Muffins and biscuits  
Coffee

Dinner buffet--

BBQ chicken quarters  
Baked beans  
BBQ beef with buns  
Cole slaw  
Potato salad  
Corn O'Brien  
3 bean salad  
Beverage (coffee, tea, or milk)  
Fruit cobbler

The special room rate of \$50.00 is available Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The Airport Inn provides complimentary parking for those driving in. Complimentary shuttle is also provided to and from the airport. It takes approximately one (1) minute to reach the Inn via the shuttle.

For those electing to stay over on Sunday, arrangements have been made with Budget Rent-A-Car for a rate of \$24/day with unlimited mileage. This is the compact car price but you will automatically be upgraded to a mid-size vehicle. This will enable you to return to U.S.A.F. Museum for a more leisurely stroll down memory lane. Merely mention, at the time you rent the car, that you are attending the 8th AFMMF Control Tower Dedication.

The Airport Inn is just north of I-70, Exit 32, and west of I-75. This is the only hotel property on the airport grounds.

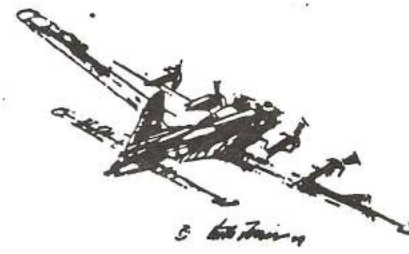
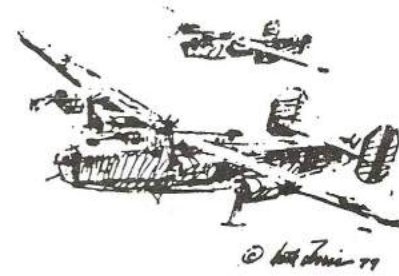
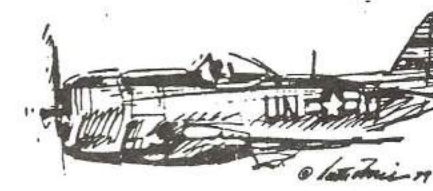
The cut-off date for hotel registration is 1 April 1995. If our block of rooms (80) is exceeded the overflow will be accommodated at a nearby hotel. The rooms are available on a first come first served basis.

Fill out the registration form below for any or all of the options and send with your check or credit card number to the Airport Inn.

Please Reserve The Following Accommodations For:	
Name _____	Room with Queen Bed
Arrive _____ Leave _____ (date & time) (date)	___ For One
Guaranteed by _____ (credit card)	___ For Two
_____ Exp. _____	Room with Twin Beds
Address _____	___ For Two
City/State/Zip _____	
Bus transportation required for _____ persons	
Breakfast buffet for _____ persons	
Dinner buffet for _____ persons	

Dayton Airport Inn  
Dayton International Airport  
Vandalia, OH 45377

You are encouraged to join the Board of Directors of the 8th AFMMF in this momentous dedication ceremony and the turning of the keys over to U.S.A.F. Museum officials.



Original Art Work  
WWII - Planes 8/20/96  
Keith Fellers  
October 1979





# The Eighth Air Force Historical Society

4949 SAN PEDRO N E # 87 ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109

21 November 1994

Dr. Martin Harwit, Director  
Air and Space Museum  
The Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D C 20560

Dear Dr. Harwit:

At our annual meeting in San Diego, CA in October of this year, The Eight Air Force Historical Society went on record in opposition to the originally planned exhibit "The Last Act. The Atomic Bomb and the End of WW II", sometimes referred to as The Engola Gay Exhibit.

The Eight Air Force Historical Society, for your information, is an organization of some 20,000 members composed of veterans of the 8th Air Force during WW II and the present day, spouses, historians and friends of the 8th.

The 8th Air Force was not an active participant in the war in the Pacific, having waged "our" war against the Nazi Germany war machine in Europe. However, in deference to the 26,000 8th A F members killed, 18,000 wounded and over 28,000 prisoners of war, our Society is greatly disturbed by the attempt of your curators to rewrite history instead of just telling it.

It is our understanding that provisions have been made to bring this exhibit in line with accurate facts, fairness and with Title 20 U S Code Sections 77a and 80a. To do otherwise would be an affront to an entire generations of Americans and the Veterans of WW II.

The credibility of Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum is at stake and we sincerely hope your fine institution will rise to the occasion and present this exhibit as an honest representation of facts in compliance with the Institution's Charter in law.

*Charles E Dye*

CHARLES E. DYE  
President

**"The Mighty Eighth"**



## 8AFHS Unit Contacts-1995 (Arranged by Function, then Number)

8AFHQ-Aida V. Kaye, 495 NE, 157 Terr., Miami, FL 33162-5158  
8AFCC-Bernard J. Gudenkauf, 5725 Jeffrey Pl, Fairfield, OH 45014  
8AFFC-Edward J. Creeden, Route 2, Box 598, Sussex, NJ 07461-9242  
8AFSPCMD-Joseph A. Koffman, 346 Salem Ct, Spring Hill, FL 33526  
8AFSVC-Alfred Bisnett, 9215 Topeka St, Bethesda, MD 20817-3307  
8AFTOP-J. B. Toczylowski, 2219 Biscayne Ln, Niceville, FL 32578

1ADHQ-James C. Cooper, 713 Country Club Rd, Fairmount, WV 26554  
2ADHQ-Ray Strong, 320 Burlage Circle, Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
3ADHQ-Carl Jeschawitz, 109 Karen Drive, Decatur, IL 62526

1BAD-Thom Conley, 1946 Savannah Ct., Waco, TX 76701  
2BAD-Dick McClune, 527 Quarterfield Rd, Newport News, VA 23602  
1SAD-William H. Crockett, 5173 S. Troost, Tulsa, OK 74105-5718  
2SAD-A. R. Ballinger, 1019 E. Jordin St, Appleton, WI 54911-5167  
3SAD-Wiley Noble, 7266 Goodwood Ave, Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
4SAD-H. Gourley, 3345 Royal Carriage Rd, Montgomery, AL 36116  
5SAD-Don Hanson, 7348 Penn Avenue, South Richfield, MN 55423

3CCRC/SAS-Roger King, RD 1 Box 1148, West Rockport, ME 04865  
5ERS-James F. Aicardi, 300 E 40th St #22-B, New York, NY 10016  
7PRG-George Lawson, 4390 14th St NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33703  
1/11CCRC-Arthur V. Belkowski, 7 Tekening Way, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690-1648  
18WX-Arthur Gulliver, 5119 S 81st St, Ralston, NE 68127-2736  
45ADG-Charles F. Guemelata, 119 Aigler Blvd, Belleview, OH 44811  
65GENHOSP-Sarkis Mhrianian, 19 Gregory Ln, Loudonville, NY 12211  
91GENHOSP-Wallace Dahl, 6671 Fremont, St. Paul, MN 55125  
70RDP-Richard C. Harris, 4813 Burton SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108  
31STCG-William Brinson, 4733 Ivanhoe Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32210  
325RWHQ-Eric W. Hawkinson, Box 4351, Vallejo, CA 94590  
465SVSQ-Douglas Goss, 948 Jones Road, Yuba City, CA 95991  
94EATOBIN-Des Grange, 17886 Cordillera, San Diego, CA 92128  
1915ORDAVCO-Frank Kaye, 371 S. Hollywood Dr, Pembroke Pines, FL  
FLYCONTR-c/o One Scanlan Plaza, St. Paul, MN 55107  
SCOUTFC-Richard Atkins, 1304 Cochise Dr, Arlington, TX 76012

65FWHQ-George Epperson, 2369 Oak Crest Dr, Riverside, CA 92506  
66FWHQ-Newton W. Carpenter, 4692 W 11th St, Cleveland, OH 44109  
EagleSq-James A. Gray, 7238 Kolb Place, Dublin, CA 94568-2744  
1FG-Francis Harris, 2335 Caminito Loretta, LaJolla, CA 92037  
4FG-Charles Konsler, Box 120634, Clermont, FL 34712-0634  
20FG-Jack Ilfrey, 50 Ridge Dr, New Braunfels, TX 78130-6624  
31FG-Edwin Dalrymple, 4211 Prickley Pear Dr, Austin, TX 78731  
55FG-Robert M. Littlefield, POB 3644, Carmel, CA 93921  
56FG-Leo D. Lester, 600 E. Prospect St, Kewanee, IL 61443-3022  
78FG-Albert C. Wendt, POB 24, Arlington Heights, IL 60006  
82FG-Jack Walker, 2849E St #19, San Diego, CA 92104  
339FG-Chet Malarz, 2405 Kings Point Dr, Atlanta, GA 30338  
352FG-Richard DeBruin, 234 N 74th St, Milwaukee, WI 53213-3629  
353FG-Charles Graham, AN Club 901 17th, NW, Washington, DC 20006  
355FG-Robert E. Kuhnert, 4230 Shroyer Rd, Dayton, OH 45429-3062  
356FG-Kenneth J. Male, 2988 Hillcrest Rd, Schenectady, NY 12309  
N.W. 47th St, Ocala, FL 34482 - Sept. thru May.  
357FG-Joseph De Shay, 465 NE 34 St, Boca Raton, FL 33431-6031  
359FG-Anthony Chardella, 511 Cresthaven Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
361FG-Arthur Trilli, 906 Broad Ave N, Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
364FG-Bruce Ward, 19849 Road #244, Strathmore, CA 93267-9635  
479FG-J. Ralph Helms, 1103 Pinecroft Dr, West Columbia, SC 29170  
495FTG-Edgar L. Belsom, POB 373, Lakeshore, MS 39558-1003  
496FTG-Merle Gerling, 5040 Blacksand Rd, Fremont, CA 94538

1ADHQ-James C. Cooper, 713 Country Club Road, Fairmount, WV 26554  
2ADHQ-Mary Frances Elder, 1224 Franklin, Burlington, NC 27215  
3ADHQ-

25BS-Donald E. Turner, 4730 Auburn Rd, Salem, OR 97301  
36BS-Stephen Hutton, 4016 Old Sturbridge Dr, Apex, NC 27502  
406BS-W. R. Longnecker, 5653 Rayburn Ave, Alexandria, VA 22311

323BG(M)-Paul Mulrenin, 5597 Seminary Rd, Falls Ch, VA 22041  
386BG(M)-Barnett Young, 5658 Eichen Cir, Ft. Myers, FL 33919

387BG(M)-Joseph Meckoll, 291 Quinn Hill Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022

25BG-Thomas R. Owens, 1352 Continental Ave, Melbourne, FL 32940  
34BG-Harold Province, 111 Province Lane, Carriere, MS 39426  
36BG-P. Carty, 7 Cross Way, Leighton Buzzard Beds, LU7-8NG, England  
44BG-Roy Owen, 6304 Meadow Ridge, Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
91BG-Asay B. Johnson, 590 Aloha Dr, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403  
92BG-Arthur V. Belkowski, 7 Tekening Way, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690-1648  
93BG-Paul R. Steichen, 2227A Ruhland Dr, Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
94BG-Frank Halm, 433 NW 33rd St, Corvallis, OR 97330-5036  
95BG-Arthur Frankel, 17050 Northrup Way #13, Bellevue, WA 98008  
96BG-Thomas L. Thomas, 1607 E. Willow Ave, Wheaton, IL 60187-5950  
97BG-Edmund Hicks, 3222 Tanglewood Tr, Palm Harbor, FL 34685  
100BG-John A. Miller, 2005 Jansen Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89101-1238  
301BG-Billy S. McCarty, POB 47843, San Antonio, TX 78265  
303BG-Harry Gobrecht, 505 Via Deseo, San Clemente, CA 92672  
305BG-Stan Soderblom, 5904 Dashwood Rd, Bethel Park, PA 15102  
306BG-Russell A. Strong, 5323 Cheval Pl, Charlotte, NC 28205  
351BG-Benjamin Schohan, 398 Catawba Ave, Westerville, OH 43081  
379BG-Hjalmar Heilberg, 715 W State St, Marshalltown, IA 50158  
381BG-LeRoy Wilcox, 330 E 3200 N Sts, Provo, VT 84604  
384BG-Herb Schaff, 4N Lake Dr, Statesboro, GA 30458  
385BG-Gerald Donnelly, 10770 SW 46St, Miami, FL 33165-4839  
386BG-Barnett Young, 5658 Eichen Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33919  
387BG-Joseph Meckoll, 291 Quinn Hill Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022  
388BG-James W. Ripley, 200 E. Grand, LaMonte, MO 65337  
389BG-Lloyd West, Box 256, Rush Center, KS 67575  
390BG-John Warner, 4081 E. Pontatoc Canyon Dr, Tucson, AZ 85718  
392BG-Cliff Peterson, 2120 Woodcrest Dr, Winter Park, FL 32792  
398BG-George Hilliard, 7841 Quartermaine Cincinnati, OH 45236  
401BG-Ralph W. Trout, Box 22044, Tampa, FL 33622-2044  
406BG-W. R. Longnecker, 5653 Rayburn Ave, Alexandria, VA 22311  
445BG-Ray R. Pytel, P.O. Box 484, Elkhorn, WI 53121-0484  
446BG-Raymond Tate, POB 427, Ashton, MD 20861  
447BG-Orlando Petrillo, 955 N Pasadena Ave, Elyria, OH 44035  
448BG-R. Cater Lee, POB 850, Foley, AL 36536  
449BG-John F. Conway, 58 College Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
452BG-John Witte, 40 S 16th St, Richmond, IN 47374  
453BG-Wilbur Cluigan, 8729 Samoline Ave, Downey, CA 90240  
457BG-Homer L. Briggs, 811 NW B St, Bentonville, AR 72712  
458BG-Edmund A. Rokicki, 365 Mae Rd, Glen Burnie, MD 21061-4694  
465BG-Douglas Gross U.C., 948 Jone Rd, Yuba City, CA 95991  
466BG-Louis Loevisky, 16 Hamilton Dr E, North Caldwell, NJ  
467BG-Walter W. Weaver, 3 Hermitage Ct, Savannah, GA 31419  
482BG-c/o One Scanlan Plaza, St. Paul, MN 55107  
486BG-Gus Nathan, 1841 Centuck Station, Yonkers, NY 10710  
487BG-Arthur W. Silva, 1002 N. Rosalind Dr, Santa Maria, CA 93454  
489BG-Charles H. Freudenthal, 8421 Berea Dr, Vienna, VA 22180  
490BG-George Pickard, 3936 Lake Manuka Rd, Gaylord, MI 49735  
491BG-Edwin C. Watson, POB 966, Etowah, NC 28729  
492BG-Willis Beasley, 1525 S. Garfield St, Denver, CO 80210-3022  
493BG-Jack D. Rude, 2909 South Bowie, Amarillo, TX 79109  
801/492BG-Sebastian Corriere, 4939 N 89 St, Milwaukee, WI 53225

## Station Contacts for 8th AF Stations

When planning a trip to Britain, write to the appropriate Station Contact for information. Contacts have been chosen by the Friends of The Eighth (FOTE) organization in Britain, whose chairman is Ron Mackay, Brienz, 39 Thorley Hill, Bishops Stortford, Herts, CM 23 3NE. Station Contacts are coordinated by Ian L. Hawkins, 29 Birch Avenue, Bacton, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 4NT. The UK 8AFHS Membership Managers are Gordon and Connie Richards, 14 Pavenham Rd, Oakley, Bedford MK 43 7SY, Phone (from US) 011-44-234-82-3357. They are also the UK contacts for the Glenn Miller Historical Society, and a number of stations cited below.

Abbots Ripton	Ron Mackay (see introduction)
Alconbury	Ray Corby, 16 Fyfe Rd, Corby, Northants MN 17 2RD
Aldermaston	Brian Humphries, 31 The Causeway, Stevenon, Abington, Oxon. OX13 6SE
Andrews Field	Rev. Rodney J. Pope, The Vicarage, Great Saling, Braintree, Essex CM7 5DT
Atcham	A. W. Sharpe, 35 Roseway, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire, TF1 1HU



Attlebridge	E.D. Clarke, 16 Darrell Pl, Norwich, Norfolk, NR5 8QW, England	Thatcham, Newbury, Berkshire RB13 4SL
Bassingbourn	Vincent Hemmings, 48 Meadow Way, Letchworth, Herts G6G 3HX	Ketteringham Hall Ms. Phyllis Dubois, Norwich Central Libr., Bethel St, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 1NJ
Bodney	Ross Smart, 4 Thieves Lane, Attleborough, Norfolk	Kimbolton Philip T. Walpole, 23 Shesley Dr, Northampton NN3 1ET
Bottisham	Steve Gots, 49 Edinburgh Rd, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1QR	Chris Chandler, 5 Hooked Lane, Wilstead Bedford, Bedfordshire MK45 3DL
Bovingdon	Robert J. Warren, 6 Pilgrims Close, Harlington, Bedfordshire, LU7 8ND	Kings Cliffe Ray Corby (see Alconbury)
	Steve Yates, 91 Aldenham Rd, Bushey, Herts, WD2 2LX	Knettishall George Stebbings, Little Patches, The Street, Rickinghall, Diss, Norfolk IP22 1EW
Boxted	Witold Lanowski, 15 Wansford Rd, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 7AD	Lavenham Tony Cox, 94 Pattison Lane, Woolstone, Mil Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK15 0BN
Brampton Grange	Ron Mackay (see intro.)	Leiston David Hudson, 4 Lime Tree Ave, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4EH
Bungay	John Archer, 29 Station Rd, Earsham, Bungay, Suffolk NR35 2TS	Martlesham Heath Peter Claydon, Holmbury, 61 Brook Land, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 7LB
Burtonwood	Aldon P. Ferguson, 18 Ridge Way, Wargrave, Reading, Berkshire, RG10 8AS	Melchbourne Park Connie & Gordon Richards (see intro.)
Bury St. Edmunds	John Clark, 75 Oliver Rd, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 L56	Membury Brian Prior (see Chalgrove)
	Cliff Hall, 6 Bury Rd, Hengrave, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 6LS	Mendlesham Ian Hawkins, 29 Birch Avenue, Bacton, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 4NT
Bushey Hall	Ron Mackay (see intro.)	Metfield Graham Cross, Nether Hall, Lower Raydon, Hadleigh, Suffolk IP7 5QL
Bushy Park	John Lund, 9 Berystede, Kingston Hill, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey KT2 7PD	Milton Ernest Connie Richards (see intro.)
	George Brinckley, 9 Richards Close, Harlington, Hayes Middlesex	Molesworth (see Alconbury) Also Ray Cossey, 5 Woodland Drive, Thorpe End, Norwich, NR 13BH
Camp Griffiss	Richard A. Harris, 27 The Wilderness Off Park Road, Hampton Hill, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 1HS	Mount Farm James Hotaling, 3 Cratlands Close, Stadhampton, Oxford OX9 7TU
Chalgrove	Brian Prior, 26 Westfields, Harwell, Didcot, Oxon. OX11 0LG	Neaton Ron Mackay (see intro.)
	John Godfrey, 48 Brookside, Chalgrove, Oxford OX9 7SQ	North Pickenham Keith Thomas, Cavells Farm, Bowstreet, Grt. Ellington, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1JA
Cheddington	Pat Carty, 7 Crossway, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 8ND	Norwich 2nd Air Division Memorial Room, Ms. Phyllis Dubois, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1NJ
Chelveston	William Donald, 32 Linden Avenue, Higham Ferrers, Northants, NN9 8ET	Nuthamstead Wilfred Dimsdale, Meesden Bury, Meesden Buntingford, Herts SG9 OAY
Chipping Ongar	Derek Aspinall, 184 Temple Grove Park, West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8LW	Old Buckenham Graham Savill, 55 Beechwood Dr, Thorpe St. Andrew Pat Ramm, Common Farm, Little Ellingham, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1JU
Daws Hill Lodge	J. F. Hadfield, 38 Glenham rd, Thame, Oxfordshire, OX9 3WD	Oulton George Stebbings, Little Patches, The Street Rickinghall, Diss, Norfolk IP22 1EG
Debach	M. R. Taylor, Hasketon Hall, Woodbridge, Suffolk	Podington John Mills, 16 Ibbet Close, Kempston, Bedford
Debden	Truett Woodall, 44 Roundwood Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 4LU	Polebrook Alan Dann, 3 Cardinals Gate, Warrington, Peterborough, Cambs PE4 5AS
	Keith Braybrook, 46 Roundtree Way, Saffron Walden Essex CB11 4DL	Rackheath Chris Gots, 6 Gravelfield Close, Valley Dr. Estates, Norwich NR1 4NH
Deenethorpe	Ron Sismey, 26 Church St, Weldon, Corby, Northants NN17 2NE	Ramsbury Tony Cox, 94 Pattison Lane, Woolstone, Milton, Keynes, MK 15 0BN
Deopham Green	Martin J. Jeffery, Thornwood, Great Ellingham, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 2NE	Rattlesden Eddie Leighty, Birds Green, Rattlesden, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 ORT
Duxford	Andrew Height, 79 Kingsway, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QN	Raydon Graham Cross, Netherhall, Lower Raydon, Near Ipswich, Hadleigh, Suffolk, IPY 5QL
Earls Colne	John Spurgeon, 1 Hayes Cottage, The Street, Bradwell, Braintree, Essex CM7 8EH	Ridgewell Ron Mackay (see intro.)
East Wretham	David Fitt, Windmill Service Station, East Wretham, Thetford	Seething Dave Osborne, 47 Dooley Rd, Halstead, Essex
Eglinton	Ron Mackay (see intro.)	Sharnbrook Patricia Everson Stanmare, Seething, Norwich, Norfolk NR15 1AL
Elveden Hall	Brian Baldwin, 36 Fallowfield Walk, Hardwick Vale, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 2QS	Shipharm Connie & Gordon Richards (see intro.)
Eye	Don and Peggy Garnham, 1 Church View, Yaxley, Eye, Suffolk IP23 8BT	Smethwick John Page, 6 Meadows Way, Poringland, Norwich, Norfolk
Fowlmere	Martin Sheldrick, Old Manor House, Fowlmere, Royston, Herts SG8 7SJ	Martin Collins, 130 Baltimore Road, Great Barr, Sandwell Birmingham B42 10L
Framlingham	Mike Warner, Woodstock Barn, Chapel Lane, Botesdale, Suffolk IP22 1DT	Snetterton Heath Geoffrey Ward, 41 Skelton Rd, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 3PW
(390 BG Museum)	Barbara Pleasance, Ash Side, Wattisfield Rd, Thelthetham, Diss, Norfolk IP22 INN	Steeple Morden David Crow, Rutland House, 21 Hay St, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts SG8 0PD
Glatton	Bernard Bains, 29 Western Ave, Peterborough PE1 4HS	Sudbury, Suffolk Roland Andrews, Roanoke, 3 Highfield Rd, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6QJ
Goxhill	Roy Parker, "Brockhampton," Ruard Rd, Goxhill, South Humberside DN17 7NW	Thorpe Abbots Sam Hurry, 41 Vancouver Ave, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE30 5RD
Grafton Underwood	Quentin Bland, The Post Office, Grafton Underwood, Kettering, Northants, NN14 3AA	Thurleigh Ralph Franklin, Mill Hill, Keysoe, Beds MK44 2HP
Great Ashfield	Ian MacLaughlin, Tasdale, 1 Joy Ave, Newton Flotman, Norfolk NR15 1RD	Tibenham Evan Harris, 3 MacKenzie Rd, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 3NO.
Great Dunmow	Tom Perkins, 37 Stubbs Lane, Braintree, Essex, CM7 6NR	Charles Hall, 32 Marlborough Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 5AX
Greenham Common	Brian Humphries (see Aldermaston)	Ron Mackay (see intro.)
Grove	Brion Pryor (see Chalgrove)	Troston (see Alconbury)
Halesworth	Tony Kerrison, 2 Parry Close, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8JG	Upwood Arthur Talbot, 65 Quebec Rd, Blackburn, Lancs BB2 7DE
Hardwick	John Archer (see Bungay)	Warton Ron Mackay (see intro.)
Harrington	Nicholas Pratt, Glendon Hall, Kettering, Northants, NN14 1QE	Wattisham Flt Lt Cutler, RAF Wattisham, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP 7RA
Hethel	Roy Odney, 3 Burnham Dr, Swanton Morely, Dereham, Norfolk NR20 AHA	Watton Kenneth Godfrey, The Willows, Broadmoor Rd, Carbrooke, Thetford IP25 6IE
High Wycombe	(Pinetree) John Hadfield, 38 Glenham Rd, Thame, Oxfordshire OX9 3WD	Welford Brian Humphries (see Aldermaston)
Hitcham	Les & Peggy Gordon, 39 Combs Ln, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 2DD	Wendling Dennis Dufield, Jubilee Cottage, Rushmeadow Rd, Scarning, Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 2NW
Honington	Chris Potter, The Fox, Honington, Bury St. Edmunds	Westhampnett Derek Hollowday, 6 Heogreen, Wick, Littlehampton, Sussex
Horham	Clifford Anthony, York Cottage, Stradbroke, Diss, Norfolk IP21 5HX	Wormingford Ian MacTaggart, Crai-y-Lyn, Braintree Rd, Gosfield, Halstead, Essex CO9 1PR
Alan & David Johnson	The Ancient House, Horham, Eye, Suffolk IP21 5DY	
Horsham St. Faiths	Tony North, 62 Turner Rd, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 4HB	
Keevilbsley	Gerry Caldecott, 17 Swansdown Walk,	





## The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Center

P.O. Box 1992 • Savannah, Georgia 31402-1992 • (912) 748-8888 • 1-800-421-9428

6 March 1995

457th Bomb Group  
Mr. Homer L. Briggs  
811 North West B Street  
Bentonville, Arkansas 72712

Dear Mr. Briggs:

I am pleased to report that The Heritage Center is progressing well according to plan. The Board of Directors and particularly the officers (EXCOM) of the board have been active in every phase of the project. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners and the Administrators have been essential in the development of the entire project and deserve our collective appreciation. If the Chatham County Commissioners had not embraced this unique undertaking in August 1993, we may never have gotten underway.

Following a competitive bidding process, contracts to build the facility and develop the museum feature were signed in late 1994 with two contractor teams. The Pickle Barrel Corporation, based in Savannah, Georgia, and composed of Scott Barnard Associates, the architect, and J.T. Turner Construction, Co., the builder, are producing the facility. Exhibitgroup, Inc. of Atlanta, Georgia is producing the museum feature within the facility. There are several subcontractors on the overall team working on site work, exhibit design and audio-visual aspects of the project.

Site work began the first week of October 1994 with the clearing of the trees on the 12 acres located at the intersection of I-95 and U.S. 80. Heavy rains delayed further work until 12 December, when clearing resumed and grubbing operations began. Back filling work began in January and is now essentially complete for the entrance way, parking lot and building sub grade. Further grading of the entire site will follow. The final design of the basic building has been completed and approved by The Heritage Center staff and EXCOM. Steel for the building was ordered in mid February and will be delivered to the site in April. Concrete pouring for the building slab will begin in March and be completed in April. Building erection should begin shortly thereafter and the schedule calls for the building to be complete by the end of October. Interior layout and design work continues and should be complete in March.

Phase one of the design for the exhibit elements of the museum was completed on 21 December and presented to the EXCOM for approval. General approval with minor modifications was given. Exhibitgroup contractor work was put on hold in January pending a thorough staff review of the exhibit plan in terms of content and budget guidelines. Having completed this action, phase two of the exhibit plan effort resumed work this month. The exhibit plan will take the visitor from the immediate pre WWII period through the war and then into the post war period. The post WWII period will include exhibit elements of the Cold War, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam conflict and Desert Shield/Storm. The focus, of course, will be the contributions of The Mighty Eighth in each of these actions. About 75-80% of the plan will be devoted directly to WWII and tell the full story of The Mighty Eighth's operations, including not only the fighting and flying story, but also the story of the ground crews, depots, headquarters and all support elements.



The second issue of *The Heritage* is enclosed. Please note the articles indicating a need for memorabilia and artifacts. Let us know what items you have and are willing to donate to the museum. Many individuals have done so already to support the overall exhibit plan. There will also be a room in the museum designated for a number of individual unit displays of memorabilia and artifacts. It will be up to the individual units to produce what they want displayed and designate a point of contact to work with the staff to develop these displays.

In addition to a museum, The Heritage Center will also include a gift shop, food service area, art gallery, library, archival area, education center space and administrative office space, all in a two story building with 80,000 (plus) square feet of floor space. Additionally there will be memorial gardens and a small chapel to the rear of the facility. The program is on schedule for a May 1996 opening.

Key to the success of The Heritage Center project is fund raising! Although Chatham County is providing the initial funding through the sale of revenue bonds, these bonds must be repaid over a 20 year period. After The Heritage Center opens, revenues derived from nominal admission charges, gift shop and food service operations as well as facility leasing, must provide sufficient funds to cover operational costs and retirement of the bond debt. Over and above this, a signed agreement with Chatham County requires that we meet two specific milestones: the first requires that \$1.5 million be available the date the doors of The Heritage Center open; second, that a total of \$3 million be available one year from opening. This money will be used to meet the initial obligations of debt service until positive cash flow is achieved. To date we have just over \$1 million in secured pledges and cash towards this end. Cash on hand is \$381,653.05, so anyone can see that we have quite a way to go towards meeting the obligation to the County. Every penny that has been received since 1 September 1993, has been invested towards reaching the \$3 million obligation. It would help considerably for units and individuals to honor their pledges as soon as possible. None of this money is being used for operations, again every penny is being invested and will ultimately go in to "bricks and mortar". If you haven't joined or made a contribution to The Heritage Center, do so today. Our fund raising efforts are continuing and are absolutely vital to the success of The Heritage Center!

The revenue bonds, issued by The Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) on behalf of Chatham County, are going out on the market in mid March and will total \$12.5 million. The annual pay back will be approximately \$1.2 million per year for 20 years. The Chatham County Commissioners voted unanimously on 24 February for final authorization on the sale of the bonds.

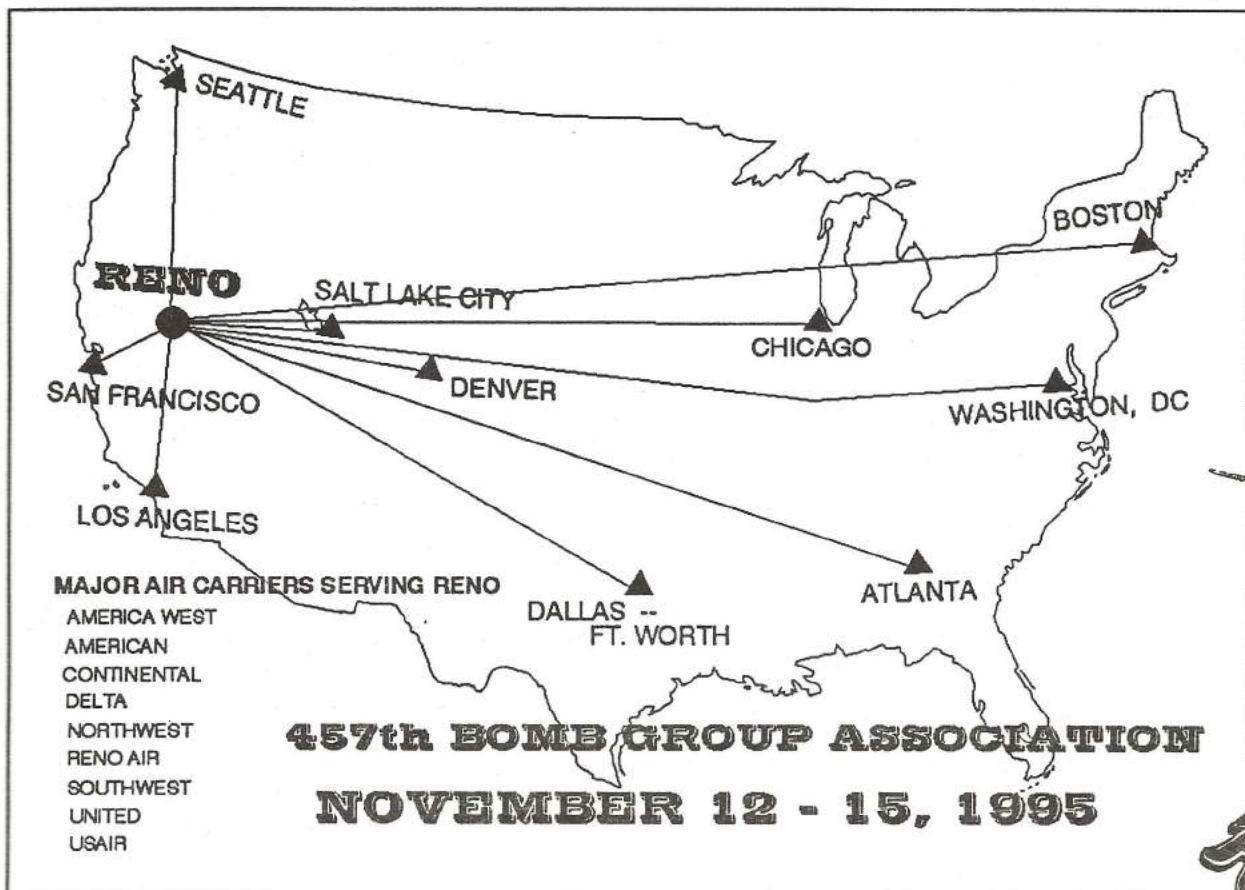
I want to express my personal appreciation for the tremendous support everyone has given and continues to give The Heritage Center project. From the initial action by The Eighth Air Force Historical Society of providing the seed money, to the subsequent excellent and continuing support of the many units and State Chapters as well as individuals, it has been a most gratifying and noble experience. I salute all of our many strong supporters. Please share this letter and information with your newsletter editors and membership at large. The Heritage Center staff joins me in extending these expressions of appreciation and best wishes to you and the members of your group.

Respectfully and with best wishes,



Lt. Gen. E. G. Shuler, Jr., USAF, Ret.  
Chairman and CEO





## 457th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION NOVEMBER 12 - 15, 1995

No matter where you live, if you can get to an airport served by one of the major airlines listed above, you can get to Reno for a reasonable cost! All the major airlines have Senior Citizen travel coupon books (American's *Senior Advantage*, Delta's *Young At Heart*, United's *Silver Travel Pack*, USAir's *Golden Opportunity*, etc) that will allow you to make a round-trip flight anywhere in the continental US for two coupons, total cost \$248 (1994 prices)! [A 4-coupon book will set you back \$596, and 8-coupon book costs \$1032] The coupons are good for a year, and if you have coupons about to expire, you can exchange them for an open ticket good for another year! That's a bargain that's hard to pass up. The only restrictions are 14-day advance booking, and -- of course -- "coupon seats" must be available on the flight you want to take. But, you can travel any day of the week -- no Saturday-night stayover requirement.

If you're wondering how you can get to Reno, check out the Senior Citizen coupon book on your airline. You'll be glad you did. If you don't want to spring for the 2 extra coupons in a 4-coupon book, check out your airline's Super Savers. Sometimes you can get a spectacular bargain by staying over a Saturday night, and with an advance purchase. Some airlines also still give a 10% senior citizen discount. And, you get frequent flyer miles with all of the above.

You probably already knew all this, but we didn't want anyone to pass up the chance to come to the Reno 1995 Reunion because they didn't know about these special things.

There are other ways to get to Reno. Start early enough and you can drive from home, or fly-drive from San Francisco. Reno is on Interstate 80, three and a half hours from the Bay area. Another idea: fly to San Francisco, sit back and enjoy the scenic trip to Reno on Amtrak.



Name Tags? BRING 'EM! IF YOU'EM  
 JUES? BY EM!  
 HAVE 'EM!



The 1995 Reno Reunion of the 457th Bomb Group Association will have a lot to offer for  
our enjoyment, and we hope you will be able to attend.

But no matter how we choose to get there, when we do, we will certainly

**LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!**

**DUES? 'EM**  
**PAY**

2yrs \$25.00



#### REUNION ADVERTISEMENTS:

Twenty eight magazines & newspapers have this notice publicized in their reunion news. Some are listed in this issue. THE 457th BG WWII & ATTACHED--UNITS STATIONED IN GLATTON, ENGLAND, WILL HAVE A REUNION NOV 12 thru 15, 1995 IN RENO, NV. CONTACT: HOMER L BRIGGS, 811 NW B ST, BENTONVILLE, AR 72712 PH: 1-501-273-3908

\*\*\*\*\*  
Anyone calling 1-900-737-8387 which is the Vets American --- Legion. Ask the operator for reunion info and Reunion Chair-man & how to contact him.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Once again we ask you to send a notice to your hometown newspaper (at no cost) with contact, either your name or H.L Briggs.

\*\*\*\*\*  
We usually find at lease 10 or so new addresses for a "lost - BUDDIES" thru this advertising at reunion time.-----

#### PLEASE

If you find anyone who is new to (The Association) please --- SEND NAME & ADDRESS TO BRIGGS We then put them on the mailing list.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### FACTS--REUNIONS

##### CHARTER MEMBERS--1971 ATTENDED ALL 11

BRIGGS, HOMER-MICKEY (2-ENGLAND)  
BIRCHEN, PAUL-RHODA (1-ENGLAND)  
SILER, WILLIAM-RUTH (2-ENGLAND)

KINYON, KEN-DONNA (10-before his death)

GRAHAM- 8 (2-ENGLAND) before becoming too ill to attend.

MORSE, WILLIAM-ERICA - 9 (1-ENGLAND)  
OWSLEY, DEE-MARGARITE 9  
RURODE, KEN-BLANCH 9 (1-ENGLAND)

##### SECOND REUNION-1973

#### FINDS:

GOFF, TOM- 10 (4-ENGLAND) Attendance perfect

##### THIRD REUNION - 1976

#### FINDS:

AYERS AARON-VIOLET 9 Attendance perfect

MANY MORE HAVE ATTENDED EVERY... REUNION, AFTER 1ST ATTENDED REUNION.

1. BENTONVILLE, AR .....	1971	(100)
2. TOPEKA, KS.....	1993	(104)
3. BENTONVILLE, AR.....	1976	(133)
4. OMAHA, NE.....	1979	(111)
5. COLORADO SPRGS, CO. ....	1981	(148)
6. HOUSTON, TX.....	1983	(103)
7. RAPID CITY., SD.....	1985	(272)
8. BURLINGTON, VT.....	1987	(381)
9. SAN DIEGO, CA.....	1989	(297)
10. GULF SHORES, AL.....	1991	(338)
11. SAN ANTONIO, Tx.....	1993	(342)

THIS BRINGS UP.....

12. RENO NV-----LETS ALL ATTEND & HAVE THE BIGGEST YET. THERE ARE TO BE SOME FIRST TIME ATTENDEES..MORE THAN TEN HAVE ALREADY RESERVED A ROOM AT THE SANDS REGENCY.

DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR 1997 SITE OR SPONSOR?????????TELL President: BILLY HIGHTOWER.

##### ENGLAND MINI REUNION

1.-24	(1984)	4,-50	(1990)
2.-43	(1986)	5.-31	(1992)
3.-30	(1988)	6.-38	(1994)





REUNION CHAIRMAN IS KEN BLAKEBOUGH- IF YOU DONT HAVE CORRECT TICKETS OR NEED INFORMATION IN GENERAL. SEE KEN- HE'S YOUR MAN.

Mickey and volunteers will gladly help on name tags & signing in.  
SPOUSES, FRIENDS, CHILDREN, GRAND CHILDREN, ASSOC OR ANY ONE INTERESTED IN OUR GROUP ARE ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND.  
YOUR PRE REGISTERED PACKET WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AS YOU SIGN IN. WE WILL HAVE ANY CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE, TICKETS (PREPAID), REQUESTED NAME TAGS ( REQUEST BY THE 1ST OF NOV) COPIES OF MINUTES AND TREASURER REPORTS.

++++  
WE HOPE YOU STILL HAVE THE BEAUTIUL NAME TAGS FROM A PAST REUNION, IF SO--DO LOOK THEM UP & WEAR THEM. SAVE RICHARD WYMAN SO MUCH MORE WORK.  
++++

THE RENO VISITORS AUTHORITY WILL FURNISH A THICK PACKET OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY AND DISCOUNT COUPONS.

THESE ARE AVAILABLE AT REGISTRATION TABLE. PLEASE PICKUP AT THE SAME TIME YOU SIGN IN.

#### LADIES!!!

THE GEMINI BEAUTY SALON IS LOCATED AT THE SANDS HOTEL-EAST SIDE, 1st FLOOR. DROP-INS ARE WELCOME. ALSO APPOINTMENTS. TEL: 1702-322-5400

#### MEN!!!

WANT TO RENT A TUX OR FORMAL WEAR? "CECCARELLI'S FORMAL WEAR" IS LOCATED ABOUT ONE MILE AWAY, PHONE: 1-702-322-9851 TO RESERVE, CALL WITH MEASUREMENTS ( A LOCAL TUX RENTAL CAN MEASURE YOU) AND AT LEAST ½ OF FEE RENTAL . FEES START AT \$60.00 (COMPLETE-WITH SHOES). ORDER OR CANCEL NO LATER THAN NOV 1,1995.

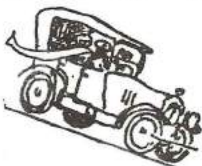
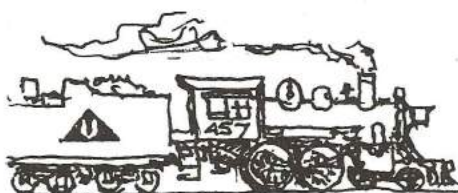
PLEASE MAIL IN DUES BEFORE ATTENDING TO AVOID THE ADDED CONFUSION & MONEY TAKING.

CURRENT DUES SHOULD BE PAID, SO THAT YOU ARE IN GOOD STANDING AND MAY VOTE AT THE BUSINESS MEETING. YOU DO NOT NEED TO SHOW MEMBERSHIP CARDS.

#### NO. EXCEPTIONS:

BECAUSE OF ERROR, OR OMISSIONS, WE WILL NOT TAKE ANY NOTE OF ANY INFORMATION-----UNLESS WRITTEN BY YOU, SIGNED AND DATED BY YOU. ANY NEW NAMES, ADDRESSES OR CHANGE OF ADDRESSES, OR QUESTIONS OF CREDIT OF DUES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MICKEY BRIGGS OR TO THE REGISTRATION PERSON IN CHARGE AT THE TIME. ANY NOTE PERTAINING TO SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION GIVE TO BILLY HIGHTOWER, PRESIDENT, KEN BLAKEBOUGH, VICE PRESIDENT. ANY NAME OR THE MEMORIAL GIVE TO DAVE SUMMERVILLE, HOMER BRIGGS CAN ALSO HELP AS WELL AS THE DIRECTORS.

MANY TIMES, INFO GIVEN AT A BUSY TIME-WRITTEN IN HASTE-- MEANS NOTHING LATER OR IS LOST. Check up on us--LET US KNOW IF WE GOOF.



**RENO**

24



IT WONT BE THE SAME WITHOUT U!



# MEMORABILIA!!!

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE ANY FROM THE ROOM- IF ANYTHING SHOULD NEED TO BE COPIED TALK TO HOMER OR MICKEY BRIGGS.

If you have borrowed anything from before, please return this time. SEVERAL BOOKS AND A CHAIR ARM (donated by SHEBELL) HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED.

YOUR MEMORABILIA IS WELCOME. WE WILL GUARD IT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. YOU MAY PUT IT ON DISPLAY AND TAKE IT WITH YOU WHEN YOU LEAVE THE ROOM. IF LEFT WITH THE ROOM PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON IT AND BE RESPONSIBLE TO PICK IT UP. THE ROOM WILL BE LOCKED, WHEN THE PERSON IN CHARGE IS UNABLE TO STAY. SEE HOMER BRIGGS OR KEN BLAKEBROUGH FOR KEY.

## px;

A SMALL PX WILL INCLUDE HATS (SMALL SUPPLY), SQN -GROUP PATCHES (RE-ORDER), STATIONERY, ADDRESS BOOKS & 1993 ROSTERS. FREE:BACK ISSUES OF NEWSLETTERS (LIMITED).

## POSSIBLE

GROUP--BOOKS FOR SALE

PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL TO Mickey Briggs...811 NW B ST...BENTONVILLE, AR 72712

REUNION VOLUNTEERS!!!!!! WE NEED YOU !  
CAN YOU HELP? ONE HOUR OR MORE.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ WIFE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## WOULD

YOU BE WILLING TO BE IN CHARGE OF ONE AREA YES \_\_\_\_\_ Helper Yes \_\_\_\_\_

FILL TIME IN UNDER EACH-----	PX	VIDEO	MEMORABILIA	REGISTER	GREETER--OTHER
SAT 11 th NIGHT <u>HELP SET UP</u>					
SUN 12 th POSSIBLE 11-4 6-8					
MON 13 5-2 Possible					
TUE 14th 1 -4					
WED IF REQUESTED 15th after Memorial					

REPORT TO Mickey Briggs at reunion . PICKUP-TIMES TO HELP AND  
No areas will be open during Meetings,tours, mealtimes. SPECIAL NAME TAGS.



## REUNION VOLUNTEER WORKERS

WORKING TO HELP YOUR REUNION GO SMOOTHER.

WANTING ALSO ATTEND ALL THE MEETINGS.

WANTING TO GO ON TOURS.

WANTING TO EAT- SHOP-REST.

NEEDING YOUR PATIENCE FOR YOUR TURN, IN ORDER TO SPEEDILY GIVE CORRECT HELP.

NEEDING YOUR RESPECT AND A KINDLY THANK TO BE ABLE IN RETURN GIVE YOU A SMILE

I, MICKEY BRIGGS WANT TO GIVE THE PAST HELP ALL A BIG THANK YOU FOR THE UNPAID HARD WORKING VOLUNTEERS WORK.  
ALSO THANKS A HEAD FOR THE RENO GANG.

### DUE TO THE ABOVE

(NO EXCEPTION)

ALL DESKS, MEMORABIIA, PX & VIDEOS WILL NOT BE OPEN CONTINUOUS & WILL BE CLOSED DURING ANY EVENT. IF POSSIBLE TO OPEN OTHER THAN SCHEDULED, WILL TRY TO POST TIMES. NO ONE WILL OPEN UNLESS TOLD TO BY REUNION CHAIRMAN, & OR REGISTRATION (MICKEY BRIGGS). PLEASE TRY TO ARRIVE FOR THE TIMES GIVEN IF NOT POSSIBLE CONTACT MICKEY BRIGGS TO SEE WHAT TIME. PRE-REGISTER WILL BE VERY HELPFUL TO SPEEDILY SIGN EVERYONE IN.

PLEASE KEEP THE 2 PAGES PERTAINING--REUNION WITH YOUR INSERT TO BRING TO RENO

BRING YOUR REUNION INSERT WITH YOU TO RENO FOR YOUR REFERENCE

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AN INSERT OR Sands REGENCY RESERVATION CARD OR PRE-REGISTRATION CARD-----LET US KNOW TO SEND ONE, IF YOU NEED ONE. REMEMBER, MOST WILL STAY IN THE DYNASTY TOWER.

**Reunions & Events**

2BAD Assn. Reunion Sept. 1995, Colorado Springs, Co. Contact Dick McClune, 527 Quarterfield Rd, Newport News, VA 23602.

ISAD Reunion Oct. 12-15, 1995, Louisville, KY. Contact Herb Kaster, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 (609-751-1763)

447 BG VE-Day Reunion in England, France. 955N Pasadena Ave, Elyria, OH 44035 (216-365-256)

457BG Reunion, Nov. 12-15, 1995, Sands Regency Hotel/Casino, Reno, NV. Contact Homer Briggs, 811 NW B St, Bentonville, AR 72712.

Aug. 10-13, 1995, Colorado Springs, Hyde Ct, San Marcos, TX 78666

Nov. 7-11, 1994, on cruise ship "Ecstasy." Contact 1122 Ysabel, CA 90277 (310-316-...)

8th AF NEWS, February 1995 (95-1)

**MOVING?**

**Keep Us**

**POSTED**

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# PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION INFO

**[ED NOTE:** We have received much information, and contacts, regarding the above subject and we, as Editors appreciate your interest in this subject and the info that you have afforded us. This appears to us to be a very complex situation, and we do not take the position of pro or con. We will attempt to print every viewpoint that you send us and we will attempt to solve this situation, with your help, and it then will be up to you to arrive at you own decision. I (Dave S.) have chosen to list this page first due to the additional Squadron information that is included in this coverage. The exact duplication as exhibited below, is taken from the 841 page, "WORLD WAR II COMBAT SQUADRONS of the UNITED STATES AIR FORCE [sub-title: "The Official Military Record of every Active Squadron", published by Smithmark Publishers Inc., 16 E. 32nd St., NY, NY 10016 (Tel: 212-532-6600) (ISBN O-8317-1801-4) in 1992 . Page No: 734-736. This report will also open up another concern since there is no picture of 750th emblem (the viper) and there is no description of the emblem. This is not a NL Editor error. Dave S.]

## 748th BOMBARDMENT



**LINEAGE.** Constituted 748th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 19 May 1943. Activated on 1 Jul 1943. Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945.

**ASSIGNMENTS.** 457th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1943-28 Aug 1945.

**STATIONS.** Geiger Field, Wash, 1 Jul 1943; Rapid City AAB, SD, 9 Jul 1943; Ephrata AAB, Wash, 28 Oct 1943; Wendover Field, Utah, 6 Dec 1943-1 Jan 1944; Glatton, England, 28 Jan 1944-Jun 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, Jul-28 Aug 1945.

**AIRCRAFT.** B-17, 1943-1945.

**OPERATIONS.** Combat in ETO, 21 Feb 1944-20 Apr 1945.

**SERVICE STREAMERS.** None.

**CAMPAIGNS.** Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

**DECORATIONS.** None.

**EMBLEM.** Over and through a light blue disc, broken line segment border medium green, a large red aerial bomb falling toward dexter base, tail fins in graduated shades of gray and blue, nose taking the form of the head and shoulders of a black leopard, with expression of anger on face, between a red violet aerial bomb in dexter chief, and a yellow green and a red violet aerial bomb in sinister base, all in front of two white cloud formations. (Approved 15 Aug 1944.)

## 749th BOMBARDMENT



**LINEAGE.** Constituted 749th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 19 May 1943. Activated on 1 Jul 1943. Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945.

**ASSIGNMENTS.** 457th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1943-28 Aug 1945.

**STATIONS.** Geiger Field, Wash, 1 Jul 1943; Rapid City AAB, SD, 9 Jul 1943; Ephrata AAB, Wash, 28 Oct 1943; Wendover Field, Utah, 6 Dec 1943-1 Jan 1944; Glatton, England, 28 Jan 1944-Jun 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, Jul-28 Aug 1945.

**AIRCRAFT.** B-17, 1943-1945.

**OPERATIONS.** Combat in ETO, 21 Feb 1944-20 Apr 1945.

**SERVICE STREAMERS.** None.

**CAMPAIGNS.** Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

**DECORATIONS.** None.

**EMBLEM.** On a light blue disc, border grayed medium blue, a red devil standing, affronte, proper, wearing a black cape lined on under side with light yellow green, holding a large aerial bomb with black nose, and yellow tail section, under the left arm, and hurling a like bomb toward base, with the right arm. (Approved 9 Apr 1945.)

## 750th BOMBARDMENT

**LINEAGE.** Constituted 750th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 19 May

1943. Activated on 1 Jul 1943. Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945.

**ASSIGNMENTS.** 457th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1943-28 Aug 1945.

**STATIONS.** Geiger Field, Wash, 1 Jul 1943; Rapid City AAB, SD, 9 Jul 1943; Ephrata AAB, Wash, 28 Oct 1943; Wendover Field, Utah, 6 Dec 1943-1 Jan 1944; Glatton, England, 28 Jan 1944-Jun 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, Jul-28 Aug 1945.

**AIRCRAFT.** B-17, 1943-1945.

**OPERATIONS.** Combat in ETO, 21 Feb 1944-20 Apr 1945.

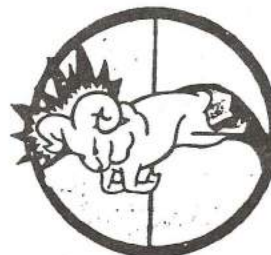
**SERVICE STREAMERS.** None.

**CAMPAIGNS.** Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

**DECORATIONS.** None.

**EMBLEM.** None.

## 751st BOMBARDMENT



**LINEAGE.** Constituted 751st Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 19 May 1943. Activated on 1 Jul 1943. Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945.

**ASSIGNMENTS.** 457th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1943-28 Aug 1945.

**STATIONS.** Geiger Field, Wash, 1 Jul 1943; Rapid City AAB, SD, 9 Jul 1943; Ephrata AAB, Wash, 28 Oct 1943; Wendover Field, Utah, 6 Dec 1943-1 Jan 1944; Glatton, England, 28 Jan 1944-Jun 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, Jul-28 Aug 1945.

**AIRCRAFT.** B-17, 1943-1945.



# AIR FORCE COMBAT UNITS OF WWII

by Lyle Branstetter

"The following info is in reference to page 51 (see actual reproduction of enclosure below) and the Presidential Unit Citation. The Watts Aerospace Library edited by Major James F. Sunderman and Major Gene Gurney of the U.S. Air Force book program, USAF Historical Division, Air University, Dept. of the Air Force, prepared the draft in 1957/58 of a 506 page book "AIR FORCE COMBAT UNITS OF WWII". The 457th data is on pages 332-333 with a listing .....  
DECORATIONS: NONE.

For the other two bomb groups of the 94th Wing, the 351st received the DUC for its efforts on 9 October 1943 and 11 January 1944. The 401st received a DUC for 11 January 1944 and 20 February 1944. The 94th Wing received the DUC for action of 11 January 1944. This may entitle 457th personnel to display the ribbon until they were reassigned.

I counted a total of 15 groups in the 8th AF (9-B-24 .. 6-B-17) that did not have a DUC (Distinguished Unit Citation) and as might be expected, they began combat operations in 1944. The attacks on aircraft factories on 11 January 1944 appeared to have earned a DUC. The single DUC for the 452nd Bg B17 Group was earned on 7 April 1945 for accurate bombing of a jet fighter base, in spite of strong fighter attacks and heavy flak.

It is not too surprising that the 19th BG received six (6) DUC's before returning to the U.S. in late 1942. Of the 3 Air Divisions of the 8th AF, only the 1st received a DUC. This was for the 11 January 1944 attack."

*[The following is re: the above mentioned material sent by G. Lyle Branstetter and is a photo-copy.]*

## AIR FORCE COMBAT UNITS OF WORLD WAR II

### 457th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Constituted as 457th Bombardment Group (Heavy) on 19 May 1943. Activated on 1 Jul 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 air-

craft industry. Until Jun 1944, engaged primarily in bombardment of strategic targets, such as ball-bearing plants, aircraft factories, and oil refineries in Germany. Bombed targets in France during the first week of Jun 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 interdiction targets behind the invasion beaches throughout the remainder of the month. Resumed bombardment of strategic objectives in Jul 1944 and engaged chiefly in such operations until Apr 1945. Sometimes flew support and interdiction missions, aiding the advance of ground forces during the St Lo breakthrough in Jul 1944 and the landing of British 1 Airborne Division during the airborne attack on Holland in Sep 1944; and participating in the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945, and the assault across the Rhine in Mar 1945. Flew last combat mission on 20 Apr 1945. Transported prisoners of war from Austria to France after V-E Day. Returned to the US in Jun 1945. Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945.

SQUADRONS. 748th: 1943-1945. 749th: 1943-1945. 750th: 1943-1945. 751st: 1943-1945.

STATIONS. Geiger Field, Wash, 1 Jul 1943; Rapid City AAB, SD, 9 Jul 1943; Ephrata AAB, Wash, 28 Oct 1943; Wendover Field, Utah, 4 Dec 1943-1 Jan 1944; Glatton, England, 22 Jan 1944-1 Jun 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 20 Jul-28 Aug 1945.

COMMANDERS. Col Herbert E Rice, 24 Jul 1943; Lt Col Hugh D Wallace, 3 Sep 1943; Col James R Luper, 4 Jan 1944; Col Harris E Rogner, 11 Oct 1944-Aug 1945.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

DECORATIONS. None.

INSIGNE. None.

QUOTE: from the same publication: "It should be emphasized that the listing in this book are for groups, wings, divisions, commands, and air forces rather than for the headquarters of these organizations or for the Squadrons.

Consequently, **units are cautioned not to use the listings in this volume as the basis or authority for claiming or displaying service streamers.** The Awards Branch, Personnel Services Division, Directorate of Military Personnel, Headquarters USAF is responsible for determining what service streamers each unit is entitled to display.

DECORATIONS: Under decorations are listed the citations and other awards made to the organization. In cases where citations were found to be suitable for such treatment, they are mentioned in the narrative in connection with operations (as well as listed under "Decorations" in order to provide additional data about the activities covered by the citation."

OPERATIONS. Combat in ETO, 21 Feb 1944-20 Apr 1945.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

DECORATIONS. None.

EMBLEM. Over and through a light pastel blue disc, flecked with white clouds, border green, a white mountain goat, outlined black, leaping in medium blue arc from sinister base through center of green cross hairs toward dexter, and leaving large, jagged, red and white impact mark emanating from horns, all in front of a large, yellow aerial bomb following trajectory of mountain goat's leap. (Approved 19 Jan 1945.)



## D.U.C. - WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

by Paul Gedansky - S2

In the continuing debate as to whether the DUC, which many of the members of the 457th recall receiving and indeed which several have listed on their Military Records & Report of Separation and under the Decorations worn by Group members (WHILE IN ENGLAND) was the Presidential Unit Citation and /or the Distinguished Unit Citation ... and what differences differentiates the two.

To answer this question, I refer to "The United States Air Force Dictionary"; 1956 Edition published by the Research Studies Institute, Air University Press and published as an Official U.S. Document by the U.S. Government Printing Office.

### DEFINITIONS:

**Distinguished Unit Citation:** The highest award given by the U.S. to any Military Unit in the U.S. or Allied Armed Forces. The DUC was first established by Executive Order in 1942. It is given for "extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the U.S." It takes precedence over all other U.S. Unit Citations.

**Presidential Unit Citation:** A U.S. Navy Unit Citation, corresponding to the Distinguished Unit Citation. Definition #2: A MISNOMER for the Distinguished Unit Citation.

NOTE: Currently, (as of 1956) the DUC award is made by the Department of the Air Force.

Ed. note: Thanks, Paul for researching this subject, but I just have a feeling there will be several responses to this explanation ... but my question would be: [Did the same rules apply prior to 1956 when the Dept. of Air Force took over and who was the governing authority prior to 1956?] If you have an opinion, let us hear from you. Dave S.

## DUC/PUC INFORMATION

by Douglas Simonis

"In regard to the Presidential Unit Citation (the blue ribbon in the gold frame) I have verification from the Air Force Department dated 9-23-93 (see reduced copy of Dept. of the Air Force below) that the 457th was awarded the medal and they sent me one. See the enclosed verification letter. Glad I could be of some help.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MILITARY PERSONNEL CENTER  
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS

23 Sep 93

HQ AFMPC/DPMASA  
550 C Street West, Suite 12  
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4714

Mr. Douglas M. Simonis  
7558 Pier Lake Lane  
Lake Tomahawk WI 54539

Dear Mr. Simonis

This letter is in response to your request for award of the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) awarded to the 457th Bombardment Group of which the 750th Bombardment Squadron was a part of. As the office of primary responsibility for Air Force Awards and Decorations, I have been asked to respond to your request.

I reviewed your records and verified your entitlement to the Presidential Unit Citation, and have enclosed this ribbon for your personal use.

I hope I have been of some assistance to you.

Sincerely

MIRA FRANCO, DAFC  
Recognitions and Programs Branch  
Reg & Spec Prgrms Div

1 Atch  
PUC Ribbon

Ed. note: This appears to be the most persuasive information that we have received to date. But please be aware, your Editors do not make or endorse decisions until such time as they are considered by the Group at our Stateside Reunions or by the Board of Directors. We can certainly assure you this decision will be made no later than at our reunion in Reno, if not before. Either way, it will be an agenda item at Reno. All we can say is "do your homework on this subject and come to Reno prepared".

PERCY MACK OF THE 751ST

telehoned to say "That the Government denies that we were authorized to wear the Presidential Unit Citation." "He also stated some were awarded to members of the 457th during the time he was at Glatton". [Ed. note: We are very



reluctant to include telephone conversations in the Newsletter due to the fact that if we print it in error, we have nothing to verify that was what was exactly said (false reporting). Also, someone called me to inform the Group that Government Order GO #50AD, Distinguished Unit Badge was issued to the Group in May of 1944. Due to the volume of mail and telephone calls we receive, somehow the members name, and the GO info got separated and I am at a loss as to who telephone it in. I offer my sincere apologies, but this is the real reason that we would like for you to jot it down on paper, and it doesn't have to be typewritten. Again, my apologies. Dave S.]

## Reunions & Events

Air Force Navigators Observers Assn Reunion, Oct 5-8, 1995, Doubletree Hotel, Arlington, VA. Contact Clem Heddeleson, 9619 Carriage Rd, Kensington, MD 20895 (301-946-5359)

Bombardiers, Inc., May 3-7, 1995, Little Rock, AK. Contact Henry Wehmer, 4 Oriole Circle, Little Rock, AR 2205-5140

Burtonwood ASSN, Sept. 12-16, 1995, Omaha, NE. Contact Howard Polesky 12435 Ohernst, Omaha, NE (402-895-4909)

Confederate Air Force-Symposium Pilots & Poster Girls, Midland, TX. Contact Dr. William Morris, Midland College, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland, TX 79705 (915-685-4641)

Confederate Air Force-Spring Festival - Wings 'N Things May 20-21, 1995. Contact CAF Hq, POB 62000, Midland, TX 79711 (915-563-1000)

Confederate Air Force-New Exhibit "Fat Men & Little Boys". Sept. 30, 1995, Midland, TX. Contact AAHM, POB 62000, Midland, TX 79711 (915-563-1000)

Confederate Air Force-AIRSHOW '95 - WWII Airpower Demo, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 1995. Contact CAF Hq (800-CAF-SHOW)

Scouting Force Assn. (55/355/364 FG & BG) Reunion, April 6-9, 1995, Park Hotel, Tucson, AZ. Contact Dick Atkins, 1304 Cochise Dr, Arlington, TX 76012 (817-261-3007)

Selman Field Navigation School's Bi-annual Reunion, April 21-25, 1995, Monroe, LA. For all students, school, and base personnel. Contact Richard Mansfield, Selman Field Historical Assn, 25 Magnolia Lane, Wildwood, FL 34785 (904-748-5858)

Tamarac Tour of England, France, June 14-25, 1995, including Alconbury, Cambridge, Duxford, Portsmouth, Caen, Omaha Beach, Pt DuHoc, Bayeaux, Paris. Call 1-800-228-9690 or 305-484-4500.

8th AF NEWS, February 1995 (95-1)

## A REMINDER !!!!!

We are occasionally asked about the designation after your name on your mailing list. This designator tells us, and tells you, your dues payment status.

If Blank ... Don't worry about your dues

LM - you are a Life Member and are Paid for Life

95 - your dues are paid thru 1995

91 - you haven't paid any dues since 1991, pay up

## - your name has been added since 1995 but you have never paid dues

# - your name was added from 1990/94 but you have paid no dues

\*\* - Name added 1985/89 - no dues paid

\* - Name added 1980/84 - and you better pay up

SO ... SO ... If the Number after your name is a numeral of 95 or less ... you just maybe should send Mickey a little 32 cent reminder containing a two-year (\$25.00 dues) payment that you enjoy the Newsletter (and want to continue receiving it) and want to be an Active Member. So, let us hear from you ...

## NOTICES

Since 1990, a publication entitled "The B-17 Flying Fortress Association" has published actual stories of WWII missions and eye-witness accounts of B-17 missions. There are 4 Newsletters per year. For membership, please contact Don Hayes, President - 1640 Cambridge Dr. - Walla Walla, WA 99362. [Ed note: This Newsletter is not associated with the 457th B.G. Newsletter and this notice is being placed at their request.]

## REUNION NOTICE

The Santa Ana Army Air Base 20th Annual Reunion and Luncheon will be held at Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA on April 22, 1995 for S.A.A.A.B. personnel, former cadets, friends and guests. Contact: SAAAB Wing - POB 1764 - Costa Mesa, CA - 92628 or Tel. (714) 631-5918 - 24 hr Answering Machine. Please leave name, telephone # and address or call on Thursdays from 10 am to 3 pm.

Brief History: Of the 147,000 Aviation Cadets who went thru SAAAB, 123,000 qualified for Pilot, Bombardier or Navigator training. There is much history to be gained from this Base and their Historical Society has published a 245 page book. Contact person for more info is Alvin E. "Bud" Anderson at the above address.



# **HOW TO FIND YOUR LOST BUDDIES**

- A. The best place to start is with the VA COUNTY SERVICE OFFICERS (Usually located in the County Courthouse)  
They can tell you:
1. If they ever had a file on the person you are looking for.
  2. Can tell you if the person is deceased and if anyone has applied for a headstone.
  3. Can furnish you with a list of other County Service Officers
  4. Can furnish VA Regional Officer's address's
- B. VA REGIONAL OFFICE
1. To make an inquiry, enclose a brief letter explaining your search ... and only one name at a time.
  2. Enclose a brief letter to the person you are searching for in a stamped envelope, with only his name on it. Be sure to include your return address in the letter.
  3. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope (hereafter abbreviated as SASE) for a hopeful reply.
- C. FOR HELP WITH LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF DISCHARGED OR DECEASED PERSONNEL
1. Contact : National Personnel Records Center - Military Personnel Record - 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis MO - 63132.
  2. Enclosed a brief explanatory cover letter, and a letter to the person you are searching for, for forwarding .. following the guidelines outlined in Section B above. Include a SASE for a reply.
- D. TO SEARCH FOR LOST OR RETIRED U.S. AIR FORCE PERSONNEL
1. Contact: Air Force Locator Service - HQ AFMPC/MPC003 - North East Office Place - 9504 I.H. 35 North - San Antonio, TX - 78233-6636
  2. Enclose a brief cover letter and a letter to the person for forwarding, addressed in first name only. Enclosed a SASE for a reply.
  3. In the cover letter, include all the data you have on the person; ie: full name, serial # (or mark it unknown) dates of service in the Squadron (or Bomb Group); estimated date of discharge, rank, enlisted or officer.
- E. FOR RECORDS OR LOCATION OF RETIRED OR DECEASED ARMY PERSONNEL (AUS or USAF)
1. Write: Commander, US Army EREC Locator Branch - Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN - 46249
  2. Enclose a letter to the person for forwarding, cover letter, and SASE for any reply.
- F. TO CONFIRM A DEATH OF PERSONNEL, BY STATE
1. Contact: Dept. of Health, Section of Vital Statistics. To find this address, check Capital City phone book, which can be found in most libraries.
  2. Enclose a letter explaining search and a SASE for any reply
  3. IMPORTANT: Explain that you are not seeking a birth certificate .. merely the confirmation of death.
- G. TO CONFIRM A DEATH BY COUNTY
1. Contact: County Clerk (or Clerk of the Court) usually located in the County Courthouse or County bldg. Varied results can be expected. Get address from phone book
  2. Enclose letter explaining search, include SASE for reply
  3. Explain death certificate is not required, merely the confirmation of death.
- H. A NEW LOCATOR SERVICE - A VETERAN'S NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION
1. Veteran's Alumni Association, 404 So. Galloway, Mesquite, TX - 75149 - Enclose \$3.00 for membership and \$1.00 for each name you are submitting.
- I. LAST RESORT FOR LOST 8TH AIR FORCE PERSONNEL
1. Contact: Virgil Thompson, 8th Air Force Search Service, 1208 Center Street, Lima, OH - 45801
  2. Include all data available (same as previously listed.)
- J. WHEN WRITING TO A BUDDY AT A WWII OR OLD HOME ADDRESS
1. Always include the following statement on the envelope "Forwarding and Address Correction Requested." If the address is corrected and the letter is forwarded, you will be notified by your local Post Office and you will be charged 35 cents for the service.
- K. USING THE POLICE DEPARTMENTS
1. No one likes to even think of this one, but many Veterans have found themselves with a conflict of the Law and have dropped out of society caused by the embarrassment. The local Police may be able to help.



Letter to Mr. Craig Harris, Durham, NC

Dear Craig:

I have finished reading the 36th issue of the 457th Bomb Group Association News Letter, and feel that I should call to your attention to a couple mistakes in the article pertaining to the mid-air collision of Bad Time Inc II and Arf'n Arf on November 8, 44.

First, the collision happened over the English Channel and not the sea. Also, Bad Time Inc II was not flying in the lower position but was flying in the upper position. When the collision occurred, Arf'n Arf was apparently hit by an up-draft of wind and the two planes collided. The two internal engines props hit Arf'n Arf approximately half way from the front to the rear on top of the plane, cutting it in half, and Arf'n Arf fell into the English Channel.

The impact knocked out the two internal engines (number 2 & 3) on Bad Time Inc, jammed the ball turret with the gunner still inside, knocked a large hole in the waist of the plane and knocked the left horizontal stabilizer from the tail of the plane. Needless to say, this destroyed some of the controls of Bad Time Inc II.

The collision happened at 20,000 feet. Bad Time Inc II plane was thrown into a downward dive at about 20 to 25 degrees, and the plane leveled out at 11,000 feet. The reason for not leaving the plane was because the ball turret gunner was inside the turret. The crew finally got him out after the plane leveled out. The gunner still has a plate in his head from the collision.

Second, Bad Time Inc II did not make it back to Glatton, but landed at the first location that appeared to have a runway that could handle a B-17. Apparently that was at the 2nd Strategic Air Depot near Blackpool. Bad Time Inc II did not land at 2nd Strategic Air Depot on November 9, 1944, but landed there on November 8, 1944. As Bad Time Inc II was making it's approach to land, another engine went out and the plane landed with one engine operating. The plane held together long enough to get the crew on the ground, but no way could it take off again.

Bad Time Inc II crew is the crew with it's ten original men still alive. We are wondering if there is another crew that has been this fortunate.

cc: Dave Summerville

signed: Johnnie Sarter, retired  
Brigadier General, Army

Johnny Sarter, Retired  
Brigadier General, Army

Dear Johnny,

I was very pleased to receive your letter regarding mistakes in the 'ARF & ARF' story in the latest 457th BG Newsletter. You are correct on both counts, and information from others, chiefly that of Harold Rothbard, who sent me a whole bunch of stuff, confirms the accuracy of your version.

However, your comments to bring on more talk. First, you are quite correct that the final moments of 'ARF & ARF' took place over the English Channel. I knew that, and I so stated in the summary events of 08-NOV-44, bottom of page 10 of the NL, (where I erroneously stated that "Bad Time Inc. II" returned to Glatton). The comment to which you correctly objected, "...crashed into the sea." is a quote from the FlyPast article by Paddy Porter. I think "...the sea." was Paddy's choice of a writer's term. We all knew that it was the English Channel.

The information that 44-8418 wound up at 2nd Strategic Air Depot may well be correct; it is from Paul Andrews's 'Bits & Pieces of the Mighty Eighth', which has been at least 90% accurate. But when I wrote that 2SAD was near Blackpool (Warton), I was completely mistaken. That was 2nd Base Air Depot. 2SAD turns out to have been at Abbots Ripton, adjacent to the Alconbury airfield, and only 6 miles from our base at Glatton. I think that test flights from 2SAD used the Alconbury field, and it was where our airplanes were whenever someone said, "Our plane's down at Alconbury for repair". Andrews's data go on to say about 44-8418: "09 11 44 2BAD SAL" which means that it was junk and assigned there, whether it was physically there or not (yet). Final entry is: "10 1 45 SAL", which means that it was completely written off on the 10th of Jan., 45.

I think you told me that you did not go in "Bad Time Inc. II" on that fatal day. Harold Rothbard confirms that in the material he sent. However he did go, and in a story published in the 8th AF News, Jan. 1990, says, "Thanks to pilot Eldorf we crash landed on the airstrip at Dover". In a news story about James Jenkins, it says that, with 2 engines running, they headed for England, and managed to land at the first airstrip they saw, and that a 3rd engine went out just before landing. So undoubtedly "Bad Time Inc. II" was dismantled and trucked to Alconbury as junk.

I am delighted to hear from you, and thank you for calling attention to our mistakes. I doubt that there is any crew in the 457th as fortunate as yours in keeping everyone together and alive.

I am enclosing 2 snaps of you and Delores at the San Antonio reunion, which I failed to send earlier. Belatedly, it is a good chance to tell you how much we appreciate you two pitching in to help at the luncheon, and the photos commemorate that. Best regards to you both.

Sincerely,

*CSA*

cc: D. Summerville, H. Rothbard



# National cemeteries running out of space

FEB. 1995

WASHINGTON (AP) — National cemeteries, where more than 2 million American veterans and dependents are buried, are running out of space.

Fifty-six of the 114 national cemeteries administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs already have exhausted available grave sites. Others are filling rapidly as the remaining 8 million World War II veterans grow older.

"We expect to have to close one cemetery a year for the next three years," spokesman Rick Arndt of the VA's National Cemetery System said in a recent interview. "Several more are projected to close before the year 2000."

Finding additional space, officials say, is a challenge second only to creating the first "cemetery grounds" for the hundreds of thousands of Union soldiers killed during the Civil War.

About 2.04 million American veterans and dependents have been buried in VA-administered national cemeteries in the ensuing 133 years.

Thousands more have been interred in Arlington National Cemetery and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, both managed by the Army in the Washington area.

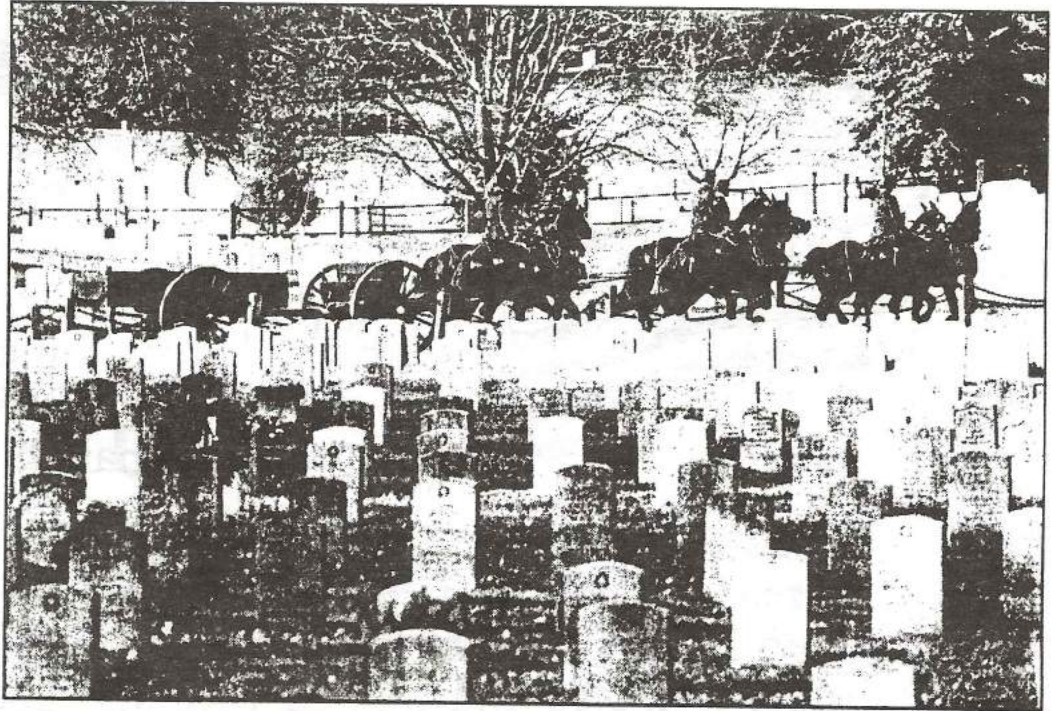
Fourteen other national cemeteries are maintained by the Department of the Interior, such as Gettysburg and others closely associated with national battlefields.

Arndt says the VA's National Cemetery System has space available for only 230,000 more caskets and the cremated remains of 50,000 other servicemen and women, although it owns land that could be developed for another 1.6 million grave sites.

However, there are nearly 27 million eligible veterans, many of whom are expected to be buried in national cemeteries. Thus, the hunt for new space.

The VA is developing new cemeteries near Seattle, Albany, N.Y., and Dallas and hopes to create additional sites soon near Cleveland, Chicago and Oklahoma City.

The first 14 national cemeteries were created in 1862 when Congress authorized President Lincoln to purchase sites "for soldiers who



Associated Press Photo

National cemeteries, where more than 2 million American veterans are buried, are running out of space.

## Information on national cemeteries

Additional information about national cemeteries may be found in the Veterans Affairs pamphlet "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents." Copies may be obtained from most VA offices or the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

— The Associated Press

shall have died in the service of the country."

By 1870, the remains of nearly 300,000 Union dead had been buried in 73 cemeteries, most in the Southeast near the Civil War battlefields and campgrounds. In 1873, the cemeteries were opened to all honorably discharged U.S. veterans.

Then, as the nation moved West, national cemeteries associated with military posts were created. Today, the cemeteries contain the remains of veterans of every war and conflict, ranging from the Rev-

olutionary War to the Persian Gulf War.

National cemeteries occupy more than 11,000 acres from Maine to Hawaii and from Alaska to Puerto Rico. In addition, the American Battle Monuments Commission created after World War I administers 24 burial grounds in foreign countries.

National cemeteries that still have space generally are open to veterans who have been killed in action or honorably discharged from active duty and, in many cases, their spouses and dependent

children. In recent years, about one-fourth of the more than 68,000 burials each year have been those of dependents.

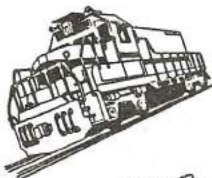
Grave sites may not be reserved. Families seeking burial sites should contact the nearest national cemetery or VA regional office.

Grave sites and grave liners are provided free of charge. In addition, the VA prepares and closes the graves, furnishes headstones or markers and provides perpetual care.

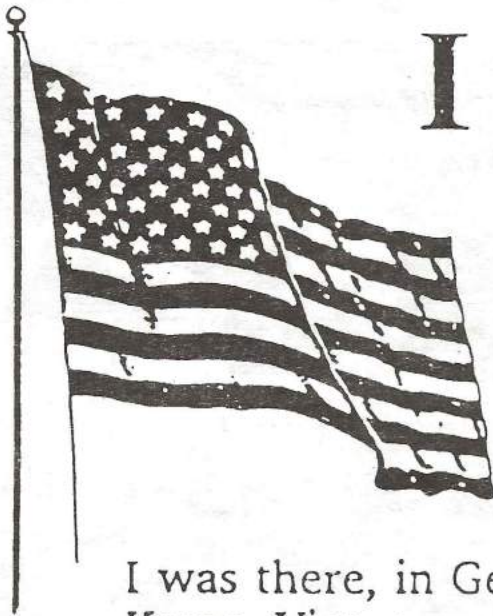
The VA also drapes caskets with American flags, which then are given to the families. Memorial certificates bearing the president's signature and expressing the nation's recognition of the deceased person's service are available.

While the VA does not furnish military honors, cemetery superintendents usually can provide sources for such ceremonies.

I'M THROWING ON  
SOME CASUAL COMFY  
DUDS! HEADING FOR  
RENO REUNION NOV.  
12-15<sup>th</sup> OF THE 457<sup>th</sup>







# I Was There!

I was there at the dawn's early light. I was there at the twilight's last gleaming. I was there with the bombs bursting in air, torn and tattered, what so proudly you hailed.

I was there, in Germany, France, Italy, Pearl Harbor, Korea, Vietnam and countless other places. I flew proud and honored. What have I done that I'm allowed to be burned, trampled and treated with disrespect?

Why are so few allowed to desecrate what so many died to protect? For over two centuries I've flown to represent this country and its people. Who will be there for me when the next call to arms is made? Will I burn on foreign soil as I do on my own? Who will be there for all of us?

It's time to let the government know we will not stand for the burning or desecration of the symbol which stands for this country and its people.

Anyone who feels he has that right should visit Arlington Cemetery, Pearl Harbor, or any one of the cemeteries where our war dead lie in honored respect.

There are enough of them.

Tell them about the right to burn their flag. If they say it's OK, do what your conscience tells you to. But not in front of me because I was there.... WERE YOU?

*Submitted by Brother Carroll E. Curtis, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:*



**IT IS NOT OUR INTENT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN EDITORIALS, AND THIS IS A FIRST, I AM SURE. BUT PLEASE BE ASSURED THIS IS NEITHER A PRO OR CON OPINION ON PRESIDENT CLINTON. BUT IT IS OUR OPINION THAT OUR PRESIDENT SHOULD HEED THE FOLLOWING REQUEST DUE TO THE HIGH REGARDS THE 457TH B.G. HOLDS FOR OUR BRITISH FRIENDS. THIS IS OUR OPINION, WHAT'S YOURS?**

**THE EDITORS**

## Don't snub U.K.

President Clinton's decision to skip V-E Day ceremonies in London for ceremonies in Arlington and Moscow is a political blunder that should be corrected immediately. While visiting Russia, another ally from World War II, is important, so is strengthening our relationship with Great Britain.

The fact is that Clinton is ignoring what every previous administration has recognized since World War I — the United States and Great Britain have a special relationship.

British and American troops fought side by side in Europe; it was Great Britain that stood alone after Hitler had overrun the rest of the continent, Great Britain that survived the Luftwaffe's vicious onslaught in the Battle of Britain, Great Britain that repaid to Africa to continue the fight against the Nazis.

The fires of World War II forged a link between the United States and the United Kingdom stronger than almost any other alliance.

By history and culture, our two nations are family; not always close, but, as with most families, there for the other when needed.

On the other hand, our alliance with Russia was an alliance of convenience. Originally, Stalin signed a nonaggression pact with Hitler and was willing to cut deals to

divide Poland and take outright the Baltic states.

It was only when Hitler attacked Russia, pushing the Red Army nearly to the point of collapse, that Stalin was willing to deal with the capitalistic United States. The relationship was never warm between the two governments, and Stalin never trusted the other Allies.

Still, the Russian people paid heavily for Hitler's ambition in World War II. More Russians were killed in World War II than all other peoples killed in all other wars combined — in the neighborhood of 20 million.

For that reason, it would be wrong for Clinton to cancel his Moscow visit. The Russian people absorbed tremendous losses to stop Hitler's eastward expansion, and without their sacrifice who knows when, or if, the Nazis would have been stopped.

But seeking closer ties with Russia should not come at the expense of our closest, most dependable ally. Clinton properly belongs in both London and Moscow; Hitler was not defeated at Arlington, but in the blood-soaked fields and skies of Europe.

The president should adjust his schedule to visit both London and Moscow for V-E Day — a perfect solution since Great Britain and Russia celebrate the observance one day apart.

## WALK THE WALL

There is a mighty wall standing  
in D.C. by the grassy mall  
To remember the fallen soldiers  
during the Vietnam call,  
While walking down that sloping path  
by the wall of many names  
Your heart sinks deep in sorrow as you  
feel those desperate pains,  
It's of sturdy black marble  
reflecting in the sun  
With names inscribed upon it of those  
killed in battles won,  
We owe a personal respect for the  
men and women there  
Fighting for the cause of liberty  
that we all share,  
Never let us forget the names  
that are upon that wall  
Or all the other brave soldiers that have  
answered our nation's call,  
Hold a lasting thought that war  
will somehow cease  
And that all the many lives lost may  
rest in heavenly peace,  
So keep an open heart as a  
tear drop crests your eye  
And pray they're no more wars where  
soldiers have to die.





# V-J Day at 50

The Clinton administration's decision to soft-pedal 50th-anniversary celebrations of our victory over Japan is a shameful episode. By scaling down planned ceremonies to mark the end of World War II, our own government is showing disrespect to the men and women who sacrificed their lives to defeat Japan's militaristic ambitions.

V-J Day was renamed

"End of the Pacific War Day" this week

after the U.S. government was pressured by Japan. This is the same Japan that is still in denial over its role in the war — a Japanese government that does not teach its school-children about its campaign of terror against China in the 1930s, about the Bataan Death March, about the Rape of Nanking, about the Korean and Chinese women kidnapped and forced into prostitution by the Japanese army.

Thus, it's not as if Japan has shown contrition for its shameful past and is now asking forgiveness.

Instead, the Japanese government is more worried about potential embarrassment by ceremonies marking the end of the war than it is in paying restitution to the many

Asian countries that suffered under the heel of Japan's military dictatorship.

Unlike Germany, which has expended both emotional and financial capital in confronting its role in World War II, Japan often tries to present itself in the victim's role — especially where the two atomic bombs that finally ended World War II are concerned.



All of this is an affront to the American troops who waged campaign after bloody campaign to take back the numerous Asian and Pacific nations from Japanese domination.

The real insult to these men and women isn't the cave-in on the official name of the observance (most of us will call it V-J Day no matter what our government does), it is the act of scaling back U.S. commemoration of a historic day in deference to Japanese discomfort. President Clinton should reverse this order and draw up plans for a celebration at least as large as that held for D-Day and those planned for V-E Day. The men and women who contributed to the defeat of Japan deserve one final, grand hurrah before they fade away into the history books.

## *Retired United Pilots Association*

REUNION IN RENO • 457th BOMB GROUP (H)  
748th, 749th, 750th, 751st SQUADRONS  
1st DIVISION • B-17's

TOM PRIOR, Encino, CA 91316. 02-02-95.

Dear Scotty: My old Bomb Group is having a reunion in Reno and the Editor of our 457th News asked me if you would be kind enough to mention it in the NEWSLETTER. I'm a Lifetime Member there too.

Contact: HOMER BRIGGS, 811 Northwest B Street,  
Bentonville, AR 72712

## DO YOU AGREE?

"Once upon a time there were four people; their names were Everybody, Somebody, Nobody and Anybody. Whenever there was an important job to be done, Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it.

"When Nobody did it, Everybody got angry because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Somebody would do it, but Nobody realized that Nobody would do it.

"So consequently, Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done in the first place."



"Your smoking problem is solved. But now you're addicted to nicotine patches."

## "I'LL FLY AWAY"

*submitted by Bob Prisk*

"A while back I heard the words to an old Gospel song and thought that some day they might bring some comfort to we who were involved with aircraft in one way or another. It goes like this:

Some glad morning when this life is o'er,

I'll fly away,

To a home on God's celestial shore,

I'll fly away.

I'll fly away, O'glory, I will fly away;

When I die, hallelujah, by and by

I'll fly away."



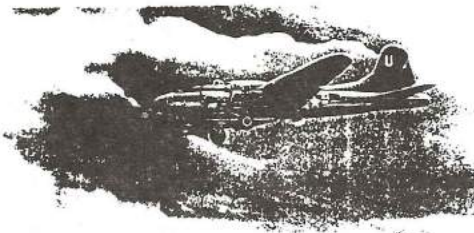
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**457th BOMB GROUP ROSTER**

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OCTOBER 1993

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Make your checks payable to: 457th Bomb Group Assn.

We charged \$6.00 for these rosters in San Antonio, but I had gotten them to S.A. as baggage on the airplane. The rosters were printed in California and rather than pay shipping charges to Bentonville ..... it was decided to mail them, as ordered, from California. The additional \$1.50 charge is for \$1.42 for postage and .08 cents for mailer (per each).

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Sqdn \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Assigned \_\_\_\_\_

Duties \_\_\_\_\_ Plane Names & No you worked or flew \_\_\_\_\_

Pilot's name \_\_\_\_\_ POW / Evadee: Date of capture / escape \_\_\_\_\_

RANK \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED? \_\_\_\_\_ RANK \_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide Dates Assigned, Plane Name & #, Pilot's name, POW/Evadee info, if not already given)

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☒ MAIL TO: HOMER OR MICKEY BRIGGS..811 Northwest B St..Bentonville,Ar 72712

Once you have filled this application in, in future dues payment check only renewal box, your name and address.

A REMINDER !!!!!





**A Tribute to the Men of  
the Eighth Air Force  
by Sheila Hudson,  
Ipswich, Suffolk**

If I had brought you flowers  
or given you my tears  
or if only I had known you  
or could roll back the years.

I was a child in those dark days  
and I looked up in awe  
as in your thousands high above  
in formation you would roar.

I did not know the price you paid  
to keep this country free  
or how you died and suffered so  
for children such as me.

Nothing can make up for this,  
nothing can atone  
for loss of life, of youth, of love  
in places far from home.

And the courage of survivors  
who after had to live  
with memories of friends, and deeds  
and what they had to give.

If flowers could say all there is to say  
and give back life that was blown away  
But flowers are not enough . . .

DAVID KAHNE  
1709 E PERSON ST  
LARAMIE, WY 82070



"Patches"



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72712



# **THE 457TH BOMB GROUP VITAL STATISTICS**

## **1994 - 1995 OFFICERS & APPOINTMENTS**

PRESIDENT: ..... BILLY HIGHTOWER - 5 MOSS ROCK STREET - NEW BRAUNFELS, TX - 78130 .. TEL:210-625-8110  
V-PRESIDENT:..... KEN BLAKEBOROUGH - 28432 BORGONA ROAD - MISSION VIEJO, CA - 9269 ....TEL:714-770-5021  
SEC/TREAS:..... HOMER BRIGGS - 811 NORTHWEST B STREET - BENTONVILLE, AR - 72712 .....TEL:501-273-3908  
ASST S/T:..... MICKEY BRIGGS -811 NORTHWEST B STREET - BENTONVILLE, AR - 72712 .....TEL-501-273-3908  
REC. SEC:..... DAVE SUMMERVILLE - 2035 CAMINO CANTERA - VISTA, CA - 92084 .....TEL: 619-724-2577  
DIRECTOR:..... JOE FALCONE -1077 NO. ST. "FALCON LEIGH" - WALPOLE, MA - 02081 ..... TEL: 617-762-1005  
DIRECTOR:..... KENNETH RURODE - 3210 FARAON STREET - ST. JOSEPH, MO - 64501 .....TEL: 816-279-2069  
DIRECTOR:..... CRAIG HARRIS - 2910 WELCOME DRIVE - DURHAM, NC - 27705 .....TEL: 919-489-5685  
I.P.PRES:..... ROLAND BYERS - 821 NEZ PERCE STREET - MOSCOW, ID - 83843 .....TEL: 208-882-3366  
NEWSLETTER:.... HOMER/MICKEY BRIGGS - 811 NORTHWEST B STREET -BENTONVILLE, AR ... TEL: 501-273-3908  
NL EDITOR:..... DAVE SUMMERVILLE - 2035 CAMINO CANTERA - VISTA, CA - 92084 ..... TEL: 619-724-2577  
NL ART WORK ... RICHARD WYMAN - 638 MAGNOLIA AVENUE - MAITLAND - FL - 32751 .....TEL: 407-834-4798  
GROUP ROSTER:DAVE SUMMERVILLE - 2035 CAMINO CANTERA - VISTA, CA - 92084 .....TEL: 619-724-2577  
AIRCRAFT DATA: CRAIG HARRIS - 2910 WELCOME DRIVE - DURHAM, NC - 27705 .....TEL: 919-489-5685  
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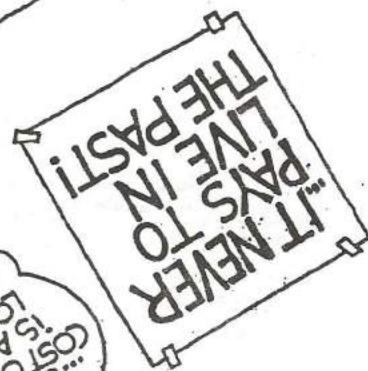
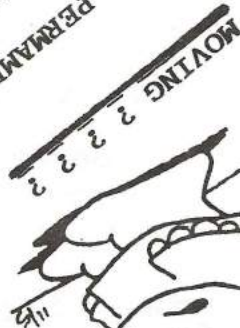
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