

31st AT DEL CORONADO — 534 HAPPY WARRIORS

We don't want it to appear that we are playing a 'numbers' game, but we do get surprised each year when so many of our members turn out for the annual Reunion/Convention.

This year, in spite of the fact that the 'get together' was being held clear across the country, attendance by members from the East Coast was outstanding. I might add that it was a smart move on their part because everybody agreed that the site selected was the best yet. Most enjoyable of all was the weather with the temperature never varying more than 10 degrees — usually 65 to 75.

We added a new wrinkle this year when we opened the 'Norwich Pub' and from the reports we have received so far it went over with a bang. The 'Pub' set up shop in a very large room and the drinks were 'on the house'.

There WAS one thing missing and that was a special award to three couples (there could have been more) who drove all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Aaron and Sally Schultz, Floyd and Dot Mabee and Al and Emma Franklin. Now that's what I call doing it the hard way. You have to cross a great many miles of desert and the heat can be unbearable. Once in San Diego, however, there were no complaints about the weather.

This year, I am happy to report, there was very little confusion around the Registration desk. The City of San Diego provided us with women who handled the Registration all three days. When necessary an assist was provided by the wives of some of the members. Among those were Hathy and Caron Veynar. Hubby Milt was busy trying on wigs in an attempt to find one that would fit his personality. His success, or failure, can be seen in the photo section.

I would be remiss if I stuck to the theme that absolutely everything went smoothly. Such was not the case when it came to the San Diego Tour for the ladies. The busses left a little to be desired. One broke down and in another the driver (he was new on the job) discovered that the only way he could go downhill was to turn the bus around and back down! Other than that, however, the ladies reported that they had a wonderful trip.

The Luau was a masterpiece of planning and execution. We were enter-



tained by a male dancer who explained the movements in the Hawaiian dance, then proceeded to perform these movements. In addition there were three young ladies who also danced. Well into the performance, three of our 'heroes' were prevailed upon to dance with the girls and I must admit that they acquitted themselves quite well. Who ever thought that Myron Keilman could Hula? He never learned that in a 24!!

The following night was the Mini-reunion banquet with an Italian buffet, and the food was excellent. It was excellent at EVERY meal I might add.

Following the banquet, each Group held their own business meeting and out of these came some new Group Vice Presidents. All vowed to make their Group the largest in the Association and we wish them all the luck in the world. Over the past few months, since our last Roster was printed, we have soared over the 3300 mark. Evelyn says closer to 3400 right now. Such a growth is remarkable, but unfortunately it can only be attributed to a very few. Notable among these is Roy Jonasson and pretty wife Mildred who haunt the local libraries checking through telephone books from all over the country. They have Rosters from various Groups that show home towns and they search on the basis that the person they are looking for might still live in the area. Now that's dedication and effort!

The banquet on Saturday night put the cap on a beautiful three days and nights. A check was presented to Tom Eaton (Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust) in the amount of \$14,174.00. This represented the donations made by our members over the past year to the Capital Fund of the Trust. Another \$1,110.00 was presented for the purchase of books for the Library. The latter sum was collected at the reunion. This was the brainchild of Walter Edgeworth (453) who proposed the collection at the business meeting. Needless to say you can all be very proud of yourselves for your generosity towards our 'Living Memorial'.

We now look forward to next year when we will return to Norwich for the fourth time since the end of the war. Details on the Norwich trip will appear in each Newsletter and we urge you to read them carefully. Until then take care, one and all.

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VIBES FROM THE VEEP—PETE HENRY

As your new Vice-President, it occurred to me that some of the new members might be interested in the objectives of the Second Air Division Association. (Maybe some of the regular members need to be reminded too.) Stated simply, they are:

1. Increase the membership.
2. Support the Living Memorial Trust of the Second Air Division, Eighth A.F. in the Norwich city library.

Perhaps the objectives should be stated in the reverse order and, to that end, I'd like to discuss the Living Memorial first.

The Second Air Division Memorial Trust got off the ground May 25, 1945 when General William E. Kepner handed over to the city officials of Norwich duplicate trust deeds establishing the Trust Fund for which 20,000 pounds was subscribed in less than one month by virtually everyone in the Second Air Division at the time, including Fighter as well as Bomb Groups.

Considerably more than 'Three years minimum' passed before the American Room in the New Norwich Central Library was opened January 19, 1963. The American Room, with the fountain in the courtyard, was presented by the Memorial Trust of the Second Air Division, Eighth Air Force, in memory of the 6050 Americans, who, flying from bases in East Anglia, gave their lives defending freedom from 1941-1945.

I know that I have not begun to do justice to this Memorial in these few words and those of us who have visited it and seen it cannot adequately describe the feeling that one gets when viewing it from the inside or the outside. The only thing that we know is that it must be maintained and it must be supported and your dollars are needed to keep it a Living Memorial.

The other objective is to increase our membership. There are thousands of Second Air Division members out there

who have never heard of the Second Air Division Association. Do you remember how you felt when you first heard about the Association? Don't you feel that they are entitled to the same rights — the same feelings? Many of you don't like to write letters. Can you find time to write one letter? Send me the names and addresses of your former crew members. Send me the name and address of your local paper with the editor's name. I'll write the letters.

Have you got an old WWII address book with old addresses that you think are no longer valid? I took my little ole' brown book to Los Angeles with me after the San Diego reunion and looked through about 10 Los Angeles area telephone books for one Mercuris P. Mercuriadis, 'Greek', who was one of my waist gunners. There was no Mercuris P. Mercuriadis but there was one Mercuriadis in all those telephone books, Mack Mercuriadis. Thinking it might be 'Greek's' son, I called to inquire and discovered that it was 'Greek' himself. We had a great evening together for the first time in 33 years and I had no trouble signing him up as a Second Air Division Association member.



Mercuris P. Mercuriadis and Pete Henry

Don't give up on trying to find your old crew members or other members of your squadron or group. I've located seven (one deceased) on my eleven man crew in the past four years. Four to go and I'm not giving up. Finding 'Greek' gave me renewed vigor. Try it — you'll like it!

REUNION 1980

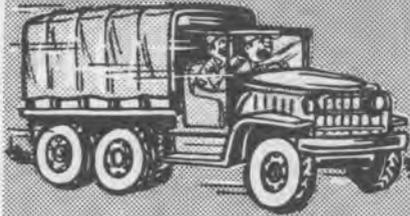
We know it's a bit early to start talking about the 1980 reunion, but we do have to start working two years in advance and this time we have a problem only you members who attend reunions can solve.

We have been asked to consider Texas and some place in the East as possible sites. This we will do. The problem is that we hold our reunions in July and the temperature in Texas in July is anything but cool. This year, for example, the temperature ranged over the 100 degree mark for more than 30

days. A possible solution would be for us to hold our reunion in May or October.

For this reason we are requesting that all who think they might be able to attend the 1980 Reunion wherever it is held, to please drop a card to Evelyn Cohen, 610 Plaza Towers, 2350 Tremont St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19115 expressing your feelings, first about Texas vs an East Coast site and May or October vs July. Evelyn will tabulate the results and we will advise you in the Newsletter where and when the 1980 reunion will take place. Now don't just sit there, get busy with those cards!

Bill Robertie



MR. PIPER GOES TO WAR?

by A. NONNY MUSS



(This is a true story, only the names have been changed to protect the guilty.)

One typically dreary English day in 1944, two G.I.'s were seated in an otherwise deserted hangar office. Their location was over a mile from the main part of the air base. On this particular day they were even more isolated than they would normally have been. The field was closed down tight and even the birds would have needed GCA to get in. The visibility was no more than 150 feet and it was absolutely impossible for them to see or be seen from the control tower on the other side of the field.

Now these two young enlisted men were normal in every respect. In fact, one of them was so normal that he absolutely could not pass up a dare. As they sat chewing the rag, one of them mentioned that he knew how to fly. He then proceeded to entertain his buddy with hair raising tales of his prowess and vast experience in a Piper Cub, as only a student pilot with some 20 odd hours could.

Now Bill wasn't going to accept any snow jobs from this young punk. Especially he wasn't going to buy any "war stories" from someone with two less stripes than he himself had. That would be double degradation. He therefore promptly informed this teller of tall tales that he didn't believe a word he was saying.

This hurt the feelings of our Jr. Birdman and he, in righteous indignation, pushed back his chair and asked: "What have I got to do to prove to you that I can really fly?"

"Easy" said Bill, "let me see you fly. That shouldn't be hard for a big time pilot like you to do. After all, there are a couple of dozen airplanes outside, and a few of them are Cubs."

The would be Ace, knowing the folly of the act that was being suggested, took a full ten seconds to thoroughly think out the consequences of what might happen, and then spoke. "O.K. wise guy, let's go. You follow me in another L-4 and I'll make a short hop off of the perimeter track. Will 15 feet in the air and then down again satisfy you?"

"Sure. If you can get it up and down

again in one piece, I'll buy your stories."

To speak was to act and they headed for the dispersal area. There was no one in the area that they knew of so they cranked up a couple of Bill Piper's finest and headed out to a straight stretch of the perimeter.

As our hero, let's call him George, hit the straight stretch, he poured on the coal and the throaty roar of the 65 HP Continental split the air. Within 200 feet he was airborne, his doubting witness watching through the windshield behind.

This was simple thought George as he felt the freedom that comes with slipping the surly bonds of earth. As his steed rose into the air he was horrified to see, about 15 feet below and just ahead of him, looming in the fog, a GMC 6x6 going in the opposite direction. It was a split second sighting as the truck disappeared beneath his nose. The one thing that still stands out in the mind of our hero was the two pairs of eyes, the size of VW headlights, staring up at him in terror through the windshield. Stifling the urge to soil his linen, our would be fighter pilot chopped the throttle and settled gently down from his lofty, 25 foot altitude to a perfect three point landing.

As he approached the turnoff into the next dispersal, George braked gently and swung right onto the taxi strip. He quickly pulled up to a line of similar L-4's. Leaving his engine ticking over he ran to the first ship in the line and pulled it aside. Then, filled with GI ingenuity, he taxied his borrowed mount into the now vacant parking place. He killed the engine, jumped out and pulled the other L-4 in front of his mount, reasoning that if anyone came to check up, the first ship in line would have a cold engine and they would tend to doubt that the incident ever took place.

With his heart pounding, George ran for the hangar office, where he intended to pick up a copy of Stars & Stripes and look very nonchalant if anyone should enter. The only thing that he feared was that the leaping of his heart beneath his grease stained coveralls would give him away.

Not bothering to notice if the newspaper was right side up he settled back to an appearance of casual reading.

However, as the minutes ticked by (45 of them) and his partner in crime had still not returned, his imagination began to tell him all sorts of wild stories. He visualized poor Bill as having been plowed into by a 6x6 out of control. The MP's must have arrived at the scene by now and the story was out. Soon, George knew, he would be gracing the halls of Ft. Levenworth. He pictured his pal, torn and bleeding, on the way to the base hospital, after having told the story to the whole world. He just knew that at any minute the door would be flung open and he would be on the way to the guard house.

As these chill inducing thoughts raced through his mind, the door swung open and in walked Bill. He was laughing so hard that the tears were running down his cheeks.

George asked, "Where the hell have you been and what have you been doing?"

Bill, gasping with laughter replied, "Did you see that 'six by six'?"

"Of course I saw it. If I can fly, I must be able to see. Did he hit you?"

But poor Bill couldn't speak. He was laughing too hard to even catch his breath. By now George was getting mad. "What the hell is so funny?" he demanded.

Finally, still contorted, Bill began to gasp out his tale. "No I didn't get hit, nobody got hurt and there was no crash. But those poor b-----s in the truck are having the devil's own time trying to convince the crew on the tow truck that they were buzzed by an airplane. Everyone swears that they are either both drunk or the one driving doesn't know how to drive. After all, if they can't see to drive, how could anybody be up in an airplane? They all want to know why it is that a B-24 can taxi around that perimeter track with no trouble and they ran off it and stuck a 6x6 in the mud. You gotta admit that that is a funny sight to behold. The poor slob."

Once again Bill lapsed into a fit of laughter, wiping his eyes on a greasy rag. "I gotta admit that you can fly and I'll never doubt you again. But, even if you hadda been caught, it would have been worth it just to see those poor devils squirming."

THE MEMORIAL

37 Down and 13 to Go!!!

by Jordan Uttal (Hdq.)



To the five hundred or so of our members who attended the recent 31st Annual Convention at beautiful Coronado, I had the privilege of extending the warm thanks of the Memorial Trust Board of Governors to the entire membership of our 2nd Air Division Association for your generous contributions last year to the Trust Fund.

At our Saturday night banquet we were able to present a check in the amount of \$14,174 to Tom Eaton as our 1978 share of our Five Year Plan. This is the largest amount by far that we have come up with, and we hope it makes every one of you feel as good as it does us, your Executive committee, to get within striking distance of accomplishing the pledge we made at our Convention in 1974 in Wilmington, N.C.

To bring our newer members up to date — and as a reminder to the older members — our Memorial Trust Fund in England consisted of the balance left after the Library construction in 1963 — money that was invested in securities by our Board of Governors. The interest generated by that fund was to keep up the purchase of new books, and possibly help with minor maintenance needs — both of which are vitally necessary to keep our American Memorial Room a truly "living memorial". We cannot let it fall into disrepair nor can we permit the books, periodicals, cassettes, films and other American Memorabilia to fall behind the times.

In 1974, the annual interest on the fund amounted to approximately £750 to £1000 depending on the value of the securities and their performance. It was called to our attention very dramatically that due to inflation in England — much more severe than in this country — we were accomplishing far less with the interest than was required to keep up with the falling value of the currency. At the 1974 Convention, therefore, it was decided that instead of the small annual contribution that we were making out of our treasury to help with book purchases, we would embark on a five year drive to raise \$50,000 to be added to the Capital Fund so that the annual interest would be much greater, enabling us to keep up with the ravages

of inflation, and keep the Library supplied in a proper manner.

The plan was good!!! You have responded admirably to that plan. According to the financial statement prepared for the Governors meeting in Norwich on May 23, 1978, the original capital account is now valued at £19155. The Additional Donations Fund — the amounts you have donated in 1975, 1976, and 1977 (with interest) — is valued at £2,799! And so, instead of the £750 annual interest, the Librarian was given in the last 18 months £1730 from the Trust Fund. In short the idea of adding to the Capital account was sound and it worked.

This year at the Convention we presented your 1978 donations, \$14,174 or approximately £7300. This brings the Additional Funds Account to over £20,000. Actually, in U.S. dollars, according to our treasurer, we have raised and presented to the Board of Governors, \$37,000 in our drive to the \$50,000 pledged in 1974. As you can see, for 1979, we need \$13,000 which we hope you will find in your hearts, your piggy banks, and your long socks to send in with your 1979 dues. As we said at the start, 37 down - 13 to go!!

That's the good news. Now for the bad news. In spite of the fact that the fund generates far more interest now than it did in 1974 when we started our drive, let me repeat for you the Librarians figures as reported on May 23.

In 1971-1972 the average cost per new volume was £3.94.

In 1973-1974 this had risen to £5.07.

In 1977-1978 it had become £10.23 — an increase of 160%. Our increase in annual interest falls far short of that.

According to the Librarian, to keep up our standards, we need to add between 200 and 300 books per year to replace those that wear out or become out of date.

So, please be generous again in 1979 to help us meet our pledge. With this continued assistance from you, in addition to the activities of the Board to raise funds in England, we will achieve a major purpose of the 2nd Air Division Association, to keep our Second Air Division American Memorial Room in the Norwich Central Library a truly Living Memorial to the 6,032 of us who gave their lives in that glorious chapter of Anglo-American history in which each of us made a contribution to keeping our ideals alive.

NEWS OF THE 44th FLYING EIGHTBALLS

by Pete Henry (44th)



The reunion in San Diego was a high success and Evelyn Cohen, once again, proved how indispensable she is to the Second Air Division Association.

As many of you are aware by now, Joe Warth is President of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society this year. Joe has been Group Vice-President of the 44th Bomb Group for six years and has done a wonderful job of building up the membership of the 44th as well as membership of the Second Air Division Assn.

Approximately 61 members of the 44th Bomb Group and their wives attended the mini-reunion banquet Friday night, July 14, and this writer was nominated and elected to serve as your Group Vice-President for the coming year. Fortunately, I did not have to make a speech but did request each member to send me the name, address and editor's name of their local newspaper. I am asking each one of you to do the same. I will send a letter to the editor asking former Second Air Division members to contact me for information about the Association.

The 44th is second only to the 466th in membership size in the Second Air Division Association but we are gaining on them. We now have approximately 350 members and my objective in 1978-79 is to build the membership to 500. Will you lend a hand?

The interest and assistance of every member is needed to keep the Second Air Division Association alive and to help it grow. Your recommendations and suggestions would certainly be appreciated and I will attempt to answer any questions you may have. Write to:

Pete Henry
164 B Portland Lane
Jamesburg, N.J. 08831

NECROLOGY

44th BG—Dr. K. E. Comer
389th BG—George F. Scheske
392nd BG—Weldon W. Simmons
392nd BG—Harrison S. Cassell
446th BG—Robert J. Harris
466th BG—Dr. Burns M. Byram, M.D.
448th BG—Lt. Gen. Charles B. Westover
448th BG—Louis A. Owens
467th BG—Thomas E. Devlin
489th BG—Col. Thayer C. Harper



N. R. 'Reed' Cheek, 44; Larry Thomas, 453; Myron Keilman, 392; John Karpan, 458.



Bob Moyer, Hdq.; James Ciancitto, 467; Lloyd Davies, 467; Vincent LaRussa, 467.



Charles Neundorf, 392; Warren L. Burman, Hdq.; Melvin E. Fields, 458; Harry Godges, 453.

1978 2nd AIR DIV. GOLF TOURNAMENT

Whenever, and wherever, we hold our annual reunion the golfers get together and play the local course. This year, under the direction of Pappy Daniels, we had a recognized tournament. There were 21 players (17 men and 4 women) and even though they couldn't all win they did have a great time. The results follow:

Men's Champion — Charles Nuendorf (392nd) 85

Men's low net winner — Vincent LaRussa (467th) Net 71

Women's Champion — Helen Neundorf (392nd) 103

Women's low net winner — Beulah Godges (453rd) Net 80

The Calloway Tournament (Don't ask me to explain this one as it wasn't explained to me!)

Men's Division — Roger Stone (389th) 71

N. R. Cheek (44th) 73 and Marvin Fields (458th) 73 — Tie

Women's Division — Roberta Daniels (466th) 77

All the winners received appropriate trophies which were manufactured by Earl L. Zimmerman (389th) who is in the business and donated them. If you need Trophies contact Earl.



Claude Palmer, 445; Pete Henry, 44; Leo McBrien, 389; George Washburn, 44; Roger Stone, 389.



Maxine Palmer, 445; Beulah Godges, 453; Helen Neundorf, 392; Roberta Daniels, 466.



J. M. 'Pappy' Daniels
First Annual Second Air Division Assn.
Golf Chairman.

NEWSLETTER ACQUIRES A 'STAFF'

For all too many years the responsibility for the production of the Newsletter rested on the weary shoulders of 'one each' me, and a dedicated group of contributors who saw to it that there were plenty of stories for each issue. Without our contributors we wouldn't have a Newsletter, but it takes more than that.

Last year Bob Coleman volunteered to be the Newsletter photographer and at our reunions for the past two years he has done an excellent job of capturing the mood of all who attended. In addition he has dug into his file of old photos and shared them with our membership. He deserves a 'well done'.

This year, and starting with this issue, we have another volunteer — Ed

Hohman. Ed is a commercial artist and has offered to provide us with cartoons and jazzed up story titles to make the Newsletter more appealing to the eye. Believe me, it needed that.

I have enjoyed working with Bob Coleman these past two years and I am now looking forward to working with Ed Hohman. Both will receive the same remuneration all the officers of the Association receive — absolutely nothing — and that is all the more reason I, for one, appreciate their contribution of their skills.

In order to produce a page of cartoons for each issue Ed is going to need the help of all of us. He needs ideas for cartoons. If you can think of anything humorous that happened to

you, or that you know of, please outline the situation in a letter to Ed and he will take it from there. Write to Edward J. Hohman, 695 Richmond Dr., Hermitage, Pa. 16146. Remember — Ed is donating his time and talent, we can do no less than donate our humorous experiences. Help make the Newsletter the best in the field. Bill Robertie

INDUSTRIAL ART • PHOTO RETOUCHING • CARTOONS

EDWARD J. HOHMAN
Commercial Artist
695 RICHMOND DRIVE,
HERMITAGE, PA. 16146
Phone: 412-981-4765

INFORMATION FOR NORWICH 1979

This article is a follow-up to my brief remarks at the business meeting in San Diego several weeks ago concerning our trip to England next summer.

Inflation, heavy tourism and worldwide monetary conditions are not working in our favor as has been the case on previous trips. I do not mean to frighten anybody off. Our sole purpose is to see that everyone is as well-informed as possible.

London, as are most principle European cities, is comparatively expensive. Once you get into the countryside and smaller towns expenses are more in line. None-the-less, we all know that London is one of the greatest cities of the world and certainly should be enjoyed even if it takes a few more dollars to do so.

In 1975 our office handled individual travel planning for many of our group in the way of tours, hotel packages, car rentals etc. and we are looking forward to doing this again. Once we have a confirmed list of travellers from Evelyn Cohn we will make a direct mailing to those people covering these different programs. However, if anyone has any specific requests you should direct those inquiries to our office and we will do our best to respond on an individual basis, but please hold off for a few months until we get a clearer idea of programs and costs for next June.

Responsible, professional Travel Agents are advising all European travellers to pre-plan and pre-pay as much as possible. Under the present conditions the best advice we can give is; determine what you want to do, make your reservations as early as possible and use pre-paid travel vouchers and coupons. This should give you the greatest protection and economy.

A 'plus' factor that we are pleased to bring to your attention is that we believe we will be able to save you the eight percent tax on your domestic flight connection to our KLM charter flight departing from and returning to Philadelphia. Those domestic flights must tie into a few hours of the KLM flights and would be issued in conjunction with the KLM overseas ticket. We will clarify this possibility at a later date with those interested travellers.

Hank and Edie Tevelin
Tevelin Travel Agency
308 Bustleton Pike
Feasterville, Pa. 19047
215-677-5775 215-355-4050

REUNION 1978 — NEWS FROM 445th

by David G. Patterson (445th)

Our best ever! Eighteen 445th members and families gathered at Coronado, renewed acquaintances, exchanged "There we was —!" stories, enjoyed the Group's hospitality room (including a few glasses of bubbly stuff, etc.), and unanimously agreed that Coronado, and the 2nd AD Assn. get-together, with our comrades from our Group, and from the other Groups, was a great experience. Four members from one crew attended (700th Squadron: Charlie Cooper, Dick Nason, Claud Palmer (pilot), Dave Patterson). Dick Nason took the 2nd AD Assn's. Reunion Trophy for best dressed (WW II vintage) serviceman by neatly fitting into his 1944 flying suit and related equipment for the judging. (How many of you guys think you could fit into yours now?!— be honest!!). Ed Rusin, from upstate New York, and the John Nortavages, from Pennsylvania, get special plaudits for coming from "way back there" to "way out here" to attend (longest distance for 445th attendees).

SPECIAL NOTE: Norwich next year — and Tibenham! Don't miss it! Lots of 445th types are already signed up. The Tibenham field is still there. We saw it in 1975. Runways, hardstands, mostly intact, albeit weedy; several of the buildings intact (some inhabited by very friendly British cows); local owners/farmers very eager to meet us and show us around (see my report in the December, 1977 issue of the Newsletter). 1979 will be the same, but better!!

NORWICH 1979

(Change in Plans)

Please read the following very carefully because it does involve a change in our original plans for Norwich next year.

Where we originally had a stretched DC-8 with 246 seats, courtesy of KLM, we now have two Boeing (still hate that name!) 707s seating 175. One will leave from Philadelphia and one will leave from Chicago. This means that we can now handle all the 326 original subscribers and still have about 25 vacant seats available for those of you who have yet to make up your mind.

In addition, because of a teacher's convention being held in Norwich during the original dates creating a lack of hotel rooms, we have changed the dates ever so slightly. We will now leave Philadelphia and Chicago May 31st and return on June 16. Evelyn has advised us that she will have the complete cost of the trip by the end of September, and at that time she will advise all those who have signed up.

The new Airline, by the way, is Pan Am. If we overscribe both planes those on the waiting list will be so advised.

Once again. If you have already signed up Evelyn will be sending you a statement of the entire cost of the trip. If you haven't signed up as yet full details will be in the December Newsletter, but by that time it could very well be too late. Let's fill those 25 empty seats — like right now!

MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOOKLET STILL AVAILABLE

The Memorial Library Booklet was first printed in 1963 and was available for the opening of "The American Room". We had a second printing in 1975 in the belief that many, if not all, of the new members would enjoy reading about how the Memorial took the form it did and how the idea came about.

The 1975 edition was expanded to cover all activities from 1964. It is very interesting reading and sells for \$2.50 which includes 1st class postage. If you don't have a copy you should as it is your Memorial.

Send check or money order (cash is kind of risky) to William G. Robertie, P.O. Drawer B, Ipswich, Mass. 01938. You shall have your copy, or copies, by return mail.



489th NOTES FROM THE WEST

by Charlie Freudenthal (489th)

Before I get into the San Diego reunion, I must pass along the sad news that Thayer C. (Curly) Harper, former 846th CO, passed away on May 28th. Though I hadn't seen Curly in many years, we had been in touch from time to time, and the news of his death came as a great shock to me, as I'm sure it will to all of you who knew him. I first met Curly at Wendover, flew with him often, and spent a lot of my off-duty time with him. My memories are happy ones. He was a great friend and an outstanding officer; and in the fullest sense of the word a gentleman. He'll be long remembered and sorely missed.

The reunion isn't as easy to write about as I thought it would be. There was so much going on all the time that I should have kept notes, but was too busy listening — or talking. I sure hope you'll start your planning early for Norwich next year, because these annual bashes are getting better and better, just like vintage wine. You'll remember that there were nine 489th types at Lake Geneva last year, and that was our all time high. Until San Diego. Twenty-one of us came to the Del Coronado this July for a really super event.

The roster? Well, the California contingent had eight — Bud & Mike Chamberlain, the Lee Bakers, Rubin & Lillian Kaplan, Joe Hess and Bob Knight. Bob, from the 847th, lives nearby in National City, so came on in and joined up! From the East there were Tom & Muriel Bouley and three of us Freudenthals. Dave Kernodle and Jim & Marge Davis came over from Texas; Jack Albright from Illinois; Stan & Frances Judson from Indiana, and Loren and Betty Bryan from New Mexico. All of us, by the way, sporting big yellow-tail badges, courtesy of Dave Kernodle.

It wasn't all fun and games though. As you'll read elsewhere, we (2nd ADA) presented a check for over \$14,000 to the Memorial Trust, as well as an on-the-spot collection of nearly a thousand dollars marked for the librarian to use to buy books. The combat and nostalgia films were great as usual. Within the 489th group there must have been a thousand good stories; about Halesworth, passes to London, every pub between Halesworth and Great Yarmouth, about some unbelievable adventures on the line, and especially the ones that begin "Have you ever heard anything about old — — —?" If I'd

THE RINGMASTERS (491st)

by Ted Parker (491st)

The 491st was well represented at the reunion this year held in Del Coronado. We were, however, about the smallest in total numbers of any Group there.

All the Ringmasters reading this, and who haven't attended a reunion, don't know what you are missing. I have learned over the years that once you attend one you will want to come every year.

I urge all of you to make plans for next year when we will visit both Metfield and North Pickenham which were our bases while we were in the 2nd Air Division. If you haven't been back since the war you are in for a very nostalgic experience.

At the mini-reunion banquet Mike Fagan was elected your new Vice President. Actually he lost the toss of a coin! I have filled this post for the past six years and happily turn the mantle over to Mike.

It has been a real pleasure for me to work for the Group in building up the membership, but we still have a long way to go and Mike is going to need your help. I have met and corresponded with a great many of you and it has been a real treat. I have also learned a great deal about the history of the Group through your letters and photos we have exchanged. I will continue to be active in the 491st endeavors, and also those of the Association. I will welcome hearing from any of you at any time.

taken notes I could tell you about a wild ride in a "borrowed" staff car, and about some great hospital parties. I can tell you what happened to at least two kegs of beer that disappeared from the 100th mission party. These two ended up in the 845th area somehow or other. Loren Bryan and Jack Albright swear to it. And Jack claims one of them might still be at the bottom of the pond there, right where it was submerged to protect it from either MPs or revenooers. Jim Hussey agrees with this. So maybe next May we could have a search party?

The three days passed almost before we knew, and the big luau, the Saturday night dance, and the great meetings in the rooms are all over. But wait 'til next year!

Look again at my May newsletter. Dick Linn has sent some more information about the Oldenburg mission:

448th REUNION NEWS

by Joseph T. Michalczyk (448th)

We came, we saw — all that was promised and quite a bit more.

On Thursday the 13th, 448th types drifted in from all over the country and most of the day was taken up with registration and sampling the offerings at the Norwich Pub. That evening at dinner we sat 40 people which took up five full tables.

After dinner on Friday the 14th George Dupont took over with his own slide show of scenes in and around Norwich, accompanied with a running explanation as only George can give it. I expect George to be our guiding light to encourage members to be with us next year in England.



George Dupont, Joe Michalczyk, ?

On Saturday the 15th the day was spent at our business meeting after which we watched reel upon reel of wartime film. The Norwich Pub was right next door so we fortified ourselves from time to time during this stretch. In the evening, of course, we had our final night banquet. Overall I think there were sixty 448th people in attendance over the three day period. Some just stayed one day, some two and a great many for all three days.

Now it is on to Norwich next year.

"You mention 42-9854 being lost on that raid. That particular aircraft had just returned from Prestwick, Scotland, from modification the evening before the raid. Richard Rothstein was the flight engineer and was ill and did not make the mission. Somehow the gas tanks didn't get "topped" and Clark's crew ditched in the Zuider Zee or thereabouts because they ran out of gas. One of crew, nicknamed "Frenchy", probably William DeVaux, was killed when the plane ditched. All others escaped injury and were captured by the Germans and spent the rest of the war as POWs. Richard Rothstein later became flight engineer on our crew (Bob Coburn) . . . Rothstein and myself were a few missions behind when the regular crew finished their tour and we became part of Yelton's crew — Rothstein as crew chief and myself as radio operator. . ."



David McCash, Ginnie McCash, George Washburn, Ruth Washburn, Al Franklin, Emma Franklin, Mary Henry and Pete Henry. What a motley crew!



Everybody enjoyed the Luau in the Patio. You will have to pick yourself out because the names escape me.



Jim and Snooky Auman flank Hazel Robertie in the Norwich Pub. In fact everybody got 'flanked' in the Pub.



The ladies ready for their bus and shopping tour of San Diego. The busses were made out of spare B-17 parts as they didn't work too well!



This is NOT Jerry Colona. It's our new President Rick Rokicki as he promises to get us moving and keep us moving.



Jim Kotapish and daughter. Gotta' watch out for that Jim — he's a hustler and age isn't about to slow HIM down.



Bill Robertie pleads for stories for the Newsletter at the business meeting. J. D. Long is thinking one up.



Willie and Delos Elder. Willie was a WAC in Headquarters.



The Norwich Pub with it's photos tacked all over the walls was THE place to meet.



Myron Keilman center, flanked by his co-pilot and navigator perform Hawaiian dance as it should NOT be performed!



There were few empty chairs at the business meeting, and everyone there had something to say!



Elmer Clarey (left) receives his wings he sent to Charles Hayes-Halliday (right) as a gift for having pulled him out of the Channel when Clarey had to bail out. In recent years Halliday has conducted an intensive search for Clarey in order to return his wings.



Bartender Lillian Cohen had a busy time of it.



Guess who!



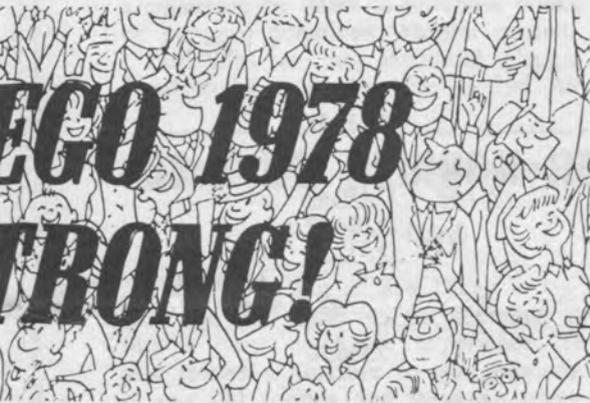
In spite of that everybody enjoyed and admired their courage.



The Hawaiian dancers perform at the luau. A beautiful performance with exotic costumes.



Dean Moyer, Evelyn Cohen and Bill Robertie ponder question from audience. Dean and Evelyn took it seriously.



That damn chow line follows us wherever we go! This one, fortunately, had food you could eat.



At the candle lighting ceremony (one for each campaign and one for our fallen comrades) Jim Kotapish lights a candle.



Ginnie & Dave McCash. Where are the Green Stamps?!



Ceil Rokicki and Bill Robertie look with astonishment as Evelyn Cohen refuses a glass of wine. Heresy!



Enjoying the hospitality room on the first night were Robin Eaton, Mike Fusano, Bill Robertie, Tom Eaton, Joe Warth and Hazel Robertie.



The County of San Diego welcomed us in the person of Lovely Lucille B. Moore. Anyone who wouldn't vote for Lucille is an Anarchist!



Chief Roy Rainwater looking for another Custer.



Delbert Mann chats with Ted and Fanny Parker. This was Del's first reunion and he couldn't believe what he saw. Neither could a lot of others!



Bob Coleman, our photographer, has the tables turned. Smile you're on candid camera.



When outgoing President J. D. Long gives an order he expects it to be obeyed. Lillian Cohen, J. D. Long, Caron and Hathy Veynar.

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING 2nd AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Hotel Del Coronado, San Diego, Calif.
Saturday, 15 July 1978

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President J. D. Long with about 260 members present. A warm welcome was extended to all.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

The Treasurers report was given with a balance of Cash on Hand in all funds as of 12 July 1978 \$23,302.11. Donations to Library Capital Fund to date total \$22,830.00. Motion was made and seconded that the Treasurers Report be accepted.

A Plaque of Proclamation by the County of San Diego was presented by Lucille B. Moore which was accepted by the President.

A letter from Pete Wilson, Mayor of San Diego, welcoming the 2nd Air Division Association to San Diego was read to the membership.

Membership Vice President Evelyn Cohen gave a report of 3,242 Members which included a total of 470 new members. Report was accepted.

Newsletter Vice President Bill Robertie asked that members keep sending stories for the Newsletter, and also for any suggestions for improvement of the Newsletter.

American Representative to the Board of Governors, Jordan Uttal, gave the following report:

Fred V. P. Bryan, one of the original founders of the Memorial Trust, passed away.

The General Fund is now £ 19,155. The original fund has £ 20,000 which shows the dedication of the Board of Governors in managing the Fund.

A brief history of the fund was given for the benefit of the new members.

The cost of books has risen sharply.

A check in the amount of approximately \$14,180.00 to be presented to Tom Eaton, Chairman of the Board of Governors, at the Banquet this evening.

Two new directors have been added to the Board of Governors. They are Paul King and Roger Freeman.

Joan Benns, Assistant Librarian, says that a total of between 200 and 300 books must be purchased each year in order to maintain the high standard of the Memorial Room.

It was made clear that the Board of Governors is the sole director of the Memorial Fund with the exception of the guidelines set up by the 2nd Air Division Association Executive Committee in 1976.

A motion was made and seconded that a full re-statement of our

guidelines be sent to the Board of Governors.

A brief history of the Living Memorial Room was given for the benefit of new members. Booklets are available from Bill Robertie for \$2.50 each, postage included.

A motion was made and seconded that Jordan's report be accepted. Motion carried.

Reunion Chairman Evelyn Cohen

gave a report on 1979 Norwich. Still do not have cost of reunion since hotel reservations have not been firmed and also Tom Eaton is to check into the festivities. Have reserved a Stretch Jet which seats 242 passengers and now have 75 extra passengers. Hank Tevelin explained that expenses will be higher next year. Hotels in London are in the \$50 to \$60 a night range and top hotels

(Continued on next page)

SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION July 12, 1978

SAVINGS FUND ACCOUNT:

Balance July 26, 1977	\$ 1,415.21
Receipts: Interest, 12 Months	72.10
No Disbursements	
Receipts and Balance	\$ 1,487.31

MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND ACCOUNT:

Balance July 26, 1977	6,334.35
Receipts to July 12, 1978	
Donations	\$13,479.00
Interest on C of D	211.47
Receipts and Balance	13,690.47
Disbursements to Library Board Aug. 14, 1977	20,024.82
	5,215.00
Balance July 12, 1978	14,809.82

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Balance July 12, 1977	5,736.30
Receipts: Membership Dues	20,364.95
Sales - Memorial Brochures	30.00
Sales - 2 AD Decals	10.00
Receipts and Balance	20,404.95
Disbursements:	26,141.25

Newsletter:		
Honorarium	\$200.00	
Monthly Expenses	1,886.62	
Postage	5,500.00	
Printing - By-Laws, Roster	3,657.62	
Printing - Newsletters	4,374.00	
Extra Help	985.00	16,603.24

Membership:		
Honorarium	200.00	
Printing	147.31	
Postage	400.00	747.31
Group V.P. - Postage	366.00	
Photography at Lake Geneva	34.90	
Refurbish Memorial Library Fountain	323.57	
Purchase Books for Library	714.00	
1/2 cost of 2AD Decals	341.25	
Filing Fee - State of Illinois	6.00	1,785.72

Total Disbursements	19,136.27
Balance July 12, 1978	7,004.98
Balance of Cash on Hand, All Funds, as of July 12, 1978	<u>\$23,302.11</u>

Donations to Library Board as of July 12, 1978

1973	\$ 1,293.00
1974	2,322.00
1975	8,000.00
1976	6,000.00
1977	5,215.00
Total to Date	\$22,830.00

DEAN E. MOYER
2nd AD Association, Treasurer

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING *(Continued from preceding page)*

in the \$100 and up per night. Prepay as much as possible before going in order to save.

The tentative dates are 31 May 1979 and return 16 June 1979 from Gatwick Airport, London.

Members are to research Reunion Sites for 1980 in Texas and the East.

The Executive Committee voted to hold a small portion of the money collected for the Capital Fund of the Memorial Trust for the purchase of books here in the U.S. Since it was not a unanimous vote, it was brought before the Membership. Dean Moyer discussed where the money should come from.

A motion was made and seconded that the action taken by the Executive Committee for taking \$1,000 out of the Capital Fund for the purchase of books be revoked. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded that a collection be taken to purchase books by personal donations. Motion carried.

Donations to the Memorial Capital Fund to be made Payable to 2nd Air

Division Association and donations to Dedication Books be made Payable to 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust Fund. A full report on the amount of the personal donations for the purchase of books to be given later.

A motion was made and seconded to give \$200 each to Evelyn Cohen and Bill Robertie as an Honorarium.

Tax Exemption as a Non-Profit Organization is to be completed before the end of the year.

Motion was made and seconded that each member present be appointed a delegate from the Group or unit with which he or she served. Also that a list be published in the Newsletter. Motion was seconded and passed.

A request was made by Joanne Afronete Moran for donation of memorabilia for the Air and Space Museum in San Diego which recently burned.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to purchase an appropriate gift for Joan Benns, who is retiring, and to be presented at the next Reunion.

Anyone interested in going to Germany after the Reunion next year, please contact Jim Aumen of the 466th Bomb Group.

The following Slate of Officers was presented by Roy Rainwater, Chairman, Walter Burman and George Dong.

President E. A. (Rick) Rokicki
 Vice President Pete Henry
 Secretary Hathy Veynar
 Treasurer Dean Moyer
 Membership Vice President Evelyn Cohen
 Newsletter Editor Bill Robertie
 Vice President to Executive Committees

93rd BG, Ray Rhoades
 445th BG, Dave Patterson
 491st BG, Michael Fagan

Nominations were open from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that the Slate of Officers for 1978-79 as presented be accepted. Motion carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was given to J. D. Long.

Motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Hathy Veynar
 Secretary

453rd BG REUNION REPORT

by Don Olds (453rd)

The '78 reunion at San Diego is history and for those of us attending it was a most enjoyable experience. It was indeed a pleasure to see so many of our old friends and meet so many new ones.

Thursday evening we sat down to a wonderful Hawaiian Luau which was followed by some truly outstanding Hawaiian entertainment. Friday nite in the Garden Patio, the people from the 453rd enjoyed a fine Italian dinner, followed by some interesting story telling. Dick Trevor and Bob Coggeshall

proved to be excellent raconteurs. Saturday afternoon we viewed old combat film while the wives went on a sightseeing and shopping trip. The highlight of the trip being a bus ride down one of the San Diego hills 'backwards! The Saturday nite banquet and dance closed out another successful reunion. With three days and two nights of free drinks, it just had to be a success.

Besides those listed elsewhere in the newsletter some 453rd people dropped in for just one day to say hello. Hap Alonso from Atlanta, GA just happened

to be in Coronado on Friday and came by to visit as did George Mazzara. Doug Leavenworth, Van Gassaway and Dan Brody from LA also dropped in. We had expected more from the LA area but were happy to see those who did come down.

Harry and Beulah Godges must have set some sort of record by journeying all the way from their home in South America. In the Saturday golf tournament Beulah took home the ladies division trophy.

Everyone who attended and helped out deserves a pat on the back. I should mention that LeRoy Berg donated a bottle of booze that was auctioned off on Saturday nite, the proceeds going to the Norwich Library Fund. Also, my sincere appreciation to Zwing and Elena Frausto for taking me to her parents elegant home on the ocean front just outside Tijuana on Wednesday nite. I enjoyed that very much.

So now, its on to Norwich in '79. Hope many of you will be able to make the trip. Just like every other year ... many of the first timers told me how much they wished they had learned about the annual reunions years ago. So, all you guys out there who have been sitting on the addresses, current or WW 2 vintage, of ex-453rd people, please send them to me so I can contact these folks and tell them of our annual get togethers. I'm sure many of them would like to attend, if they only were made aware. Hope to see you in Norwich next year.

DONATIONS MADE AT THE CONVENTION

I promised the membership a report on funds received at the convention in San Diego and it follows:

Donations for the purchase of books	\$1,110.00
Donations to the Memorial Trust Capital Fund	755.00
Sale of Brochures and Pins	70.00
Sale of Decals	51.00
Sale of Tie Tacks	10.00
Donations for Memorial Books dedicated to specific persons which has been forwarded to Joan Benns at the Library	214.00
Total	\$2,210.00

As a member of the Executive Board, and on behalf of the Board, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the membership for their generosity in donating to the Library Capital Fund and for the purchase of books. I also think we should thank Walter A. Edgeworth of the 453rd BG for initiating the collection for the purchase of books at the meeting in Coronado.

Sincerely,
 Dean E. Moyer, Treasurer

SAN DIEGO ATTENDANCE BY GROUPS

44th (61)

Bill & Carol Atkins
D. R. Armstrong
N. R. & Vera Cheek
Mike & Rose Corrigan
Bill & Allison Cameron
Tom & Olive Cardwell
Norius Crison
Dave & Helen D'Amico
Al & Emma Franklin
Mike & Kay Fusano
Oliver & Helen Germann
Arthur & Leona Grimes
Pete & Mary Henry
Bill Hawkins
Dick & Betty Haft
Bob & Roberta Johnson
John Kirby
Harry Koester
Bob & Ruth Lawson
Dick Larson
Will & Irene Lundy
Dave & Gini McCash
Ray & Mary McNamara
Phil & Eleanor Mancoff
John Muldoon
Jim & Elsie O'Brien
Bill & Hazel Robertie
George Russell
R. F. Rice
Harland & Mary Sommer
Harold & Nina Samuelian
J. M. Scholl
Ed & Irene Schoessler
Dean Spurgeon
Don Turner
Joe Warth
George & Ruth Washburn

93rd (45)

Bob & Ellen Coleman
Kirkwood & Joan Colvin
Jim & Ava Collins
Ed & Connie Devon
D. R. Dahl
Ted & Jo Gourley
Page Hatch
Ken Holt
Peder Heller
Pat & Marge Larson
Earl, Frances & Molly Long
Floyd & Dot Mabee
Al & Margaret Mayfield
Henry Muller
Clarence & Dolores Neumann
Bill & Phyllis Orient
Ray, Mary & Denise Rhoades
Rollin & Ester Reineck
Wes Rankin
John & Bee Sullivan
Bob & Lorraine Shaffer
John Sherman
Glenn & Glenn Jr. Tessmer
Joe Thorley
Ed & Helen Weir
Jerry Wilson
Howard Young

361st (4)

Pat Iodice
Duane Mork
Joe & Maxine Ulmer

389th (65)

Jack Albright
Dave & Florence Altshuler
Otto Andrews
John Curran
Jim & Portia Cotter
Joe Dimino
Bill & Helene Denton
Clyde Dillon
Caleb & Ruth Davis
Ralph & Helen Fowler
Alan Green
John & Louise Gilotte
Bruce Helmer
Russ & June Hayes
Roy & Mildred Jonasson
Leon & Lani Klinghoffer
Bud & June Koorndyke
Ted, Natalie & Sherry Katz
Jim & Mary Kratoska
Al Leighton
Paul & Dolores Lewis
Howard Lyons

Pat & Mary McGuckin
Leo & Betty McBrian
Bill & Val McCracken
John Marino
George Osborne
R. B. Miller
W. J. & Margaret Peschke
Frank Pease
Jack Pottle
Charles Quinlan
George & Jane Rake
Aaron & Sally Schultz
Al Sheard
Roger & Margaret Stone
Paul Vincent
Lloyd & Clara West
Clayton Woodward
Sid & Toni Westlund
Bob Young
Earl Zimmerman

392nd (46)

Vern Baumgart
Gil & Martha Bambauer
Pat & Mary Burns
Ray Berthiaume
Keith & Wanda Chapman
Ted & Barbara Crane
Art & Loretta Decker
Bob Davis
Art & Teddy Egan
Dale & Elizabeth Enyart
Ed & Lee Holmes
Walt & Edna Hebron
Myron & Blanche Keilman
George & Nona Keegan
J. D. & Emily Long
Willard & Al Levin
Oak & Maxine Mackey
Charlie & Helen Neudorf
R. J. Powers
Bill Reid
Joe & Virginia Seigfried
Bob Scott
Dale Stephens
Bill Smith
J. F. Thomas
Ken & Mary Timmons
E. J. White
Harry & Nancy White
Ed & Jean Winkler

445th (18)

Orville Ball
Charles & Evelyn Cooper
Carl & Betty Marino
Dick & Dorothy Nason
John, Dorothy & Judy Nortavage
Claud & Maxine Palmer
Dave & Joan Patterson
Ed Rusin
Paul & Marjorie Schwartz
Charles Walker

446th (19)

Sam & Ida Becker
T. G. Brown
Norman & Margaret Ellis
John & Kathleen Faulds
Carl Gjelhaug
Ed & Gert Holgate
Paul & Mary Ann Halecki
O. W. & Sappho Henderson
Bob & Margaret Landis
Vere & Marie McCarty
George Mattes

489th (16)

L. M. Baker
Loren & Betty Bryan
Tom & Muriel Bouley
Bud & Mike Chamberlain
Jim & Jean Davis
Charlie, Helen & Don Feudenthal
Joe Hess
John Kernodle
Bob & Jo Knight

491st (15)

Lester & Mae Bise
Byron Calomiris
Mike & Margaret Fagen
Delbert & Ann Mann
Ted & Fanny Parker
Henry Nichol

Ed & Dorothy Parsons
Dean & Flo Sorell
John Taylor

492nd (7)

Francis & Marguerite Beasley
E. W. & Maxine Clarey
C. W. Hayes-Halliday, C. W. & Barbara

Hdq. (25)

Rhoda Bandler
Evelyn & Lillian Cohen
Roy & Betty Devlin
Warren & Norma Burman
Mary Francis & Delos Elder
Ed & Edie Gerrez
Jackie Hanify
Joanne Moran
Jerry & April Lindsay
Dean, Deanie & Maxine Moyer
Robert & Pam Moyer
Jordan & Joyce Uital
Hathy, Caron & Milt Veynar

Board of Governors (2)

Tom & Robin Eaton

466th (27)

Joe & Irene Arbaugh
Jim & Snooky Auman
Dottie Brooks
Mike Calicigno
Pappy & Roberta Daniels
Ken & Dot Darney
Roy Guy
Raul Goltara
Charles & Deborah Jones
Leo & Mildred Mower
G. E. & Sammy Merket
Harlan & Mary Oakes
John & Marianne Rogers
Dean Roser
Hank Tevelin
Tex Tabor
Vicki & Kurt Warning

467th (35)

Joe & Merna Abernathy
Ray & Doris Betcher
Arcade & Helen Boisselle
Jim & Rose Ciancetto
George Dong
Phil Day
Lloyd & Rae Davis
Richard Ford
Geoffrey & Terry Gregory
Charlie Grace
Bob & Bernice Halloran
Lloyd & Carmen Haug
Joe & Florence Haenn
Vince & Gloria LaRussa
Jim & Helen Martin
Ed & Eleanor McQuellon
Roy & Edith Rainwater
Al & Damaris Shower
Jack Stevens
Joe Ramirez
Samie Taylor

448th (51)

Sidney & Mary Allen
Jack & Martha Barak
Harold & Angie Benvenuti
Al & Jeanette Bishop
Dale Bottoms
Harry & Virgir Betts
Stewart & Eileen Chase
C. Crandell
George DuPont
Leroy Engdahl
George & May Finch
Frank & Lorraine Gibson
Walter Johnson
Kenneth & Lucille Johnson
Joe & Kathleen Kasacjak
Joe Michalczyk
Dave & Sylvia Mellott
John & Rose Miller
Charles & Agnes McBride
Milt & Ruth Nichols
Jack & Helen Parker
Bob & Lorraine Smith
Jim & Aneth Sullivan
Alvin & Betty Shaw
G. S. & Lillian Sansburn

Downey & Marie Thomas
P. B. Thompson
Ralph Welsh
Charlie & Betty Yant
Sam Zarcoff

458th (42)

George & Peggy Bradley
Boyce, Lucy & Shannon Carrigan
William Cunningham
Gerald & Barbara Covey
Phillip Day
Creed R. Fairfield
Fred & Jessie Fahnestock
Melvin & Winifred Fields
Bob & Jane Grahman
Elden & Gert Gebaroff
Kermit Greene
Bob & Mary Jane Hunter
Oliver & Penny Johnson
Bill Jameson
John Krpan
Sam Milligan
Richard O'Brien
Herman & Bertie Peacher
Margaret Richardson
Rick & Ceil Rokicki
Ed Robbins
Bill & Gerry Sanders
Michele Sterrett
Walt & Helen Stynetski
Jim Smith
Ed Silver
Curt & Billie Jean Vogel
Clint Wallace

453rd (57)

Junior & Jackie Austin
Bob & Evelyn Anderson
Willard & Marion Adler
LeRoy & Gloria Berg
Eino, Edna & Lynn Alve
S. Dan Brady
R. D. Coggleshallard
Joe Crowley
Wilbur & Diane Clingan
Walt Edgeworth
Floyd & Helen Evje
Z. W. Frausto
L. A. Fournier
Harry & Beulah Godes
Orlando & Sharon Gasaway
Ed Jackson
Jim & B. J. Kotapish
OK & Lovey Long
Doug & Jane Leavenworth
James MacNew
Dave & Ann Mitchnick
Henry & Adra Myers
Don Olds
Phil & Nina Parsons
Charles & Loretta Parker
Dan & Muriel Reading
John & Marie Roth
LeRoy & Vi Steingraber
Milt & Lucille Stokes
Sol Stern
Larry & Margaret Thomas
Glen & Edith Tisher
Richard Trevor
Orris & Jennie Warrington

LIB-LAFFS

BY ED HOHMAN 491st



LETTERS

Dear Bill & Hazel:

We arrived home 26 July safe and sound, no trouble with the old 72 Buick. I hope you had a safe and enjoyable journey.

I must congratulate you and Evelyn again for the outstanding time and effort you both put in for these reunions. As far as I am concerned this was the best yet. I finally met fellows I remember from the original 93rd Grp. which started out at Barksdale field. I just can't express the joy I felt meeting these fellows again. As far as our group was concerned the most outstanding part of the reunion was the Norwich Pub, even if it had been a cash bar.

We feel that this one big hospitality room for all groups should be considered for future reunions, particularly for the benefit of the fellows who were in different groups. We try our best to contact all new members and see that they are introduced to all members present so that they don't sit back and feel left out, or that we aren't interested in them. I'm sure they would lose interest fast if this should happen. This is why we feel that the Norwich Pub was so great. It was a place to tell every one to go and be met by someone from their own group.

Our group is beginning to grow through the efforts of Ray Rhodes and Pat Larson, so look out 44th and 466th, we are going to give you some competition on membership. Our turn-out for this reunion was the best yet, we had members turn up from Mass., N.Y., N.J., Ga., and Fla. and you can't get much further away than that.

Bill, I need some help, through all the excitement I didn't get addresses of some of the new members. Would you please help me on this. They are Jerry Wilson, Peder Heller, Kenneth Holt, Hank Muller, James Collins and D. R. Dahl.

Bill, thank's again for a wonderful reunion. You may use this in the News Letter if you think it's printable.

Dot sends her love.
"Till WE Meet Again Next Year".
Cheers,

Floyd Mabee

Dear Evelyn:

Enclosed my check in the amount of \$15.00 for membership in the Second Air Div. Assoc.

I understand from Pete Henry's letter that the dues are \$7.00. Please credit the extra to the memorial trust, library or whatever.

Mr. Henry's "letter to the Editor" was read by my Mother in a paper in the Orange County, here in Southern California and was passed on to me.

My wife and I plan to attend the meeting in San Diego in July of this year.

I have copies of all the "Stars & Stripes" front pages of the 35 missions I flew and anybody can have a copy made from them if they desire.

I was a member of the 389th Bomb Group, 564th Sqdn. (navigator).

When membership renewal comes due again please advise, and if you know of any member of the 389th who is in need of assistance with their dues please let me know.

Thank you,

John Morino

(ed: And THANK YOU John for offering to help on dues for those having a bit of a rough time.)

Dear Bill:

It seems I owe you a letter for some 5 months, no less, but I know you have a lot of correspondence and what with the reunion at San Diego etc., I knew you would not want another letter to answer — that's my excuse anyway.

I hear the 2.2. reunion was an outstanding success. I've heard nothing but praise for the efforts of you and Evelyn; I really must try and get over there one of these days. I've made so many good friends through the 2nd A.D.A. I'm thinking of taking U.S. citizenship! I had a marvelous weeks holiday in Switzerland with Tom Allen (ex-448 B.G.) and his family. Plenty of B-24 chat as you can imagine.

I gather bookings are going well for next year. Naturally enough I'm having time off, so I am entirely free to help out in any way I can. I think I'd better have time off after you've gone too — to recover!

The book is still proceeding. I've had a bit of bother finding a printer, as for such a small run and color work, a good quality outfit is hard to find. However, I think I've sorted that out now. There were plenty of people prepared to do it without the color, but I daren't leave Mike's stuff out — he'd never speak to me again. Anyway I'll keep you up to date on that.

By the way, I was very impressed with that "Bedtime Ramblings" in the June Newsletter. What a marvelous piece of literature; I've read it time and time again. I wish I had the gift to write like that.

Write when you can,
Regards,

Tony North
Norwich, England

(ed: You're not alone in thinking that the story "Bedtime Ramblings" is a fine piece of literature Tony. Many have expressed the same sentiments. Now we can only hope that Jacob continues to write.)

Dear Evelyn Cohen:

Enclosed will find a check for my membership dues which is a new one.

My sister saw the article in the paper that Pete had put in and sent it to me. I am sure glad she did.

Thanking You,
John E. McCloskey
445th Bomb Group

Dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of my Negative Catalogue. Under separate cover.

I feel that your members may have an interest in it as it contains many listings of the 8th A/F. This has been produced privately by myself and is not a profit making venture. I have a great inborn interest in the 8th A/F and belong to "The Friends of the 8th" organization.

If any of your members are interested in obtaining further copies, please write to me at the address below. The cost of the Catalogues are as follows.

USA \$2.25 Post Paid Surface.

USA \$3.25 Post Paid Air Mail.

I would like to receive a copy of your Newsletter if its possible. I hope you find the Catalogue of interest. And would be pleased to hear from you on this subject.

Yours Sincerely,

David Glover
7, The Kentings, Braintree.
ESSEX.CM7-7JH, ENGLAND

(ED: Glad to oblige Dave. For you photo hunters out there this is well worth the price. Covers all services.)

Dear Evelyn:

I hope my letter is the first you will receive to tell you what a great job you and the other officers did to make the San Diego convention a smashing success. It was my first.

Even though we had to leave after the first day, Ann and I had a fantastic experience. The best, of course, was meeting my co-pilot and buddy for the first time in 34 years. Bob and Bernice Halloran and the two of us spent hours talking over those days and what has happened since. Being with our good friends, the Dick Hafts of Beverly Hills and the 44th, was also fun. And it was great to meet Col. Albert Shower after all these years.

Getting to have a long session with Ted Parker of the 491st after years of contact only by mail was beautiful. To find that he had a picture of my old plane, DUMBO, in the 491st history was a mind-blower.

A great experience all-around, Evelyn, which you have to accept credit for. Now we can only hope we can make the trip to Norwich next year.

Warm regards and thanks,

Delbert Mann

(ed: Rest easy Del, you were first.)

Dear Ms. Cohen:

I have just become aware of the Second Air Division Association and would like very much to become a member. If time permits me to make reservations, etc., I would like to attend your convention in Coronado, California.

I was assigned to the 506th squadron, 44th bomb group as a pilot in June of 1943. I made two trips to Africa with them and was on the low level attack on the Polosti oil fields. After returning to England from the second Africa trip we were assigned to the 482nd pathfinder group (first division) and served the rest of our tour in England with them. I was discharged in late 1945 as a major.

I hope you received my card and rushed all the information and applications, etc. Enclosed is my check for seven dollars for my dues to the Second Air Division Association.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Larson
269 Atlantic Ave.
Shafter, CA 93263

CATALOGUE OF NEGATIVE NUMBERS

From the collection of
THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM, LONDON
AND FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, LONDON



Compiled By
DAVID J. GLOVER

Dear Bill:

I enclose for your collection a photo taken at Shipdham some time in late '43 or early '44. No prizes for recognizing the man on the far left of the photo. Next to him is Sgt. E. Q. Jenkins, followed by Sgt. C. W. Davis. The British policeman is Acting Sgt. William Wilkins — note two arm stripes only. The civilian is Mr. Ernest W. Bowman, and on the far right is an officer I cannot put a name to. Have you any idea who he is? It looks as if they are standing in a briefing room from the partly covered map on the back wall.



The story behind the photo is this. Late in the evening of the 3rd November 1943, a R.A.F. Halifax bomber returning from a mission over Germany attempted an emergency landing at Shipdham airfield, but crashed in flames a half mile North of the field, killing six of the crew. The seventh crew member, the tail gunner survived the crash but was trapped in his turret. Bowman was the first to arrive on the scene and with the combined efforts of Jenkins, Davis and Wilkins he managed to get into the rear fuselage of the aircraft, the only part of the aircraft which was not on fire. On the first attempt he failed to release the gunner, but going into the wreck a second time he succeeded to cut free the trapped airman with a

pocket knife, who was then quickly moved away from the flames by the other three rescuers. As Bowman was getting out of the aircraft for the second time some incendiary bombs went off in the fire, but he reached safety without being injured.

For their bravery Jenkins and Davis were both awarded the Soldier's Medal, Wilkins a commendation by the Norfolk police, and Bowman the British Empire Medal. The story has a sad ending as the rescued gunner died from his injuries the following day.

Later that same night another R.A.F. bomber, this time a Lancaster, made an emergency landing at Shipdham airfield, crash-landing on one of the runways. The pilot of this aircraft, F/Lt. Bill Reid, had been badly injured to the head, shoulders and hands and losing blood fast he fought to keep conscious in order to get his aircraft back to England from the target area of Dusseldorf. With some of his crew dead and others badly wounded the Lancaster slid to a halt with Reid, his Bomb Aimer and Flight Engineer all struggling to control the aircraft. For his bravery Reid was awarded the Victoria Cross.

So what with lives being lost and saved and medals being won for bravery, it was quite a night for Shipdham — definitely not the place to be for the faint-hearted.

If you could please find a corner of a forthcoming Newsletter to use the above stories, I would like to hear from anyone who was at Shipdham at the time and can recall these incidents.

Sincerely,
Chris Gotts

Dear Evelyn:

Please don't think I'm being an April Fools Day sucker, but did 610 Plaza Towers move from 2301 Woodward St. to 2350 Tremont St. during the time it took to print pages 12 and 14 of the March '78 Newsletter? I suppose I'm the 1000th person to notice this!

I hope that in spite of the above confusion my enclosed \$7.00 cheque reaches you O.K. My address is as above and unchanged. Thanks for the card, as usual.

Please convey my thanks to Bill for the top-notch newsletter. It's still the best of them all, and keeps us B-24 fanatics reading for hours on end. By the way, if he was the one responsible for the above mix-up, tell him we'll let him off, just this once!!

Thanks also for the 2ADA decal — it's almost as flashy as ours! Look forward to seeing you all in 1979.

All the best,

Steve Gotts

P.S. (24 July 1978) Guess what — I chose the wrong address!!! Sorry for the delay — took 3 months to return to me!

(ed: Considering the kind of Postal Service we don't have you were lucky to get it back at all — and I plead guilty to the foul up. When I mess things up, I believe in doing a good job of it!)

Dear Evelyn:

Enclosed is my check for \$50.00. Please put my and my wifes name on the list for England next year.

I know that the first plane is already full but we'll go along with whatever is arranged.

Thanks a lot and thanks for the great job you do for the Second Air Division Association.

Best regards

W. P. Sineath

P.S. I'm looking forward to England but I sure as hell can't type.

(ed: Who can!!)

Dear Evelyn:

What a wonderful Reunion! It was my first and I've booted myself 30 times for the ones I missed. I enjoyed, most of all, the 467th Mini-reunion and hope we can have more 467th people the next time around. It was such a pleasure to see Col. Showers again. I actually called him 'Al' once, but quickly went back to Colonel. I didn't remember him as the gentle, soft spoken man he is today.

Also great to see the likes of Ramirez and Dong still going strong.

Never have I spent money so well worth it. Thanks for doing such a great job. Please find enclosed money for an Associate Membership for my son Ken and my wife Jerry. Also a little extra for the Memorial.

Thanks again and best wishes

Jeff Gregory (467th)

Dear Evelyn:

Just learned, thru a local Irishman, of a Salesian Brother who was formerly a chemical officer with the 44th and 93rd Bomb Groups. He apparently is unaware of our 2AD Association; but, as he is so enthused about his service with our Division (May 1943 to August 1945), I would like to nominate him for a surprise membership. Also, for his first year dues I am enclosing payment as a gift.

Brother Roxie Marotta, SDB

Sacred Heart Juniorate

P.O. Box 271, Ipswich, Mass. 01938

Kindest regards and with memories of our meeting at Hethel a few years back.

Sincerely,

"Sean" O'Driscoll (389th BG)

P.S.—Your News Letter is better all the time. Earl Zimmerman asks in his article on the Hamm Raid "Were any of you on that plane with Foley?" — tell him that I was but only after it hit the ground.

Dear Mrs. Cohen:

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$10 to cover dues for this year. If this is not the correct amount, please advise and I will send any additional fees due.

I haven't been receiving the Second Air Division Association Bulletin and would appreciate your adding my name to the mailing list, and, in addition, if you have an extra copy of the Second Air Division Association Roster, I would appreciate receiving it.

My wife, Lillian, and I were able to get down to San Diego on the Saturday of the Reunion. Charles Freudenthal of the 489th Bomb Group and his charming wife had a very pleasant visit with us in their room overlooking the blue Pacific.

If it is possible for you to include this letter in some future issue of the newsletter I would like to hear from any members of my crew aboard the B-24 called COVER GIRL. We were stationed at Haylesworth from 5/31/44 to 11/27/44: Crew consisted of the below listed men, in addition to the writer who was the navigator:

Captain John W. Elliott, 2nd Lt. Douglas J. Strong, 1st Lt. Hughey R. Smith, T/Sgt. William D. Olmstead, T/Sgt. John D. Foster, Sgt. Ormand P. Bruner, Sgt. Marvin L. Glassman (whom I have most happily been able to contact and we enjoyed a warm reunion in Los Angeles), S/Sgt. William A. Burchman, S/Sgt. David Y. Green.

With best regards, I remain

Rubin Kaplan

463 South Oakhurst Drive, Apt. 202
Beverly Hills, Calif. 90212

Dear Evelyn:

Sorry, so late for my dues. Enclosed also is \$8.00 donation for Memorial Library.

We have several very good pictures of 2nd Air Division aircraft taken at Goose Bay, Canada on June 21 or 22, 1945 as they were returning from England. There are also several crew members whom I can no longer recall their names.

We would be happy to send these for any use desired, if we could have them returned.

Sincerely,

Don W. Morrow (491 Group)

P.S. Thanks for the decal of the good old 8th, also for a tremendous well done on the paper.

Dear Evelyn:

I recently attended the 2nd Air Division reunion in San Diego as an invited guest. My part there was to exhibit B-24 art, etc. I thoroughly enjoyed myself!

I am writing in order to ask for membership information. I am not a former member of any of these B.G.'s but I am very interested in receiving your News Letter for the association.

I would be a friend of the 2nd Air Division and support the memory of what had to be done by those men who put Liberators into the air during WWI. Please send dues information and the upcoming News Letter.

Respectively,

Stan Jones

(ed: Jump aboard as a subscribing member Stan.)

Dear Ms. Cohen:

W. K. Frye M.D. 467th lost his life in a drowning accident Feb. 11, 1978 on Lake Parrish, Parrish, Florida.

I do not know what procedure you follow concerning death notices. We would appreciate a notice of his death being printed in your publication. My daughters and I would like to hear from any of his former Air Force friends.

Sincerely,

Patsy L. Frye

3410 Riverview Blvd.

Bradenton, Florida 33505

Dear William:

Enclosed are a couple of photos and velox's of same for you to use when and if you wish.

The tail damage is of the ship "El Lobo" 392 BG and was not flown by the crew of V. Baumgart when it happened. Crew unknown.



The pic of five men in front of the "El Lobo" is the hard working ground crew of the ship. I do not know the names but they are hero's to us, never enough said about them. They flew once with us over the base and said that was enough for them.



If I can be of any help to you let me know. I work for the local daily paper in the production part of it - not editorial. Keep up the great job you are doing.

Stan Stupski

Bombardier of the "El Lobo" 392 BG P.S.—The damaged tail photo was sent to me in England from my wife, taken from the Sat. Evening Post.

Dear Evelyn:

I am enclosing herewith my check in the amount of \$9.00 which I trust will resolve my due status with the association for both 1978 and 1979. A similar situation developed in 1977 and I am enclosing herewith a copy of my letter to you along with a copy of the cancelled check which I assumed would take care of both 1977 and 1978.

However, dues were apparently increased in 1978 so the \$5.00 would not be sufficient and \$2.00 of the enclosed check is for that purpose. The additional \$7.00 will, I trust, cover my 1979 dues. If, this is not the case, the enclosed check should make me current for 1978 and when I get the statement for 1979 I hopefully will timely take care of the obligation.

Also, it would appear that my address should be changed to my residence which is 624 E. Circle Drive, Findlay, Ohio 45840. I no longer have offices in the First National Bank Building and will be leaving Municipal Court for Common Pleas Court the 1st of January, 1979, so it appears my home address would be the best place to receive communications from you.

Doubtful if I will get to San Diego but hopefully one of these years I will make the annual reunion. Incidentally, the Fourth Fighter Group will be holding a get together in Milwaukee in June of 1979.

Very truly yours,

Richard J. Rinebolt

(ed: Mind going over that again Dick!!)

Dear Evelyn:

Was just introduced to your News Letter by my ex-copilot, James Payne, now residing in Milwaukee, WI. Enjoyed being reminded of the past, here in the safety of my front room without a flack suit on. Guess, I too, am one of those "gung-hoe" young men of tomorrow, turned old man of today.

Please find enclosed a check for \$7.00 and include my name on your mailing list — Thank You.

Ronald Embick
208 Sunset Lane
Mount Morris, Ill. 61054

Tailgunner of the Wm. Woodburn crew,
446th B.G., 707 B. Sqd.

Dear Evelyn:

Just got your reminder for the 31st Annual Reunion at Coronado, Calif. I plan to attend the Saturday (July 15, 1978) session only. Possibly the breakfast, business meeting, films, cocktail party and banquet — but not the dancing. (No rooms are needed — since we'll commute.) I'll be with another possible member, Rex Tabor - Radio Operator on John H. Blumenstock's Crew 466, Squadrons 786 and 784. He lives in Hawthorne, Calif. Hope Blumenstock makes it too!

My Group Mgr. at the IRS is Vince Scarpino of the 458th (Navigator). He lives in Riverside, Calif. IF he is well - he'll try to make it also for the abbreviated reunion on Sturday. He's been ill with Hodgkins Disease.

I also have some bad news. A member of our crew, Burns M. Byram, M.D., Box 188, Marengo, Iowa 52301 was flying an old P51 back from Guatemala for a friend. The plane was leaking coolant, overheated and blew up causing him to crash in Mexico on June 5th. He was creamed and the remains were sent to Morengo, Iowa. He had planned to attend the reunion. Our pilot was Robert Moore of San Antonio, Texas. Burns was our bom-

William G. Robertie:

I am writing this letter with several thoughts in mind. As an introduction I was half of the 2 man team which established the radar shack "G" and trained the first arriving navigators at Rackheath "467". My partner was Jack Kutz of Texas who I would like to contact.

Another wish of several, is to obtain a picture and info regarding a plane and crew who I flew with on several checkout flights. The only clue I have is that the pilot had a habit of shutting off all 4 motors and gliding, and from my few contacts with the gunners, he created quite a stir in their circle.



I am enclosing a picture of a plane showing a Tiger wearing a Football Helmet and carrying a Bomb, titled "Massillon Tiger." I would appreciate info regarding its flying record and where it completed its career. My interest stems from it being part of Stark County, Ohio history. Massillon Hi and McKinley Hi of Canton have been arch rivals since their inception of athletic teams. By now you will have realized I am writing from the Pro Football Hall of Fame City.

It was Sept. 72 that I visited Stephen

bardier. It is sad to report this; however, I would appreciate some mention of it in the newsletters and at the reunion so that the rest of his friends are made aware of it. We attended the 1st Reunion at Dayton prior to merging with the 2AD.

Can you confirm at least two persons (myself and Rex Tabor) for the Saturday events? Thank you.

Raul C. Goltara

Dear Evelyn:

First I want to say what a great time my wife and I had in San Diego. We have lived most of our lives in California and had never seen that beautiful building. Everyone says you must receive the credit for the planning of the reunion, so we add our thanks for your time and effort.

I am sending \$50.00 toward reservations in England. Since we are in California, we will arrange our flight from here, but would like to be included in hotel reservations and all other reunion activities. We, already, are looking forward to the trip.

Sincerely,

James P. Sullivan (448th)

Dear Evelyn:

If you have a minute before leaving for the convention would you send a membership application and reunion news to the following man:

Mr. Frank G. Zern - 492nd Bomb Group
411 West Edwards
Santa Maria, Calif. 93454
Phone 922-2403

We always walk up to Denny's for a cup of coffee in the morning and we saw these three fellows sitting there having coffee, too. Our ears perked up when we heard them describing airplane maneuvers ... and you know the rest!

Roy Jonasson

Stephson in Rackheath who had been in charge of Base Maintenance for the British. He and his wife took my wife and I to the Norwich Library to show us what the Association had accomplished and was continuing to do. That was the first I knew such a group existed. Several months later I received a letter of introduction and an application for membership which I used. I look forward for each Newsletter hoping I will see and hear from someone out of the past. If my file is not loused up completely I have received only one roster "74", to date.

But I was fortunate to hear from Maj. Gordon Tucker, Radar Officer, who saw my name in the "76" Roster. We have exchanged a few letters and he is also trying to contact old buddies. We all had a desire to shake the military in the "40s", but I believe as years start to take their toll many of us begin to realize we lost something which probably will never be recovered.

Here is a news item that crews may find interesting. About 1 yr. ago I visited the new Air Force Museum in Dayton. Under glass hanging on the wall was a black and white picture of the "Polka Dot" of the "467th" Group. It was not identified in the case, but had a little explanation of its function. I have the clipping taken from the "Yank" when it appeared in one of its issues.

The few (?) words were written with the hope of raising questions in other minds which will benefit the Assoc. in compiling history and furthering activities of the Group.

Yours for the Future and Past,
James F. Kennedy (467)

FLASHBACKS

by ED HOHMAN • 491st



BOOZIN' BUDDIES "HORSE AROUND"...

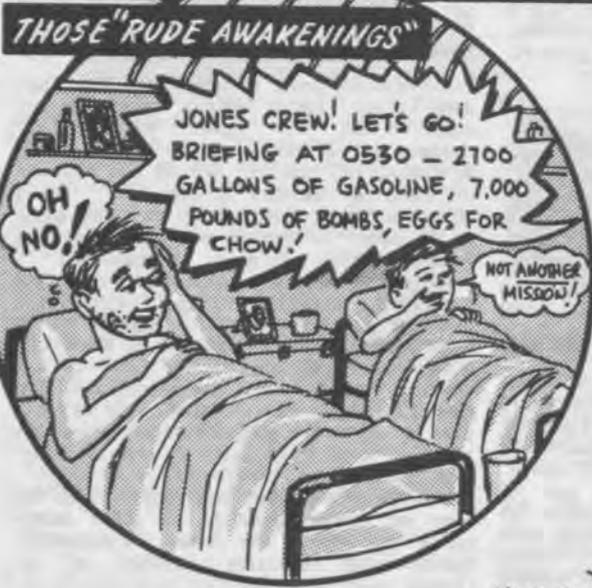
IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED! TWO SERGEANTS RENTED A PONY AND CART EARLY ONE MORNING IN JOLLY OLD ENGLAND AND PROCEEDED TO MAKE THINGS EVEN JOLLIER BY TRAVELING TO NORWICH. THEY DIDN'T PASS UP A PUB (OR A BEER) AND EVEN MADE SURE THE PONY GOT HIS SHARE. (NO 'PONY' BOTTLES, EITHER) THE FARMER WHO OWNED THE PONY WASN'T SMILING WHEN THE BOYS GOT BACK, BUT HE SAID THE PONY HAD A SILLY GRIN ON ITS FACE FOR DAYS!



1978 **EASTERN DAILY NEWS**
Norwich, England 1978

ALCOHOLIC HORSE MAY HAVE HAD WORLD WAR II ANCESTRY

Authorities believe animals may have become addicted to being given beer by Force bomber during



HOHMAN 8/78