



The Results Of Our American Librarian Fund Drive

by Jordan R. Uttal

As noted in our President's report, and in the minutes of the Business Meeting at Dearborn, with the advice of legal counsel, and the approval of the Executive Committee we have concluded an agreement with the Fulbright Commission for the administration of an opening fund of \$550,000.00!!!

From our membership, 2,641 of you (as of 7/1/91) have helped us reach this level. Our fund is set up so that additions can be readily made at any time. We will appreciate further donations from anyone who wishes to help us to increase the annual income. Reduced interest rates make this most advisable.

Your Executive Committee has directed that the text of the Agreement be printed in full in this issue. It is with pleasure that we introduce you to the Second Air Division Association/Fulbright Memorial Award Agreement:

This Agreement is entered into by
**THE FULBRIGHT FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION
 AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE (UK), INC. AND
 THE SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION, USA**

in order to endow an award in honor of veterans of the Second Air Division, 8th Air Force, USAAF

1. **The Name** of the award shall be "The Second Air Division Association/Fulbright Memorial Library Award," herein expressed as The Memorial Library Award.

2. **Purpose:** To ensure in perpetuity, through the U.S.-U.K. Fulbright Commission (hereafter called the Commission), the availability of a professional American presence, and contribute as additional accumulations permit to the cost of the library aide to support that American Fulbright Grantee, at the 2nd Air Division Memorial Room at the Norwich Central Library in Norwich, England.

3. **Dedication:** The Award shall be a Memorial to and from those who survived in honor of those who gave their lives while serving with the 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force USAAF in England during World War II.

4. **Definition:** As agreed between the Governors of the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF (hereafter called the Governors) and the Commission, the American presence may be a general or specialist librarian (archivist or historian) as needed to best serve the interests of the 2nd Air Division Memorial. If with the passage of time, need arises for another professional category, such may be agreed upon by the Governors and the Commission.

5. **Selection:** Based on criteria jointly established between the Governors and the Commission, the selection of the American pro-

fessional shall be made under supervision of the Commission in accordance with standard competition and selection procedure for Fulbright Awards. Selection of the Library aide shall, however, be left to the Governors.

6. **Term:** The Memorial Library Award for the American professional Fulbright Grantee shall normally be for two years, with either single or three year awards possible as special circumstances warrant.

7. **Source and Terms of Award:** Funds raised by the 2nd Air Division Association (hereafter called the Association) specifically for the Memorial Library Award and in support of the Library Aide (in excess of \$550,000.00 as of this agreement) shall be placed with and held in the United States by THE FULBRIGHT FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE (UK), INC. (hereafter called the Fulbright Foundation) as the original corpus for the Second Air Division Association/Fulbright Memorial Library Award.

The original corpus plus whatever additions to the corpus that the Association is able to make during its lifetime shall be inviolable with no invasions to the principal at any time.

The value of the Memorial Library Award and any transfers which might occur in support of the Library Aide shall be determined by the value of accumulated proceeds from the corpus.

The first accumulations of proceeds will not be available until August 1992, and in succeeding years will be available annually.

Any accumulations in excess of annual requirements for the Memorial Library Award or for transfer in support of the Library Aide shall remain as necessary in the Memorial Library Award account as an increase in the corpus to hedge against increased costs and inflation.

If there are any further accumulations which in the judgement of the Fulbright Foundation and Commission are in excess of the above requirements, they may be awarded by the Fulbright Foundation to the Memorial Trust of the Second Air Division USAAF for any activities which will enhance the value of the 2nd Air Division Memorial as an educational facility for the people of East Anglia.

8. **Dissolution:** In the event the Memorial Library Award is discontinued by mutual agreement of the parties then involved, i.e. the Fulbright Foundation and the 2nd Air Division Excom, and/or ZADA Oversight Committee, or must cease as a result of currently

(continued on page 3)

Second Air Division Association Eighth Air Force

HONORARY PRESIDENT

JORDAN UTTAL
7824 Meadow Park Drive, Apt. 101, Dallas, TX 75230

OFFICERS

President RICHARD M. KENNEDY
8051 Goshen Road, Malvern, PA 19355
Executive Vice President JOHN B. CONRAD
2981 Four Pines #1, Lexington, KY 40502
Vice President
Membership EVELYN COHEN
Apt. 06-410 Delaire Landing Road
Philadelphia, PA 19114
Vice President
Journal WILLIAM G. ROBERTIE
P.O. Box 627, Ipswich, MA 01938
Treasurer DEAN MOYER
549 East Main St., Evans City, PA 16033
Secretary DAVID G. PATTERSON
28 Squire Court, Alamo, CA 94507
American Representative
Board of Governors E. (BUD) KOORNDYK
5184 N. Quail Crest Dr., Grand Rapids, MI 49546

GROUP VICE PRESIDENTS

Headquarters RAY STRONG
320 Burlage Circle, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
44th BG H.C. (Pete) HENRY
164B Portland Lane, Jamesburg, NJ 08831
93rd BG FLOYD MABEE
28 Hillside Ave., Dover, NJ 07801
389th BG LLOYD E. WEST
Box 256, Rush Center, KS 67575
392nd BG OAK MACKEY
6085 Lincoln Drive, Apt. #316, Edina, Minn. 55436
445th BG CHARLES L. WALKER
1530 S. Pomona B-32, Fullerton, CA 92632
446th BG MARVIN SPEIDEL
708 Dianne Court, Rahway, NJ 07065
448th BG CATER LEE
P.O. Box 850, Foley, AL 36536
453rd BG WILBUR CLINGAN
8729 Samoline, Downey, CA 90240
458th BG E.A. ROKICKI
365 Mae Rd., Glen Burnie, MD 21061
466th BG ELWOOD NOTHSTEIN
40 Meadow Dr., Spencerport, NY 14559
467th BG ROBERT SHEEHAN
1828 E. 27th St., Tulsa, OK 74114
489th BG NEAL SORENSEN
132 Peninsula Road, Medicine Lake, MN 55441
491st BG F. C. (HAP) CHANDLER
5318 Fairfield West, Dunwoody, GA 30338
492nd BG BILL BEASLEY
1525 S. Garfield, Denver, CO 80210

HERITAGE LEAGUE

President JEANE STITES
9334 Kahl Rd., Black Earth, WI 53515

JOURNAL

Editor WILLIAM G. ROBERTIE
P.O. Box 627, Ipswich, MA 01938

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

DAVID G. PATTERSON
28 Squire Court, Alamo, CA 94507

MEMORIAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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3 Upper King Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 1RL England
PAUL R. KING, Vice Chairman
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15 Ransom Rd., Norwich, Norfolk NR1 4AJ
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24 Grosvenor Sq., London, W1A 1AE, England
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School of English and American Studies
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LT. COL. W.D. WUEST
14 St. Andrews Close, Hingham, Norfolk NR9 4JT
MRS. FRANCES DAVIES
57 Church Lane, Eaton, Norwich NR4 6NY
E. (BUD) KOORNDYK
5184 N. Quail Crest Dr., Grand Rapids, MI 49546
EDWARD O. INMAN
Director of Duxford Imperial War Museum
Duxford Airfield, Cambridge CB2 4QR

President's Message

by Richard M. Kennedy

Elsewhere in this edition of the Journal, my report on the Dearborn Reunion will attempt to encapsulate the events that took place during that gathering. However, I would like to touch upon a couple of items that I don't want lost or diminished by virtue of being included among a recounting of a variety of Convention activities.

If you attended our 1991 convention in Dearborn, Michigan, you may have heard reference to the establishment of an Editorial Review Board (ERB). If you did not attend, or even if you did, it is important that you know of the ERB's existence and the reasons therefore.

Executive Committee action to form the ERB was taken on September 18, 1990. This was based on informal discussions in Norwich in July of the same year during which great concern was expressed about the health of our longtime VP Journal, Bill Robertie. At that time, it was recognized and emphasized that Bill's performance as editor had contributed greatly to the Association's growth and that appropriate steps should be taken to assist him in the further performance of his editorial duties. Likewise, considering the advancing age of all of us, and the absolute necessity for some kind of backup, it was felt that the same consideration be extended in future years to whomever may succeed the current editor. Similar backups have been identified for other critical Association functions.

The ERB is composed of C.N. "Bud" Chamberlain, Chairman; C.H. Freudenthal; Gene Hartley and Jordan Uttal. This is completely consistent with the Association bylaws which state that all publications issued by the Association shall be under the direction of the VP Journal. Nothing has changed, here. Bill Robertie still produces the Journal. Further, the bylaws also say that publications issued by the Association are subject to the EC as to scope, policy and expenditures. Nothing has changed here either except that the EC found it more effective and expedient to exercise its responsibility through a few designated individuals.

Your Executive Committee is acutely aware of the need to maintain strong continuity in our vital "last person" organization for as long as possible. Consistent with that premise, a dissolution plan has been written to assure that, when the time comes, our dissolution will be orderly and in the best interests of the 2nd ADA. In addition, backup people have been identified for many chairman/officer positions to assure continuity and to extend the useful life of the Association to the maximum.

I want to emphasize that your Executive Committee is, on a day by day basis, facing the tough decisions needed to fully satisfy the purposes of the 2nd ADA.

I do, therefore, announce that effective January 1, 1992, the annual membership dues will be increased from the current \$10.00 to \$15.00. I think we can all agree that not only has the time come for this action but, in reality, is long overdue. Your Association intends to remain strong and viable!

I'm looking forward to another year of satisfying 2nd ADA activities. We do belong to a great Association! Don't we all agree?



Folded Wings

44th

Harry P. Ahlstedt
Dixon C. McEver
Arthur C. Stanton

93rd

Joseph T. Doyle
Sam J. Kesler
Rex Roberson

389th

Leonard D. Boisclair
John Bundros
John Mortizia
Carlo Panciera
Preston G. Redd
Frank C. Vadas

392nd

Quinton R. Wedgeworth

445th

Lynn Y. Handly

446th

Harold L. Hull

453rd

Ralph I. Blouch
Frank T. Kumor

458th

Dr. Paul M. Craven
Edgar J. Huff
Albert J. Rohrs
Col. Wm. M. Routon

467th

Weldon H. Gruver
Leroy C. Mason

489th

Robert G. Hancock
Joseph C. Powers
Richard H. Sanderford
Billy F. Shumpert
Col. Paul B. Woodward

491st

Steiner Knutsen

492nd

Howard V. Garrett (also 467th)

HDQ

Col. Joseph A. Baird

Ed. Note — We are happy to report that Col. Ernest E. Gossett, 492nd, is alive and well. We apologize for the error in the last Journal.

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Librarian Fund Drive (continued from page 1)

unforeseen circumstances, assets minus liabilities shall be used by the Fulbright Foundation to provide for scholarships for British and/or American citizens to conduct research or pursue historical studies related to the Air Forces of the two countries' cooperation and participation in the Second World War, however:

If the Fulbright Foundation were to no longer exist, the assets minus liabilities shall be distributed to the Memorial Trust of 2nd Air Division in Norwich as an addition to its capital fund.

If the Memorial Trust no longer exists, the assets shall be distributed to the U.S. Air Force Museum at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

If that no longer exists, the assets shall be distributed to the Imperial War Museum, Duxford to support the inclusion of airplanes and materials representing the 2nd Air Division USAAF in the Air Museum at Duxford.

If that no longer exists, the assets shall be distributed to the Air Force Historical Foundation for its use as deemed appropriate in memory of veterans of the 2nd Air Division USAAF.

If that no longer exists, the assets shall be distributed among one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of IRS 501(c)3 or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or to the federal government or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

The original dedication and purpose of this 2ADA Memorial Library Award, shall in any case be recognized and so accompany the stipulations which transfer remaining assets.

9. Accounting: It shall be understood that the funds placed in the Fulbright Foundation shall be accounted for as a clearly identified entry within the Fulbright Foundation's main account, which must be through a bank legally incorporated within the United States. It is further agreed that the funds shall not be put at risk by speculative investment; that administrative costs to the Fulbright Foundation or Commission related to this award will not be

charged to the corpus or its proceeds and that all tax filings and other administrative procedures will be faithfully accomplished by the Fulbright Foundation.

10. Oversight: It is understood that while the 2nd Air Division Association continues to exist, the Fulbright Foundation and Commission will accept and work with an Oversight Committee, to be specially appointed by the Excom of 2ADA, that semi-annual reports of the activities of the business of the 2ADA Memorial Library Award will be submitted to that committee, and input welcomed from that committee.

The Oversight Committee appointed by the 2ADA Excom may consist of regular members of the Association and/or members of the Heritage League of the 2ADA.

If the 2ADA or its Oversight Committee cease to exist, the oversight will devolve to the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division USAAF, who shall in the meantime be represented in selection committees established for the Memorial Library Award.

It is understood that this cooperation will in no way impinge upon the required integrity and normal operation of the Fulbright Commission in the selection of grantees for The Second Air Division Association/Memorial Library Award.

11. Amendment of Agreement: Following a period of three years from initiation, it is provided that this agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the principal parties to this original agreement or their Authorized Representatives as appropriate at the time of proposed amendment.

This Agreement was approved, signed by the President of the Fulbright Commission (Ronald Clifton) and the President of 2nd Air Division Association (Richard Kennedy), notarized and duly witnessed. The signed agreement and the check for \$550,000.00 were delivered by our legal counsel and fellow member, M/Gen. Ramsay Potts (Ret.) to the Fulbright USA representative in Washington D.C. on 12 July 1991.

Financial Report

Second Air Division Association • June 30, 1991

GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT:

Balance June 30, 1990		142,475.79	
Receipts: Membership Dues	83,164.51		
Norwich Convention Receipts	42,419.47		
Interest Income	9,331.92		
Computer Receipts	<u>235.65</u>		
Total Receipts		<u>135,151.55</u>	
Receipts and Balance			277,627.34
Disbursements:			
V.P. Journal:			
Postage	3,758.85		
Auto Expense	669.48		
Printing	214.00		
P.O. Box Rental	93.00		
Snowbirds Journal Postage	628.60		
Telephone	78.73		
Rent	7,800.00		
Misc. Supplies	<u>87.96</u>	13,330.62	
Journal:			
Postage (4 issues)	3,421.26		
Overseas Postage (3 issues)	1,957.33		
Printing (3 issues)	16,525.35		
Composition (3 issues)	6,015.00		
Label, Insert, Del. to Post Office (3 issues)	1,120.05		
Bulk Mail Permit	60.00		
Revisions by Editorial Review Bd. (2 issues)	<u>817.50</u>	<u>29,916.49</u>	
Total Journal Cost			43,247.11
V.P. Membership:			
Postage	3,640.00		
Printing	732.91		
Rent	<u>4,800.00</u>		9,172.91
General Expenses:			
Computer Expenses & Rent	1,769.82		
Treasurer Expenses & Rent	1,334.58		
Fidelity Bond on Treasurer	260.00		
VPs & Officers Postage	3,328.82		
VPs & Officers Printing	1,569.55		
Audit Committee Expenses	1,356.01		
Nominating Committee Expenses	80.05		
Exec. Committee Exp. Dearborn 9/90	1,995.31		
Exec. Committee Exp. Palm Beach 3/91	8,480.25		
Exec. Committee Christmas Packages	1,712.47		
Board of Governors Meeting (2) Norwich	1,805.75		
Last Mission	1,827.60		
Awards	30.07		
Collings Foundation	1,000.00		
Decals & Pins	974.50		
Public Relations	<u>542.75</u>		28,067.53
Separation of Library Fund			
Original Library Fund balance as of June 30, 1990		<u>41,852.72</u>	
Total Disbursements			<u>122,340.27</u>
General Fund Balance - June 30, 1991			155,287.07
Reserve - Archivist Scholarship 1991 (Norwich)		<u>25,000.00</u>	
Uncommitted Balance of General Fund - June 30, 1991			130,287.07

Dean E. Moyer, Treasurer
Second Air Division Association

Vice President's Message

by John B. Conrad



All of the reunions I have attended have been memorable events for me; the most recent at Dearborn especially so. I would like to sincerely thank the Nominating Committee for nominating me and the membership for electing me to serve as your Executive Vice President. I will make every effort to serve with the same dedication to your Association's best interests as that demonstrated year after year by the experienced officers of your Executive Committee.

The Eighth Air Force Heritage Center was established in 1990 to raise money to construct and operate the Center at Savannah, Georgia, which was the birthplace of the Eighth Air Force in January, 1942. The plans are impressive, with over 90,000 square feet under roof. It is intended to be a nationally recognized museum with a massive research library. The library will preserve documents and memorabilia.

Such a center will be very important to all of our members, especially those who have accumulated documents, records and pictures which should be preserved for future historians and researchers. Hopefully, personal memoirs as well as Group and other unit records will find a home here.

The Center's Board of Directors is composed of people of talent and enthusiasm, including 2nd ADA President Richard Kennedy, who also serves on the Center's Executive Committee. The site has been obtained and ground-breaking is scheduled for 1992. Interim reports will be made as work progresses.

Bunchered Buddies of Old Buck

by Wib Clingan

As you know, the reunion at Dearborn has come and gone. It was pleasant and enjoyable to meet and to spend some time with those from the 453rd. Our contingent was the largest present — I don't know that this has any significance other than the fact that we get to see more of the 453rd family. A list of the attendees appears elsewhere in this Journal issue as well as some general comments, so I will not try to present an overview.

For those who were present, much of what appears here will already be known to you. This may serve to reinforce your thoughts as to what business transpired. For those who were not present, this should serve to make you aware of the actions taken at our business meeting.

First, those who held office at the time of the meeting were re-elected to those same offices. I hope this was the result of the efforts of those officers and not merely reluctance or lethargy on the part of our members. I firmly believe that Dan Reading, Assoc. Chairman; Frank Thomas, Sec.-Treasurer; Wilbur Stites, Public Relations/Editor; Don Olds, Historian and Andy Low, Special Projects have done an outstanding job. They will continue to do so, I'm certain. "Wib" Clingan remains your Chairman and Vice President. It would be a feather in our cap, however, if at our next business meeting we could have others seeking office. I urge you to consider this during the coming year and hope that at the reunion in Las Vegas, Nevada in 1992 we can have others seeking one or more of the offices.

The reunion was great! Accommodations were nice, the food was excellent, and with the exception of the day we went to Greenfield Village, the weather was pleasant. Our seating at the banquet was a source of discontent. I want to make my role in this known and do not want to shirk my responsibility for it. I'm certain that the hotel had assured Evelyn Cohen that seating could be had for all — and they were right. However, the 453rd was seated in the foyer. Prior to seating being assigned, Evelyn had called me. She asked if we would agree to being seated in the foyer. Based upon what assurances she had from the hotel, she assured me that we would be fed, we could see and could hear. I know of no one who expends more time and energy, whose work and energy exceeds Evelyn's. She is concerned for each of the groups and does all that she can to accommodate them. Knowing this I felt that a positive response was called for and agreed to the seating. If we can assist Evelyn and relieve some of her burdens, I believe we should do so. We were fed, timely and well; we could see,

although somewhat dimly. We could not hear and this should not have come about. The hotel could and should have set up a speaker or two in the foyer. They did not. To those who were disgruntled by this, I apologize. We were in a position to make good use of the dance floor and had no trouble hearing the band.

On to happier events. Andy Low has spent much time and energy in bringing the book that Mike Benarcik was writing to a conclusion. He has done that and it will soon be available. At the reunion he briefed us on the contents and had available brochures concerning it. The brochures contain an order form which is to be filled out and returned. Both Andy and the Benarcik Foundation have brochures. I have a few. If you wish, you may write and request that some be mailed to you. It will be printed very soon and done very well.

Milt, Lucille and Rhonda Stokes were among the attendees. It was great to see each of them and to once again benefit from their presence. It was my pleasure to present Milt with a plaque in honor of his long and untiring efforts on behalf of the 453rd BG. At our business meeting a motion was made and enacted to make Milt our Chairman/V.P. Emeritus. This, too, he has earned and is deserving of.

We also adopted an official 453rd BG logo. It is that which appears at the top of our Newsletter and is on the shirts that Frank and Jackie Thomas had. From now unto eternity that is the only logo that officially represents the 453rd. This is not to say that our caps with a different logo on them are passe. These remain valid and may be worn until such time as they are in shreds (or we are, whichever comes first). As you know, we are indebted initially to "Moose" Allen for the caps. It has been another in his long list of accomplishments.

I expect that I have exhausted our allotted space. There are a few more items that may be of interest to you. I'll comment briefly on a couple and will then try to address them in more detail and get it off to Wilbur Stites for inclusion in the 453rd Newsletter. If anyone wants a copy of the 453rd BG roster, they are available. Send your request and \$5.00 to Frank Thomas. Walt Meyers has a suggestion for perpetuating the organization that seems to me well worth discussion and consideration. Pat and Agnes Ramm joined with us at the reunion to add to our pleasure, as did Bob Collings of the Collings Foundation — and the All American was available at Willow Run.

That's all. It is always a pleasure to visit with old friends, warmly remembered.

Prime Time - 2nd ADA Style

by Richard M. Kennedy

When a truly classy organization, such as the 2nd ADA, assembles to enjoy an atmosphere of genuine friendship and goodwill, and to honor its brilliant past, what else could be expected — Prime Time was assured from the start! By the time 1040 of the faithful gathered in Dearborn, that air of comradery, so enduringly developed over the past 44 years, had completely pervaded that most impressive structure known as the Hyatt Regency of Dearborn.

The Executive Committee was in session for two days prior to the start of Convention festivities. The second day's session also saw the addition of the Group Vice Presidents or their representatives along with appearances by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Memorial Trust, Mr. Tom Eaton and Mr. Paul King respectively. As usual, the Executive Committee meetings were lengthy and, I think I can say, most rewarding. All attendees participated with enthusiasm and a full agenda was completed.

The traditional early-bird cocktail party set the stage for some quick meetings and greetings before sitting down to some serious and lengthy conversations over a fine dinner.



Chas. Hughes, 66th Squadron Commander (44th BG) pinning DFC on H.C. "Pete" Henry, July 5, 1991.

The annual Golf Tournament got off on schedule although two unfortunate factors came into "play" prior to our stalwarts' time to tee off. The weatherman brought us some undesired rain (at least not welcome at that time) and our usually hale and hearty Tournament Chairman, Pete Henry, was unable to compete because of a troublesome back. Pete did his usual fine job of organizing and following through on the tournament festivities and will report on the results elsewhere in the Journal.

The group dinners (mini-reunions) were held and from reports received, all went well. Friday night a buffet dinner was enjoyed by all, the usual hangar flying took place with the Awards Ceremony topping the evening's festivities. Dedicating a formal time and format for our Awards program has been, both at Hilton Head and Norwich, favorably accepted by the members in attendance. The

ceremony at Dearborn was no exception, with Jeff Gregory of the 467th Bomb Group, Chairman, Awards Committee, narrating the event, ably assisted by Bill Nothstein, Group Vice President of the 466th Bomb Group.



Bud Koorndyk (left), 389th and Charles Hughes (right), 44th at candle lighting ceremony, July 6, 1991.

Receiving awards for service as Group Vice Presidents were: Dorothy Krogman, Headquarters; Chuck Walker, 445th BG; Gail Irish, 448th BG; Jack Stevens, 467th BG; and Jim Davis, 489th BG. George Dupont, 448th, accepted for Gail Irish. (As I write this article, I am informed that Gail passed away on July 26, 1991. We in the 2nd ADA have lost a dear and devoted comrade.) Distinguished Service Awards were presented to retiring Executive Vice President E.W. (Bill) Clarey, 492nd BG; Lillian Cohen, Headquarters; Jean (Mrs. David) Hastings, Devoted Friend; Deanie Moyer, Headquarters; Hazel Robertie, 44th BG and Ceil Rokicki, 458th BG. A special 2nd ADA Presidential Award was presented to Col. Albert J. Shower in recognition of his unique and superb leadership while commanding the 467th BG. A special Award recognizing the dedication to the 2nd ADA by Milt Veynar. (This last award to Milt was a well kept secret and Milt's reaction was priceless.) See photos on next page.

Attendees were particularly fortunate to have been able to meet the newly appointed Archivist who will be assuming his duties in the Memorial Room in September. Dr. Martin Levitt and his wife Cynthia shared the reunion time with us and not only did they prove to be most welcome additions to our 2nd ADA family, but the good Doctor is just what we would have ordered. The Fulbright Commission certainly appears to have selected a winner. Chairman Tom Eaton, Vice Chairman Paul King and Governor David Hastings all made the trip from the U.K. to be with us and to get acquainted with Dr. Levitt. The formation of a promising relationship was a pleasure to observe. Phyllis Dubois, our Memorial Room Librarian, was also in attendance and it was interesting to see a "true public relations" representative at work. Phyllis continues to represent the 2nd ADA in a most effective and professional manner. The UK organization, Friends of the 2nd AD Memorial USAAF, was ably represented by its amiable

vice chairman, Tony Kerrison, from Halesworth.

The business meeting went well; following that session provisions were made to transport us all to the Willow Run Airport. With the backdrop of the B-24J "All American" in place, we were all able to partake of some genuine nostalgia. We, and the "All American," representatives of the "Yankee Air Force" and the Ford Motor Company, all enjoyed the luncheon, the program and the opportunity to reflect on days gone by.

The annual banquet featured the always touching and impressive candle lighting ceremony, presided over, as was the entire program, by our benevolent Honorary President, Jordan Uttal.

An additional and equally impressive ceremony to the usual festivities was the signing of the Agreement between the Fulbright Commission and the 2nd ADA regarding the perpetual funding of an American presence in the Memorial Room. The presentation of a check in the amount of \$550,000.00 to the Fulbright Commission thereby assuring that presence was made following the signing of the Agreement. Major General Ramsay D. Potts accepted the check on behalf of the Fulbright Commission and subsequently delivered the instrument to the proper authorities in Washington. The Agreement document along with the pens utilized by the 2nd ADA signatories is being prepared for display (hopefully) in the Memorial Room. All in all, the event was the culmination of an effort in which we can, as 2nd ADA members, all take rightful pride.



Mary & Pete Henry (44th) standing beside 44th Convention sign, July 6, 1991.

Pete Henry of the 44th BG was awarded, belatedly, the Distinguished Flying Cross. Congratulations, Pete!

As your President, I was privileged to address the membership and, again, to read a most sincere and appreciative message from our President George Bush.

Again, our most sincere thank you to Evelyn Cohen. Another superb event, Evelyn; you just continue to amaze us. What more can we say?

As we noted in our introduction — Prime Time by Prime People — it's hard to top that combination! However, let's give it a try; we can do it in Las Vegas — October 1992!

Awards Ceremony



Effective 93rd BG VP and valued 2ADA Executive Committee member, Floyd Mabee, is presented the 2ADA Distinguished Service Award.



Loyal 2ADA membership and convention mainstay, Lillian Cohen receives the 2ADA Distinguished Service Award.



448th BG representative George Dupont receives the 2ADA Group VP certificate for Gail Irish.



Long time friend and UK convention facilitator, Jean Hastings, receives the 2ADA Distinguished Service Award.



Ceil Rokicki receives the 2ADA Distinguished Service Award for her valuable contributions to the 2ADA data processing function.



Outgoing 2ADA EVP and venerable past 492nd BG VP, Bill Clarey, receives the 2ADA Distinguished Service Award.



Former 467th BG commander, Al Shower, is presented the 2ADA President's Award for Leadership.



Untiring and vital 2ADA supporter, Deanie Moyer, receives the 2ADA Distinguished Service Award.



Outgoing 489th Group VP, Jim Davis, receives his 2ADA Group VP certificate.

Photos by Dick Stenger

44th Annual Business Meeting

Second Air Division Association, 8th USAAF

Saturday, July 6, 1991 • Hyatt Regency, Dearborn, Michigan

A. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by President Richard Kennedy. There were over 650 members present, constituting a quorum.

The President appointed E.W. (Bill) Clarey parliamentarian.

Dean Moyer, Treasurer, and Chairman of the Delegate Committee, stated that this was an official business meeting of the 2nd Air Division Association, a not-for-profit veterans organization. Mr. Moyer moved that members in attendance be named official delegates to this 44th Annual Business Meeting. Motion was seconded and carried.

B. Report of the Secretary:

The Secretary read the minutes of the 43rd Annual Business Meeting, held July 28th, 1990, at Norwich, England. He indicated that the minutes had been published in the 1990 Winter edition of the Association's Journal for member review. Further, that copies had been distributed to all Group Vice Presidents earlier this week for review at the Thursday Group Business Meetings. The Secretary moved to accept the minutes as read. Motion was seconded and carried.

C. Report of the Treasurer:

The Treasurer summarized the interim financial reports he submitted earlier to the Group Vice Presidents for their review at their respective Group meetings. Total funds on hand as of June 30, 1991 (excluding the moneys for the American Librarian Fund) was \$201,109. This report is not fully complete, because of the nearness of the fiscal year's closing date (June 30) to today's meeting date. In answer to a question from the floor, the Treasurer indicated that a complete report will be available for the Audit Committee's audit scheduled to occur prior to September 30, 1991. A fully audited report will then be published in a subsequent issue of the Association's Journal.

It was moved, seconded, and approved, to accept the Treasurer's Report.

D. Report of the Vice President, Membership & Chairperson, Conventions:

1. Total Association membership now stands at 8,106, and continues to grow. The Group having the most members is the 448th BG.
2. The 1992 Convention will be held at the Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, October 4-7.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the Vice President's report.

E. Report of the Newsletter (Journal) Vice President:

The President prefaced the report by indicating that the Journal is a vital part of the Association, and through the efforts of Vice President Robertie, has continued to be an outstanding publication through the years. However, the growth of our membership has put an ever increasing burden on Journal publication. In addition, all our members, including staff, are reaching the "greying" years, with the ever increasing possibility of interruptions in service due to illness, etc. Thus, the Executive Committee, after long and careful study, determined that a backup to the position need be established (as has been for all other critical Association jobs), to assure continuance of Journal excellence. The backup, the "Editorial Review Board," was put in place almost a year ago, and has been working well in a supporting role.

The Vice President then reported on items of special need:

1. Changes of address, membership dues, etc. should be sent to the Vice President, Membership, Evelyn Cohen, not to him.
2. More stories of Second Division, WWII service experiences are needed, not only for Journal use, but also to preserve history. Stories submitted should be kept to 1-1½ pages.
3. Photos to accompany the stories are important. To assure the return of the photos, the sender should write (with felt pen) his name and address on the back of each photo.

It was moved, seconded and passed that the Vice President, Journal report be accepted.

F. Report of the Association's Memorial Trust Governor:

1. The Governor prefaced his report by stating that he became a

new Governor at a time when the work and successes of the prior Governor, Mr. Uttal, had made the position a "world champion" in accomplishment.

2. He spoke of some of the recent important events that have occurred at the Memorial Library:

- a. The donation of 20,000 books plus video tapes and memorabilia, from a USAF base library in England which was being closed. This large donation was reported all over England by TV and other media coverage.

- b. The close teamwork of the Governors, the Librarians, and the Fulbright Commission, have made the Library one of the greatest of its kind, and now known worldwide. The leaders from England were introduced: The Governors: Tom Eaton, Chairman; Paul King, Vice Chairman; David Hastings, Governor; and Phyllis (Hunt) DuBois, Memorial Trust Librarian.

- c. The Fulbright Commission has appointed an archivist for the year 1991-1992 to pursue the work of identifying, preserving, and cataloging the contents of the Library, and to determine procedures to handle future receipts of Library books and memorabilia. The archivist, Dr. Martin Levitt, this appointee, was introduced.

- d. There were 734 books purchased by the Trust for the Library in the last year.

- e. There are four branch libraries now participating in circulation of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library books. The Governor reported that readership in these branches is very large, as it is at the main library in Norwich.

- f. The Memorial Library is working very closely with the University of East Anglia. The University students in this way, are learning in depth what the 8th AF and the 2nd Division accomplished in WW2. It is interesting that many of these students are American, and it is their only exposure to what their own countrymen of the Second Air Division accomplished in preserving the world during those trying years of 1942-45.

- g. The Governor, in conclusion, pointed out that our Memorial is unique; it is a living memorial, rather than a monument or plaque of stone or metal. It will carry on our 2nd Air Division story into perpetuity through daily usage of books, periodicals, audio and visual tapes, all identified and dedicated to the 2nd Air Division and its personnel.

G. Report of the President:

The President reported excellent progress in all facets of the Association's work this past year, and commended the all-volunteer staff for their able and dedicated service, especially the Executive Committee and the Group Vice Presidents. He thanked all concerned, the Executive Committee, the Group Vice Presidents, and the membership for their support, and pledged to continue giving his best efforts on behalf of the Association in the coming year.

H. Reports of the General Committees:

The "American Librarian Fund" Committee:

The report was presented by Mr. Uttal, Chairman, Honorary President of the Association, and Honorary Governor of the Memorial Trust.

1. He was pleased to report that our Association's "Last Mission" project, the "American Librarian Fund," has been not only fully achieved, but the target fund of \$500,000 has been substantially exceeded. The next Journal will carry the happy news that a total of \$550,000 is in place in the fund, now formalized as "The 2nd Air Division Association/Fulbright Memorial Award Agreement." It should be noted that a bit more has been collected; the extra (approximately \$7,000) will be retained to pay bills incurred (i.e. legal help, etc.)

2. The project began when the Executive Committee, and the membership, voted three years ago to raise a fund of \$500,000 to be placed in trust in the United States, with the income to be used to support a professional American presence in the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in perpetuity.

(continued on page 9)

Business Meeting (continued from page 8)

3. Complexities in establishing a tax-free vehicle for this purpose led the American Librarian Fund Committee, on advice of counsel, to approach the Fulbright Commission. The latter Commission is fully established, could offer tax shelter under the 501-c-3 educational tax-exempt code, and could provide free administration.
4. The Committee found this avenue the most desirable; as a result, the Trust Agreement was set up under the auspices of the Fulbright-USA Commission, whose accurate title is "The Fulbright Foundation for Education and Cultural Exchange (UK), Incorporated."
5. Essence of the Trust:
The Agreement itself is to be printed in its entirety in the 2nd ADA Journal. In essence, it establishes a 2nd Air Division Association/Fulbright award (thus retaining our Association's name), with an initial donation of \$550,000 to which additions can be made. The funds are to be kept in a United States bank. Administration will be accomplished by Fulbright at no cost to the Association and in cooperation with a 2nd Air Division Association "Oversight Committee." The Agreement is open for amendment consideration in three years.
6. Mr. Uttal thanked the members of the American Librarian Fund Committee for their fine work for which they can be justly proud: Bud Chamberlain, Bud Koorndyk, Dean Moyer, J. Fred Thomas, Jeff Gregory, and Dick Kennedy.
7. The President asked Mr. Uttal to read the following list of his appointees to the Oversight Committee: Jordan Uttal (Chairman), James Dyke, Joseph Dzenowagis, Bud Koorndyk, Bud Chamberlain, Jeff Gregory, Dick Kennedy.

I. General Business:

1. Old Business: None was presented.
2. New Business:
 - a. Mr. Koorndyk announced the availability of plastic replicas of the "key" to the 2nd Air Division bases in England as displayed in the Memorial Room. A donation of \$10 each was requested, the receipts to go to the Memorial Library.
 - b. A member of the 453rd BG advised that each Group check their Group records at the Memorial Library, as he

found some inaccuracies. Also, he found only 2 audio cassettes for the 453rd. He felt there were more available that should be submitted to the Library.

- c. Mr. Henry made a short report on the golf tournament.
- d. President Kennedy thanked the Dzenowagis family for their continued program of recording the history of the 2nd Division through video tapes of the WW2 experiences of the members.
- e. Earl Zimmerman requested that all be reminded that the 2nd Air Division Amateur Radio Net is alive and well, and is on the air each Tuesday morning.

J. Report of the Nominating Committee:

Mr. Strong, Committee Chairman, expressed the Committee's regrets that due to illness, the current Executive Vice President, Mr. Clarey, had to decline consideration for nomination to the Presidency. Mr. Strong then presented the following slate in nomination:

President: Richard Kennedy (448th BG)
Executive Vice President: John Conrad (392nd BG)
Vice President, Membership & Conventions: Evelyn Cohen (Hq)
Vice President, Journal: W.G. Robertie (44th BG)
Treasurer: Dean Moyer (Hq)
Secretary: David Patterson (445th BG)

The President asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were none, and it was moved, seconded and carried that the slate as presented be accepted.

Mr. Conrad, newly elected Executive Vice President, thanked the membership for his nomination, and pledged to do his best for the Association.

The Nominating Committee chose Vice Presidents from the following Bomb Groups to serve on the Executive Committee for the coming year: 44th BG, 389th BG, 492nd BG.

President Kennedy thanked Mr. Clarey and the other retiring officers for their outstanding service to the Association. He thanked all the officers and all the Association members for their cooperation during the past year, and pledged to carry on to the best of his ability in the new year.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

David G. Patterson
Secretary

Heritage League

by Jeane Stites

Another great 2ADA reunion! It's always a delight to be with old friends and meet new ones.

We are extremely grateful to Evelyn Cohen and the 2ADA for a very visible location for registration. A number of new members were enrolled. Heritage League pins and T-shirts enjoyed lively sales.

The executive committee meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon and many topics were discussed. Reports from David Hastings and Tony Kerrison were positive and informative. Ties remain strong between our group and the Friends of the Second Air Division Memorial in East Anglia. Brief remarks were forthcoming from Chuck Walker, our representative to the 2ADA, and Dick Kennedy, President of the 2ADA. We are fortunate to have them in our corner: they are most supportive in their efforts to sustain, strengthen, and expand our organization.

The general meeting was well attended (largest ever!) and business dispensed in good order. We were pleased to have a number of our Friends of the 2ADA from England with us throughout the week. The business meeting was followed by a reception to honor our British friends and was a great success. Tea, coffee, homemade cookies and

scones supplied by officers and committee members of the Heritage League were a big hit.

It is encouraging to have a growing membership. One of our goals for the year is to stimulate interest and involvement among the children and grandchildren of the Second Air Division. We are happy to have the dedication of the wives, siblings, and friends of those who served during WWII, but let's face it: our future lies with our young people. If any of you have ideas on how to reach them and stimulate interest in our organization, let us hear from you. One good way is by way of gift memberships in the Heritage League. We also urge those who served to speak of your experiences to your children. First they need to KNOW about your involvement and the heritage they have to preserve for future generations. Sometimes that's all it takes to incite the zeal and dedication we're looking for!

A second goal for the year is to expand the Pen Pal program. Mike Chamberlain (Mrs. Bud) has requested that each Bomb Group organization provide a liaison person to work with her to provide information to individuals or families who would like to correspond with folks in England, with perhaps exchange visits in the future.

It was gratifying to learn the 2ADA Memorial Library Fund has surpassed its goal of \$500,000 for the trust fund which will provide an American presence there in perpetuity. Someone has suggested that a future goal for us might be a resource center somewhere in the States where our children could have access to information and history of the valiant Second Air Division.

Some very good representatives of the young people attended the Dearborn meetings. They were involved in all aspects of the reunion. We are fortunate to have one of them, Billy Sheely Johnson, as executive vice president this year. She is an enthusiastic, creative, energetic addition to the executive committee. She will be recruiting and chairing a committee comprised of second and/or third generation folks to serve on a planning committee. We should be hearing some innovative, inspiring ideas in the coming months.

In line with more involvement of the young people, we plan to hold our next Heritage League meeting on Sunday, October 4, 1992 to accommodate those who cannot get time off from work during the week. The executive committee meeting will be held either Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning, Las Vegas, NV, October 4, 1992. Plan ahead.

Report on the Memorial Trust and Library

by E. Bud Koorndyk

Now that our annual convention in Dearborn has become another page in the ongoing history of the 2nd ADA, I would like to express a few thoughts on the activities of the convention as they relate to the Memorial Trust and the Memorial Library.

Three of the members of our Board of Governors from England and their wives honored us with their presence, travelling from their homes in England to add to the excitement of hearing the announcement that our American Librarian Fund drive had accomplished its goal of raising \$550,000.00 (of which a more complete report was given by Jordan Uttal in our summer edition of the Journal), and also to witness the presentation of our completed Trust document at the banquet ceremonies. A more complete report on the convention activities themselves will be found on another page in this Journal.

The Board of Governors and wives in attendance were Tom and Robin Eaton, David and Jean Hastings and Paul King. On behalf of the 2nd Air Division Association, may I take this opportunity to extend our gratitude and thanks for being such active Governors and so faithfully travelling these many miles to be a part of our convention activities. Such love and devotion to a common cause, namely our Memorial Trust and Library, is beyond my ability to express in words.

And then as an added plus was the privilege of having our American Librarian at our Memorial Library in Norwich be with us in Dearborn as our guest. This person we all know as Phyllis Hunt DuBois. Phyllis spent much of her time at the reception area surrounded by a series of beautiful blown up pictures of our library, explaining the library operation itself to many of our first time attendees and also to our members who have not had the privilege or opportunity to travel back to Norwich and see our Memorial Room in the Norwich Central Library. This was the first opportunity that Phyllis has had in eight years to revisit her hometown area and to be a participant in a 2nd ADA convention.

As to the operation of the Library itself, I am pleased to report that during my trip over in May to attend the Board of Governors meeting, I was privileged to be a part of a formal dedication of the Greenham Commons library collection of over 20,000 books which were donated to our Memorial Library. This dedication ceremony at the library was covered by BBC TV, East Anglia TV and radio and full newspaper coverage. Proper remarks were made by Tom Eaton as Chairman of the Memorial Trust, by Dr. Ronald Clifton, Cultural Attache at the American Embassy and also a

Governor on the Board, by Barbara Winkle, Dep. Command Librarian of the USAAF, and by Phyllis DuBois, our American Librarian. And on behalf of the 2nd Air Division Association, I extended thanks for this truly significant gift to our library. All of these books are now in the process of being catalogued, nameplates being inserted and determination being made as to their proper destination, our Memorial Library, Branch Libraries, University of East Anglia or the Norwich Central Library.

In the summer edition of the Journal I had reported that the process of selecting an American Fulbright Archivist was being conducted and at this time I am pleased to announce that Dr. Martin Levitt received and accepted the appointment for the 1991-1992 period. Dr. Levitt, his wife Cynthia and daughters Allison and Rachael will be arriving in Norwich this August and he will begin his term of office September the 1st. The following excerpt (in italics) from the *Eastern Evening News*, Thursday, July 25, 1991 better describes this occasion:

An American librarian is coming to Norwich to be archivist at the city's Memorial Library.

Dr. Martin Levitt will manage the archives at the library, which contains records and memorabilia relating to the 2nd Air Division (8th Air Force) and was established in memory of American airmen who lost their lives locally.

Its stocks have recently been expanded with a gift of 20,000 books from the Greenham Common library.

Dr. Levitt, who currently works in Philadelphia, has received the Fulbright Award for the Memorial Library — funded in partnership with the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust — which includes a £20,000 grant.

While in Norwich he will be giving a series of talks to local groups including students at the University of East Anglia's school of English and American studies.

And now I must share with all of our members this last bit of news that I received upon returning from our convention in Dearborn. Although I had been aware of the seriousness of the health of our Librarian Aide, Tony North, as reported to the Board of Governors by its chairman, Tom Eaton, in our May meeting, a condition of deterioration of eyesight has left him unable to function as an aide in our library. A decision was made by the committee to determine the seriousness of the condition and to act accordingly. This resulted in the following decision: Tony is to terminate his position as of the 31st of August and will be paid until the end of the year 1991. At that time if surgical help can be rendered he can

serve as a consultant to Dr. Martin Levitt up to a total of 230 hours at an agreed upon hourly rate. This decision was a heart rending experience for the Board to be involved in and was not treated lightly.

This news must come as a shock to many of our members who have come to know Tony so intimately and also to yours truly, who relied on Tony for so much background information as it relates to our activities during our stay in England. Mere words of thanks to Tony for his many years of service on our behalf certainly cannot suffice. Where in all of England could we ever find a person with such an encyclopedia of knowledge as it relates to the activities of the 2nd Air Division, Eighth Air Force.

On behalf of the entire 2nd Air Division Association and myself as a Governor on the Board of Governors, may I take this opportunity publicly to express our heartfelt thanks for service over and beyond the call of duty and also our prayers for a complete recovery of sight through surgical procedures in the months ahead. We certainly will be calling on you for valuable assistance in the months ahead.

And in conclusion, so that our membership at large might share in one of the thrilling moments at our banquet when the completed Trust Document was presented to Tom Eaton, Chairman of the Board of Governors, I have enclosed his acceptance speech as a finale to my report. (Please see page 11, "An Impossible Dream.")

Notice to the 93rd BG

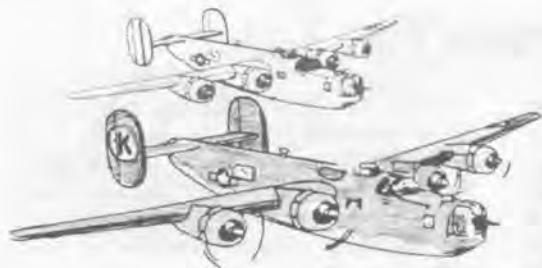
from Floyd Mabee, Group VP

I have just received the information that plans are being considered in England to locate a refuse tip (GARBAGE DUMP) at Hardwick Airfield.

Please members, even if you have never written a letter before, I implore you to take pen in hand and do so now. Write of some of your experiences while you were at Hardwick, and your objections to their even thinking of doing anything to desecrate this land that holds our Monument dedicated to the memory of the brave men we lost to help England through a very bitter WWII.

Please write your letter to:

Mr. M. Haslam
Chief Planning Officer
South Norfolk House
Swan Lane
Long Stratton, Norfolk, UK



458th Bomb Group

by Rick Rokicki

DEARBORN: We had a total of only 71 at this convention, a bit disappointing since the 458th has a very large percentage of its members in this Mid to North Central part of our country. Weather, of course was unusually hot and humid, and imagine the surprise to all that visited the Henry Ford Museum to find that it was NOT air conditioned! We planned at least a half day there, but after one and a half hours, it was all that I could handle. Did manage to spend time in the section devoted to antique airplanes, which included the Admiral Byrd Fokker, the Ford Tri-motor and others. After the reunion, we drove across Rainbow Bridge into Canada for a week. We ran into a bit of traffic near Toronto... forgot about the All Star baseball game! Came back via Niagara Falls, (great restaurant near the Buffalo Airport called "Flying Tigers"), Corning, where Steuben Glass is made, and Elmira, NY. This is the Glider Capital of the world. A tow by a Super Cub takes you to three thousand feet and releases. If you haven't tried soaring, you're missing a great experience. I told Ceil a long time ago that if it doesn't have wings or an engine, I wouldn't get near it. Last year I won a grand prize of free instruction and six balloon flights. Tickets and letter still somewhere in this desk.

MEMORIAL WREATH LAYING: Received a letter and photos from **Graham and June Savill** regarding the wreath laying ceremony held at our Horsham St. Faith Memorial Dedication area inside the passenger terminal. **Eileen and Brian Marston** stood in for the Savills who were taking part in a similar wreath laying at Madingley (Cambridge) that day. Those of you who were with us at the Norwich Reunion in 1990 remember this great couple who were our guides and looked after us on our bus trips. The wreath was shaped in the form of a B-24 vertical stabilizer and fashioned in red and white roses. The Parish Councillors of Sprowston, Old Catton and Hellesdon attended along with the RAF cadets and senior color guard. The Norwich Airport staff showed considerable assistance in sanctioning the ceremony. The 458th extends its thanks and appreciation to all who made this event a success on May 19, 1991.



Eileen and Brian Marston at our dedication area in the Norwich Airport passenger terminal, May 19, 1991.

458th ARCHIVES: Over the years I've received many inquiries regarding the disposition of memorabilia by our members. Many feel that their photos, orders, diaries, etc. will be discarded when they make their "Last Flight." Up until now, I've discouraged sending this material to the Memorial Room because there was no one to handle it and probably not much room to store it. We now have an Archivist who has taken on this work and who can properly handle this activity. Each Group has 2 archive boxes in the Memorial Room Library. On my last visit there wasn't much to be seen, but we did make a start. If you have any of the previously mentioned

items and would like to have them preserved, this may be just what you should consider. May I suggest that you first write to **Phyllis DuBois** explaining what you can send. Her mailing address is: Phyllis DuBois, Trust Librarian, Norwich Central Library, Bethel Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1NJ, England. Please, before you send anything, write her and describe what you would like to send. She will reply after discussion with the Archivist. In any event, you should identify the material with your name and address, Group, and if possible, the time period. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to write me. I have at this time, two "bundles" ready to send or carry to Norwich.

TAILWINDS: We continue to find more new members with help from **Duke Trivette, Elmer Sutters, Murray Williams, Dan Roberts** and from the California visit of the "All American." Here are the latest: **Ted Haydon CA, Dana Winters CA, Robert E. Jones NY, Ed Poczowski IL, R.C. Hoffman CA, George Spencer TN, Bert Frauman CA, Bob Jones CA, E. Murray Williams TX, Bob Carlson CA, Ed Murphy MI, T.M. Tarpley TN, Ray Metz MI, Cal Criswell MO, James Smith MO, Charles Carter CA and Col. Fred O'Neill PA** who rejoined us after a short absence.

Aaron Glatt (John to his friends), and his wife called on us because he had business in Glen Burnie and brought word that he was paid a visit from his former pilot, who flew in from Shaker Heights, Ohio in his Cessna. I guessed it was **Gerry Allen**... it was! First time these two got together since '45. **Clay Wilkening** requested info regarding Norwich. Couldn't make our '90 reunion and wouldn't wait until the 1992 (50th anniversary of the 8th AF in Europe) gathering. Thanks to **John Dembecki** and **Robert Hinkley**, I have enough stamps to last for a good number of reply letters. A new 458th BG roster will be available by the time you read this. Still \$4.50 (check payable to me). We show 743 members plus 31 Associate Members (AM) who are generally widows of past members, children or relatives of past and present members. Received a telephone call from **John Kassab**, 453rd BG who was reading the latest Journal and spotted **Robert "Doc" Savage's** name in my "new member listing." Asked for his telephone number and address. Seems like "Doc" was best man at his wedding. Just received word from **Gerald Miller** that **Howard Warrell** made his "Last Flight." Have extended Group sympathy to his wife Othella.

The latest info on "Fields of Little America": **Martin Bowman** writes that he has been unsuccessful in convincing his publisher to have another printing of this book. Instead, the publisher is considering combining "most" of F.O.L.A. and its B-17 equivalent "Castles in the Air." Tentative title to be "Four Miles High," with a planned publishing date of July 1992. Will keep you posted on any update as it may occur.

There are still some Squadron insignia ("patches") left from the second order. Cost remains at \$9.50 each or one of each (4) for \$35.00. Have had several requests from WWII collectors and from England, but have advised them that once I'm sure that all 458th requests have been fulfilled, I will sell the balance "outside."



Ceil and Rick Rokicki, 458th Group VP

Lastly, many thanks for re-electing me as your Group VP for another year. I will continue to do all I can to keep us in the forefront of the 2ADA, as we were able to do with your great support of the American Librarian Funding.

An Impossible Dream?

Following is the speech made by Tom Eaton, Chairman of the Board of Governors, at the banquet on July 6, 1991 when on behalf of this Trust he acknowledged the creation of the American Librarian Trust with a donation of \$550,000 from the 2nd ADA; and receipt of a check for \$25,000 from the 2nd ADA to help fund the expenses of Dr. Martin Levitt, Fulbright Archivist, during his year in Norwich from September 1991 to August 1992.

Tom D. Crouch in his recent biography of Wilbur and Orville Wright "The Bishop's Boys," in reviewing the period May - September 1896, wrote: "Up in Detroit a mechanic working for the Edison Company was the object of some humor. It seemed the fellow had built an automobile of his own in a local shed, only to discover that the thing was too wide to get through the door when complete. Henry Ford was

forced to rip out the front of the building to get his machine to the street. For all of the pride that Americans took in their native ingenuity, nothing delighted newspaper readers so much as short comic pieces on eccentric inventors off in pursuit of an impossible dream. Flying machine inventors were a particularly inviting target."

"An impossible dream"!?!

I wonder what the newspapers would have written about those who were the Founders of this Trust if, in 1945, they had dared to forecast that in less than fifty years there would be this evening's achievement by the 2nd Air Division Association!?

All that has happened is a superb achievement on your part and we in England are truly grateful for all that you have done in memory of your comrades in creating for us in East Anglia a unique war memorial which is used and enjoyed by so many people.

What we all celebrate this evening has been described as the completion of the *Last Mission* but for me and my colleagues who work gladly for the memorial, I would describe what we celebrate as "the end of the beginning" which was started 46 years ago.

"Tomorrow is another day" when we can plan the future of the Library with additional support — the *American Librarian Fund*. How stimulating and encouraging that will be!

However, tonight I am reminded of some lines written by an unknown poet:
"Across the greying waste of ocean
They lift a light and sound a song,
Who spares not self shall save his nation
Whose heart is right his cause is strong."

That is the message of your memorial which we in Norwich and Norfolk seek to pass on to succeeding generations of our countrymen, and it is for that we thank you with all our hearts.

The Tenth Annual 2nd ADA Golf Tournament

by Pete Henry (44th)

The Tenth Annual Golf Tournament of the Second Air Division Association was held at Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton, Michigan (approximately 12 miles west of Dearborn). We had 50 golfers in all — 44 men and 6 women. Seven prizes were awarded as follows: James Hogarth (467th), Men's Low Gross, 2ADA Plaque. William Jenkins (HQ), Men's Low Net, 2ADA Plaque. James Kotapish (453rd), Men's Peoria, 2ADA Plaque. Lyn Blanchard (489th), Women's Peoria, 2ADA Plaque. Richard Boucher (445th), Longest Drive, sleeve of balls. Dean Leonard (489th), Closest to Pin, sleeve of balls. Ralph Belward (489th), Good Guy Award, gag gift. Ralph quit after nine holes so he could join the 2ADA Heritage Group meeting. (Jim Hogarth actually had the low gross and low net score but we only award one prize per golfer. Bill Jenkins and Bob Gast (489th) tied for second low net and Jenkins won the prize in a match of cards.)

I would like to thank Rick Rokicki (458th) for the beautiful 2ADA plaques. Next year, we will play a course as yet to be determined in Las Vegas and details will appear in the Spring or Summer 1992 Journal.



(l-r): Cal Stout (453rd), Edwin Becker (453rd), Don Parcels (453rd), James Kotapish (453rd).



(l-r): James Hogarth (467th), Bernard Glettler (44th), Henry Nykamp (93rd), William Jenkins (HQ).



(l-r): Faith Bacher (491st), Jacque Rigg (491st), Lyn Blanchard (489th), Vicki Warning (466th).



NEWS

by H.C. 'Pete' Henry

You will read elsewhere in this issue about another super convention — this one in Dearborn, Michigan, July 4-7, 1991. If you will allow me to include 7 members of the Henry family and 5 from the late Al Jones' (my bombardier) family who attended the Saturday night banquet, there were 25 44thers in all. I was unable to participate in my own golf tournament July 4 (see write-up elsewhere), but the Good Lord turned off the water works by the time our bus arrived at the golf course and everyone else apparently enjoyed the event.

We held a business meeting after the Group dinner that night and a few items from the Executive Committee meetings the previous two days were summarized. Of particular interest was the fact that the 2ADA achieved our \$500,000 Librarian Fund goal and over 200 44thers contributed. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support. It is never too late to send in your contribution. Your correspondent ran unopposed and was re-elected Group VP for 1991-1992. (The 44th Group VP is also one of the three rotating Group VPs on the Executive Committee for 1991-1992.)

We were very pleased to see Phyllis DuBois, our Trust Librarian, among the English guests in attendance. A month earlier, she sent me a letter advising that the following books were purchased with income from the 44th BG Endowment Fund for the year 1990-1991: CASDORPH, P.D., *Let The Good Times Roll: Life at Home in America During WWII*; MCKEEVER, P., *Adlai Stevenson: His Life and Legacy*; CARTY, P., *Secret Squadrons of the Eighth Air Force*; PEARCE, J., *The Ohio River*.

Phyllis may not be speaking to me right now. Her room was right next to ours in the hotel and one morning I noticed a box of books in the hall outside her door. Not aware that she left them there for Bud Koorndyk's son to retrieve, I put them inside our room and went off to a business meeting. When informed of this "good deed" about two hours later, she was somewhat (?) perturbed, but all's well that ends well. The books eventually found their way to Bud's room.

For several months, I have had some photographs of planes forced down in Switzerland in early 1944. They were sent to me by Charles Freudenthal of the 489th BG. Someone may recognize their ship.



Y Serial Number 2100400



Q Serial number not discernable

One of our newest 44th BG/2ADA members is R.J. Stine. He wrote 1 June advising that he was a bombardier and their ship was shot up pretty badly on the mission to Brunswick, Germany, 8 April 44. They limped back to base where they crash landed but all lived through it. The 44th BG lost eleven aircraft on this mission, the worst loss of the war for one mission by the "Flying Eightballs." (See Will Lundy's "44th Bomb Group - Roll of Honor and Casualties" pp 200-221.)

It is always very sad to see 44thers in the *Folded Wings* column. Some names do not appear because they were not members of the 2ADA. Word was received recently that

Chester A. Martin passed away in January 1991. John Steininger wrote to me 28 June to advise that he had been corresponding with his old communications sergeant Charles H. Payne, the past couple of years. Charlie went overseas with the 506th Squadron and later helped set up the 856th Squadron of the 492nd BG. When the 492nd was broken up, Charlie and John went to the 36th Bomb Squadron. John's letter stated that Charlie died 11 January 90 and that he, John, had a pacemaker implanted 13 June 90 and is doing very well. Mrs. Ruth E. Shaak sent a letter advising that her husband, Harry D. Shaak, died suddenly 26 January 91. Our condolences to the Martin, Payne and Shaak families.

OK for the UK?

by Roger Freeman

Next year sees the 50th anniversary of the formation of the 8th Air Force, its coming to England and entry into combat. But 1942 also saw the start of another significant occurrence. Before World War II few people could afford to cross the oceans so when, between 1942 and 1945, more than two million young Americans passed through the UK it was the first mass coming together of the ordinary people of our two nations.

To celebrate this anniversary an extensive programme of events has been arranged in those areas where the USAAF was stationed, and many veterans will undoubtedly be attracted to return to the haunts of their youth. After all, a flight across the Atlantic from Boston is not much longer than a flight from Boston to LA. If you are thinking about coming back, the following comments may prove helpful.

For anyone bringing an organised party the easiest course is to approach one of the operators who specialise in veterans' tours. While price will be important, do not base your selection on this alone. Get more than one quotation and go over every detail with the operator. Your best bet is to choose someone who has had plenty of experience bringing air force veterans' tours to the UK, although this is no guarantee you will get what you want. Remember, while the tour operator will want to please, he or she is also there to make a profit. If you do not take the trouble to state what you want and go over the details, you cannot blame the tour operator for making decisions that suit his/her pocket. Ask other veterans' associations on the best people to use and you will soon get to know the outfits that give really good value. When planning the programme remember not to cram in too much journeying; you are not as young as you were.

Some unit associations make their own travel associations, do a good job, and probably save their members a little money. But it requires a lot of work, contacts in the UK, if not a pre-tour visit by whoever is setting up the trip. It is a tough number for a senior citizen — and remember, if you get it wrong you will be the fall guy. Also, tour operators usually know how to get special rates from airlines and hotels, so you may not save by doing it all yourself.

If you and your wife are coming on your own, no problem. First thing, book all accommodation, whether Bed and Breakfast or hotels, before you leave the States. UK accommodation gets taken up very quickly in the holiday season and if you want the best value, you must make reservations. If you do not know where to stay, write to the East Anglia Tourist Board or like organisations, who will be pleased to supply details of approved accommodation in their area, or tell you where to obtain it. UK prices for both accommodation and meals are high by US standards, but you do not have to spend a fortune. The inexpensive accommodation is B&B which can be well under half hotel prices and frequently of a much higher standard. However, make sure it has some form of standard approval; there are some yuk

places around. Next in the value for money rating come motels and guest houses. Some of the former give a room with facilities that would cost nearly double in a good hotel, but they do not usually like long stay visitors. Wherever you decide to stay, do write or phone for a reservation before you fly.

When it comes to eating out, public houses usually give the best value, particularly those outside the normal tourist areas. Pubs have changed a lot since WWII. Most now serve "bar snacks" or meals and many have restaurants. And you do not have to drink beer; they are just as eager to serve you coke or coffee. It is possible for two people to feed at a cost of \$20 a day. With B&B accommodation a budget of \$100 a day is sensible, although you should be able to get by with no more than \$70-\$80 for both meals and B&B.

If you intend to use a hired car, reserve this from the States. Rates vary considerably and here again impartial advice can be obtained from tourist organisations in the UK. If you do not want to drive on the wrong side of the road, Britain has a good rail network with frequent trains. There are discounts for senior citizens and once again, it is best to write for details before you start your trip. Bus services are not so good, but most of the major villages are served once or twice a day. Taxis, however, are expensive due to running costs. Gasoline is four times the price it is in the States.

Whatever way you choose to come, there are a few other things worth remembering. Britain's weather is unpredictable. Even so, in spite of what you might think, it does not always rain; in fact south-east England is in its third year of drought. Last year summer temperatures touched 80°F on many days and here and there 90°F. But snow is not unknown in June. More often than not it can be chilly, especially in the first half of the year. So bring warm clothes and a raincoat. That said, travel as light as you can. Do you really need to lug the whole wardrobe around? No, you don't. Who is going to worry if you wear the same suit or dress every day? Only you. Many people cross the Atlantic with only a carry-on case and still go clean and tidy every day.

Try and sleep on the plane going over. It will make a great difference if you are the type who gets hit by jet lag. The return trip is not so bad as it is just like a long day. And make sure the first day in the UK is one of rest. Don't let them rush you around as soon as you arrive. There's no hurry.

Yes, like anywhere in the world, you can get ripped off in the main tourist areas. So keep a tight grip on your dollars and only spend when you see value. The natives are friendly, particularly so if you make it known you were "over here" when Hitler's gang was giving everyone a hard time. Don't be timid about asking advice; the folk will be pleased to help you. And don't think you are too long in the tooth to make the trip. There are 90-year-olds who regularly jump the pond and think no more of it than a drive to a downtown store.

There Was More Than Safety Wire And Spark Plugs

by Stan White (392nd)

Following six weeks of basic training during a hot and humid August and September of 1942 at Jefferson Barracks, MO, elements of the 392nd Bomb Group moved into the plush quarters of the Stevens Hotel (now the Conrad Hilton and Towers) in Chicago. After the sweltering lowlands along the Mississippi River, Chicago, cooled by the lake breezes was another world. The generosity of this great city was unbelievable. One example — the Servicemen's Center on Michigan Avenue served free food and had an unlimited supply of tickets to the entertainment centers.

Our future airplane mechanics enrolled in a five month course at the Aeronautical University. This delightful tour of duty ended in February 1943 with the transfer to the Factory Airframe School at Ford's Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant near Ypsilanti, MI. In addition to classroom instruction, students were taken into the factory to observe the airframe assembly.

Following graduation, the students prepared to settle down for the night before leaving on a long train ride to Salt Lake City via Los Angeles. One GI returned from the latrine to find his cot missing. Unable to find the cot or the prankster, he threw a bucket of water on his nearest neighbor. Pandemonium reigned for the following hour, and thus began a tradition of high jinks and hilarity in the 576th Squadron.

Flying and ground echelons settled in at the Alamogordo Air Base for overseas training during the spring of 1943. The ideal flying weather kept all personnel busy. Shortly before heading for Wendling, England and the Mighty Eighth Air Force, a second water battle erupted. On this occasion the occupants of two barracks raised the humidity level of this base in the desert of New Mexico.

285 missions in 19 months of the grim business of war left little time and no inclination to resort to low comedy. Besides, the cold damp climate of England did not encourage water fights.

After VE Day and the victorious return to the States plus a 30 day furlough, the outfit reassembled at the Charleston, SC Air Base. VJ Day came in August 1945, and there was much to celebrate — the end of WWII, no service in the South Pacific, and that last trip at the expense of Uncle Sam — a trip that ended at home. So there was much to celebrate. The grand finale of the 576 engagements involving H2O raged through the night of August 6. Hoses, buckets, canteens, etc. were all involved.

Discharge did not come at once. For me separation from the service was at Patterson Field, Ohio on September 24, 1945. The weeks of waiting were divided among Myrtle Beach, the PX, the library and the historic city of Charleston.



Open Letter To the 93rd

by Floyd H. Mabee (93rd)

FOLDED WINGS (93rd men not members of the 2nd ADA). Henry DeVito reported that **Mario Bucci**, original member of the 93rd Communications section had passed away last summer. Received letter from Mrs. Stanley Werts informing me that **Col. Stanley B. Werts**, navigator for Walt Stewart on "Utah Man" had passed away Feb. 1988. Received an application for Associate Membership from Stanley M. Gurney in answer to an application I had sent his father. **Stanley J. Gurney** had passed away. Stanley was bombardier for Col. James E. Rutherford (Ret.), member of 2nd ADA, crew that flew "Little Chum" and "U.S. Express." A note was left in my Folded Wings folder while at Dearborn that **Everett E. Johnson, Sr.** passed away May 1983. In my attempt to find **M/Sgt. Charles A. Chambers** of the 328th BS that had flown back to the States on the famous 93rd plane "Bomerang," I saw him last when I was stationed at Westover Field in 1944 when the plane landed there. Have looked for him for several years, and found his son who informed me that Charles had passed away last year. Received letter from son of **Robert Neal** who had passed away; his son would like to know what squadron Neal was in and names of crew. Received letter from Robert B. Burton, 999 Wilder Ave - 1003, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, seeking information about his father **Emmett Bassett Burton** who had died 14 years ago. Robert would like to hear from any member of the 93rd, 330th BS that knew his father, who was pilot on "El Lobo."

2ND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION AT DEARBORN: We had a total of 75 registered. Our 93rd Mini Reunion Dinner Meeting went off very well; we had three couples from the Swedish Internees group, welcomed at our dinner.

OUR INVOCATION: Mrs. Joseph F. Bradley presented our invocation and I asked for a moment of silence to commemorate our 93rd Folded Wings.

OUR HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE 2nd ADA, JORDAN UTTAL honored our members and gave a report congratulating the 93rd for having the second highest number of contributors in the 2nd ADA for the American Librarian Fund Drive. A written report that I had received showed 252 donors from 656 members; at the time of this report there was one outstanding pledge. You will note in your Summer Journal report, Jordan's request for additional donations because of the unexpected lower interest rates, and the inflation. Every little bit will help; please note form on page 32.

DINNER AND MEETING: After a delicious dinner followed by benediction given by Mrs. Joseph F. Bradley (Peggy), I introduced Cal Stewart, co-author of the most famous book "Ploesti." He told about his work now for his upcoming book, "Ted's Traveling Circus." I introduced all members and their wives, and asked each to stand and give me their Squadron for my files.

EMBLEM SALES: I still can't give a full accounting on the sales of emblems. I ordered and received 15 each of the 328th, 329th and 409th. I believe I said before that I still had some of the 329th and 330th from the first 100; now have about the same amount left of each. Just don't wait too long to order because when these are gone there will be no more. This has been a real hassle for me; I have mailed out over 650 of these, one or two at a time. I will give a full report when they are all gone. If any of you have ordered and paid and didn't receive them, let me know NOW; I will hold a few in case. This did happen a couple times when I ran out of the Squadron requested. When told, all I had to do was check my records, and if I didn't show a mailing date, I knew I owed the emblem. So I do have good records, just have to check them. I think I am caught up now.

SALE OF "THE STORY OF THE 93rd B.G. (H)": When I wrote my report for the Summer Journal and sent it 4/13/91, it will show that I had four books left, which was true at that time. I had called Mr. Robertie and asked him to cross that out, but find he didn't. Since had received 8 more orders with checks, that were mailed right back with explanation that I would ask the members at our Dearborn meeting if I should order another 100 books. The vote was rejected. Now if any of you fifty members that received your first copy that had the errors (chapters not in sequence) want to sell the errored copy, drop me a card and I will send you the name and address of one of the eight, and you can sell it yourself. When I notified the members that first received those errored copies that they would receive a corrected copy at no charge, I believe I also notified you that if you didn't want the errored copy send it to me, and I would sell it at a discount to members that might not be able to afford the \$30 copy. One member who was having health problems sent me the two books and I refunded his money and resold them, \$30 for the corrected copy and \$20 for the errored copy. I have also sold my two errored copies, and the money was all put in our 93rd account, which is now \$4049.55. All bills are paid, and last year we donated \$1,000 to the Collings Foundation for the restoration of the "All American" B-24, and \$1,000 plus \$1,000 from our 93rd Memorial Fund to the 2nd ADA American Librarian Fund. If you want, send those errored copies to me, and I will resell them, or you can sell them yourself.

MEMBERSHIP: I have sent out 60 applications for 1991 up to 7/1/91, and 21 second applications, total 81. We have gained 37 new members to date since the first of the year. I received 29 names of members from Miss Cohen after she had sent two dues notices for 1991. I also sent a letter with a postcard, information to be checked and returned to me. Eight members have reinstated, two cards returned saying member was deceased, six returned saying they didn't wish to belong any longer, one was returned address unknown, and nine didn't respond by sending the card back. We did have 697 members, so that left us with 685 members; since we have gained seven new members. As of 7/22/91 we now have 692 members. I have answered 84 letters since the first of the year, not counting notes and letters sent with orders of books and emblems. So you can see, if you don't get an answer to your letters right away, I will get to you when I get the time.

93rd ROSTER: Frederick and Inez Strombom, Box 646, Ogema, WI 54459, are still doing an outstanding job making up your 93rd BG Rosters for your benefit. The cost is still only \$5 for the roster plus a geographical, or \$3 without the geographical, which is a big help when traveling.

INFORMATION NEEDED: Do any of you remember S/Sgt. Robert Neal? He served with the 93rd around 7/44, returned to the States 3/45. His discharge shows he had received an Air Medal and Silver Oak Leaf cluster. He is now deceased, and his son wants to know what squadron and crew he flew with. Contact me.

INFORMATION I HAVE SUPPLIED: Received letter and newspaper clipping showing a classroom with model B-24 and a couple fighters hanging from the ceiling. In a letter from a fourth grade history class in Big Creek, CA, two girls wrote: "We are doing a project in our class about a B-24 bomber crash in Huntington Lake 12/6/43. There were eight men on the crew, two bailed out, and the rest were killed. The name of the plane was 'The Exterminator.' We found that the 93rd BG had an 'Exterminator.' If you can give us any information about your 'Exterminator' we would appreciate it." (signed) Sarah Magness and Heather Carlton. I wrote a two page letter in answer to their request for information. The pilot of the 93rd BG, 330th BS was Capt. Hugh R. Roper; this plane and crew after completing the famous low level bombing attack on the Ploesti oil fields in Romania 1 Aug. 43, on their flight back to our temporary air base at Benghazi, Libya were seen flying into a cloud and collided with another plane with the name of "Let-er-Rip," pilot 1st Lt. Victor E. Olliffe. None of the "Exterminator" crew survived; my records show that three members of the "Let-er-Rip" parachuted safely and were prisoners of war in Yugoslavia. I don't have the names of the survivors. Enclosed a copy

(continued on page 16)

Open Letter to 93rd (from page 15)

of the 93rd BG crew names and planes that were on this mission, plus a Historical Narrative of the 93rd BG for the 1 Aug. 43 operation. I have received information recently from a 93rd member that saw the two planes enter the clouds, but didn't see either one come out. I listed the three groups from England and the two from Africa that were on this mission. I also sent pictures of the 93rd BG, 328th, 329th, 330th and 409th BS emblems. I also sent names and addresses of other organizations where they could get information. I have since received a thank you letter from two other children from that class. Things like this are very gratifying when I can supply information. I couldn't do it without your help in sending me information I keep asking for; old orders, pictures of your planes. But please send your stories to Mr. Robertie. I just don't have time to rewrite your stories and send them; as much as I would like to, I just can't handle it. I just received my Summer Journal while writing this report, and I must say I am very disappointed in you fellows of the 93rd BG. The only other entry besides mine was a beautiful poem submitted by John W. Butler, "M.I.A." Very well done, John.

BACK TO MEMBERSHIP: I forgot my promise to list names of new members; this might not be accurate as my carbon copy of last report was a little blank. This covers 4/23/91 through revision 21-91 6/20/91. Irwin B. Cohen, Associate member Stanley

M. Gurney, Arthur J. Quinn, Arthur W. Cable, Lt. Richard J. Preziose (Ret.), W. Warren Lee, Al Lopez, Edward Miller, T/Sgt. Edward Regan (Ret.), James F. Wand, Henry P. O'Hagen, Col. Walter T. Stewart (Ret.), Donald P. Barry, Robert S. Swenson, Richard R. Trousdale, Homer L. Moran, Robert G. Roten, Truet B. Thompson, Sam Parisi, and G. Richard Suttell.

PLANNED 50th ANNIVERSARY OF PLOESTI MEMORIAL PROGRAM: I have received an invitation from the 44th BG for the 93rd to be part of a Memorial Program. They are inviting the 93rd, 98th, 376th and 389th to join with them for a program to be held on the grounds of the Air Force Museum, Sunday, 1 Aug. 1993. This will be simple in nature with no long involved ceremonies or speeches, just a gathering of our members to remember a day when we lost so many friends. The 44th is planning their reunion for the 29th July to 2 Aug. 1993. If any of you 93rd men are interested, I must have a tentative response; I must get back to Mr. Warth by 1 Oct. 1991. We could also make this a mini-reunion for two or three days, or just a dinner that evening. All I need is a volunteer to chair this. I will be there even if the rest of you aren't. Drop me a card if you are interested.

AWARDS CEREMONY: At the convention I received a beautiful plaque from the 2nd Air Division Association, a Distinguished Service Award in grateful appreciation of important contributions to the Second Air Division Association in 1991.

APPRECIATION FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT: I want to thank our 93rd members for their confidence in me as their Vice President for the past five years and their support for me to be Vice President for another year.

MY APOLOGY IS IN ORDER: As has happened in past years, there has always been confusion about seating at our final banquet dinner. I have in the past, at our Mini Reunion Dinner announced the numbers of the tables reserved for the 93rd, but this year I failed to tell our members that it is not my responsibility to save seats for you. If you want to be seated with others, you must be there in time to save them. I'm very sorry, but that is the way it has to be; I just cannot do it for you. Now I want to apologize again for my rudeness to one of our 93rd ladies; I only hope that this incident won't keep you from attending our future reunions.

93rd HOSPITALITY ROOM: I was very disturbed at the lack of attendance in our Hospitality Room; very few utilized this. I and others had several items on display for your benefit; I also had carried a mannequin with complete class A WWII Army Air Corps uniform, but because of the lack of our 93rd members utilizing our room, why be bothered, I just left it in the car. Instead of standing around in the hallways and reminiscing you could be seated in a comfortable room. Nuff said.

489th Convention Chatter

by Neal E. Sorensen

With 118 attendees at Dearborn, the 489th Bomb Group stands tall in support of 2nd Air Division Association Reunions. Great credit must be given to retiring Group Vice President Jim Davis and former Group Vice President (for 17 years!) Charlie Freudenthal.

Several years ago, on a bone-chilling Minnesota night, our phone rang. "Is this Neal Sorensen, a Navigator of the 489th Bomb Group, to whom I am speaking?" Assured that it was, the voice continued, "This is Charlie Freudenthal, Group Bombardier. Your name was given to me by John Moir. We would like you to become a member of the Group!" Of the current 448 members of the 489th who are also 2nd Air Division members, either directly or indirectly, Charlie has been the contact that brought them into active membership. Charlie edits and produces the 489th Bomb Group Newsletter, some 682 copies which are mailed to members, widows and friends of the group.

In his spare time, Charlie devoted years to research, solicited material from members and accumulated the more than 320 pages that went into the make-up of the magnificent "A History of the 489th Bomb Group," which was published in 1989.

At the Group business meeting that filled

Ballrooms A, B and C, our Treasurer, Ralph Belward, gave members the good news that sales of the History had exceeded costs by more than \$9,000. Of that amount, \$1,000 was donated to the 2nd Air Division Library and \$1,000 to Friends of the 489th (U.K.).

Vice President Jim Davis opened the floor for discussion on suggested uses for some or all of the surplus funds. After considerable discussion (some relevant and some irrelevant) a motion was made by Charlie Freudenthal that \$5,000 be set up in a fund. After the motion was seconded and passed, Vice President Jim Davis suggested that the incoming Group Vice President consult an attorney so the principal would remain intact, with the interest made available to pay for the upkeep and insurance on the Memorial dedicated to our fallen 489th comrades. The memorial, situated near the end of the runway at Halesworth, is in a beautiful setting.

It was also proposed that thought be given to printing an inexpensive volume of the surplus pictures which have come to light since the History was published. Many members apparently were stimulated by the History to rummage through their attics, thus bringing to light forgotten photos and memorabilia.

Our Group Newsletter, which is supported by member dues, is also in need of further funding. It was suggested that members be urged to remit their dues but should a shortfall occur, book funds would be available for that purpose.

Treasurer Belward suggested that consideration be given to using funds to purchase shirts, caps, sun visors, jackets, license plate frames or decals to promote awareness of the 489th and its place in history.

The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of officers to serve until the Las Vegas Convention in October, 1992: Group Vice President, Neal E. Sorensen; Assistant Group Vice President, Charles H. Freudenthal; Treasurer, Ralph L. Belward; Secretary, Otey R. Berkeley. Nominations were closed and the slate unanimously elected.

Charlie Freudenthal thanked outgoing Vice President Jim Davis for his splendid tenure in office. Incoming Vice President Neal Sorensen thanked Jim also, and promised to continue the building of Group membership. Neal also announced the happy news that all ten members of Pilot Ed Shroyer's crew are alive, well and have been located. Lord willing, they will all be in attendance in 1992, the first time they will have been together in 48 years!!!

The 466th Bomb Group

by Bill Nothstein

Without a lot of correspondence from anyone, things have been fairly quiet here. After the audit of the 2nd ADA Treasurers books, time was spent getting organized for the Dearborn Reunion.

I have a story that came to me from Stephen Fecho, 785 Bomb Squadron, who was the flight engineer for Lt. Robert Johnson. The incident occurred 11 June 1944. The day started out like many other days, but events turned it into something quite different.

The 466th launched two missions that day. The first to Blois, France, target - a railroad bridge. The second included Lt. Johnson's crew and was to be Beauvais, France. Target - Beauvais/Nivillers Airfield.

In aircraft #42-95268 loaded with twenty 250 lb. bombs, the takeoff and flight to the target were in the category of a milk run. The target was a landing strip in German occupied territory, near the invasion area. All reports from crew members were normal until after bombs away and the flight was headed home. It was then a call on the intercom alerted the crew, there were three bombs hung up in the bomb bay.

With the bomb bay doors closed, Lt. William Thompson (bombardier) and Sgt. Tony Malorni (ball turret gunner) entered the bomb bay to disarm and drop the bombs if possible. Before they could disarm them, two of the bombs became dislodged

and crashed through the doors, falling into the sea.

They still had one more to go. The third and last bomb was suspended by a one-quarter inch cable which had been used to double load the bombs. An inspection revealed that the nose and tail fuses were still in the safe position but the arming wires were in danger of pulling out. It was obvious that the aircraft could not land with the dangling bomb - safe or armed.

From somewhere inside his heavy flying suit, Sgt. Malorni produced a fingernail clipper with a *small* file. On the catwalk, hanging on with one arm, he began to file on the cable. He sawed away for thirty-nine minutes. Finally the cable gave way and the bomb fell into the sea below.

That evening, back at Attlebridge, Tony was seen using the nail file again, but this time for its intended purpose. It was tough on future manicures, but it did seem like a good idea at the time.

In case it means anything to any of those involved, the formation hit the wrong airfield (Beauvais/Tille). No one noticed at the time.

REUNION UPDATE

A small but good group of 466ers came together at Dearborn in July. Our group meeting resulted in my being re-elected Vice President, to serve until our 1992 meeting.

A presentation was made by Tom Reto, representing the 466th Bomb Group Association. He provided us with information about the proposed group monument to be placed near our airfield in England. Following a brief discussion, it was decided that we wholeheartedly support the efforts of the 466 BGA proposal. Information will be sent to all members by the 466 BGA with details and a request for your assistance to accomplish this goal.

The members also approved an annual gift be made to the British Legion to cover the cost of a wreath to honor our fallen comrades. This wreath is to be placed at the memorial site in Weston-Longville, each year on Veterans Day. On November 11, 1990, Ted Clarke represented the 466th for the 2nd ADA, in that ceremony. Though we have not confirmed it, we heard that Cathy Thomson also took part in it.

PERSONAL

We have received word that Cathy and Donald Thomson are planning a visit "across the pond." Though their itinerary and the April/May 1992 date is not confirmed, we shall be looking forward to having them visit us in our home.

Anyone from overseas or here in the States, needing help to locate a 466er or a geographic area for same, please contact me.

Dr. Ronald Clifton Leaves His Post In London

Dr. Clifton, Cultural Attache at the American Embassy in London since 1987 was a member of the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust of 2nd Air Division. He was also Chairman of the Fulbright Commission, U.S.-U.K. In that capacity he was of inestimable assistance to the Association in the creation of the 2nd Air Division Association/Fulbright Memorial Library Award Agreement. For that and for all his help to the Trust we are deeply grateful.

He is returning to the United States and will be stationed in Washington D.C.

In 1988, speaking of our Memorial he said, "For 20 years now I have worked abroad with American Libraries as part of our public diplomacy. None have served the United States better than the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich."

After the signing ceremony at the Banquet at our Dearborn Convention, Ramsay Potts read the following message from Dr. Clifton to us as follows:

Open Letter to the Veterans, Families and Friends of the Second Air Division Association:

Once again veterans of the Second Air Division of the United States Army Air Force have scored a point and placed a

marker in history. The decision to establish an endowment fund for the Memorial Library Award in the Fulbright Foundation for Education and Cultural Exchange is as far-sighted as the original creation of the Second Air Division Memorial Trust at the end of the Second World War. You may be assured that the Foundation for Education and Cultural Exchange will make every possible effort to carry out the intentions of your efforts.

The Association's action looks beyond the present, past the immediate future, through time past even its own expected existence by providing for a perpetual American presence in Norfolk County through the American who will receive the award, year after year.

We will never know just how many countless thousands of young Britons will pause, reflect a moment, and imagine a time in history when their skies and communities were filled with Americans, because of that one assured perpetual American presence that this act of faith makes possible. But, we know in our hearts that it will happen. Each who contributed to this fund has reason to be proud that they and their buddies will be always represented on the Norfolk soil for which they fought and for which so many lost their lives.

The members of the U.S.-U.K. Fulbright Commission and Foundation for Education and Cultural Exchange are especially pleased that it played a part in the beginning of this venture by providing for the initial Fulbright Award to Bertha Chandler - and we should all remember that Bertha's success showed the way forward. Jordan Uttal of course provided the determination necessary to get to this day and for that we should all be grateful for his efforts. Tom Eaton never hesitated to commit his time to the project, always believing that the veterans he has dedicated so much of his life to would succeed in raising the money necessary.

Let me add that the privilege of working with Tom and fellow Governors of the Memorial Trust has been one of the real bright spots in my four year assignment to the United Kingdom. But there is no doubt in my mind that most of all, I will leave knowing that my small part in the establishment of this fund to honor fellow Americans who fought for our liberties is the brightest beam in my English heaven. For that I thank all of you.

Dr. Ronald D. Clifton
Cultural Attache
Embassy of the United States of America
London June 28, 1991

Reunion



The All American at Reunion.



Yankee Air Museum.



Climax of banquet. . . B/Gen. Milton Arnold, Founder Governor of 2nd Air Division Memorial expresses pleasure with the development of memorial.



Evelyn Cohen.



Mary Henry and Rick Rokicki.



466th Bomb Group



Ramsay Potts officially accepts Agreement and check on behalf of Fulbrights and reads message from Fulbright Chairman Dr. Ronald Clifton.



Golfers on their way to a match.



Bud Koorndyk, 2nd ADA Representative on Board of Governors witnesses Dick Kennedy signature.



44th Bomb G. finally is awarded Flying Cross by Commander C.

on 1991



President Dick Kennedy receives "Last Mission" check from AFL Committee: Jordan Uttal, Chairman, Bud Chamberlain, Dean Moyer, Jeff Gregory and Fred Thomas.



Chairman Uttal witnesses Dick Kennedy signature.



Milt Stokes.



Bill Robertie and Mary Henry.



Bomb Group.



Bud Koorndyk presents gift of \$25,000 to Memorial Trust. Chairman Tom Eaton accepts.



For faithful, multifaceted 2nd Air Division support, Hazel Robertie accepts her 2nd Air Division Distinguished Service Award.



Phyllis Dubois - Librarian.



Dick Kennedy presents actual check to Ramsay Potts for delivery to Fulbright in Washington.



44th Bomb Group VP Pete Henry, finally is awarded his Distinguished Flying Cross by former Squadron Commander Charles Hughes.



The Dean Moyer Family.



Heritage League incoming and retiring Presidents.

Awards ceremony and check presentation photos by Dick Stenger

The 448th Speaks

by Cater Lee

At the time of this writing it appears the 448th will have in excess of 270 attendees at its Hampton, Virginia 8th consecutive annual group reunion. Fifty from the 448th attended the 2nd AD reunion at Dearborn, Michigan.

At the writing, sixty-nine have signed up to take the bus tour to Williamsburg on Thursday, September 5th.

Jim and Nancy Turner, loyal 448th British friends will be at the reunion and spend three weeks visiting sites from Florida to Washington, D.C. We always welcome our British friends. This is the Turners' second trip to the States, having attended our 50th anniversary of the B-24 at our Fort Worth, Texas reunion.

Among the more than 270 signed up are several first-timers whom we especially welcome and hope it won't be their last reunion with us.

As promised in our last article, mention would be made of some of our 448th who pursued a career in education after their military service in WWII and for some after retiring from military service. This is by no means complete and is only taken from information we had on hand. If anyone of our 448th not mentioned in the article taught school, elementary, high or college, we would like to recognize them in the article, so please just send the data to Cater Lee at P.O. Box 850, Foley, AL 36536.

In no particular order of importance, we will start with a former pilot, Dr. (Ph.D.) Hershel Hausman. Hershel just had an interesting article on page 26 of the summer

issue of the Journal. Hershel taught and was director of the nuclear research lab at one of our country's major universities, Ohio State.

Our active member Robert "Bob" Harper taught art for 26 years at the high school and collegiate level. Some of Bob's work at our Seething Church yard memorial and the granite memorial at the Seething airfield will be around for many years for people to see after we are gone.

Col. Domenic Mainieri (Ret.) who was bombardier on Col. Jack Parker's crew taught high school in the Miami area until he retired from that too. His wife, Ginny, was still teaching at the time of our Tucson reunion in April of 1990.

Our good "Yankee" buddy, Henry V. Atherton, was Professor of Dairy Technology at the University of Vermont, helping guys produce that good milk.

Dr. (Ph.D.) Clair Rowe served as a tail gunner in Bill Holden's crew in the 448th, and his plane and crew were featured in an article in the Spring issue of the 1988 Journal. Clair holds a B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. and was dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of North Dakota 1971 to 1986. Clair has attended some of our reunions and looks great. He owns a Purple Heart among his citations.

Dr. (Ph.D.) Edna Trueting, widow of Roy Trueting who was a gunner on Paul Homan's crew, holds a doctorate in nursing. Dr. Trueting was director of Nursing at Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and is currently Chief

Nurse for the Office of Public Health for the State of Louisiana Department of Health. Edna and Ray attended our 1986 group reunion at Dayton, Ohio. Ray held the doctor of jurisprudence in Louisiana and was an attorney for a large oil company based in New Orleans before his death. Edna, like several widows of our 448th veterans, has remained on as an associate member and we are proud of all our ladies who have stayed on with us.

Col. William "Bill" Meharg (Ret.) who served as a nose gunner in the 714th and saw service in Korea and Vietnam, served as Assistant Dean of School of Systems & Logistics at Air Force Institute of Technology and was Vice Commander, Air Force Technical Applications Center.

Col. Donald C. Todt (Ret.) has the distinction of being navigator on the Gen. Douglas MacArthur plane in 1949/1950 and Chief of Training Division 4080 SRW (U-2s) 1956-1961.

Col. Jack Swayze (Ret.) taught at Boston University 1946 to 1950 with rank of Capt. and at the University of Montana 1967-1972 with the rank of full Colonel. Jack and his wife are both graduates of the University of Washington at Seattle.

Remember, anyone who was in the teaching profession from the 448th after your military service, please give details to Cater Lee at P.O. Box 850, Foley, AL 36536.

Thanks for reading and "good health"!

The Legacy of the 2nd

by Martin L. Levitt, Ph.D., Fulbright Archivist

When the events of the twentieth century are viewed in retrospect by our descendants, World War II will be the cornerstone of the history of our era. Events of the early part of the century — even World War I — will be viewed as prologue, while the state of world affairs for years following the war will be defined in terms of the war's legacy. In short, World War II will unquestionably be recognized as the most momentous event of the twentieth century.

History is of course replete with war, and armed conflict unfortunately seems an inherent part of human relations. Yet, while any good man would despise war, no war has ever been more justified by a clear moral imperative than World War II. The Nazi agenda constituted the nadir of human history: They unfolded an intent so evil that total war was required, not only to save France or Poland, but to rescue immutable democratic values and human rights. This conflict between the morally bankrupt ideology of Nazism and the values inherent in democratic and free societies is in part what prompted Studs Terkel to characterize World War II as "The Good War."

In a war where the outcome was so critical for human civilization, it is clear that certain weapons were decisive. Among these was American air power, a key element of which was the Second Air Division. For the most part, the role of the Second Air Division was

to destroy essential military targets, undermine the enemy's industrial capabilities, and break his will to fight. In the prosecution of this dangerous assignment, some 6,400 Americans from the 2nd ADA lost their lives. In view of the ideological conflict that was the essence of World War II, these men could not have died in a more noble or important cause.

The Allies were engaged in the greatest war of the century, and because of the military significance of air power, the Second played a key role in the execution of a decisive strategy. Thus, it is no overstatement to observe that the men and women of the Second Air Division were central players in events that shaped the destiny of the twentieth century. In the crucible of combat, these soldiers formed bonds among themselves, and with their British allies, that over fifty years have only grown stronger.

Yet, time has a way of diminishing past accomplishments. Your children, metaphorically speaking, are hard-pressed to understand your sacrifices — and the meaning of total war — in a thermonuclear world. Modern political struggle manifests doctrinal cold wars and limited theatre armed conflicts, not global combat. Of your war, they see on television little more than black-and-white film of obsolete craft with quaint propellers: Worse, the villains and heroes of the war become two-dimensional. They are

dimly perceived characters shrouded in the ever-deepening mists of temporal distance. For these children, and for those who would seek to understand the great fire in the sky of World War II, a more meaningful legacy must be preserved.

As every one of you is aware, the members of the 2nd ADA have taken an enormous stride forward in keeping the memory of these events alive. You have raised the money to assure that those who fell in battle will not be forgotten. Your Memorial Room of the 2nd ADA is a gift to the people of Norwich, and the world, which through its vitality and utility will serve not only to honor fallen comrades, but also to reinforce the cultural ties with the citizens of East Anglia established some fifty years ago.

You have also endeavored to preserve the documentary legacy of the 2nd, and I am honored to have been selected to facilitate the preservation process. I hope to apply the techniques of modern archival science to assure that the legacy of the 2nd Air Division lives on, and becomes an accessible and useful archive. It is within the documentary record of the 2nd that scholars of the future will find the raw elements of history. For those who gave their lives, you could have made no greater gift to posterity than a tool for understanding the meaning of their sacrifice.

Attendees at Dearborn Convention, July 4-7, 1991

44th Bomb Group

Pat & Ginny Colucci
Bob & Irma Dubowsky
Griff & Bobbie Griffin
Pete, Mary, Mike, Bre, Bill,
Caron & Cathy Henry
Charlie & Marilyn Hughes
Mary Jones, Wes & Sue Bara,
Jim & Carol Watson
Norm Kieffer
Cas & Elizabeth Ozar
Bill & Hazel Robertie
Norman Schroeder

93rd Bomb Group

Jim & Dorothy Adams
Joe Beach
Henry Betz
Joe & Peggy Bradley
Lew & Ann Brown
Nick & Rose Caruso
Guy & Doris Cheney
Jim & Alice Cooley
Cal & Marge Davidson
Lynn & Stephen Deneau
Mike Donahue
Jim & Bette Dunn
Sam & Shirley Harris
Tommy & Cathy Hernandez
Chuck & Yonnie Hoffman
Mark & Barbara Hontz
Ceil & Simone Johnson
Harry & Louise Kelleher
Joe & Billie Liposky
Jack McGowan
George & Teta McLean
Jim McMahan
Floyd & Dot Mabee
Mike & Dot Mikolajczyk
Homer & Dotty Moran
Marty & Elvy Naberezny
Don Morrison
Howard & Jan Nisbet and
Rachel Thomas
Henry & Bea Nykamp
Ramsay Potts
Dick Ryan
Harold & Emma Secor
Walt Smelt
Don & Marylou Spencer
Cal & Peg O'Mara Stewart
Vern & Vernon Swaim
Dick Trousdale
Elmer & Nellie Jean Vangness
Bob & Jean Veneck
Bob & Marge Wright

389th Bomb Group

Sylvester & Virginia Bergman
Bill & Betty Berry
John & Leva Blackis
Oscar & Edith Boudreaux
Dan Boyle
John & Jane Brooks
Harold & Cora Brown
Charlie & JoAnne Campbell
Gay Clark
Jack & Helen Cox
Bob & Jo Dawson
Chuck & Gennie Dearing
Bill & Jane Dowden
Charles & Peggie Doyle
Barney, Emme & Jennifer Driscoll
and Keith Brown
Charles & Betty Ducsay
Reuben & Mary Lou Duke
Leon, Deborah & Jason Ernster
Al & Jo Falke
Norbert Gebhard
Dot Gibson
Allan & Jean Hallett
Gene, Nancy, Bill & Karen Hartley
Bruce Helmer & Reva Smith
Jack & Edith Heverly
John & Lorraine Kane
John & Rina Kanyuck
John Kendig
Walt & Judy Ketron
Don & Shirley Kinard
Ken & Cathy Kleinshrot
Bud & June Koorndyk and
8 Family Members
Felix & Marjorie Leeton
Ralph & Betty Leslie
Vince & Carroll Lozowicki
Bill & Val McCracken and Meghan,
Kristin & Erin Kinealy
Bill & Elsie Meyers
Fred & Gladys Miller
Ray & Ruth Nathe

Jerry Opitz
Ben & Helen Schaefer
Bob Seigh
Ira, Bette & Patrick Simpson
John Tuchsolski
Walt & Marilyn Welch
Lloyd & Clara West
Hank & Elly Wentland
Ken & Ruth Wise
Edward & Marguerite Young
Earl & June Zimmerman

392nd Bomb Group

Wendall & Elaine Anderson
Ernie Barber
Bill Barrett
Gil & Martha Bambauer
William Barry
Bruce & Jean Bates
Vern & Hulda Baumgart
Luke Beddingfield
Ray & Pauline Bianucci
Wallace & Loraine Blackburn
Joe & Anna Bonanno
Floyd & Roberta Bull
Pat Burns
John Buschman
Olin Castle
Carroll & Mabel Cheeks
John & Wanda Conrad
Arnold, Cleome & Doug Dovey
Ray Dunphy
Charlie & Helen Dye
Art & Teddy Egan
Howard Ebersole & Joanne Daniels
Jay Folkert
Herman Garner
Lawrence & Marjorie Gilbert
Barney & Laura Glettlar
Jim & Virginia Goar
Robert Holland
Fred & Lorraine Hollien
Arthur, David & Virginia Jensen
Jack & Betty Jones
Ray & Norma Jean Kopecky
Irv & Ruth Kreisman
Harry Kruse
Joe & Jeanne Landers
Bob & Marilyn Lane
Birdie Schmidt Larrick
J.D. & Emily Long
Joe & Anna McNeil
Oak & Maxine Mackey
John & Peg Malloy
Walt & Margaret Mateski
Jim Morley & Freda Moore
Art & Lee Olson
C.L. Peterson
Ed & Erma Popek
Bob & Ruth Powers
Bert & Margaret Prost
John Rosenberg
Cecil & Mary Rothrock
Don & Ruth Seharf and
Linda Stinehart
Bill & Thelma Singleton
Guy & Madeline Spinelli
Lou & Delores Stephens
Francis & Viola Swee
Fred & Elva Thomas
Tom & Henriette Thomason
John Walters
Joe & Mary Westbrook
Stan & Mildred Zybort

445th Bomb Group

Roy & Connie Alberghini
Mary Beth Barnard
Tony, Lois & Ruth Bertapelle
Dick & Val Boucher
Rowe Bowen
Fred & Ginny Bromm
Bob Brunst
Gene & Marge Buszta
Lee Calvano
Dick, Susan & Ruby Carlisle
Hal & Renee Clark
George & Florence Collar
Bill & Phyl Conley
Bob & Lou Conrad
Eddie Joe & Yvonne Choate
Fred & Marjorie Dale
Hal Davis
Bill & Marilyn Dewey
Henry & Mary Dobek
Jim & Dorothy Dowling
Roy & Marian Ellender
Bob & Mildred Erwin
Roy & Dot Farnsworth
John Goan & Tysen Williams

Karl & Barbara Goff
Bruno & Carmela Gore
Elden & Martha Gray
Seymour Grossman
Andrew & Virginia Haley
Evan Harris
Lowell Harris
Tom Henley
Hal & Georgia Henson
Albert & Kathryn Horton
Ted Kaye
Carlton Kleeman
Greg & Carole Laughlin
J.R. & Jean Lemons
Eldon & Eileen Long
Art & Peg McDermott
Oscar & Betty McKeever
John & Elaine Marks
Glen, Jean, Richard and
Barbara Marsteller
Sam & Joan Mastrogiacomio
Bob & Patricia Mead
Sam & Pate Miller
Reg & Martha Miner
Manny & Clara Moreno
Ab & Ellen Musser
Don Myers
Jim & Joan Myers
Arnold Nass
Merlin & Gerry Odegaard
Dave & Joan Patterson
Don Pryor & Janet Westhauer
Ray Pytel & Twy Kieffer
Al & Dot Querbach
Carl Rambo
Jean & Joyce Ridley
Ed, Sue & Randy Roloff
Miriam Ross
Charlie & Ann Scheer
Ben & Hildred Schlosser
Horace & Jane Shankwiler
Cliff & Shirley Simonson
Jerry & Patsy Steinhauer
Billy & Elaine Stephan
Bob & Shirlee Suckow
Max & Kay Taylor
Dick Vincent
Bill & Florence Vinton
Chuck Walker
Roger & Melba Ward
Joe & Ann Weckesser
Ralph & Dorcas Whitehart
Don & Billie Whitefield
Larry Whiting
Fred & Terry Wildorf
Don & Iva Wimbiscus
Elden & Patricia Zink
Ed & Rosalie Zobac

446th Bomb Group

Fred Breuninger
Bill & Jean Davenport
Irv & Marin Day
John & Kay Faulds
Clarence Hooks
John & Helen Kinney
Harold & Lillian Maslyn
Aud & Fern Risley
John & Ruth Toljanic
Walt & Juanita Toronjo
Paul & Ethel Wermuth

448th Bomb Group

Andy Berger
Al & Irene Bishop
Julian Blake
Bob & Dorothy Brokstein
George & Joylea Dupont and
Jason Scott
Ben & Charlotte Everett
Clyde & Annie Hatley
Bill & Jean Hensey
Earl & Maida Horntvedt
Dick & Bobbie Kennedy
Tom Murphy
Milt & Ruth Nichols
Hugh Riley
Dick & Thelma Salmansohn
Walt & Eunice Tombari
Karol & Lois Underwood
Art Weisz
Bryant & Ella Mae Wilson
Charles & Betty Yant
John & Dorothy Zima

453rd Bomb Group

Charlie Allen
Mary Allen
Bob & Nancy Allen
Julio & Gladys Alonso

Eino Alve
Bob & Evelyn Anderson
Lew & Trudy Barley
Ed Becker
Leroy & Gloria Berg
Bert & Claire Biel & Irene Hurner
Dewey & Doris Bishop
George & Clara Chipman
Wib & Diane Clingan
Walt & Pat Conneely
Arch & Kay Coran
Wallace & Irma Croxford
Lyman & Geneva Crumrin
Frank Davidson
George & Catharine Desmarais
Jim & Dorothy Duke
Jim Elkins
Ralph & Phyllis Ford
Dave & Harriett Hamlin
Russ Harriman
Bob & Lois Hoar
Edgar Jackson
Jay & Anna Jane Jeffries
Wendell & Gretta Jeske
Odell & Virginia Johnson
John & Nita Kassab
John & Fran Keane
Jim, B.J., Dick & Julie Kotapish
Doug & Jane Leavenworth
Joe & Lillian LeBoeuf
Andy Low
Carl & Janet Lutz
Ralph McClure
E. McDowell
Dennis & June McElhinny
John & Teresa McGough
Joe & Gloria Meintel
Walt & Betty Meyer
Dorothy Middleton
Mo & Ludie Morris
Frank & Joan Mulconrey
Lloyd & Nathalie Nelson
Bob & Betty Nelson
Dallas & Amy Noffsinger
Win & Bee Pace
Don & Peggy Parcels
Robert Pedigo
Lloyd & Irene Prang
Pat & Agnes Ramm
Dan & Muriel Reading
Herb & Bea Reinders
Al & Rickey Ricci
Ray & Eve Rogala
John & Marie Roth
George & Evelyn Rundblad
Ken & Jay Samuelson
Murray & Shirley Schwartz
George & Marilyn Smith
Glenn & Jean Smith
Harry Stien
Wilbur & Jeane Stites
Milt & Lucille Stokes and Rhonda
Stokes Vinson
Caleb & Virginia Stout
Paul & Donna Jeanne Stovey
Sy, Betty & Frances Syverson
John & Helen Talbot
Gordon & Gertrude Tanner
Cliff & Marcine Thomas
Frank & Jackie Thomas
Glen & Edith Tisher
John & Josephine Vercler
Bob & Isabelle Victor
Allen & Hilda Walters
Ed & Francine Werne
John & Dorothy White
Bill & Doris Whiteley
Abe & Janet Wilen
Allen & Dorothy Williamson
Don & Ina Wills
Julian & Mary Jean Wilson
Dick & Gene Witton
Bob & Helen Wolfe

458th Bomb Group

Jerry Allen
Allen Blum
Birto & Jean Brumby
Dick & Ardith Butler
Bill Case
Bill Coleman
Gerry & Barbara Covey
Bob & Anamarie Davis
Dale & Virginia Dyer
Bill & Kathy Edkins
Fred Erdmann
Duane & Mary Fair
Larry & Marjorie Fick

(continued on page 22)

Attendees (continued from page 21)

Don & Carolyn Fraser
 Elmo & Betty Geppelt
 Stuart Goldsmith
 Lionel Goudreaux and
 Patricia Malloy
 Jane Grahlmann
 Stan & Dorothy Hammell
 Buelas & Georgia Hebert
 Bob & Kathy Hiemstra
 Ken & Alice Holcomb
 Joe & Lucille Hood
 Oliver & Penny Johnson
 John Jones & Hildreth Bagwell
 Frank Josephson & Cathy Flood
 Joe & Dorothy Kania
 Jim Keel
 Peter & Evelyn Kowal
 Norman & Pearl Lakey
 Ray & Martha Metz
 Bob & Marty Renn
 Rick & Ceil Rokicki
 Bob & Mary Shea
 U. B. & Opal Simoneaux
 George & Mary Snyder
 Frank & Mildred Vermeiren
 Larry Van Kuran
 Ward & Jean Walhay
 Edwin & Helma Wilcox
 Gene & Polly Young

466th Bomb Group

Joe & Irene Arbaugh
 Jim & Snookie Auman
 Andy & Jim Banko
 Frank & Louise Bostwick
 Margaret Calderalo
 Jack Jacobowitz
 Gerry & Sammy Merket
 Bill & Lue Nothstein
 Bud & Mary Margaret Pellican
 Jim & Eleanor Russell
 Gene & Jean Saltarelli
 Oliver & Elaine Shaw
 Art & Barbara Sessa
 Bill & Dulcie Tracy
 Kurt & Vicki Warning

467th Bomb Group

Walt & Miriam Bandlow
 Frank & Betty Jane Beatty
 Ray & Doris Betcher, Janice &
 Jim Bates and Nancy Davis
 Arch & Helen Boisselle
 Roy & Ruth Dettinger
 Harry Dombalagian
 George Dong
 Joe, Helen, Joe Jr. & Joan
 Dzenowagis
 Geoff & Terri Gregory
 Bill & Nancy Hensen
 Jim & Barb Hogarth
 John & Jean Jansen
 Andy & Anna Kapi
 Larry & Faye Kurtz
 Jim Mahoney
 Will & Cecily Noden
 Bob & Eleanor Salzarulo
 Al Shower
 Bill Sikora & Evelyn Semagon
 Joe & Katie Spiroff
 Jack & Lucile Stevens
 Arthur Wicks
 Joe & Annjean Yandian

489th Bomb Group

Len & Sue Baclé
 Lee & Maxine Baker
 Mickey & Rita Baskin
 Ray & Jeanne Beights
 Ralph & Ginny Belward and
 Babs Sherbini
 Otey & Ruth Berkeley
 Jim Berry
 Don & Ruth Bishop
 Ray & Lyn Blanchard
 Frank & Gini Bodine
 Tom & Muriel Bouley
 I.D. & Lillian Brown
 Bud & Mike Chamberlain
 Don & Betty Champagne
 Vic & Betty Cochrane
 Paddy & Jan Cox
 John & Kathleen Dagleish
 Jim & Jean Davis
 Joe & Helen Dean
 Henry & Alva Dellano
 Dick & Josie Dietrick
 Don & Shirley Engler
 Charlie & Helen Freudenthal
 Charlie & Olga Gabrus
 Matt & Grace Gasperich
 Bob & Ev Gast
 Lou Gramando

Ken & Mary Gullekson
 Homer & Geneva Haile
 Morgan & Ella Deane Higham
 Rev. Christopher Hinckley
 Ralph & Anna Hoerr
 Russ & Norma Hurst
 John & Irene Homan
 Bob & Elsie Jurgens
 Jack & Mary Ann Kennedy
 John Kernodle
 John & Pat Lamar
 Joe & Germaine Lapierre
 Dean & Mimi Leonard
 Arvo Lohelo
 John & Anne Mansfield
 Ted & Gladys Maruschak
 Boyd Morse & Mary Diamond
 Bob & Betty Momborg
 John & Bill Nemeth
 Jim & Mary Pace
 Mel & Marcie Pontillo
 John & Peggy Predgen
 Carl & Helen Rosendahl
 Frank Skeldon
 Neal & Patricia Sorensen
 Dick & Bev Stenger
 Paul Surbaugh & Grandson
 Bob & Miriam Thomas
 Harry & Virginia Wagnon
 Ed & Mary Wall
 Howard & Sarah Warren
 Dwight & Enid Williams
 Bill & Polly Wilkinon

491st Bomb Group

Carl & Lou Alexanderson
 Bob & Faith Bacher
 Frank & Lee Bachman
 Hugh & Thelma Bennett
 Burt & Marjorie Blackwell
 Andy & Margaret Bouchard
 Peter & Liz Bove
 Mike & Margaret Brienza
 Lou & Elaine Bur
 Vince Cahill
 Jim & Thelma Campbell
 Hap Chandler
 Paul & Marion Coapman
 Royce & Jeanette Colby
 Harry & Anna Dean
 Bob & Gloria Ehrensperger
 Mike Fagen & Peggy Iriqui
 Don & Betty Ferguson
 Joe & June Flager
 Tanner & Pat Freeman
 Len Garber
 Oscar & Edie Gerstung
 R. A. Hammett
 Larry & Joan Hassell
 Russ & Mary Hellwig
 Ross & Vel Houston
 Norman Johns
 Edwin & Eva Kamarainen
 Bill & Alma Kirk
 Bill & Mary Koon
 Nelson & Irene Leggette
 John & Marilyn Leppert
 Frank & Barbara Lewis
 Hank Liljedahl
 John & Joan McGeary
 Frank & Lucille McPhillips
 Chuck & Dorothy Maneri
 Roy & Grace Mathews
 Dave & Mildred Mercado
 Andy Mesaros
 Charles Murphy
 Chuck Mussett & Cathy Mayberry
 Ken & Janet Neitzke
 Dom Notte
 Harry Orange
 John & June Paller
 Pat & Betty Perry
 Bill & Jacque Rigg
 Wilma Rinehart
 George & Lucrezia Risko
 Don & Shirley Root
 Art & Tess Scheid
 Norman & Edna Stickney
 Roy & Rosa Teters
 Keith, Iris & Brett Thomas
 John & Sarah Torode
 Carl & Elva VanVonDeren
 Russ Wray
 Boris & Betty Zatkovic

492nd Bomb Group

Bill & Norma Beasley
 Bob & Dorothy Cash
 Bill & Maxine Clarey
 Gerald & Hazel Edwards
 Ed & Betty Erickson
 Billy Sheely Johnson and
 Mildred Crews

Frank & Lois Johnson
 John & Helen Losee
 Jake & Helen Mink
 Al & Judy Mohney and
 Sylvia Tanner
 Harry Orthman
 Harry & Katherine Rawls
 Stan & Dorothy Segar
 Elvern & Hazel Seitzinger
 Bill & Molly Sparks

Headquarters

Jim & Billie Ash Ankeny
 Milton Arnold
 Evelyn & Lillian Cohen
 Mary Francis (Willie) Elder
 Don & Babe Elgas
 Earline Embrey
 Harriett Fau
 Bill & Mary Jenkins
 Livingston & Tina Jones
 Wade Lemmons
 Dean, Deannie, Robert, Pamela
 and Heather Moyer
 Dave & Lida B Norris
 Jim & Edna Reeves
 John & Janice Sanders
 Eleanor & Kate Storms
 Ray & Ruth Strong
 Jordan Uttal
 Hathy, Milt & Caron Veynar
 Joe & June Whittaker

2nd AD Memorial Library

Tom & Robin Eaton
 David & Jean Hastings
 Phyllis Dubois
 Paul King
 Marty & Cynthia Levitt

Friends of the 2AD Memorial

Tony & Marlene Kerrison

Swedish Internees

Joe & Sophie Exnowski
 Don & June Loop
 Fernando & Beverly Acosta

B-24 All American

Bob Collings & Crew

Thank You

My thanks go to all of you who responded to my call for help with material for the Journal which is so badly needed. Your experience when printed will be there for all time. But don't stop there. If you have additional material, send it in — please.

Unfortunately, I can't print all that I have on hand as we only have 36 pages to work with. So please don't get upset if your material does not get printed in the very next issue. Keep the faith and you will one day be reading material that you have written.

Once again, my very sincere thanks for taking the time to record your experiences. Please keep up the good work.

— Bill Robertie

Change of Address

When you move, please send your change of address to:

Evelyn Cohen
 06-410 Delaire Landing Road
 Philadelphia, PA 19114

on the form below as soon as possible. To send the change to anyone else simply delays the change appearing on our records. This could mean that the next issue of the Journal will go to your old address and could be lost in the great jaws of the Post Office.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State & Zip Code _____

Group _____

IF THIS IS A PERMANENT
 CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PLEASE MARK HERE

IF YOU ARE A SNOW BIRD, PLEASE LIST SECOND
 ADDRESS HERE:

For Snow Birds, we will send 3rd Class Journals to each address. No need to tell us when you go back and forth.



392nd B.G.

by Oak Mackey

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." President John Kennedy spoke these words in one of his famous speeches. Lawrence Gilbert quoted these same words over my telephone one Sunday afternoon in June of 1991. Adding some other words of gentle, yet persistent, persuasion, Colonel Gilbert asked me to accept nomination to the office of 392nd BG Vice President. With foreboding and trepidation, I accepted and was subsequently elected your Vice President at the 44th Annual Convention of the Second Air Division Association at Dearborn, Michigan, July 4-7, 1991. The likes of John Conrad and Fred Thomas will be a real tough act to follow. As I told the members in attendance at the 392nd BG business meeting, I promise to do the very best I can, but I do sincerely solicit your help and understanding. Truly, my background as an airline pilot has not educated me for this sort of work.

The 392nd BG has scored again. Our own John Conrad was elected Executive Vice President of the Second Air Division Association at the business meeting Saturday morning, July 6. Let's all give John our support and assistance in every way we can. He was outstanding as Group Vice President, and you may be sure John will also be outstanding as 2nd ADA Executive VP.

The 392nd Hospitality Room was superb this year, as always, but Art and Teddy Egan outdid themselves again. Plenty of snacks and plenty of drinks, all served up in a convivial atmosphere. Our hats off and three cheers for the Egans. Now, on a very sad note, Art's brother had passed away in Minnesota just before the Convention started and Art and Teddy departed for the funeral before the end of the Convention. Our sympathy and condolences go out to them. Gil and Martha Bambauer were assisting the Egans in the hospitality room from the start, so they just stepped right in and the party went on. So let's hear it for the Bambauers, three rousing cheers. Besides food and drink there was conversation, lots of conversation, and perhaps some B.S. Stories were told and re-told. We seniors have something the young folks don't, and that's our memories.

Ernest Barber is in charge of the 392nd BG memorabilia and he arrived with a pickup truck full of photograph albums, three ring binders full of 392nd records on personnel and aircraft not found in Bob Vickers' book, VCR tapes and a VCR player. All those things must be unloaded from the truck and carried up to the hospitality room, then unpacked from

trunks, boxes, etc., and displayed on tables where they are available to one and all. It's all these things that jog our memories and bring out the stories and the conversation. After the convention is over, Ernie's work begins again. All those things must now be re-packed, carried down to the truck and transported home to Georgia. There is no way we could thank Ernie enough, no way at all. However, we can applaud his work and efforts, so let's hear it again. Three rousing cheers for Ernie.

Now, may I share a story with you concerning Ernie Barber. At the 392nd BG I was the co-pilot on the Jack Clarke crew. Our first mission was October 2, 1944 and our 35th on April 7, 1945. Along about December 1944, we became a deputy lead crew in the 578th Squadron and mostly flew a B-24J named "The Windy City Belle," tail number 240S. In Tulsa, at the 392nd BG Memorial Association meeting in 1985, I was looking at photo albums in the hospitality room and came across an album full of pictures of the "Windy City Belle." Soon, a young man walked in and introduced himself as Ernest Barber. I asked him why he had so many pictures of "Windy City Belle." He explained he was Crew Chief on that airplane. I asked if he remembered the Jack Clarke crew, for I did not remember Ernie. He said "Yes" and he had a picture of the whole crew and could identify Jack, but did not know the names of the other crew members. He took another album from the trunk and showed me the picture. I identified all the crew members for him, but the curious thing was, I was not in the picture and could not remember any circumstances about it. So that's how I met Ernie Barber. We never had an abort when flying "Windy City Belle," we had very little to no problems with it at all. It is my opinion that Ernie was the premiere Crew Chief in all the 392nd BG. He had four other airplanes at Wendling, all lost to enemy action. "Windy City Belle" was flown home to the United States in June 1945. She flew 57 missions.

A young man, perhaps 35 years old, visited the hospitality room for two days. He was Gregory Hatton, son of Hyman Hatton. Hyman was a crew member on an airplane shot down near Hanover on the way to Berlin on the 29th of April, 1944. After bailing out, Hyman was taken prisoner and spent the rest of the war at Stalag Lufts 1, 6, 4, 3, 17b. He returned to the U.S. after peace broke out, raised a family, worked at his job, etc. He died in the early 1970s. He was injured when he bailed out and treatment at the prison camps was not good. Greg has researched his mission in a most thorough way. He has gone to the National Archives, he has Vickers' book, he has compiled a couple of big notebooks full of information. He came to our convention for more information and to share with us the work he had done.

He plans to publish his work, and if it ever comes on the market, buy it!

Arnold and Cleome Dovey brought their son, Douglas, to Dearborn where he was well pleased to meet all the B-24 crews. You see, Doug is a Top Gun. He flies F-16s. His one airplane may be as effective as a squadron of B-24s. We envy him; we wonder what his sons or daughters may fly someday.

It was my good luck and pleasure to sit next to Robert Holland on the bus trip to Willow Run to see the Yankee Air Force Museum and the B-24 All American. His father was Major Robert Holland, the Group doctor at the 392nd BG. If you went on sick call there, you probably met him. Young Holland did not follow his father into medicine.

Olin Castle's son also attended the Dearborn convention. I am so embarrassed, I didn't get his name. Olin, will you write me a note with your son's name and some background information about him, and I will write it up in a following Journal. Sons and daughters are always extra welcome at all our conventions and meetings. Please bring yours if at all possible.

Our search for new members is eternal. We have four recent enlistments: Albert J. Riley, re-enlisted, 10 Morley Place, New Hartford, NY 13413; Thomas G. Holmes, P.O. Box 725, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170; James A. McLaughley, 5094 Valley Pines Drive, Rockford, IL 61109; Fred D. Rider, 2500 Winwood, #104F, Cheyenne, WY 82001. If any of you out there ever locate anyone who was in the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force, send their name and address to Evelyn Cohen without delay, I mean P.D.Q.

107 members from the 392nd BG attended the 2nd AD Convention in Dearborn. Is that a record? I don't know, but it's pretty darn good. Did we have fun? You bet we had fun. We had a ton of fun. Next convention is at the Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, October 4-7, 1992. Be there!

John Conrad recently sent me some information on former Group VPs. Joe Whittaker was the first VP. He was elected at the 1973 Convention in Colorado Springs and served until 1976. Bob Vickers was next and served until 1979. Then it was J.D. Long's turn in the barrel until 1981. Fred Thomas served us well until 1986. John Conrad took the helm then until 1991, and has now been elected Executive VP of the 2nd AD. Two of our ex-Group VPs have served as Presidents of the 2nd AD, J.D. Long and Fred Thomas.

In three short months, I will be writing another report for the Journal. If you don't send me things to write about, I cannot write it. War stories are always good, especially if they happen to be true. Tell me about your families. Tell me about your life's work. Send jokes, clean or unclean, send anything you like.

Angel Goes Home

by Eric E. Ericson (93rd)

The domain of Mars is War. General Sherman said, "War is Hell." At the very least it is that...and, more. In studying history, especially the wars that blossom forth with mindless carnage, there is one word that lingers in my mind: tragic.

A wise and learned leader had this to say: "If one does not really love those he seeks to lead, he will soon disappoint them, or, betray them." In our time and our great war such a person was Adolf Hitler. All madmen are betrayers, but I am sorely pressed to name one whose evil was greater than his.

Having been shot down and exposed in some ways to the ground war, you gain a perspective beyond that of the written descriptive. I can never forget the roughly 3000 boys attired in their Russian uniforms, none of whom was over 16, marching toward the Oder River, rifles over their shoulders with bayonets attached and in the middle of the column a black horse-drawn wagon on whose side was emblazoned the white circle and red cross. This was one example of how ludicrous war can be.

The day after we came under Russian control, the regimental colonel arranged for our trip to the rear. Our transport was a 1929 Ford Model A pickup truck whose bed had been filled with fresh clean straw, which oddly enough did make it most tolerable to ride upon. (In 1928 Henry Ford sent a vast team of his top technicians to the USSR for the sole purpose of building a huge truck facility. The exact terms of this endeavor with Stalin & Ford remain obscure. Suffice it to say the huge facility was completed in 1929 and a steady stream of those reliable Model A trucks was produced. Ours had an all metal roof which did not appear on USA produced Model A trucks until late 1931.) We had a jovial ever smiling driver and away we went. Some hours later we passed signs of increased military activity and a road sign stating we were approaching Landsberg.

The day was still overcast with a ceiling of about 1000 feet. Suddenly far to our rear an ME-109 dropped by as if by magic directly over the road. We beat on the cab roof and the driver stopped at once. We went over the side into a ditch barely getting in as the German warbird passed overhead. Why he didn't fire at us was a mystery then, but now we know that our green flight clothing did approximate, somewhat, that which the Luftwaffe was using and at the high rate of speed the ME was traveling, it could be the pilot mistook us for his own people. At any rate he quickly zoomed back into the overcast and we never saw him again.

In short order we reached Landsberg and kept right on going. We didn't know it at the time but our MIA Armorer Freddie Kidd was in a hospital there with a broken hip as a

result of his bailout and landing on his side. There were no stops at all to eat, drink or other business that may have been required. We didn't complain, and, as a matter of fact we didn't give much heed to them. We were just glad to be going "someplace."

Shortly after nightfall the driver pulled off the main road and we went a short distance before stopping. We were parked before a Polish farmer's house, got out of the truck and stretched our tired limbs. Finally by candlelight the driver motioned us to enter the house. With that, he took off and we never saw him again. The farmer had some candles lighted and very fortunately he could speak German quite well, so we had a dialogue established. He pointed out where the fellows could bed down and I was given a most splendid bed in the living room that was about a foot thick and filled with goose down. I appreciated that especially with my two fractured ankles. He held the candle high and the interior of the room became somewhat brighter.

At the other end of the room I could see a very young girl attired in full native Polish costume...white ruffled blouse, elaborately embroidered designs on her black jacket, and about her head a tiara of spring white tiny flowers. As the flickering candle illuminated her face I was stricken at how beautiful she was...the purity of youth.

I quickly turned toward the farmer and said, "Ich kan nicht schlaffen heir, die kinder schlaft." "I can't sleep here, the child sleeps." He replied, "Nein, sie schlaffen nict, er ist todt." "No, she is not asleep, she is dead." As I again looked very intently at this most beautiful child, I was quite perplexed. There is no question or doubt, as I go over the details of this tragic moment, that I was still suffering from a form of mental tension...I could not really understand what I was looking at. My face mirrored my perplexity as I viewed the simply beautiful, gorgeous youngster and I could see the farmer peripherally and a look of appreciative understanding was upon his brow. He could tell I was genuinely smitten.

I turned toward him and asked how she died. He said she had diptheria. I asked if the Russian medical people had looked at her. He said they had told him there was nothing they could do. I asked that magic word, "Warum?" "Why?" He shrugged his shoulders and cast a quick glance at his dead daughter, looked at me and I shook my head and sighed. I didn't have to say that I was sorry...he could feel and see it, and, he was thankful for my feelings. I cast one last glance toward her, got on the bed, removed my flight boots and he smiled and said, "Schlaffen sie gut." "Sleep good." I pulled a down comforter over myself and fell fast

asleep in less than 30 seconds. My last thoughts were...an angel has gone home.

He awakened us at 6 AM and I glanced for the last time at this remarkably beautiful young girl...then I realized that indeed...an angel had gone home. I turned away and wiped the sadness from my mind, for we had life and it had to go on.

At about 6:15 AM a Russian captain brought us our breakfast, a 2 pound can labeled PRODUCT OF THE U.S.A. and equally as proudly the contents...Herring. We all passed and began the day as we ended the last, sans food. For that we had to wait another day.

A convoy of lend-lease Dodge & Studebaker trucks, all GI 4x4's, were lined up and we were placed in by the driver, another smiling happy jovial driver, whose mouth was full of shiny gold teeth. He hit the dashboard sturdily and said, "Studebaker, harashau." We shook hands and away the convoy went. Every time I would drift off in sleep, the driver dutifully banged on the dash and said, "Studebaker, harashau." Ultimately I realized he was saying the Stude was a good vehicle. So in order to liven things up a bit, as I felt drowsy, I would bang on the dash and say the magic words, "Studebaker, harashau." He thought that was great and we began to beat the poor dash in unison...yelling the magic words quite loudly. Time did pass more quickly.

Incidentally the Russians were so desperate for vehicular transport that the big white USA star was not blocked out in red, as they did on our aircraft. Back then, and I supposed a goodly number of Russians today, still recall that we Americans did give without stint. The program of Lend-Lease was purely all one idea as it turned out — Gift-Give.

Later in the day we saw a convoy of about 30 GI 4 bys pulled off by the side of the road. Someone had trouble, so everyone had to stop. Why? Well, in those days there were few Russian maps and hence no one could understand how to read them. John Cadle, our pilot, figured this out. When our convoy stopped to see if they could assist, John went with our "leader" and saw that there was only one map and only one man, an officer, who could read it, so we could be of no help and we soon were under way again.

As nightfall came we had reached what was to be our destination; Posen, Poland as known to the Germans, Poznan to the Polish.

Thus as the sun had faded, we were ushered into our new quarters and this prefaced the beginning of some interesting and threatening events. Not to worry though...as you can see, for better or for worse...we made it!

Missives from the 492nd

by W.H. "Bill" Beasley



(l-r): Harry Orthman, Robert Cash, E.W. "Bill" Clarey, Elvern Seitzinger, Jim Mahoney, Gerald Edwards, Bill Sparks, John Losee, Al Mohnney, Jake Mink, Harry Rawls, Ed Erickson, Stan Seger, Bill Beasley — not pictured Frank Johnson.

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — July 4, 1991. The site of the 44th annual reunion of the 2nd ADA and the 492nd Bomb Group, and, just about the best way to celebrate the Fourth of July that I can think of!

Jake Mink wore his red, white and blue blazer... perfect for the occasion! Words do not do it justice. It is a beauty.

We may have broken an attendance record for the 492nd BG. There were 29 attending the Group Dinner and 36 at the Banquet. The 492nd BG met in the Franklin Room of the Hyatt Hotel.

Those attending the Group Dinner and meeting were: Bill and Norma Beasley, Bob and Dorothy Cash, Bill and Maxine Clarey, Gerald and Hazel Edwards, Ed and Betty Erickson, Billy Sheely Johnson and Mildred Crews, Frank and Lois Johnson, Jake and Helen Mink, Al and Judy Mohnney, Sylvia Tanner, Harry Orthman, Harry and Katherine Rawls, Stan and Dorothy Seger, Elvern and Hazel Seitzinger, Bill and Molly Sparks, John and Helen Losee, former Squadron CO of the 856th BS, 492nd BG. The Saturday night banquet saw the above listed people plus, Miriam and John Loughheed, guests of the Clareys, and Carl and Mary Moss, guests of the Cashes.

Jim Mahoney, former Squadron CO of the 859th BS, 492nd and later Deputy Commander of the 467th BG joined us both evenings. Thanks to Harry Orthman who brought a video that Jim had made, in color, of the B-24 in combat formation, on the "Witchcraft," its 133rd mission, some of us were able to view it on Friday afternoon. The quality is exceptional. (He has a few available for purchase at \$38.50 plus \$2 postage if you are interested. A great addition to your video collection, believe me!) To order: Send a check in the amount of \$40.50 to Jim Mahoney, RR2 Spring St. Box 77C, Hamilton, NY 13346-9802.

Iris and Keith Thomas, our English

friends, visited with the group before dinner. Frank Beatty and Larry Kurtz stopped in for a short visit also.

Billy Sheely Johnson gave the invocation before the Group Dinner. Certificates of appreciation were presented to Elmer W. "Bill" Clarey for 11 years of service as Group Vice President and to Gerald "Barney" Edwards for coordinating the cap program for the group. Following this presentation Barney presented a cap to me embroidered "492nd B.G. North Pickenham — Group Vice President." I was overwhelmed and pleased to receive it. I will wear it proudly! I was unanimously elected to serve as the Group VP for another term. In addition, I have been selected to serve on the Executive Committee of the 2nd ADA. I appreciate the vote of confidence.

The highlight of the evening came after dinner when all of the members were asked to introduce themselves and their wives and talk briefly about their experience with the 492nd BG. You could hear a pin drop during these presentations. All eyes and ears were riveted to the presenter. A prize drawing was the last item on the agenda. It was a memorable evening of fun and camaraderie.

Robert Cash participated in the candle-lighting ceremony at the Saturday night banquet. We were proud to have him represent the 492nd BG.

Stan Seger (492nd BG) and Bud Chamberlain (489th BG) have collaborated on a story about "their" airplane and its missions. Ask them about it.

Recruitment is essential. I am asking everyone to send me names of former crew members or former 492nd BG members and I will send them a newsletter, applications, etc. Put a 2nd ADA decal on your car. If you need one, contact Evelyn Cohen. Let's advertise.

Next year's reunion will be in Las Vegas, October 4-7, 1992. Let's see if we can double the attendance of the 492nd BG!

Aviation Cadet Alumni Association

The Aviation Cadet Alumni Association, now in its sixth year of operation, will soon reach the 20,000 member mark. The non-profit, no-dues, no-charge effort was initiated by retired officers Harry Bradshaw and Bob White for the sole purpose of providing former pilot cadets the current addresses of flight school classmates. Operational expenses are provided by the two with the occasional help of unsolicited contributions.

During this period the ACAA has put hundreds of former pilots in contact with old friends and classmates whom they had not seen in nearly half a century. Flight Classes holding reunions are given assistance in locating class members. Additionally dozens of wartime flying schools, now holding reunions, have been provided with lists of those who trained there. On occasion relatives of those killed in combat have requested the names of the classmates of the deceased in order to learn more about them. In no case are names provided or used for commercial purposes.

Former pilot cadets are eligible for membership by submitting their flight class, primary, basic and advance schools to either Harry Bradshaw, RFD 1, Newmarket, NH 03857 or Bob White, 54 Seton Trail, Ormond Beach, FL 32176. Both maintain identical information on their personal computers. Those desiring a print-out of their classmates are requested to include postage. Phone numbers for more information:

Harry C. Bradshaw - (603) 659-5725

Robert C. White - (904) 673-5195

How To Know You Are Growing Older

Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work. The gleam in your eye is from the sun hitting your bifocals. You feel like the night before and you haven't been anywhere. Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D. You get winded playing cards. Your children begin to look middle aged. You join a health club and don't go. A dripping faucet causes an uncontrollable bladder urge. You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions. You look forward to a dull evening. You need glasses to find your glasses. You turn out the lights for economic rather than romantic reasons. You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going. Your knees buckle but your belt won't. Your back goes out more than you do. You have too much room in the house and not enough in the medicine chest. You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there. You are wondering why more people aren't using

THIS SIZE PRINT.

Division Headquarters

by Ray Strong

The history of Ketteringham Hall from the time it was occupied by Hq. 2AD (Dec. 43) until the present has been pretty well documented over the years and some things have been written about its earlier history. But in rummaging through some of my old files, I came across what I think is a very interesting sketch of the life of the Hall prior to our arrival. It appears to have been prepared by someone on the Hq. staff but I don't know who it might have been. It was distributed to the staff and was originally classified confidential!



Some Facts About Ketteringham Hall, Norfolk, England

Ketteringham Hall, the present site of the Headquarters of the 2nd Bombardment Division, is a pleasant country estate located some 7½ miles southwest of the ancient cathedral city of Norwich, Norfolk. The Hall itself is not a beautiful structure. It is bleak and ugly and embodies all the worst architectural aspects of Norman and Gothic influence. The date of its erection is unknown, but parts of it certainly were there before 1500. However, its various owners have altered and added to the original structure with considerable zeal as well as fancy, particularly the present family. The Church of St. Peter, on the estate, is much older and dates from the Saxon times. It is mentioned in the Domesday Book and through the years when the church was a Catholic edifice, it had a chequered career. For a long time it was owned and managed by the Canons of Pentney who also held, curiously enough, the church and lands of Horsham St. Faith's, which was the first home, September 1942 to December 1943, of the 2nd Bombardment Division. To support Horsham St. Faith's, the lands of Ketteringham Hall yielded 6 shillings a year. It is hoped that the poor vicar of Horsham St. Faith's did not die of Christian starvation. The church and its living were taken away by Henry VIII's dissolution of monasteries in 1536, and reverted gradually to the owner of the

Hall, who today has the right of appointing the vicar and stipulating his salary, which is called a tithe. A tithe represents one-tenth of the income of the parish or parishioners. This was usually paid in kind, and the vicar like his parishioners, prayed for good crops. In the church are many monuments to the lords and owners of Ketteringham, and their names have a romantic as well as somnolent ring.

The first known owner and resident of Ketteringham Hall was a Saxon *Teinus Regis* or a *Lord* by the name of Ketel. He

may have given his name to the place — as Ketel may have become corrupted to *Keter*. The word "ing" means "meadow" in Saxon, and "ham" is "house," so the analysis could conceivably read, thinks Joseph Hunter in his *Topography of Ketteringham*, 1851, published by Chas. Muskott, Norwich, as "the house on the 'ings' (meadows) of Keter, or the house of the family of Keter."*

This Saxon, who left a will prior to an adventurous trip to Rome in 1052, was soon dispossessed when the Norman Conquest swept over England and from then on the lands of Ketteringham had many owners. At first a Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, then the Earls of Oxford, then a family by the romantic name of Argentine, then a Grey family, who left behind some beautiful brasses to preserve their rural fame. The family of Heveningham (pronounced Hevingham) was the longest in possession. They secured the estate by a gift from a Sir Henry Grey, the last of the Greys and they came into possession about the beginning of the 16th century (1500). They came from Suffolk and seem to have been a quiet, country family who lived peaceably through many troublesome times, not even being caught up in the rebellion of Robert Kett, a tanner of Wymondham, in 1550. It is interesting to note that in 1536 the estate contained about 820 acres of land.

The only Heveningham who marred the serenity of his line was William, who espoused the Puritan side of the Civil War and sat as one of the High Court of Justice

over Charles I. Consequently Charles II, upon his restoration to the throne, convicted William Heveningham of high treason and deprived him of his estate, but by a proclamation of June 6, 1660, did not execute him. William's wife, evidently a courageous and hardy woman, the daughter and heir of the Earl of Dover, after many trips to London and audiences with the King, recovered the estate and all was serene again. Knowing Charles' predilection for beautiful women, it is safe to assume that Lady Mary Heveningham's principal assets must have been her face and figure.

Like all families the Heveninghams died out, and were succeeded by a Heron family (a grandson) who soon sold to a family by the name of Atkyns, in 1717. The Atkyns family existed 100 years and a large tablet in the church tells their story. The founder, Sir Edward, was quick to put on his tablet that he had remained loyal in the Great Rebellion. The Atkyns family lived the same comfortable life as their predecessors, evidently going nowhere, but they too died out, their last relative, a son-in-law, Nathaniel W. Peach, M.P. passing away "after a painful and protracted illness which he bore with great fortitude, etc."

In 1836, the Ketteringham estate was purchased by John Peter Boileau, of Tacolnestone Hall, Norfolk, and has remained in that family ever since. The Boileaus, descendants of an ancient French Huguenot family, have been well-known throughout Norfolk and for many years Ketteringham Hall was the scene of illustrious meetings, royal visits, historical pageants and fox-meets. Ethel Boileau, the well-known English authoress, died here in 1941 and many of her novels were written while she looked out over the gently-rolling green country, the lake in front of the Hall where the alabaster swans flash in the morning sunlight, or listened to the host of songsters always singing in the luxuriant formal gardens running down to the lake.

Today a great change has come over Ketteringham Hall. Nissen huts, black and ugly, dot the ground. American initials are cut on the century-old beeches and cedars. Our flag — red, white and blue, takes the Norfolk breeze with heart-stirring pride and hundreds of dust-covered khaki cars, jeeps and trucks rush ceaselessly about. There is excitement and verve in the air. B-24s throb in huge formations all through the day, and the war seems a close thing, when the Tannoy system calls "Attention — Enemy, Alert" over the soft, fertile Norfolk country where Romans met Saxons and Saxons met Normans, and Normans turned to English, and now at last, English meet Americans.

*Material used in this monograph was taken principally from *Topography of Ketteringham Hall* by Joseph Hunter, F.S.A. (1851) who derived his data from *Blomefield's History of Norfolk*.

The 445th Reporting

by Chuck Walker

Another fine 2nd Air Division Association Reunion is history, but the memories will live on, most especially for the Cliff Simonson crew. Seven of that crew attended: Fred Bromm, Fred Wilsborf, Bruno Gora, Howell Hanson, Joe Weckesser, Harry Hodges and Cliff. This was the crew's first get-together since 1945. You can imagine the joy and enthusiasm emanating from that table at the 445th dinner.

We were especially pleased to welcome Ruby Carlisle and her son Richard Carlisle to their first reunion. Ruby's husband, and Richard's father, was shot down over Dessau, Germany on 16 August 1944. All aboard are listed as KIA except Donald Breecher, the navigator. We are attempting to determine how Donald escaped being on the list and just what became of him. Can you shed any light on the subject?

Evan Harris of the Norfolk Gliding Club, Tibenham, was a very special guest. I'm sorry we didn't have more time with Evan and an opportunity to repay him for the wonderful day his Gliding Club put on for us in Tibenham last year.

Phyllis DuBois, our Trust Librarian, writes: "The following books were purchased with the income from your (445th) memorial fund for the year 1990-1991. Thank you very much for your generosity which has enabled us to buy these books for the Memorial Library." *A Reason To Live: John Robinson; Combat Flying Equipment: C.G. Sweeting; Escort to Berlin: G.L. Fry.*

Josie, Sharon and David Jaggard were hosts to Jean & Ray Lemons and Dede & John Knox during the 445th day in Tibenham last summer. The Lemons' and Knox's were able to return the favor by each hosting the Jaggards for a week this summer. We are sorry the Knox's missed our Dearborn bash, but they were occupied being good hosts.

It is with a heavy heart that I report the deaths of Lynn Handy, Ford Tracey, Lee Coffin, Charles Bishop and Harold "Dutch" Hartman. They will be missed by their many friends and our condolences go out to their loved ones.

On a brighter note, Evelyn Cohen reports our 445th membership to be 570 and growing. New members include: Richard Carlisle (AM), Rockwall, TX; Harry Crane, Woodhaven, NY; James Francis, Clinton, NY; Darrell Reed, Cherokee, IA; Irwin Cohen,

Reading, PA; Merlin Shaver, Marshall, MI; Daniel Meehan, Mission Viejo, CA; Franklin Evans, Royal Oak, MI; Robert Volonte, Asheboro, NC; Milton Zelon (AM), Westminster, CA; Joe Damiano, Placentia, CA; Eugene Houseman, Portland, OR; Jake Price, St. Albans, WV; Winton Scafiro, Millbrea, CA; Jim Romito, San Jose, CA; Sidney Ray, Arcadia, LA; Leon Kluttz, Dudley, NC; John LaMar (AM), Fremont, NB; George Layritz, Union, NJ; William Morgan, Winston-Salem, NC; William Verburg, Grand Rapids, MI; and Eugene Wanner, Denver, PA. We welcome each of you to the 2nd ADA and hope you will help us keep the 445th membership alive and well.

Those of you who were in attendance at Dearborn were treated to a preview of the Joe Dzenowagis videotapes that he and his family made in England last summer. One is to be titled "2nd Air Division in Norwich 1990" and the other "The Kassel Mission Documentary." Joe tells me that he would like an indication of how many of you are interested in purchasing either or both of these tapes. The tapes are of excellent professional quality, suitable for TV broadcast. He has also produced several others that are now ready to deliver. If you would like any of them, order from: J. Dzenowagis, Military Videohistory Project, 4397 South Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864. By the way, any profits are turned back to the Memorial Library Fund.



John Adams crew. Front row (l-r): Quackenbush, Beamer, Daily, Adams. Back row (l-r): Derbonne, Bennicoff, Boyanowski, Shelton, Kusenko, Beatte.



William Wilkinson's crew. Front row (l-r): Kurpan, Schmidt, Wilkinson, Luckenbach. Back row (l-r): Baker, Janulis, Mills, Griffith, Bruck, Zobac.

Tom Newton wonders if anyone remembers the name of the 2nd Louie in charge of personnel (701st), who had a small Hill-Billy group. He was from Texas. Tom played some guitar with him and the 2nd Louie was responsible for Tom being placed on the base closing detail at the end of the war. Tom further says he is concerned that the 2nd ADA has so few "ground pounders" in the organization. I can assure Tom that it's not for the lack of effort on the Association's part; we contact everyone we hear about and get addresses for. Tom is doing his best by writing to all his old buddies and also those that have turned up on old duty rosters he has.

Ed Zobac, son of Robert W. Zobac (deceased 1977), came to Dearborn in hopes of learning more about his father's role as a waist gunner on William Wilkinson's crew. They flew "Asbestos Alice." Ed has made contact with co-pilot Luckenbach, navigator Schmidt, tail gunner Griffith and the ground crew chief. The accompanying crew picture may assist you in helping Ed.

Bill Boyanowski writes from Pipe Creek, TX that he knows of at least 20 names that are missing from our Group History Roster. I'll have to check this out but I do admit to finding some omitted names. Bill also asked when our 445th tail markings were changed from a circle to the horizontal stripe. If you know the date, please let me know. Bill also enclosed a picture of the John Adams crew.

As the recently appointed 2nd ADA liaison to the Heritage League, I was privileged to attend the League's Executive Committee meeting. I learned a great deal.

We of the 2nd ADA are looking to the Heritage League to perpetuate the memory of the 2nd Air Division: the story of what we stood for, what we accomplished and of our hopes and dreams of creating a better world for our families to inherit. The League needs the support of every one of us. Our efforts must be directed toward making our next generation (our kids, cousins, nieces, nephews, etc.) more aware of the part they can play in perpetuating our cause. So, talk with them and encourage them to participate in the Heritage League. One way would be to take part in the Pen Pal project between the League and their British counterpart, "Friends of the 2nd Air Division." So far the Friends have shown much more enthusiasm for pen-paling than our kids have. So, work on yours to participate.

Bill Robertie is waiting for this humble offering to the Journal, so it's off to the post office. I'll see you in Las Vegas in 92!

BUNGAY BULL

446th BOMB GROUP
by
Marvin H. Speidel



Greetings — oops, sorry about that. Let me start by saying that I consider it a great honor to be asked to serve as Group Vice President for the 446th Bomb Group, especially in light of the great guys who make up the Group. Remembering them from the time I was with the Group at Flixton and the friendships formed since becoming active in the 446th BG Association and the 2nd ADA I realize how much I have to live up to in representing them. Furthermore, Vere McCarthy and Bill Davenport left four very large shoes to be filled and I have only two small feet.

Sorry to say, I was not at the 2nd ADA Reunion, as the July 3rd starting date was also the day I joined the ranks of the big 7-0 and the family had plans. I'm sure that those that were there had a wonderful time and the rest of us can read about it in other reports on these pages.

Now, by way of introducing myself, I would venture to say that my experiences probably were little different from many of yours. I grew up in Elizabeth, N.J., where I had been a high school athlete, lettering in football, wrestling and gymnastics. Then came basic training at Miami Beach; aircraft mechanics at Gulfport, Mississippi; engineering school at Long Beach, California; and a stint with the ATC as part of an air evacuation crew. That's where the accompanying picture is from. Then a change occurred and it was gunnery school at Indian Springs, Nevada; assignment to the Charles Irwin crew at Salt Lake City and phase training at Davis-Monthan Field, Tucson, Arizona. The other members of the original crew were: James Bell, co-pilot; Eugene Darr, navigator; Milton Klein, bombardier; Angelo Indre, radioman; and Marvin Finger & George Harris, waist gunners. The names of our first ball turret and tail turret gunners are lost to memory as they were not with us long and were replaced in short order by Virgil Huff in the ball and Andrew Krempusch in the tail. Our journey overseas started from Topeka, Kansas after picking up a factory new Lib and went northern route from Grenier Field, Manchester, New Hampshire to Goose Bay, Labrador to Meeks Field, Iceland to Nutts Corner, Ireland. Could there be some hidden meaning in the name of the UK landing site of 10 naive GIs. We left the States on May 4, 1944 but did not land in the UK until May 13th as Irwin was ill for 5 days in Goose Bay where the rest of us enjoyed (?) the "plush" facilities. Once in the UK it was Nutts Corner to Stone, England then through Scotland to Clunto, Ireland (intelligence briefing), Greencastle, Ireland (gunnery practice), back to England and finally to Bungay, Flixton and the 446th arriving on June 8th.

Flew formation practice missions and became operational on June 15th. Then from the 17th (first mission, Laval, France) until August 27th (a Berlin recall) when Irwin, Harris and I finished, having flown an earlier mission with other crews, I flew 31 missions as engineer/top turret gunner. The others on the crew finished up in early September. I returned to the ZOI on the Queen Mary and after 30 days at home and 30 days in Atlantic City (before casinos) I went to Keesler Field, Mississippi for a refresher course and wound up at Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado crewing modified B-24s for B-29 navigator training. Discharged from there I went to college on the GI Bill and became a physical education teacher/gymnastics coach, retiring in 1985 after 36 years.

If you have seen the British video "Remember Them" of the 2nd Air Division and all its airfields as they were in the 40's and again in the 80's when the tape was made, mine is the crew of the 446th Bomb Group that is pictured in closeup after a mission. We were in the 706th Squadron and in order on the tape are: Charles Irwin (pilot), James Bell (co-pilot), Eugene Darr (navigator), Milton Klein (bombardier), Angelo Indre (radioman), yours truly (engineer/top turret), Marvin Finger and George Harris (waist gunners), Virgil Huff (ball turret), and Andrew Krempusch (tail turret). We all made it home but Irwin, Bell, Huff and Krempusch are deceased since the war. We have been unable to locate Harris (last known address Walnut Creek, California) and would appreciate any help in finding him. The rest of us got together from time to time at 446th and 2nd ADA Reunions.

During our stay at Flixton we crewed several planes including the following which some of you 706ers may remember: "Kill-Joy" (41-29141) which survived the war and is seen briefly in the movie "Command Decision," "Black Magic" (42-110093) missing over Hanau 12/12/44, "Old Faithful" (42-7505) salvaged at Bungay 8/24/44, "Wistful Vista" (44-40104) salvaged at Bungay 6/29/44, "Lazy Lou" (42-7609) salvaged at Bungay 12/18/44, "Maximum Effort" (42-95188) lost near Ausberg 7/21/44, "Ginger" (41-29177) lost over Ludwigshafen 8/26/44, and "Dragon Lady" (42-7593) landed in France 2/45 and transferred to the 389th BG. We also flew "Mi-Akin-Ass," "Flak Bait," and a ship with Donald Duck on the nose running like a halfback, but with a 50 caliber under his arm instead of a football, which is pictured on page 182 of John Woolnough's "8th Air Force Album." This one did not have a name painted on but we called her "Dodgin' Don." I don't know the serial numbers or any details of what became of these three and would sure appreciate any info any of you can supply.

That's it, and that's the last you'll be hearing about me. From now on I want to hear about you. Send any and all items for use in Bungay Bull columns to me at 708 Dianne Court, Rahway, NJ 07065 — be it hangar flying, war stories, or things that have come to be since 1945. I'm waiting for your help.

I'm looking forward to meeting old friends and making new ones in Dayton when the 446th gathers there, and would like to announce that Joe Soder, Jim O'Connor and I will be arranging the 1992 Group Reunion for August in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. We hope that you will all give serious thought to attending, especially you Buckaroos on the East Coast who have not yet been to one but have been asking when there would be one in the East. Keep tuned to Beachbell for further details.

11th Annual So. California Dinner

The 11th Annual Southern California 2nd ADA Dinner will be held at the El Toro Marine Corps Club on 29 February 1992. Everyone is welcome. Contact:

Dick Boucher
1791 S.E. Windsor Lane
Santa Ana, CA 92705
Tel. 714-544-7484

93rd Magnets Available



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Magnet, Inc. of Washington, MO has donated 1,000 of these 93rd magnets to D.H. (Dutch) Borcharding of the 328th BS. The magnets are available to you for the asking. All that will be needed to secure one by mail will be to send Dutch a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

He is asking that you make a donation for the magnets, with all proceeds going to the 93rd Bomb Group's donation to the 2nd Air Division Association's Memorial Library Room in Norwich. If you want more magnets after the first order, all it will take is another stamped envelope; but donations are expected for these also if possible. Your donation may be sent with your request, or made later after receipt of the magnets.

Please support this venture, and also send a letter of thanks to Magnet, Inc., c/o Bill Wood, President, 4 Wayne Drive, Washington, MO 63090. Requests for magnets and donations should be sent to:

D.H. Borcharding
8 Lancaster Court
Washington, MO 63090



491st BOMB GROUP THE LAST AND THE BEST the RINGMASTER REPORTS

by **Hap Chandler**

1992 "RETURN TO ENGLAND": 72 are pre-registered for our return to North Pickenham and Metfield. The tour will begin in London on May 15, 1991, with a welcome dinner at the Tara Hotel. On May 17th, 491st members and their families will participate in the annual "Day of Remembrance" ceremony at Madingley Cemetery near Cambridge. Arrangements are being made to accord special recognition to our fallen comrades of the 491st.

Monday will be a very special day at North Pickenham, Tuesday there will be a plaque dedication at Metfield, Wednesday we will return to Kings Lynn and Sandringham. Thursday and Friday will be in Norwich where a special day is planned at the Memorial Room in the Norwich Library. We will go to Mildenhall on Saturday for the United Kingdom's largest air show, featuring, we understand, the "All American." What a sight to see a B-24J in East Anglia again! Our tour will conclude May 24 after our farewell party and dinner at the RAF Museum at Hendon.

Several have inquired as to the availability of reservations for children and grandchildren. They are most welcome and we will do everything we can to make their trip meaningful.

Our tour director is Heather Pearsall of Travel Your Way, 281 Needham Street, Newton, MA 02164; Tel. (617) 244-4420; Fax (617) 964-1903. Heather is a "Blitz Baby" having been born during the Luftwaffe bombing campaign against London. Please contact her should you have any questions regarding this trip.

GROUP HISTORY PROJECT: Jack Leppert, 2911 Pinewood Run, Palm Harbor, FL 34684 has been named head of our Group History task force. The task force consists of

Vin Cahill, Louis Bur, Nelson Leggette, and Frank Lewis. As of this report they are conducting a survey to determine if there is sufficient demand for a hard-back, revised history of the Group. You will shortly receive a brochure with further details.

Additional representation is needed on the task force, and your comments regarding this project are welcome. We particularly need personal stories of World War II experiences, and photographs.

us. He reports that Mrs. Miller is improving after an extended stay in the hospital.

Keith and Iris Thomas, our North Pickenham sponsors, attended our Dearborn convention with their son Bret. They were met in Boston by Vin Cahill and visited with Pete Bove in Burlington, Vermont prior to coming to Dearborn. From Dearborn they went to Dayton, Pittsburgh and Washington with Bob Bacher. Visited in Williamsburg with Billy Johnson; spent three hectic days in



DEARBORN REUNION AND BRITISH VISITORS: We had the largest number ever at the Second Air Division reunion, 103, and were privileged to recognize Sid Brown, sole living survivor of the "Russelsheim Death March," August 26, 1944. Forrest Brinistool, wounded by flak prior to bailing out, accompanied Sid. Forrest was transferred to a German hospital and was not with the rest of Norman Rogers' crew when they were attacked by a German mob in Russelsheim.

John Paller and Carl Van Vondren each had six members of their crews present for this reunion.

General Fred Miller sent greetings from San Antonio. His interest and support of our Memorial Association continues to inspire

Atlanta. Then, on to Jack Leppert's Florida estate with visit to EPCOT in Orlando.

CORRECTION: Received a welcome call from Amarillo, Texas. Ed Ainsworth wanted all to know that the report of his death in the Summer Journal was inaccurate. We welcome reports of this sort and it is an indication of how difficult it is to "ride herd" on our 850 plus known Ringmasters!

FOLDED WINGS: Bob Sweet answered the last roll call earlier this year. Bob was a pilot in the 852nd Squadron who completed a full tour. His crew's closest call was January 5, 1945 when they crashed just off the runway at North Pickenham during the aborted "snow mission."

Notes to the 389th

by Lloyd E. West

2nd ADA 44th REUNION at Dearborn, MI July 4-7, 1991 and who was there: Sylvester Bergman, Bill Berry, John Blackis, Oscar Boudreaux, Dan Boyle, John Brooks, Harold Brown, Charlie Campbell, Jack Cox, Bob Dawson, Chuck Dearing, Bill Dowden, Charles Doyle, Barney Driscoll, Charles Ducsay, Reuben Duke, Albert Falke, Norbert Gebhard, Allen Hallett, Gene Hartley, Bruce Helmer, Jack Heverly, John Kane, John Kanyuck, John Kendig, Walt Ketron, Don Kinard, Bud Koorndyk, Felix Leeton, Ralph Leslie, Vince Lozowicki, Bill McCracken, Bill Meyers, Fred Miller, Ray Nathe, Jerry Opitz, Ben Schaefer, Bob Seigh, Ira Simpson, John Tucholski, Walt Welch, Hank Wentland, Ed Young, Earl Zimmerman. The four corners of the U.S. were covered at Dearborn with Harold Brown from Maine, Vince Lozowicki from Florida, Bud Doyle from Washington, Bill Meyers from California and John Blackis from Colorado. Guests of the 389th at the mini-reunion banquet were David and Jean Hastings of Norwich, England. Following the dinner David shared some of his memories of his visits to Hethel and some of the crews, especially Al Dexter and his crew, as a youngster during WWII.

FOLDED WINGS: Regret to report the passing of the following members of the 389th BG for the period 5-1-91 to 8-1-91: **Leonard D. Boisclair, John Mortizia, Carlo Panciero, Preston G. Redd.** And I do not mean to be partial, but word was received during the reunion at Dearborn of the passing of **Frank Vadas**, former assistant VP to your present VP. Belatedly on behalf of the 389th BG I sent our condolences to the families and friends of our departed "Buddies."

MEMBERSHIP: As the membership of the 389th in the Second Air Division Association moves up a few digits it will drop back a few and as of 8-19-91 the total was 771 including 46 associate members. With this total the 389th ranks #2 member-wise in the 2nd ADA. As before, I ask your assistance in locating those who are not members of the 2nd ADA who served in the 389th during WWII.

A QUESTION: Was the 389th Bomb Group the first group in the Second Air Division to employ the use of chaff to confuse the German radar during WWII? If you know contact LTC J. Allen Nye Jr. (Ret.), 3316 Highland Drive, Vicksburg, MS 39180.

AMERICAN LIBRARIAN FUND: The goal that was set has been reached, but with changing interest rates, inflation and other variances, more will be needed. As per a recent report received by the 389th Group VP, 37% or 244 members of the 685 members of the 389th have contributed to the fund. The 389th is in third place in the Association in donors. I urge the 63% who have not contributed to consider supporting our Last Mission. Send contributions to Jordan R. Uttal, 7824 Meadow Park Drive, Apt. 101, Dallas, TX 75230.

MEMORIES: The following piece about our Chapel at Hethel was taken from the Eastern Daily Press, Saturday, June 2, 1973:

Only Cows Hear Echoes of Past

There may be a number of people who will have memories revived by the somewhat desolate looking building (shown here), for it was once the church of a busy community living at war-time Hethel Airfield.

During the 1940s and 1950s several hundred people occupied the 165 ex-Air Force huts, with latterly, enough children to maintain a very fine primary school with Mr. Carder as headmaster — a school which ran evening classes as well. Cows now pasture where that school once was.

The community had its own shops, including of course "frying tonight," a weekly cinema show, well laid-out roads and, at one time, a circular cycle speedway track.

The buildings have gradually been demolished or have mouldered away, much of the land returning to farming. Cows now wander at will around the old church, which once had excellent congregations under the care of the Rev. T. Frost; a splendid Sunday school run by Miss Peggy Myhill — at that time a resident nearby — and her helpers. A world missionary map still hangs on the wall.

Many of the erstwhile buildings had walls with first-class murals. American, of course, and, perhaps also of course, of scantily-clad young ladies!

One effect of the base was pointed out to me by Mr. J.K. White, of Bracon Ash, who dug out some interesting facts from the marriage register at Hethel Church (proper).

In the ten months between August 1944 and June 1945, ten Americans married English girls in the church — four of the girls coming from Norfolk. The interesting point is that those same ten weddings in ten months equalled the number for the previous 12 years... and that after the departure of the Americans four years were to pass without another wedding.

It would be interesting to discover how those war-time brides fared in their adopted country.



This desolate and rambling ruin was once the church which served the former airbase at Hethel.

"Faces of the Second Air Division"

"Faces of the 2nd Air Division" is a special television documentary, now available to Association members for home viewing. This 55-minute color video production is a compilation of excerpts from interviews of 2nd ADA members, voice-over narration, war footage and music, and is available on one-half inch VHS.

The focus of "Faces," which is unlike any other military history video production, is representative of men and women who served in the Second Air Division, 8th USAAF in WWII. A graphic picture is presented of these men and women through their reflections on, and feelings about, the extraordinary experience of WWII, what they did in the war, what the war did for them. Thirty-two men and women veterans of the 2nd Air Division look back on events they lived through almost a half century ago and talk about those memories that won't go away — memories of missions — first ones, unusual ones, most dangerous ones — of the heavy responsibilities of the ground crews, of funny things that happened, of life on the bases in England, of the work of the Women's Army Auxilliary Corps. And they evaluate those experiences from the vantage of years of living. Included in the documentary are former aerial gunners, headquarters staff, support personnel, ground crews, pilots, navigators, bombardiers, radio operators, engineers, and also the reminiscences of two friends from England.

"Faces of the 2nd Air Division" is based on "The Chicago Tapes," which are 34 interviews, each from 15-50 minutes long, unedited, compiled into seven 2-hour tapes. "The Chicago Tapes" were the first video production of the Military History Project; they have been donated to the 2nd Air Division Memorial Room in the Norwich Library and represent the beginning of a video military history resource center there.

"Faces of the 2nd Air Division" may be rented from the Association (see Pete Henry's listing) or may be purchased from the Military History Project. For information and price write to Joe Dzenowagis, P.O. Box 421, Okemos, MI 48864. This video tape and others produced by Dzenowagis are wonderful mementos of our service with the 2nd Air Division.

491st Tail Fin Badge

Back by popular demand is the famous 491st Tail Fin badge. Send SASE envelope and only \$3.00 to:

Carl Alexanderson
RR2 Hurds Corner Road
Pawling, New York 12564

Proceeds will go to Ringmasters treasury.

Missing in Action – My First Combat Mission

by Jim Lorenz (466th)

I well remember my first combat mission with the 785th Squadron of the 466th Bomb Group, as we didn't get back to England until the next day — a 34 hour mission! We were a replacement crew and reported to the 466th for action on August 14, 1944. Each member of our crew was to fly the first mission with an experienced crew. I was assigned to fly co-pilot with Lt. Duane Kinsey's crew. Here's the official release of the mission, as it was written up for "Stars & Stripes," "Yank" and also sent to my hometown newspaper.

Excerpt from the Elkhart (Indiana) Truth, Monday, October 9, 1944

The fortunes of war, for 3 Elkhartans. Elkhart relatives of three hometown heroes were in receipt today of rather detailed accounts of overseas action in which the young men recently participated...

Second Lt. James H. Lorenz, 811 Oakland, was co-pilot of a B-24 Liberator which anti-aircraft fire forced down on a French airfield which had been captured by Canadian forces only a short time before...

It was quite a different thrill that greeted Lt. Lorenz and crewmates of their Liberator bomber. Shot down by flak over Nazi territory, they fully expected to fall prisoners of war but fell, instead, into a reception committee of Canadians, the flight officer in command being from California. The story is told by a news release from an Eighth Air Force station in England.

The bomber, "Gran Slam," piloted by Second Lt. Duane R. Kinsey of Uhrichsville, Ohio, was hit by anti-aircraft fire while on a mission against the railway marshalling yards at Karlsruhe, Germany. Flak knocked out the bomber's No. 4 engine; with gas running low and weather closing in, the pilot started looking for a landing field.

Over France he started circling a tiny runway which had just been bombed out. They then headed for another field near a newly liberated French town.

On landing, they found this field occupied by Canadian troops, and the first to greet them was an RCAF Hurricane pilot, Flight Officer Tony Fromolo of Alameda, California. Fromolo took charge of the grounded Americans and after seeing that they were fed, showed them vast stores of captured German ammunition, including some of the notorious "wooden" bullets which the Hun has been using. Fromolo then took the boys into town.

"I was amazed at the obvious joy of the French people," the crew's navigator related. "They treated us like kings and helped show us the town, which only a few days before had been in German hands. We almost fell over when we learned they had champagne. Evidently it had been hidden from the Germans and brought out for a

celebration when the Allies marched in."

Next day, after "Gran Slam" had been repaired by Canadian mechanics, all pitched in to help the crew load the bomber with gasoline and within 24 hours after they had been shot down, they were back at the home base...

That was the "official" news release — now for the real story. We were awakened at 2:30 AM for this mission. After breakfast and the briefing, I learned that the co-pilot signs out the escape and evasion kits for all the crew. We also had our French ID cards with us — just in case. Only after takeoff did I find out this was the crew's 13th mission!

We had a routine pre-dawn takeoff, form up and formation flight to the Karlsruhe marshalling yards. It was a clear, cool morning. We saw no German bandits enroute, but as we approached the German border we did see some flak bursts ahead. Kinsey reassured me not to worry, as we would never see the shell which had our serial number on it. As we turned on to our Initial Point — from here to the target we had to fly straight and level at a constant airspeed and altitude — we could see a black curtain of flak bursts ahead directly in our path. I wondered how the Germans could know our IP to target route — it was as though someone had given them a photo of our briefing map with the dreaded red line showing our flight route. But I soon came back to reality — we were at 26,000 feet with ten 500 pound GP bombs to drop. Kinsey advised me that it normally took the anti-aircraft gun crew about 21 seconds to determine our altitude, cut the fuse, load the shell, fire and get it to our altitude; thus, if we moved slightly every 15-18 seconds, we reduced our chances of being hit. But not so with this type defense — where the guns were assigned to continuously fire at a certain height and place within a rectangle in the sky through which we had to fly to the target. And we had to hold it straight and level. So we listened to the spent flak particles rain on our bomber skin — like someone throwing a handful of BBs onto a wash tub. But he was right — just as we dropped our bombs, we never saw the shell which took out our oil lines on No. 4 engine. We got it feathered, and found we had drifted into the clouds at 20,000 and fallen out of formation. We knew if we flew due west, we had a good chance of crossing the front battle lines to turf the allies controlled. After some 10 minutes, with No. 1 engine now acting up and our fuel running low, we knew we could not make it to the channel. We dropped under the clouds to 2000 feet to see if we could spot an airfield. We spotted one, flew the length of the runway, only to see it had been bombed every 50 feet, making it useless. But this did indicate that we were probably near our front lines. We then spotted air activity just north of us. As we got closer, we determined there were gliders

with RAF markings landing there. We couldn't make radio contact, so fired yellow/yellow flares (indicating mechanical problems) hoping their controller would give us the right of way. They soon kindly left a space for us to approach (gliders have the right of way). As we set takeoff power for landing, No. 1 engine stopped. We made the field and ran off the end of the runway — but did no major damage.

We followed a jeep to a parking area. F/O Fromolo greeted us and stated this was B-48 Canadian Advance Field Base, near Amiens, France. He mentioned they had captured this area only the day before. They fixed a meal for us and had their mechanics look at the engines and gas lines with our flight engineer. They concluded they could patch the oil lines on No. 4, but were not sure they could fix No. 1. They set to work, and the Canadians with navigator and gunners took off for town to help the natives celebrate their freedom. Kinsey and I elected to stay with the plane. We were advised they would have some 100 or so Jerry cans of gas for us to load. The only problem — the gas would have to be filtered through a chamois to remove the water. So we spent most of the night lifting the cans to the wings and slowly pouring it through the filters. And there were still German snipers around to keep us on our toes.

After breakfast, we thanked our hosts and did a short field takeoff procedure. It worked fine, but as we leveled at 1000 feet, No. 1 engine again went out. We feathered it and elected to continue on to England. Amiens is only some 50 miles from the channel, so we were sure we could make it home. That is — if the British would let us in! We now had only yesterday's radio codes and we knew we'd have the balloon nets over London to clear. Fighters were sent to intercept us. We called on the "Colgate" fighter liaison channel and did establish radio contact. They insisted on fighter planes "escorting" us around the nets and to Attlebridge. They did believe we were friendly — and gave us the squeaker code for the balloon net warnings. We made it safely and were greeted warmly at the 466th. As no one had seen us after we left the formation, we were officially reported MIA for a day.

But then I found I had another problem — the men had opened the escape kits and spent the 6,000 French francs in them on booze and whatever. I slowly trudged to Major Laubrich's office, as I was told I must file a "Report of Survey" on how the money got lost and how I was going to replace it. I told him what had happened and he kindly suggested I must have used the money to buy our gas.

Thus ended my first mission — some 30 hours I'll well remember. But, I might add, our crew finished our tour of 35 missions without a scratch or injury. Of course, we did later bomb Basel, Switzerland — but that's another story.

Letting Old Memories Soar . . .

by Emily Church

Reprinted from Ypsilanti Press, July 6, 1991

Once that plane gets in their blood, it stays in there.

And Gladys Alonso should know. She traveled from Atlanta with her husband to a reunion Friday (July 5, 1991) of about 1,000 World War II B-24 crew members and their wives Friday at the Yankee Air Force Museum at Willow Run Airport.

It was a chance "just to get with all the buddies again," said Walt Meyer of southern California.

The 2nd Air Division members have held their annual reunion in more exotic locations, like Cambridge, England and South Carolina resort towns, but this year they celebrated the 50th anniversary of Willow Run Airport and the B-24 bomber.

One of the last two B-24 "Liberator" bombers that can still fly stood on the tarmac Friday.

"I always get a kick out of that," said Meyer, a B-24 pilot. "It gives you a great feeling to climb back in there . . . It's very different, but it still brings back memories of when you were flying in anger."

For some of their wives, it was the first time they had ever seen the planes that their husbands flew in on those 10-hour flights over Germany.

"It was fantastic to see what the fellas did," said Gretta Jeske of Ventura, California. "We felt sorry for them when we realized what they went through."

Retired now for the most part, even though some still wore their Air Force caps,



Photo by Jeff Lawrence

they met at a chicken barbeque held in the museum's hanger, trading stories about southwestern states and old friends.

"We're just talking about people . . . How lucky we were to make it," said Norman Schroeder, a flight engineer then and a member of YAF now.

"We're all brothers, in a way," he said.

For some the annual reunions are a must:

"Their service during the war was the

high point of their lives — by that I mean the most exciting," Meyer said.

The group has more than 6,000 people on its active membership roll. No one Friday seemed to know exactly how many joined them in England to fly the B-24s, as orders changed so often.

But they remember that allied forces lost 6,311 men in the 2nd Division, Schroeder said.

To the Members of the Second Air Division Association:

Memorial Day, May 19th, 1991, dawned fine and warm and as we prepared for our journey to Cambridge my thoughts were of the men who this special day honours. So many tragic deaths, so much grief and pain. I remembered all those families who had never known the last resting place of their loved ones and the many sad stories I have heard from their friends who survived.

As we reached the cemetery we saw once more the beautifully kept grounds and rows and rows of white crosses stretching into the distance, each one has its own British and American flags in front of them, the long wall carrying the names of those still missing after all these years, the gardens, reflecting pools, lowered flags and the beautiful chapel, a really special setting for this important occasion.

We made our way to see all the wreaths laid out behind the chapel ready for the service, each one with its own numbered marker. You can perhaps imagine my feeling when I got to No. 13, the Second Air Division's marker; the marker was there but no wreath! I asked the people on duty there and they had to go back to the office to

check up. Several heart stopping minutes later someone found it at No. 76 position so all was well, and it was a really beautiful wreath.

The servicemen and women from U.S.A.F. Alconbury were busy directing the large crowd of people to their seats, the service was very impressive, with the speakers, the choir and the band all excelling themselves; then it was time for the wreaths to be brought out, with a long file of girl and boy scouts carrying them and the numbered markers. The call came for the people who were to lay the wreaths to come forward. Over eighty wreaths were to be laid. My heart was full as I joined them and laid the Second Air Division Association wreath for you, and after two minutes silence we rejoined our families and friends for the rest of the service. Then came the firing of the volleys and the haunting sound of taps echoing around the grounds. This was followed by A10s from R.A.F. Alconbury flying the missing man formation leaving many a lump in the throats of those American and British people who had travelled to take part in the ceremonies.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kurtz from Clewiston, Florida, sat next to me. They had visited the cemetery the previous day. 2nd Lt. John H. Kurtz, 566 Sq., 389th Bomb Group, is buried in plot F, row 4, grave 27, Cambridge. This was the first visit to England and his brother's grave by Mr. Kurtz and learning from the staff of the Memorial Day Service, they returned to take part.

This, of course, made it even more special for me to have a family member of one of "our" Second Air Division men sitting beside me. They had no knowledge of his base or the 2nd AD Memorial Library. We exchanged addresses and I have sent them all the information. Although it was a sorrowful time for them it must have been heartwarming to see the love and respect all around for those who lost their lives during WWII.

I thank each and every one of you for the privilege of representing you by laying your beautiful wreath. This will be a day I'll never forget.

— Patricia J. Everson

Letters



Dear Father:

Even though everyone says that you died in 1945 somewhere in France, I have never believed that you are really gone. I was a teenager before I was even told that you were in the Air Force and had flown on bombing missions in Europe. I had a very hard time understanding why you were gone, especially since I was deaf and emotionally upset much of the time. I could never understand why you were not home to take care of me and when they said you were dead I would not believe them.

I still believe that you will come home someday and will accept me as your daughter. All my life I have had a very hard time understanding the meaning of "father." I never had a father at home since you left before I was born. People would use the word "father" but I never understood the word — still don't and probably never will until you come home.

So, I will keep searching and asking people if they know anything about my father, S/Sgt. Keith D. Wann of the 448th Bomb Group, who is listed as Missing In Action. I know better though because he is out there somewhere looking for me and will find me someday.

Vickie Dale Wann
AKA Polly
DOB: 1-4-44
P.O. Box 1835
Burney, CA 96013

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Dear Bill:

Can Jean and I use up a small part of the Journal to express our sincere thanks to all the Second Air Division Association for yet another superb Convention. Dearborn gave us once again that wonderful opportunity to renew so many old friendships as well as make new ones in that great happy family of the Second Air Division Association and as always, Evelyn Cohen's organisation was superb. We were delighted to be a part of that historic occasion when the cheque for \$550,000 was handed over to secure the future of an American presence in your unique Memorial Room in Norwich, a Memorial which I am deeply proud to serve in my small way as a Governor of the Memorial Trust.

What a joy it was to also attend the two very successful meetings of the Heritage League and see their outstanding progress, for they also hold the key to ensuring that the Memorial remains alive in the years to come. Our generation has indeed had our lives enriched by your friendship and hopefully the Heritage League can ensure that future generations on both sides of the Atlantic can enjoy the same, as well as providing the encouragement to give up their time to serve your unique and living

Memorial down the ages, so that the memory of those who gave their lives and those who survived will never be forgotten. Through you all we enjoy our freedom today and tomorrow. Thank you all once more for a truly moving and enjoyable Convention which has given us memories that will last forever.

David & Jean Hastings
Salhouse
Norfolk NR13 6RQ
England

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To the 445th Bomb Group:

On Sunday, August 4th, ten kneelers, made in honour of those who served in the 445th Bomb Group, were dedicated to the use of those who worship in All Saints' Church, Tibenham. These are the words used by Reverend Selwyn Swift on that occasion:

"First, before our prayer, we remember all those young men who gave their lives — far away from their homes and their families — so that we might live in peace. Rest eternal grant them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

"Now we ask for God's blessing upon these lovely memorial gifts: Lord God Almighty, by whose power and love all things are sanctified: accept these gifts for the beautifying of this House of Prayer. Grant, we pray, that they may be made holy by your blessing. And so, in the faith of Jesus Christ and for the benefit of this Church, we dedicate these gifts in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

We in Tibenham would like to say thank you to all those kind people who spent many hours making the kneeler covers for us. We would also like to say that if any member or friend of the 445th Bomb Group is in Norfolk and would like to see the kneelers in the Church, they would be most welcome. We have a Service every Sunday at 11 a.m., but the Church may be visited at any time. Our telephone numbers are 037-977-251 and 037-977-216.

Evelyn Bayne

+ + + +

Dear Bill:

I am seeking any information which you or your readers might have about my crew on which I was the Bombardier. We were in the 576th and later, the 579th Squadron of the 392nd Bomb Group.

Our plane was named "The Goddess" and the pilot was Richard Steck (San Diego, CA), the co-pilot was Ed Quinn (Philadelphia, PA), and the navigator was Mickey Jost (Missouri). Also in the crew were Russ Parker and Bill Thompson among others. We were stationed in Wendling, not too far from Norwich and Kings Lynn.

Publishing this letter might reach some of the old gang — we flew 24 missions together and I have lost touch through the years except with Dick Steck who died last year.

Earl B. Gross
880 North Hilldale Ave. #16
Los Angeles, CA 90069

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Dear Bill:

Everett Childs and I are going back to France this October to visit some of the brave people of the Resistance who aided and harbored us during '43 and '44.

One of the outstanding people that we will be visiting is Mme Maucelin of Pocancy in the Marne. In January she had sent me a well aged and yellowed piece of paper that her brother had written at the time of Harry Bassler's first internment at the village of Cherville on 22 August 44. I have since learned that he was shot down in a fighter but cannot identify.

If any of the fighter group people can identify this officer I will send the information to any interested party.

William A. Rendall
12 Van Buren Drive
Kinderhook, NY 12106

+ + + +

Dear Bill:

Please advise whether copies of "Mighty Eighth War Diary" are still available.

Richard D. Lodge
St. Petersburg, Florida

Try second hand book stores. That's your best bet now — Ed.

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Dear Bill:

My wife and I just returned from the most memorable and enjoyable trip of our lives, which included Norwich and Seething, England.

The library in Norwich with the 2nd AD "American Room" is outstanding and Tony North and Phyllis DuBois are two fantastic people who are doing an outstanding job devoting their time and energy in making the library such an outstanding place.

Although I was with the 448th BG, I wanted to visit Hethel (home of the 389th BG) on behalf of a friend, Dr. Cletus Stevens, who had been a pilot stationed there. Phyllis DuBois made this all possible by calling and getting permission for us to visit the Tower and their Memorial and then transporting us out to the airfield.

We visited my old airfield at Seething (home of the 448th BG), saw the Tower (which houses the museum) and the beautiful memorials, both at the field and at the Old Church in Seething. Everyone was wonderful to us, and a special thank you to Ron and Pat Everson, Jim and Nancy Turner and Ralph and Pat Whitehead.

If anyone is planning a visit to Norwich and Seething, please let them know your plans ahead of time and allow enough time to see everything and to meet all of these wonderful people. I guarantee you will not be disappointed. We were there for 5 days and wish it had been longer.

George Weinberger
3825 67th Ave. Ct. N.W.
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Glad you enjoyed your visit, George. Rather than "American Room" the preferred short reference is "Memorial" or "Memorial Room" — Ed.

+ + + +

Dear Bill:

I have enclosed a crew picture for Irving Koltun, pilot, 492nd BG, 857th BS, "We'll Get By."

Standing from left to right are: Robert L. Tresler, bombardier; Theodore R. DeGood, co-pilot; Irving E. Koltun, pilot; and John T. Brandenburg, navigator.

Kneeling from left to right are: Stephen Gilmore, radio operator; Arthur B. Murphy, engineer; Leonard E. Grab, gunner; Samuel Bryan, nose gunner; Donald J. Chandler, tail gunner; and Melvin L. Jacobson.

I hope to have an article completed for you for an upcoming issue of the Journal regarding the Medal of Honor Recipients of the Second Air Division, 8th AAF. This has become an extremely interesting project which I am pursuing and there are a few

more pieces I need to be certain of before submitting the article. There are five recipients from the Second Air Division: Leon Johnson, Leon Vance, Addison Baker, John Jerstad and Lloyd Hughes. Lots of material on all of them except for Hughes which I am continuing to research. I'll keep you posted.

Norma and I have been re-reading the old copies of the Journal from 1973 forward and Bill, you have done an exceptionally good job on the newsletter. The history contained in those issues is incredible. We cracked up on some of your editorial comments... great! Only those of us doing a newsletter can relate to what a tremendous job you do. Thanks.

Bill Beasley
492nd Group VP



Dear Bill:

Enclosed is a Spring 1944 photo of Lt. "Matty" Mattson; the writer (Roland E. Trent); and tall Capt. Bonner. It depicts "the long, the short and the tall" of the pilots of the 714 Squadron, 448 BG as of that time. I finished my thirtieth mission as of D-Day eve (6-44) and lost track of the shortest and the tallest.

The photos of Leroy Engdahl at the completion of his thirtieth mission (to Mulhouse, France) brought back some fond memories (Summer 91 Journal), since I was on that mission of May 11, 1944 and we all were envious of Leroy's accomplishment as the first pilot of the 448th BG to make that mark.

I thoroughly enjoy the Journal and never dispose of a copy. You do great work.

Roland E. Trent
321 Oak Circle
Lake Murray
Leesville, SC 29070

+ + + +

Dear Bill:

I was a spare gunner in the 458th Bomb Group, 753rd Bomb Squadron (?), Crew 33, and flew at least 12 missions in a B-24 bomber named "A Dog's Life" captained by Charles Evans from Texas. I have made no attempt to stay in contact with any of the members of the crew as they finished their missions and returned to the US before I finished my 30.

I ran across this photo of that crew taken at Horsham St. Faith in 1944. It would be enjoyable to hear from any one of them who might remember me and let me know how life has treated them. I will send them a copy of the photo for their own memories.

Donald R. Conway
133 Pleasant Valley Rd.
Amesbury, MA 01913



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Dear Bill:

Enclosed is a photo of a birthday cake baked by my daughter, Suann McDonald. It is fashioned after the All American B-24. The celebration noted my 75th birthday which was held at a daughter's home in King Hill, Idaho, 5-27-91.

Paul Anderson
15015 Victa Drive
Caldwell, Idaho 83605

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Dear Bill:

This picture shows four men who haven't been together since 1945. Seated in the hanger at Willow Run, where the All American was parked are, from the 453rd BG, 735th Sq: M/Sgt. John C. Randall, crew chief; M/Sgt. George A. Smith, flight chief; S/Sgt. Ralph "Mac" McClure, armorer gunner; and Pat Ramm.

There were enough information and "stories" exchanged at this table to fill several volumes.

Pat was the nice, cheerful English lad who used to sneak over to our flight line to be with his Yank friends. The girls in the photo were with Action Tours which furnished transportation...no snickering please!

R.W. McClure
Rt. 1, Box 328
Bluemont, VA 22012-9502

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Standing (l-r): M. Van Buren; Leon Haggard, radio; Charles Evans, pilot; Fred Johnson, co-pilot; George Adkins, bombardier. Kneeling (l-r): Don Conway, gunner; Larry Matson, gunner; Daryl Latch, gunner.

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Dear Bill:

This story and picture was submitted to me by Howard Macreading, Crew Chief on "Heavenly Daze" until lost 21 January 1944. The picture is of T/Sgt. Arthur N. Cox, Jr. Any of you early 93rd men should remember him, and if you know where he is or any of the others that survived, please let me know.



On October 9, 1942 the 330th, 93rd BG lost our first plane in combat over Lille, France. She was called "Big Eagle," No. 41-23678. The crew were: Capt. Alexander Simpson, POW; Lt. Nicholas H. Cox, POW; Lt. Carl N. Garrett, KIA; Lt. William Marsh, KIA, T/Sgt. Arthur B. Cox, escaped & returned; S/Sgt. Arthur N. Torrey, KIA; T/Sgt. Michael Reardon, POW; S/Sgt. Clayton Kammerer, KIA; S/Sgt. Stephen Eppolite, KIA; Sgt. James DeToris, KIA.

Howard Macreading relayed the following to me: "In June 1943 I was on leave in London for a few days and luckily for me the Hotel Savoy was full so I ended up at the Washington Club. Upon leaving the Washington Club the next morning I noticed a very tall American soldier standing by himself on the steps of a building next to the Washington Club. As I looked at him he raised his hand and smiled, and I stopped dead in my tracks because this boy could not be my friend whom I had not seen or heard from in 9 months. Slowly I walked toward him and up the steps and he said, "Boy am I glad to see you, Mac" (my nickname in the service) and what a huge smile on his face. I was stunned when he said "Yes, Mac, it's me, Arty Cox," and yes, Floyd, tears were flowing from my eyes. We had a few lovely hours together, he told me the French hid him all over France and finally got him into Spain. I had a cheap little camera so I took his picture (only 1 3/4 x 2 3/4) which I still have today. The next Arty was heading back to the USA and I have not seen or heard from him since that day in London, June 1943. I sure remember Oct. 9, 1942 when our planes left Alconbury and especially Arty's plane the "Big Eagle" failed to return."

Floyd H. Mabee
93rd Group VP

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Dear Bill:

The 2nd ADA Convention in Dearborn, Michigan on July 3-6, 1991 was also the reunion for members of one of the 467th BG crews who had not met in over 46 years. This year, after many futile attempts, a reunion for six of the original nine was achieved. We had flown our 35th mission on 4 April 1945 to Perleberg and had sworn to keep in touch. The best that we could do was to keep in contact at Christmas.

Included were: Harry Dombalagian, pilot; Joe Yandian, navigator; Bob Hower, waist gunner; Bill Sikora, radio operator; Joe Spiroff, nose gunner; and John Jansen, waist gunner. Lloyd Howdyshell, co-pilot, was unable to attend. The whereabouts of Ed Kitchen, engineer and Ed Reichwein, tail gunner, are not known.

Our crew was originally assigned to the 489th BG, 846th Sqdn at Halesworth. There we flew our first nine missions. On 5 Nov.



Front (l-r): Joe Yandian, Harry Dombalagian, Lloyd Howdyshell. Center (l-r): Joe Spiroff, Bob Hower, Bill Sikora. Back (l-r): John Jansen, Ed Reichwein, Ed Kitchen.

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Dear Bill:

2nd ADA member Richard Trousdale, 8350 E McKellips #60, Scottsdale, AZ 85257 (Tel. 602-949-0860) would like to contact any of the crew who trained at Westover Field, MA the summer of 1944. They flew a new plane the northern route of England Sept. 1944, started missions in the 93rd BG, 328th BS Oct. 1944, and finished last mission April 1945. The crew was split up and he has not

1944, on a mission to Karlsruhe, the pilot was forced to land at an advanced U.S. fighter base near Gosselles, Belgium with severe battle damage. The 489th BG had not received word that the crew was safe and we were declared MIA. Ten days later, upon return to our base, we learned that the 489th BG had orders to return to the U.S. assigned to B-29 training, but our crew was not included in the orders to return. Our remaining 26 missions were flown with the 467th BG, 788th Sqdn at Rackheath.

I'm enclosing two pictures, before and after if you please, of the crew as we looked after our forced landing in Belgium and how we look today standing alongside the All American at Willow Run. Time can play some ugly tricks. . .

Joe Yandian
35765 Chestnut Street
Wayne, MI 48184



(l-r): John Jansen, Joe Yandian, Bob Hower, Harry Dombalagian, Joe Spiroff, Bill Sikora.

+ +

seen or heard from any of them since. None of them are members of the 2nd ADA except Trousdale, and he has just joined and attended our reunion at Dearborn. If anyone knows any of these fellows, contact either me or Trousdale.

Floyd H. Mabee
93rd Group VP
28 Hillside Avenue
Dover, NJ 07801



Back row (l-r): Murray Muscatel, engineer; Bombardier (name unknown); John Kerler, pilot; Harold King, co-pilot; Stan ?, waist gunner. Front row (l-r): Harry Karber, tail gunner; Richard Trousdale, radio gunner; Paul ?, waist gunner; George McNulty, Jr., nose gunner.

+ + + +

Dear Bill:

Like all of the other Second Air Division combat crew members who flew their missions over Europe during World War II, I had my share of brushes with disaster resulting from flak, enemy fighter plane attacks, near collisions, mechanical failures and the other numerous hazards which our jobs required.

But, what might have been the closest call is one of which I remained completely unaware until the nine survivors of our 448th BG crew held our first reunion at Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois in 1984.

It was my responsibility to remove the bomb fuses' cotter pins once we had entered the air space over enemy territory.

Somehow, during my work in the bomb bay, the hose to my portable oxygen bottle had become disengaged.

Fortunately, at least one of the crew wondered why I had not returned to my gunner's station, investigated, and secured my life-support system.

Therefore, not only was I unconscious on the catwalk with the bomb bay doors about to open, for an undetermined period of time, but I knew absolutely nothing about that experience for forty years.

So, there are eight other people, who know from personal experience, that any recent strange behavior on my part may be due to more than my having achieved the status of a senior citizen.

Ira (Welkowitz) Wells
653 Pelton Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10310

+ + + +

Dear Bill:

We were shot down on our 31st mission with the 489th BG. I was in camp #6 and #4. As you know, on Feb. 6 of '45 we were marched out until about April 26 of '45. So you can see, I've seen the war from up there and down on the ground.

In early spring of '45, we were walking along a road, with a railroad track about a quarter of a mile away running parallel to the road. The track ran through woods, but being early spring there were no leaves on the trees so we could see a train moving about

our speed going the same way we were headed. I suppose to use us as some sort of a shield. But it didn't work. At that stage of the war, anything that moved was called a target of opportunity. I looked up and way up were several of those beautiful P-38s. Soon as the train cleared the woods, here they come. Two stayed up for cover I suppose, the rest passed over our heads not too high. Soon as they cleared our column, they opened up with those 50 cal's. Steam shot out of that engine everywhere and men were running for their lives. Now when those guys strafe, they fly a figure eight. When they were coming toward us, they would not fire, just wiggle their wings.

We could not cheer or even wave, for who knows what those guards might have done. They were kind of narrow minded that way, Ha! Some of the cars blew up in a ball of fire. It sure was some sight to see; I'll never forget it.

Jim Myers
Logansport, Indiana

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Dear Bill:

A few lines to ask if you could mention that the poem "Forget? Never!" which appeared on page 6 of the Summer 1991 Journal was not written by me, but by my radio gunner, Al Hall, of Norwood, Mass.

We were with the 489th BG, 846 Squadron. We got shot up very badly on the Saarbrücken raid 8/11/44 on our 25th mission, and were lucky enough to make it to Switzerland and were interned. Six of the crew members escaped, including Al Hall and myself, right after France was liberated.

I think the poem Al wrote was beautiful, and right on the target (a direct hit). I called him and told it like it was, that I only "submitted" his poem; the only poem I know is, a lot of beers, and a lot of tears. I can't wait for Sept. 5-8 to come, for we are having a convention in Boston for the Swiss Internees where there certainly will be a lot of beers, and a lot of tears.

Arthur T. DeVincenzi

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1992 Convention

The 45th Annual Convention of the Second Air Division Association will be held October 4-7, 1992 at the Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. Further information, costs etc. coming in the Spring Journal.

— Evelyn Cohen

Dues

Dues statements will be mailed October/November 1991 for payment by January 1, 1992. If you do not receive a statement, you should assume that you do not owe dues.

We would appreciate your prompt payment by January 1 so that we do not have to mail you a second notice. We really do not need the extra work or expense.

Thank you,
Evelyn Cohen

Lost

Lost in vicinity of the Hubbard Room, Hyatt Regency on 5 July 1991 — my camera, Canon AF35J/SPRINT, 35mm in case. Probably displayed at the business meeting but the loss was unknown to me at the time. Reward and transportation will be paid upon return to me:

John F. Goan
210 Elkacre Drive
Estill Springs, TN 37330
Call Collect: 615-649-5388

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