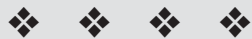


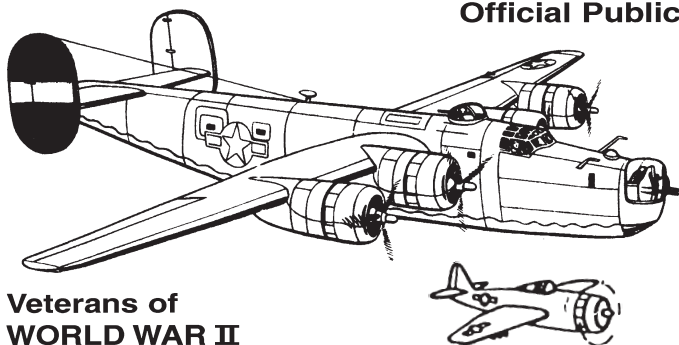
# CONGRATULATIONS FROM 37 STATE GOVERNORS



See letters  
on pages 35-38

# THE JOURNAL

Official Publication of the



Veterans of  
WORLD WAR II



Volume 41 Number 1

Spring 2002

## Congratulations to the 2ADA from Queen Elizabeth II, President Bush and The First Lady

### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

7th November, 2001

Sir Timothy Colman, KG,  
Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk

Please convey to the Veteran Members of the 2nd Air Division U.S.A.A.F. Association, and their families, my warmest greetings and very best wishes on the occasion of the opening of their new Memorial Library, and the award of the Freedom of the City of Norwich.

All of us will remember with everlasting gratitude their bravery and sacrifice in the defence of freedom during the country's hour of need.

I hope that their entire visit to Norfolk will be a happy one which will strengthen still further the unique bond of friendship between our two countries.

### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

I am honored to send warm greetings to those gathered for the rededication of this memorial library honoring the over six thousand members of the United States Army Air Force's Second Air Division who died during World War II. As President John F. Kennedy said, when dedicating this library almost forty years ago, "They gave their lives in the defense of free men everywhere."

Today we pay tribute to all the men and women in the Royal Air Force and the United States Army Air Corps who gave their lives defending freedom. We can express our gratitude through memorials such as this one, but we can never measure the value of the freedoms secured by their supreme sacrifice.

British and American pilots have once again taken to the skies to defeat evil. As we rededicate this memorial, the sacrifice and service of the men and women honored here reminds the world of our two nations' enduring commitment to fighting tyranny in all its forms.

Laura joins me in sending best wishes for a memorable occasion.

### THE WHITE HOUSE

I am delighted that members of the Second Air Division, United States Army Air Force's Liberator Unit are returning to England to visit their newly constructed Memorial, now part of the Millennium Library of Norwich. Your courage — and that of the fallen Americans who fought beside you in World War II — are the heart and soul of this special site.

The rebuilding of this living memorial and archive is especially timely as a new generation of Americans, including members of our military, seek inspiration and understanding from history. The Memorial Library serves as a place for people to share stories from the past and present and to honor America's heroes.

President Bush joins me in thanking you for your service to our country, and for the sacrifices you made to protect and preserve America's freedom.

With best wishes,

# DIRECTORY

Honorary President ..... JORDAN R. UTTAL  
7824 Meadow Park Drive, Apt. 101, Dallas, TX 75230-4939  
Telephone: 214-369-5043 • Fax: 214-369-0758

## OFFICERS

President ..... WALTER J. MUNDY  
24030 Basin Harbor Court, Tehachapi, CA 93561-9638  
Telephone: 661-821-5101 • Fax: 661-821-5816  
E-mail: mundy@tmtnet.com

Executive Vice President ..... RICHARD D. BUTLER  
16828 Mitchell Circle, Air Force Village West, Riverside, CA 92518  
Telephone: 909-697-2908 • Fax: 909-697-5875  
E-mail: rdb24@earthlink.net

Vice President Membership ..... EVELYN COHEN  
6410 Delaire Landing Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114-4157  
Telephone: 215-632-3992 • Fax: 215-632-8319

Treasurer ..... E.W. (BILL) NOTHSTEIN  
40 Meadow Drive, Spencerport, NY 14559-1142  
Telephone: 585-352-3350 • Fax: 585-352-4201

Secretary and Director of  
Administrative Services ..... DAVID G. PATTERSON  
28 Squire Court, Alamo, CA 94507-2230  
Telephone: 925-837-1667 • Fax: 925-743-9940

2ADA Representative  
Board of Governors ..... CHARLES WALKER  
9824 Crest Meadow, Dallas, TX 75230-5331  
Telephone: 214-987-0467 • E-Mail: b24man@aol.com

## GROUP VICE PRESIDENTS

Headquarters ..... RAY E. STRONG  
320 Burlage Circle, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2701  
Telephone: 919-967-2301

44th Bomb Group ..... JULIAN S. ERTZ  
1033 Damascus Circle, Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1608  
Telephone: 714-241-7271 • Fax: 714-241-7281

93rd Bomb Group ..... ALFRED ASCH  
6205 Meadow Court, Rockville, MD 20852-3637  
Telephone: 301-881-1376

389th Bomb Group ..... FIELDER N. NEWTON  
3301 Shellers Ben #914, State College, PA 16801-3068  
Telephone: 814-235-0889

392nd Bomb Group ..... JAMES V. GOAR  
2201 Red Bud Blvd., Frankfort, IN 46041-2899  
Telephone: 765-654-4456 • Fax: 765-654-4457 or 765-654-4253  
E-mail: goar@netusa1.net

445th Bomb Group ..... FRED A. DALE  
Box 352, Mahomet, IL 61853-0352  
Telephone: 217-586-3136 E-mail: fdale@pdm.com

446th Bomb Group ..... AUD RISLEY  
682 Slade Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120-3066  
Telephone: 847-741-7757 • E-mail: Risley446@aol.com

448th Bomb Group .....  
GROUP VP IS TO  
BE DETERMINED

453rd Bomb Group ..... LLOYD PRANG  
2451 Willow Street, Greenwood, IN 46142  
Telephone: 317-885-0224

458th Bomb Group ..... E.A. (RICK) ROKICKI  
365 Mae Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21061-4694  
Telephone: 410-766-1034 • Fax: 410-969-1452

466th Bomb Group ..... JAMES H. LORENZ  
5331 East Poinsettia Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85254-4716  
Telephone: 480-951-0343

467th Bomb Group ..... GEOFF GREGORY  
3110 Sheridan, Garland, TX 75041-4400  
Telephone: 972-278-8537 • E-mail: ggregmt@aol.com

489th Bomb Group ..... NEAL SORESENSEN  
132 Peninsula Road, Minneapolis, MN 55441-4112  
Telephone & Fax: 612-545-2698

491st Bomb Group ..... F.C. "HAP" CHANDLER  
18 Willow Glen, Atlanta, GA 30342-2023  
Telephone: 404-252-5445 • Fax: 404-256-3437  
E-mail: fchand4912@aol.com

492nd Bomb Group ..... W.H. (BILL) BEASLEY  
1525 South Garfield Street, Denver, CO 80210-3022  
Telephone: 303-756-4766 • Fax: 303-759-3684

## JOURNAL

Editor ..... RAY PYTEL  
P.O. Box 484, Elkhorn, WI 53121-0484  
Telephone: 262-723-6381 • Fax: 262-723-7981

## HERITAGE LEAGUE

President ..... IRENE HURNER  
Box 99, Grovespring, MO 65662  
Telephone: 417-462-9109 • E-mail: irene@windo.missouri.org

## 2ND AIR DIVISION MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Trust Librarian ..... DEREK S. HILLS  
2ADA/Fulbright Librarian ..... ANDREA HOUGH

## SECOND AIR DIVISION MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 1AW U.K.

# SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION



# JOURNAL



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## MEMORIAL TRUST BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### DAVID J. HASTINGS, Chairman

"Westerling," Salhouse,  
Norwich, Norfolk NR13 6RQ, England

### HILARY HAMMOND, Vice Chairman

1 Beach Dr, Strumpshaw, Norwich NR13 4AS, England

### NICHOLAS P. COOPER

Wychwood, Colney Lane, Cringleford, Norwich, Norfolk, NR4 7RE

### ASSISTANT PROFESSOR RICHARD CROCKATT

School of Political History  
University of East Anglia, Norwich, NR4 7JT, England

### MRS. FRANCES DAVIES

57 Church Lane, Eaton, Norwich, NR4 6NY, England

### ROGER A. FREEMAN

May's Barn, Dedham, N. Colchester, Essex, England CO7 6EW

### DAVID Q. GURNEY

Bawdeswell Hall, East Dereham, Norfolk NR20 4SA

### DAVID HILL

Shotesham Lodge  
Shotesham All Saints, Norfolk, NR 15 1 YL U.K.

### EDWARD O. INMAN

Director of the American Air Museum  
Duxford Airfield, Cambridge CB2 4QR, England

### MS. CAROL LYNN MacCURDY

Cultural Attaché, U.S. Embassy,  
24 Grosvenor Square, London, W1A 1AE, England

### VICTORIA MUSGRAVE

Principal, Wymondham College  
Wymondham, Norfolk NR17 15A, U.K.

### KEITH R. THOMAS

Cannell Farm, Bow St GT Ellingham  
Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 15A, England

### CHARLES WALKER

9824 Crest Meadow, Dallas, TX 75230-5331 USA

### LT. COL. W.D. WUEST

14 St. Andrews Close, Hingham, Norfolk NR9 4JT, England

# A Message from the President

BY WALTER J. MUNDY (467TH)

2001 was a year of very mixed emotions for me and for America. The 2ADA had a banner year culminated by our convention in Norwich and the dedication of our new Memorial Library. America has shown its spirit and resolve following the terrorist attacks on our country. Although our lifestyle will be changed for a long time, we will never turn back from our support of freedom.

The 467th Bomb Group was saddened by the passing away of its beloved commander, Colonel Al Shower, on October 15, 2001. I attended his interment at the National Cemetery at Arlington, Virginia, where he was laid to rest with full military honors on November 17, 2001. *Editor's Note: Please see page 16 for more on Colonel Shower.*

We must live and enjoy our Association for as long as our members are able, and we must prepare for the time when the Association can no longer function.

When I was elected 2ADA President in November 2001 at Norwich, I felt so honored to represent our great military Association that has so uniquely honored those of the Second Air Division who gave their lives for freedom and peace in the world. Although we have achieved freedom in America, we have not achieved a peaceful world. 2AD veterans have answered the call to defend freedom and peace since 1945 in Korea and Vietnam. Then came Desert Storm, Somalia, Bosnia, Panama, Granada, Haiti, and now Afghanistan. America has answered the call to defeat terrorists and evil around the world. Now the terrorists have brought their evil to the American homeland.

All Americans are again at war, and we are all soldiers again. I am sure that the above thoughts are shared by the membership of the 2ADA.

Since taking office in November, I have established several goals that are vital to the 2ADA that I want to achieve during my term.

First, we need to update our bylaws to reflect the manner that we will operate in the remaining years of our Association to ensure that our Memorial Library is endowed in perpetuity.

Second, we need to update our relationship with the Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF), an auxiliary of the Second Air Division Association.

Third, we should clarify the purpose, intent, and administration of the 2ADA American Educational Foundation Inc. with respect to bylaws and purpose and intent of the 2ADA and the Heritage League.

Fourth, we should initiate appropriate actions to enhance and preserve the Second Air Division's image at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum. Identify the bomb groups and 2ADA investment and coordinate the future projects to achieve maximum recognition of the 2AD in the future.

To achieve the above goals, I plan to appoint committees to review and propose those changes and/or clarifications in the bylaws and long-range plans.

I want to wish the entire membership of the 2ADA a happy and successful year. ■

## MESSAGE FROM WALTER MUNDY

*Editor's Note: This article was inadvertently omitted from the Winter Journal.*

At the time of this writing I have finished my watch as 2ADA Executive Vice President. I can tell you that it has been an experience that became personally rewarding. As chairman of the Audit Committee, I acquired a sharper insight of the Association's financial status. Working with Dick Butler on the Electronic Database has been a challenge. Some progress was made, working with Arlo Bartsch, who is making a presentation to the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum to provide an endorsement that will enhance the raising of funding for the 8th Air Force Database. Arlo has advised that the Second Air Division would be the first database, since the 44th BG is very well along and the 467th BG is about 20% complete. I attended three Executive Committee meetings: at the Southern California 2ADA reunion, at

the 93rd BG reunion in Savannah, Georgia; and at the 467th BG reunion in Dayton, Ohio. I have had a number of good comments about the Executive Committee Bulletin that kept the committee members updated. So much for the past eighteen months.

I am so honored to have been elected 2ADA President at the convention in Norwich. It will be a major highlight in my life. I have identified a few goals that I hope to accomplish. Foremost, of course, is to develop a clear and realistic financial summary of the Capital Fund requirements to ensure that the Memorial Library and the Fulbright (2ADA/FLMA) funds are indeed sufficient to ensure that the Memorial Library is endowed in perpetuity. As President, I will be monitoring the Association projects as an ex-officio member of all the committees, except the Nominating Committee. I appointed committee chairpersons at the Executive Committee meeting following the Business Meeting. I hope to move forward with the

## SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION



THE SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION traces its initial meeting to 1948 in Chicago, Illinois. It was organized as a nonprofit corporation in the State of Illinois on January 10, 1950. Members of the original Board of Directors were 2nd Air Division veterans Marilyn Fritz, Howard W. Moore, Jordan R. Uttal, and Percy C. Young. The association's purpose is to advocate and support an adequate, effective and efficient Army, Navy and Air Force at all times; to perpetuate the friendships and memories of service together in the 2nd Air Division, 8th Air Force in England during World War II; to support financially, and in any other way, the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division as represented by the 2nd Air Division Memorial Room of the Norwich Central Library; and to undertake such other activities as may from time to time be deemed appropriate by the membership.

**REGULAR (Voting) MEMBERSHIP** in the association is limited to those personnel, military and civilian, American or British, who at any time served with the Headquarters organization of the 2nd Bomb Wing, 2nd Bomb Division or 2nd Air Division during World War II and any person who served with any bomb group or fighter group or any other unit of the 2nd Air Division assigned or attached. Provisions are made for Associate (Non-Voting) memberships and also for subscribing memberships (Non-Voting).

**Please submit all material for publication to the editor by the 15th of January, April, July, or October.**

We make every effort to mail your *Journal* within 45 days of the deadline listed above, with the exception of the Winter issue (October deadline) which is mailed early in January. Your receipt of the *Journal* will be anywhere from one to four weeks later, depending on the U.S. Postal Service — especially your own post office. If you don't get your *Journal* by the next deadline, contact Evelyn Cohen immediately.

Bequest Project, the Database Project, and place major emphasis on updating our Association bylaws, strengthening the 2ADA Legacy Continuation Plan and the role of The Heritage League. I intend to attend as many reunions as possible and to work closely with the Board of Governors through our Representative.

The above activities are a lot to accomplish in the eleven months from November, and because the United States is and will be at war, our everyday activities are very likely to be impacted by our nation's security requirements. Armed with the experience and knowledge of serving with the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force, we must move forward and support President Bush and the government in every way possible to help defeat the evil terrorists as we defend our freedom and bring peace to the world. I will do my best to enhance our legacy for the future generations, for it is the model for victory. ■



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# Executive Vice President's Message

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BY DICK BUTLER (44TH)

In this column in the last issue I described the events that took place at our November convention in Norwich as we celebrated the dedication of our new Memorial Library. I again want to express our most sincere thanks to David & Jean Hastings and Evelyn Cohen for organizing and conducting the outstanding programs connected with the dedication of our new Second Air Division Memorial Library in the Forum in Norwich. This was unquestionably the most memorable gathering of Association members and some of their family members that has occurred during the life of the Association. Fortunately, thanks to the efforts of the Dzenowagis family, the ceremonies that took place for the dedication were filmed and will become a permanent record of this long-to-be-remembered occasion. The Dzenowagis team was comprised of parents Joe and Helen, sons Joe Junior and Victor, daughter Joan, Bill Kubota, and John Gulas. They did their filming at strategic locations at each of the events and did spot-filming of convention attendees throughout the several days in Norwich.

Joe advises that they shot fifty to sixty spools of film, which will be edited down to a fifty-four minute documentary of the entire momentous gathering to celebrate the culmination of the efforts of so many Second Air Division Association members and our

British friends to reestablish our Memorial to our 6,700 comrades who lost their lives while serving in B-24 groups in England during World War II. We are advised that the documentary will be ready to be placed in the Memorial Library and available for purchase in several months. Based on what we have seen in other documentaries the Dzenowagis family has produced, we know that this one will be a great official record of the activities that took place in Norwich.

In anticipation of our November convention in Norwich to celebrate the dedication of our Memorial Library, 2ADA founding member James H. "Jim" Reeves had the foresight to write letters to the governors of each of the fifty states and to President George W. Bush, informing them about our convention and the opening of the new Memorial Library. His letters stated the background of the Association and the creation of the original Memorial Library as a tribute to the members of the Second Air Division who lost their lives in World War II protecting the American way of life and to safeguard the democratic principles that are the foundation of our nation. Jim received replies from thirty-seven governors and from President Bush. Most of the letters contained very meaningful words that reflected that Jim's information had made an impact on the recip-

ients. Jim sent all the letters he received to the Memorial Library. The text of these letters can be found elsewhere in this issue. Additionally, eleven governors sent books containing information about their states to the Memorial Library.

Our 2ADA / Fulbright Librarian, Andrea Bean Hough, wrote to Jim Reeves thanking him for his work that resulted in the receipt of the books and letters. She wrote that she may make color copies to put on display, and place the original letters in the Norfolk Records Office with the rest of the archival material of the Second Air Division. We thank Jim for this great effort on his part to spread the word throughout our nation as to what our Association has accomplished.

The 2ADA Executive Committee welcomes five new group vice presidents as members of the committee. This is more than one-third of the group vice presidents changing at one time. The new group VPs are:

44th Bomb Group: Julian S. Ertz  
(a great soloist and/or harmonizer)

389th Bomb Group: Fielder A. Newton,  
who previously was assistant group VP

392nd Bomb Group: James V. Goar

448th Bomb Group: Edward K.  
"King" Schultz (a great storyteller)

491st Bomb Group: F.C. "Hap" Chandler, a past 2ADA VP and president ■

The cover of this issue of the *Journal* is the result of a game of "one-upmanship" by James Reeves and Geoffrey Gregory. I heard that Geoff found out that First Lady Laura Bush was at one time a librarian, so he wrote her a letter about the 2AD Memorial Library. Not to be outdone, Jim Reeves sent a similar letter to the President and the fifty state governors (the order of the letters might have been reversed). Both were really surprised when the First Lady, the President, and thirty-seven of the governors sent back congratulatory letters, some with donations of books.

It was a difficult task to really "squeeze in" all of those letters (see pages 35-38), but as an editor I felt we could not leave out a single one, as this opportunity comes only once in a lifetime, never more than twice. So I made a "commode decision" again!

## ANSWERS TO THE WINTER QUIZ

There are really no solid answers, since Hollywood movies and even TV documentaries, claiming to be based on "true facts,"

## THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS

BY RAY PYTEL (445TH)

sometimes get World Wars I and II mixed up; not to mention scenes of equipment, battles, and locations of events.

My morning "breakfast club" sometimes brings in reviews of some programs on TV depicting WWII. I usually ask if we won this time, as many times they get our allies and our enemies mixed up, and sometimes they have the U.S. attacking countries not at war with us at the time of the depicted event. Recently one documentary had the U.S. declaring war on Germany in 1941; when in fact, Hitler did us a favor by ending the con-

troversy over where we should go first, Europe or Japan.

At this writing the Winter *Journal* has not yet reached many of our readers, so we don't yet have many answers or comments; but some of you took advantage of the substitute question with the following:

"In *Twelve O'Clock High*, how come you can hear the enemy fighters over the noise of the B-17 engines?"

"How come they always show the crews wearing those sheepskin-lined flying suits, when electrically-heated suits were 'in' at the height of the war?"

## SPRING QUIZ

1. Name at least 3 stopover places on the southern route to the United Kingdom.
2. Name at least 3 stopover places on the northern route.
3. Which bases in Africa did the 8th AF groups use on the Ploesti raid?
4. Name at least 3 countries where some of the Ploesti raiders ended up, aside from Africa. ■

# Report from the 2ADA Representative to the Board of Governors

BY CHUCK WALKER (445TH)

As many of you know, Paul King stepped down as Chairman of the Memorial Trust at the 7 February 2002 Governors meeting. The members of the Executive Committee and indeed the entire membership of the 2ADA pay tribute to Paul for the 23 years he served as a Governor and the five years he devoted to the chairmanship. He has devoted great effort as well as financial support to the rebuilding of our Memorial Library. His hard work resulted in a most successful fund appeal. His unending support and strong leadership of the Memorial Trust is greatly appreciated by all of us. Those of us who were in Norwich for the dedication of our new Memorial Library can attest to the outstanding job the Trust Gov-

ernors under Paul's leadership have done in developing our most unique and wonderful Memorial. Paul has been a great friend.

David Hastings will have assumed the chairmanship by the time you read this report, with Hilary Hammond becoming Vice Chairman. A special word of appreciation is due David for the outstanding job he did arranging our November visit. It is anticipated that David will serve one year as Chairman and that Matthew Martin will follow him, with Hilary continuing as Vice Chairman.

Our 2ADA/Fulbright Librarian, Andrea Hough, is doing a bang-up job of getting our new Library in shape. The assistance she is providing Derek Hills, the Trust Librarian, is

professional and much appreciated. Andrea will only be with us for a one-year term. The Governors and Fulbright are already processing applications for the next 2ADA/Fulbright Scholar. We will be fortunate to have another as competent as Andrea.

I have included in this report to our editor, the Report of the Education Subcommittee chaired by Governor Richard Crockatt. It details the thinking of the Governors concerning the role of education in the future work of the Trust. I hope the editor can find room for it in the *Journal*. *Editor's Note: Look for this report in the next issue.*

I wish that all of you could visit our new Library; it's wonderful! ■

## MORE PLEASURE FROM THE NORWICH BASH!!!

BY JORDAN R. UTTAL, 2ADA HONORARY PRESIDENT

### THE WYMONDHAM COLLEGE CONNECTION

Referring to Dick Butler's coverage of the Norwich events in the Winter *Journal*, you will note that after the ceremony at Madingley on Monday, 5 November, our large contingent split into three groups for the rest of the day. One of the destinations was Wymondham College, which, as most of you know, occupies land on which the U.S. 231st Base Hospital functioned during the war. Incidentally, the College created and maintains a 2AD Memorial Garden there.

By prearrangement, I was in that group, along with 2ADA President Felix Leeton and Evelyn Cohen. The three of us were given the privilege of unveiling and dedicating a reduced-size copy of the new mural which adorns the wall of our Second Air Division Memorial Library. We also had the pleasure of mingling briefly with the fresh-faced, eager, enthusiastic students and meeting Mrs. Victoria Musgrave, the Principal of the College.

Unfortunately, because we were three hours late in arriving, our visit had to be abbreviated; but a few days later I was handed a message from the Chairman of the Governing Body of Wymondham College, Lt. Col. Christopher Taylor. His letter reads as follows:

"The Governors, Principal, Staff and Students of Wymondham College, mindful that it was founded on the site of the former USAAF hospital at Morley in Norfolk, and conscious of the long-standing friendship between the College and the Second Air Division Association, send their warmest greetings to Association members gathered at their 54th Convention in Norwich, England. At a time when our two nations once again stand together against a threat to peace and dem-

ocracy, we salute your courage and fortitude, and express our continuing gratitude for the sacrifices made by you and your comrades."

Everywhere we turned during our Celebration Week, as Dick reported, we were afforded many such expressions of affection, esteem, gratitude, and respect. Equally, we tried to indicate to our British friends that we felt the same way about them.

### AND NOW ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF THE 2ND AIR DIVISION MEMORIAL:

You read in the Winter *Journal* about the splendid November 4th Sunday evening get-together of our Heritage League and the "Friends," two organizations in whose hands may very well fall the opportunity to work with the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division as our Second Air Division Association has been doing these many years.

I take this opportunity to publicize a message from the "Friends" which did not receive general attention. They say in the notice of their 13th Annual General Meeting: "The present committee is keen to achieve several aims; amongst these are...to receive and aid the Heritage League members on their visits to their parents' or grandparents' old bases...to help veterans of the Second Air Division and their families in any way that we can, which might include transportation, providing guides to their bases, and offering 'open houses,'...to help the new library with their many projects, and to assist as couriers, guides, and drivers..."

Let me share with you the great pleasure I had in being able to arrange my schedule in England to enable me to return to Norwich in order to attend the Annual Thanksgiving Party of the Friends of the 2nd Air

Division Memorial. Although they have celebrated this event for many years, I believe this is the first time an active 2ADA member has been able to attend.

There were 128 of us present. Bill Wuest, an American member of the Board of Governors living in England, and I were the only Yanks present. We were well supported by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Memorial Trust along with several other Governors, and a great time was had by all.

The Oaklands Hotel in Norwich provided a well-stocked bar and an excellent meal featuring turkey as well as roast pork and beef. We dined well, *we expressed our thanks*, we laughed, and we renewed our dedication to what the Second Air Division Memorial Library stands for. My only regret is that I was not able to spend time with each of the guests. I do hope I will have another opportunity.

Okay, dear friends, enough...maybe more than enough for now, with perhaps one little exception of a practical nature. This reminder will not be in your hands before April, so when it comes, if you haven't sent in your dues to The Heritage League, or to me for the Friends of the 2nd Air Division Memorial, please do so. Dues for the Friends are \$6.00 single or \$10.00 family. Make checks out to me, and I will convert the U.S. dollars to British pounds.

I said in the Winter issue that I knew I was going to be proud when I returned from England and the celebration events. I thank the Good Lord that I was able to go. I am aglow at what has been achieved. The Forum has been described as a prototype for 21st century libraries. Our Living Memorial is unique in the world, *and it is ours alone!* ■



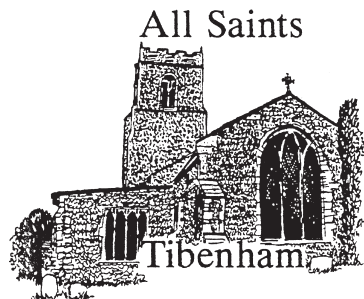
BY FRED A. DALE

While visiting Tibenham last November, we encountered Irene Wilson, Tibenham's local historian who let us excerpt from her historical leaflet. The accompanying map will help you locate the places of interest.

## Tibenham: A Visit

BY IRENE WILSON

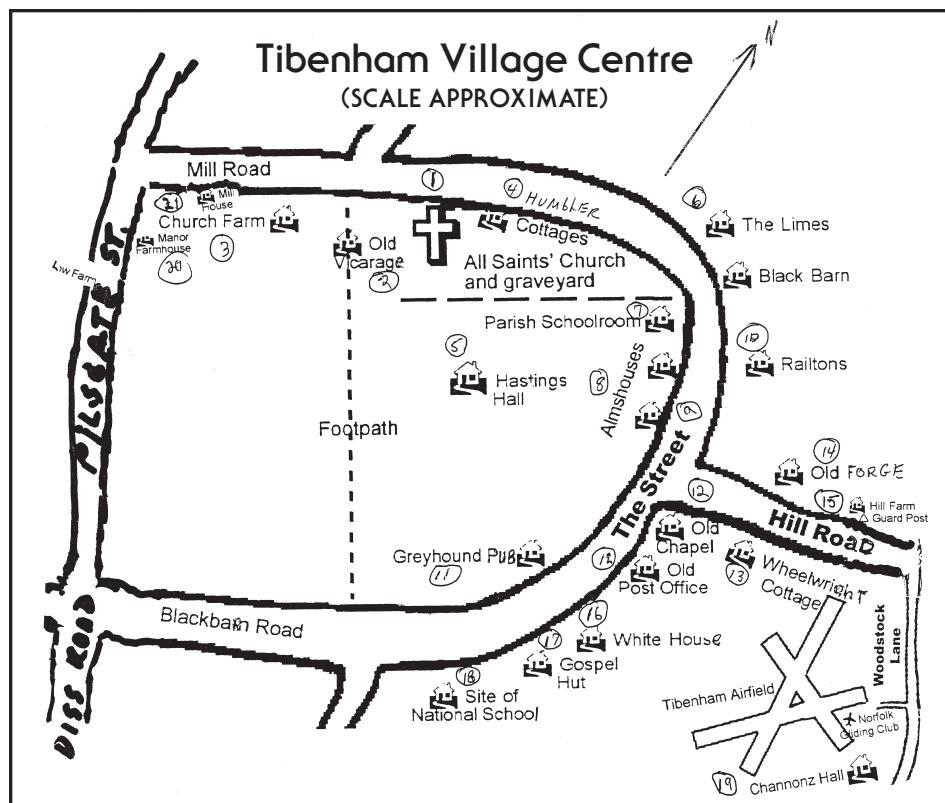
(1) Starting at the 11th century All Saints' Church: You will be able to see the Norman flintwork tower dominating the Tibenham skyline. Around the Church is a cluster of buildings from different eras. We will explore Tibenham's history through its buildings and some of the folk tales from older inhabitants.



(2) Standing proud is the red brick Victorian Vicarage with the date of 1880 carved over the door and built for the late Reverend T.W. Thompson, but now privately owned. It was sold by auction after the last Vicar resident at Tibenham, Reverend Richardson, resigned in 1977. From the Old Vicarage windows, you can see the lovely Tudor twisted chimney pots of Church Farm (3), until last year a working farm.

In the shadow of the Church, with gardens adjacent to the churchyard, were the humbler cottages (4). Only two stand now, but once there was a row of five. The nearest cottage to the church gate was a harness maker's cottage and workshop.

Hidden behind the Church is Hastings Hall (5). This building, set in a lovely garden with a stream, has had a chequered history. It was once owned by the Bishop of Bury St Edmunds; then by Lord Hastings, Earl of Pembroke who, when he died, had his lands seized both in Tibenham and Winfarthing by his debtors. Since then it has been used as a workhouse and in 1959 was still let as three cottages. Having then stood



empty for a decade, Hastings Hall has now been beautifully restored.

(6) Lime trees surround the churchyard; and Limes Farm, the Georgian house opposite, has probably taken its name from them. The adjoining barns around a courtyard have been sold and sympathetically converted into a house. Adjoining the churchyard is the Old Parish Schoolroom (7), another listed building neglected for years and ripe for conversion, still proudly displaying its date of 1831.

Adjacent is the row of almshouses (8), now completely restored. In 1848 the row contained rooms for six parishioners; today there is comfortable accommodation for three.

The Street (9), as it is now known, was originally called Churchgate Street and, in living memory, had two shops. The old shopfront is still visible at Railtons (10), and was referred to as Tommy English's shop (probably trading from 1925 to 1959 or 1960). The Post Office Stores (12) closed in 1994 after 150 years of trading, although the building, which is partly thatched, is much older and is also a listed building. The first recorded repairs to the Old Post Office were in 1725 and in 1766 it was rethatched at a cost of 18s.2d. by Trudgill and the cost of straw was £1.11.6d. (This year the ridge has been renewed but sadly not at that price!)



The Greyhound (11) on The Street is still trading, with a fine selection of ales.

On the corner, next to the Old Post Office (12), is the Old Chapel (12), now a comfortable home, but used for worship for 120 years. In December 1848 Miss Mary Pretty sold part of her garden of her house, the Wheelwright's Cottage (13), to the Trustees of the Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists. Her father is laid to rest in the large tomb with railings, which can still be seen. The inscribed headstone has the date engraved and a quote from Matthew ch21 v13 — "My house shall be called the house of prayer."

Across the road from the Wheelwright's Cottage is a tumble-down, neglected old building, which was once a hive of activity as the blacksmith's forge and workshop. (14) Over The Beck there is a row of cottages purpose-built for the farmworkers of Hill Farm (15), with the larger one for the farmer's son backing on to a field called Blacksmith Meadow. Thomas Turner bought the land from Edward Wiseman Betts in 1829 and the cottages had been built by 1842. The original name for the road was Hall Gate Way.

Past Hill Farm, and still visible from the road, are some runways built during the Second World War and used by the 445th Bomb Group of the USAAF, but now used for the peaceful leisure activity of gliding. It is the Headquarters of Norfolk Gliding Club.

In a corner of a field belonging to Hill Farm, and visible from the road, is an old underground bunker, and the oak tree nearby has metal climbing rungs and a metal guard rail where the trunk splits. Many American airmen must remember days and nights guarding the airfield from this spot.

Back in The Street and past the Greyhound,



tucked away in what was once in the garden of the White House (16), is an old timber hall, called the Gospel Hut (17). Two sisters of a Vicar lived in the White House, and the story goes that his sermons were not forceful enough, with no blood and thunder, so his sisters had their own Mission hut built for their own services. In living memory, Mrs. Dora Rout, sister of Elijah Lambert, a farmer, continued the practise with visiting preachers and an organist playing the harmonium until the early 1990s and during earlier decades had a thriving Sunday School with the traditional Anniversary Services.

The National School (18) was next door, where four modern houses have been built. Bloomfield's History of Norfolk tells us: "A handsome board school and teachers residence was erected in 1876 with accommodation for 127" at a cost of £1110 with Mr. Henry Beswick as Head Teacher." By 1896, 140 children were on the register, but at its close in the 1980s there were only a dozen or so children, who were transferred to Aslacton School where the building and facilities were more modern.

There is a legend that Sir Robert Buxton of Channonz Hall (19) had houses built for his three daughters.

On the road towards Diss, once called Pilsgate Street, can be seen the lovely Elizabethan chimneys of Low Farm and Manor Farmhouse (20), once also thatched, and Manor Farm. Bloomfield's History of Norfolk says: "The Laudes Manor was owned by Richard Leming, who forfeited it for rebelling against Henry III in 1264." Later it was owned by John Fisher Gurling, who was a miller. Further along the road (Mill Way, now Mill Road) there was a windmill and

an adjoining house. I remember the Brown family, Albert, a bellringer, and Edith his wife, who died aged 93. She recalled many stories, one being her mother bringing her to the Mill (21) when she was a child, to buy flour. The Lent family ran a business in 1836 called "The Bake Office," and grave-stones in the churchyard recall six of their children dying before their twentieth birthdays. Mrs. Brown also recalled the story, which Bloomfield's History confirms, of William Lynster's daughter who married against his wishes, but was never forgiven, and on his death left everything to the church overseer to distribute to the poor. ■

#### ABOUT THE TIBENHAM PEAL APPEAL

The Tibenham Peal Appeal is raising funds for the restoration of All Saints Church Peal of Bells. The Diocese, English Heritage and the Parochial Church Council have agreed on a plan for a new cast iron bell frame. The bells will be rehung, and we hope that the work can be completed in 2002. For further information on how you can help, or if you wish to make a donation, please contact me:

IRENE WILSON  
The Old Post Office  
Tibenham  
Norwich, Norfolk  
NR16 1AP  
ENGLAND  
[www.tibenham.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.tibenham.fsnet.co.uk)

## Folded Wings

### HDQ

Johnson A. Nye, Jr.

### 44th

John C. Nowak

### 93rd

George M. Palmer  
Frank L. Wathen

### 389th

Gordon M. Baker  
Philip O. Murphy  
Charles Rajda

### 392nd

John F. D'Amelio  
Jack C. Clarke  
Edwin J. Hartwick  
Edward G. Janak  
Hubert L. McMillan

### 445th

Staten G. Wallace

### 446th

Charles W. Perry  
James H. Royer, Jr.

### 448th

William I. Davidson  
Joseph M. Madden  
Roland E. Trent

### 453rd

Lewis L. Glick  
Leon Oppis  
Otis M. Palmer

### 458th

Paul F. Dirker  
Robert J. Scharf

### 466th

Clarence R. Gentle

### 467th

William F. Mattulke

### 489th

Richard G. Lingenberg

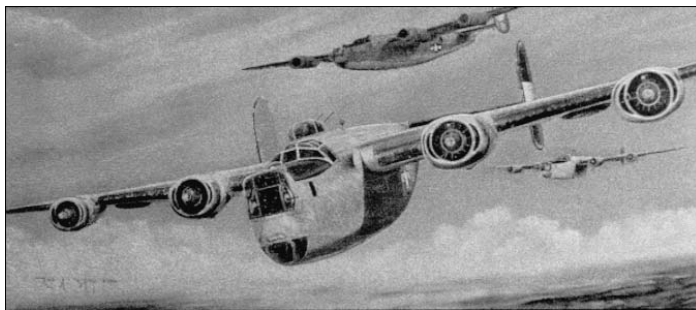
### 492nd

Charles Alvis  
Ralph P. Beaman  
Louis Jaques, Jr.  
Armand P. Rescigno  
Harold L. Seidl  
Norvell O. Way

### 3SD

Douglas J. Bryant

## B-24 LIBERATOR



### 25 MISSIONS – 445TH BOMB GROUP

*This painting is presented by Hobert Bowlby, nose gunner, with aviation artist Rhu A. Bigay. It will be published exclusively for the members of the 445th Bomb Group. Only limited edition, signed & numbered prints will be released. This is a first come-first served offer that will guarantee your choice of number and will be personalized by the artist at no extra charge.*

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I am a Deputy Inspector in the New York City Police Department, and also the cousin of a B-24 copilot who was killed during the Kassel Mission on September 27, 1944. 2nd Lt. Michael J. Luongo, [Seed's Crew, 445th BG], was a name that I always heard while growing up. Whether it was about his pitching or his good looks, family members and friends often told me about a man who was killed fourteen years before my birth.

Although everyone knew details about his life, nobody knew details about his death. This led me to do research on Mike and to read and learn about the Kassel Mission and flying bombers in World War II. I went from knowing nothing to knowing just about everything about this mission. This was due to the help of men like George Collar and Bill Dewey. I was even privileged to speak to family members of the crew that he was killed with on September 27, 1944; namely the Bibb family and the Crowley family. I was even able to get pieces of his plane from a German police detective whom I met while he was here in New York doing research. I never thought that while I was doing this research that I would ever be able to feel the emotions that the bomber crews felt 57 years ago, but I was wrong.

September 11, 2001 started like any other day. Those of you reading this can probably recall other days that started like any other day but certainly didn't end that way. While at my duties as the Executive Officer, Fugitive Enforcement Division of the Detective Bureau, I became aware of a plane hitting the

## My Own "Little Friends"

BY JAMES LUONGO



**2nd Lt. MICHAEL LUONGO, 0-711225, Seed's Crew, 703rd BS, 445th BG. KIA Kassel Mission, September 27, 1944.**

World Trade Center. Normally not assigned to wearing a uniform, I changed from my suit into my uniform and headed over the Brooklyn Bridge to the World Trade Center. I do not have to describe to anyone reading this the horrors that I saw first-hand. This country was united in viewing and experiencing the pain we felt that day. When the first tower was falling, some of us on the ground under it believed that another plane was coming in, based on the noise of the tower falling. We knew that the second tower was falling based on our experiences with the first. After the towers had fallen and while we were assisting the wounded and evacuating lower Manhattan, I heard another noise that was so distinct. There was no doubt as to what that noise was. We knew that the air was closed to any and all planes, so when I heard the sound of a jet, a feeling of dread came upon me. As soon as I heard it, I believed that another attack was about to occur — so, what a comfort it was to look up and see a "little friend" up there protecting us! The only smile I had on my face that day was when I saw that fighter pilot protecting us from above. I knew when I saw him that we were in good hands, and this reinvigorated me throughout the day. My thoughts went back to my cousin Mike and the mission that he flew prior to the Kassel Mission. I was able to experience the joy that many of the readers of this article felt when, in their own experiences, they saw their "Little Friends" too; and like you, I would like to find that guy and buy him a beer. ■

## Gray-Haired Wonders After 57 Years

BY GLADYS KOWALSKI

Reprinted from *The Visitor* (Beverly Hills, Florida local newspaper), December 1, 2001

On November 1, my husband and I flew to England to attend the 54th convention of the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force in Norwich.

This was Ed Kowalski's first time back since his 1944 stint as a tail gunner with the 445th Bomb Group, 702nd Bomb Squadron, stationed at Tibenham, about 20 miles from Norwich. This year's convention was scheduled to coincide with the dedication of the new 2AD Memorial Library.

The trip brought back many memories for Ed of the places, the missions, and the lost comrades. He had lost his entire crew on their 19th mission, to Kiel. The ball turret had been removed from the B-24s to provide more room for the bomb load, leaving the ten-man crews with one extra person. The gunner would alternate, and it was Ed's turn on the ground.

He never really got over the loss of his crew. These were the boys he had trained with back in the States.

One of the side trips we made was to the



**Ed Kowalski of Beverly Hills, right, recently reconnected with Sam Webster at the 2ADA convention in Norwich. Kowalski had thought for 57 years that his entire crew was lost on a day he was left behind.**

American Cemetery at Madingley. It was very cold walking around, so we went into the smaller reception building for awhile to warm up. While we were sitting there, a big, white-haired gentleman entered the room. He was using a walker and moved very slowly. He was given a seat next to us, and when Ed saw his name tag, he did a double-take. The man's tag read: "Sam Webster — 445th Bomb Group."

I looked at Ed and Ed looked at me. I asked him if there was more than one Webster in the group, and he said no. A bit hesitantly, he then tapped the man on the arm and asked if he flew at Tibenham. The man said yes and glanced at Ed's name tag. His eyes widened in surprise.

Ed said, "I'm Kowalski. I was your tail gunner."

Both Ed and Sam were a bit overcome, since each one had thought for over 57 years that he was the only survivor. Sam had managed to bail out over the coast of Holland, and became a POW. ■





**491st BOMB GROUP**  
**POSTREMUM ET OPTIMUM**

## the RINGMASTER REPORTS

**BY HAP CHANDLER**

### THE B-1 DITCHING

**A**long with many of my fellow crew members, I never relished the prospect of ditching. As a matter of fact, the fear of ditching was very real, second only to a head-on attack from an ME-109 or FW-190.

450 four-engine bombers of the 8th Air Force ditched during World War II. Of the 4,500 crew members involved, fewer than 1,500 lived to tell about it. The odds of survival in the icy waters of the North Sea or English Channel were not very good.

So, our first thought when we heard the report of the B-1 ditching in the Indian Ocean was: "I hope there were survivors." There were — all four of the crew members were plucked from the Indian Ocean with superficial injuries: A tribute to the training and expertise of today's Air Force.

### SPEAKING OF STATISTICS

Robin Neilland's excellent new book, *The Bomber War*, contains some startling statistics. There were 210,000 air crew members who flew with the Mighty Eighth. 26,000 were killed in action, one of every eleven killed in the U.S. armed forces during World War II. Another 18,000 were wounded, and 20,000 became prisoners of war. A total of 6,537 bombers were lost in the air campaign. Of these, 2,464 B-24s were lost. This loss rate challenged the productive capacity of our aircraft industry. Willow Run, the massive Ford B-24 assembly plant near Detroit, was producing a B-24 every 56 minutes at maximum capacity.

By contrast, the RAF Bomber Command, in action from 1939 to 1945, lost 65,564 air crew members to the enemy of their 110,000 bomber crew members — a horrific casualty rate of 51%, the greatest of any of the British services. The 8th Air Force, by contrast, had a loss rate of 12.1%, second only to the submarine service of the Navy.

The RAF lost 8,953 bombers in their six years of operation; the 8th AF lost 6,537 from August 1942 to the end of the war.

To have survived under these kind of odds and live to tell the story at this late date is remarkable indeed.

Our aerial adversary, the German Luftwaffe, was a seasoned and deadly foe. During the month of October 1943 alone, they downed 110 bombers over enemy territory, and of those aircraft which managed to return to England, fewer than half would ever fly again. Only the arrival of the P-51 Mus-

tang saved the 8th's bomber fleet from defeat. Of the 30,000 fighter pilots trained by the Luftwaffe, 18,000 were killed in action. The loss rate of German fighter pilots was second only to U-boat crews in the German armed forces.

### HOW DO WE PRESERVE OUR HERITAGE?

Since the average age of World War II veterans is now over 80, it is unlikely that many of us will be around to give first-hand accounts for many more years. There are a number of initiatives either underway or already completed to leave our story for future generations. There is our 2AD Memorial Library in Norwich and the American Air Museum at Duxford for those who are fortunate enough to visit Britain and take the time to visit these stellar attractions.

There seem to be World War II museums across the length and breadth of the USA. In Georgia, for instance, we have the Infantry Museum at Fort Benning; the Museum of Aviation at Warner Robins; and museums at Parris Island, Fort Stewart, and Andersonville, to name a few near home.

The museum at Wright Patterson Air Force Base is without peer in the array of aviation museums. The late General Jack Merrell, who as a lieutenant colonel served notably in the 491st and later as commander of the 389th BG, is considered to have been the moving force behind the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio. It was he who raised several million dollars from private sources to construct the initial building, now greatly expanded, which houses this outstanding facility.

*None of these museums are solely dedicated to the Eighth Air Force. The "Mighty Eighth" in which we served was a unique, never-to-be-duplicated, aerial force. Its accomplishments are legendary.*

### VICTORY CAMPAIGN

The story of the Eighth is housed in our 90,000 square-foot Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum just off I-95 near Savannah, Georgia. Of the sixteen World War II numbered air forces, only the 8th remains in our national defense establishment.

As this is written, plans are complete to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the "activation" of the 8th Air Force on January 24, 1942 at the National Guard Armory on Bull Street in Savannah. Our legendary 44th Bomb Group and 14th Combat Wing commander, General Leon Johnson, was present at the birth ("activation" in military parlance).

General Johnson has been quoted as asking General Asa Duncan, acting 8th AF commander, to "go to Washington and get us a job." Afterwards he reflected, "I wished sometimes that General Arnold hadn't given us such a tough one."

It was a tough job! Unprecedented in the military efforts of the country.

Since VE Day, the Eighth has been in the thick of post-World War II action. To enhance

current World War II exhibits and tell the story of the 8th's participation in the Cold War era, the Trustees of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum have approved a "Victory Campaign." Many of us remember Winston Churchill's "V for Victory" which rallied us during the darkest days of World War II. Those on the home front planted victory gardens and directed victory campaigns for the sale of war bonds, accumulation of aluminum, rubber, and other critical requirements for the war effort.

The funds raised by the museum's Victory Campaign are to be used for several purposes; the completion of the "Chapel of the Fallen Eagles" being the first of several needed projects.

### CHAPEL OF THE FALLEN EAGLES NEARS COMPLETION

Shortly after the opening of the museum, planning for a chapel on the museum grounds began. Designed as an English chapel similar to those near our English bases, it is nearing completion. It will be formally dedicated in May 2002 as a part of the sixth anniversary of the museum opening.



**491st VP F.C. "Hap" Chandler (left) poses with C.J. Roberts, CEO and President of The Mighty 8th AF Heritage Museum.**

### ORAL HISTORY PROJECT WWII EXHIBIT ENHANCEMENT

Another Victory Campaign initiative, already underway, is the collection of oral histories via videotape. This project, budgeted at \$1,000,000, will become an unrivaled first-person archive available to researchers and future generations. This project is already underway, and you are encouraged to make a recording when you visit the museum. Dr. Vivian Price heads this project and can be reached via the Internet at the museum's Web site; by letter c/o 8th Air Force Heritage Museum, P.O. Box 1992, Savannah, GA 31402; or by phone, (404) 748-8888.

If you are unable to visit the museum, please crank up a camcorder and mail your interview to the Heritage Museum at the address above. Please mark for the attention of Dr. Vivian Price. *Ed. Note: The Dzenowagis family has been taking oral histories also at the 2ADA conventions.*

The Victory Campaign is now underway with significant contributions and pledges to begin this important undertaking. Under the direction of Dr. Curtis Tarr, it will continue for the next three years. Your support through donations and bequests is solicited. ■

# HALESWORTH 489TH NOTES

BY  
NEAL SORENSEN

## THE CIVILIAN RESERVE AIR FLEET

Forty-seven years ago isn't WWII vintage, but in cleaning out the attic, I found orders from 1955 that assigned me to the Civilian Reserve Air Fleet, or CRAF. It was a program designed to provide potential air crews should disaster strike, with the Cold War turning suddenly into World War III. It was the beginning of fourteen years of continuous Active Reserve, after several years of trying to maintain "good years for retirement" via correspondence courses and an occasional two-week stint of active duty.

There was a scramble for flying slots in Minneapolis after we were mustered out, and by the time my papers were transferred from Sioux Falls, South Dakota to Minneapolis, the few available were all filled, which consigned the rest of us to whatever there was available to get points for retirement. Correspondence courses are like Royal Canadian Air Force exercises — you know they are beneficial, but the thrill of being an air crew member is totally absent. So it was with a real sense of delight when we navigators read of the CRAF program.

Basically, it was the result of an awareness of our top brass that thousands of pilots had been able to continue their flying skills in commercial aviation, but, should a sudden need arise for skilled air crews, there would be a dearth of navigators. As a result of their thinking, nineteen Navigation Training Units were formed in 1955, with a target of retraining 1,900 WWII navigators in the latest techniques. The problem was that with ground-to-air missiles able to home in on any electronic equipment that SAC was using, the requirement laid out for us was that we were expected to fly to any target in the world using dead reckoning and celestial navigation and hit an Initial Point fifteen miles from the target. Only then would the electronics be turned on in the aircraft, along with electronic countermeasures to stymie the missiles that would be fired at the aircraft. In short, the enemy could detect us by radar, but until our electronics were turned on, their only defense would be anti-aircraft batteries and fighter planes. The sorties would be single aircraft, not the grouped aircraft of WWII, so both sides were engaged

in thrust and counter-thrust as far as attack and defense were concerned.

While our training weekends were interesting, it was the requirement for two weeks of over-water training each year that provided the test for our expertise. Imagine, if you can, the thrill of going from a sub-zero winter in Minnesota to a two-week training session that took me to either Europe and North Africa, or a flight to Hawaii with destinations in the Philippine Islands, or Asia proper! The MATS crews that we flew with (before MacNamara went on his ego trip and changed it to MAC), were surprised at how hard the CRAF navigators worked. It was common sense on our part to do so, since the evolution of weapons made future changes a given, and we were anxious to show our active duty comrades that reservists were valuable backups for them in their defense of America.

As the Air Force Academy and other schools started turning out more navigators, the need for CRAF navigators diminished. The first cut was from 1900 to 950 slots. Shortly, this was halved again to 475, so the handwriting was on the wall. The next casualty was the 8503rd and other squadrons (with the exception of Chicago) that were not located on the East or West Coasts.

I was fortunate to receive a recommendation for transfer to an open slot in Chicago when Minneapolis was closed. While assigned to Chicago, one of my tours took me to Vietnam for the second or third time. It was disheartening to see all that fire power controlled not by the military, but by the people, who had neither the will nor the expertise to defeat the enemy. My two sons had chided me about our effort in Asia, and after seeing that nothing had changed since my first trip there in 1961 except that U.S. troops were everywhere, I became more sympathetic to their views. On a flight from Saigon to Da Nang, our C-124 came under enemy fire, so we diverted to Manilla. I reflected later on how ironic it would have been to have become a casualty in the war we lost.

That Communism was alive and well at that time was graphically shown when we flew into India with a C-135 jet with a cargo of medical supplies. Each twenty-pound parcel had two or three tags tied on showing clasped hands, one white and one brown, symbolizing the friendship between America and India. The plane was unloaded by hand while the crew went to the Operations office to have lunch and file the return flight plan. When we returned, I became very angry. The floor of the cargo area was littered with hundreds of the tags which had been torn off by the men who unloaded the aircraft!

Another example came years later, after I had retired. In 1961 our crew was present

at an atomic bomb test on Christmas Island. The bomb was detonated above the bay which we all faced wearing dark glasses and a piece of unexposed film that covered our chest. All of the film was checked to detect any possible over-exposure, and we proceeded on our way to another destination. Later, I received a letter from the Atomic Commission which suggested that I have a physical to see if there were any problems. There were none. Imagine my disgust a short time later when a "guest speaker" in our church forum started telling imaginary horror stories concerning those of us who had been involved in the atomic tests. Finally, despite being in church, I could restrain myself no longer. I raised my hand for permission to interrupt, which was granted with a look of annoyance on the young speaker's face. "Young lady," I said, "I don't know where you got this information, but I categorically deny that the government is trying now, or has tried in the past, to deprive anyone involved in the bomb tests of medical attention. I speak from having been present at a test in 1961 and also having been given a free medical examination three years ago to double-check that I had suffered no ill effects from radiation. I sincerely hope that you check your sources before spreading stories such as you have been doing here as a guest in our church. Communism is still a threat, and this sounds like Communist propaganda."

The CRAF program filled a gap in our national defense at a time that it was needed. When the Chicago program was phased out, I transferred to Richards Gebaur MATS Wing in Kansas City, from which I retired in 1969. My wife's mother died, and our children were young adults, so despite my enduring love of flying, it seemed the right time to step aside and let the next generation take over for us WWII veterans. You never lose your love of the air! ■

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# 54TH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

## Second Air Division Association, 8th USAAF

### Sunday, November 4, 2001 • Norwich, England

#### A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Leeton at 10:00 AM. The invocation was presented by James Reeves of Headquarters, 2ADA; and President Leeton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The Secretary determined that a quorum was present.

Dr. James Norris, Chairman of the Norfolk County Council, invited the 2nd Air Division Association members, and wished them a pleasant and rewarding stay in Norfolk. He reminisced about his wartime years as a child observing Allied aircraft over Norfolk, and gave special tribute to the role the B-24 Liberator played in winning WWII on all fronts. In closing, he presented a check for the Memorial Trust from the County of Norfolk, and welcomed all to return again to Norfolk.

Andrea Hough, 2ADA/Fulbright Librarian, thanked the members of the 2ADA for giving her the opportunity to serve at the Memorial Library. She said that it has been a wonderful experience; the Library is already heavily used, and she sees it as having a great future.

#### B. Report of the Delegate Committee (Barney Driscoll, Chairman):

Mr. Driscoll, Group Vice President, 389th Bomb Group, declared that this is an official business meeting of the U.S. 8th AF 2nd Air Division Association, a non-profit, non-political, combat veterans organization of World War II veterans, so registered under IRS code section 501 (c) (19). The 2ADA IRS ID# is 25-1327743. In participating in this annual business meeting, certain income tax considerations apply to us. (The reasonable costs of attendance are construed to be a charitable contribution, and may be deductible as such by those who itemize their deductions on their annual income tax returns.) Nevertheless, the Association is in no position to offer tax advice in this matter, and attendees are urged to obtain professional advice from their own tax advisors regarding any questions on this subject. Mr. Driscoll then stated that the convention chairperson will make a finalized list of all regular members attending this meeting. Mr. Driscoll then moved that all regular members of the Association in attendance at this annual Association business meeting be designated official delegates. Motion seconded and approved.

#### C. Report of the Secretary (David Patterson):

Secretary Patterson reminded all that in today's proceedings, only regular Association members have the voting privilege.

He pointed out that the minutes of the last business meeting of the 2nd Air Division Association, held May 28, 2000, had been published in the Winter 2000 edition of the 2nd Air Division Association Journal, and thus the minutes had been made available to all members for their review.

He then read these May, 2000 minutes in expedited form, and moved that they be approved as published. Motion seconded and approved.

#### D. Report of the Treasurer (E. Bill Nothstein):

1. Treasurer Nothstein pointed out that his report will summarize what was published in the last 2ADA Journal.

In rounded figures:

Balance, General Fund, beginning of fiscal year (7/1/2000):	\$188,000
Income	\$120,000
Expenses	\$102,000
(half of expenses were to produce the 2ADA Journal)	
Net Income:	\$ 18,000
Ending General Fund Balance (6/30/2001)	\$206,000

#### 2. Audit Committee (Walt Mundy, Chairman):

The audit committee examined the Association's books of account, and found them all in proper order in accordance with standard auditing practices. A minor discrepancy was found and it was corrected immediately. The committee certified that the audit was complete and proper, and it was accepted by the Executive Committee of the Association.

#### E. Report of the Vice President, Membership / Chair, Conventions (Evelyn Cohen):

##### 1. Membership:

We now have approximately 5,600 members, down from a high of 8,400 (approximately 10% of the total Division strength). Attrition is due to age and infirmities, which make participation difficult. However, we have now more and more family members joining as associates, which covers much of the losses.

(Evelyn specially thanked the wives and lady friends of the members, as without their cooperation, the men would be reluctant to attend Association functions.)

2. There are 562 2ADA members and families at this convention. The September 11th terrorist attacks raised a question as to whether to cancel the visit, but that question was soon answered by, "Yes, we will continue as planned!" At the banquet, we will seat 831 people, which includes British friends.

3. The dues statements will be coming out shortly, and there will be an appeal for donations, along with the Memorial Trust and Library, for the Air Force Memorial to be built in Washington, D.C. The Association donated \$25,000 for this latter project, and the appeal is for the membership to replace this sum in the 2ADA treasury. (The 2ADA is the only group in the Air Force to make that sizeable a contribution.)

4. The 2ADA convention next year (year 2002) will be at Cambridge, Maryland, at a now-under-construction Hyatt Regency hotel on Chesapeake Bay. It will be held on the Labor Day weekend. In recognition of our choosing the Hyatt hotels through the years, they will be giving our Association members special low rates for our stay.

#### F. Report of the Association's Governor, Memorial Trust (Charles Walker):

Mr. Walker reminded the membership that the Memorial Library librarian is correctly called a "2ADA/Fulbright Librarian," rather than "Fulbright Librarian." This correct title recognizes the 2nd Air Division Association as a major participant in the program, providing the entire support for the scholar. The role of Fulbright is to do research to find a qualified candidate, and then pay the scholar's transportation costs to and from the assignment.

Governor Walker pointed out that Paul King, Chairman of the Trust Governors, will be speaking to the 2ADA members later in this convention, and will cover the current status of the Memorial Library and Trust. Walker will therefore not speak further on the subject.

#### G. Report of the Journal Editor (Ray Pytel):

Mr. Pytel indicated that all was going well with the Journal, and no further report was necessary.

#### H. Report of the President (Felix Leeton):

President Leeton pointed out how pleased we all were to be here, back again among our British friends, and hoped that the Association might be able to return again in the future to this, our "second home."

#### I. General Business (President Leeton):

1. Old Business: There was no old business to bring before the membership.
2. New Business:

##### a. Awards (Bill Beasley):

1) Four Group Vice Presidents were presented certificates for three years of service as Group Vice President: Barney Driscoll (389th Bomb Group); John Leppert (491st Bomb Group); James Lorenz (466th Bomb Group); and Lloyd Prang (453rd Bomb Group).

2) Mr. Joe Dzenowagis, Sr. (467th Bomb Group) was presented with the Exceptional Service Award for his work in recording on videotape the activities of the 2nd Air Division and its members, both in wartime reminiscing and in the following years wherein many of its members participated in the activities of the 2nd Air Division Association. Mr. Dzenowagis's work (in concert with his family members) has produced historic video films of 2AD and 2ADA activities, films which have won many national awards. His work and dedication have resulted in the documentation and preservation of the history of the Division, and the heroism and sacrifice of its members in their contributions toward winning World War II, and forwarding world peace. (President Leeton herein stated that the 2ADA Executive Committee had donated the sum of \$10,000 for the upcoming year [2002], and another \$10,000 for the year 2003, toward the Dzenowagis "Video History Project").

3) President Felix Leeton was presented an award for his dedicated service this past year as President of the 2ADA. Mr. Walter Mundy, Executive Vice President, presented the award, explaining that Mr. Leeton did an outstanding job, and his counsel to future presidents will be very welcome in the coming years.

(continued on page 12)



# A Day in the Life of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library

BY THE STAFF OF THE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Since the opening of the new Memorial Library on 7 November 2001, we have seen the flood of daily visitors slow to a more manageable level. We continue to assist patrons and work on the book collections, as well as tackle any necessary projects. In this article, we will share a typical day (January 8, 2002) in the Memorial Library, and introduce you to the staff.

## A TYPICAL DAY (JANUARY 8, 2002)

Today, Derek Hills, Andrea Bean Hough, and Jean Pelling-Smith are the staff on duty. This morning, Derek Hills, the Trust Librarian, had a visit from the Literacy Development Officer to discuss using the collections of the Memorial Library when teaching poetry to children. Paul King, Chairman of the Memorial Trust, worked with an appraiser to identify materials in the library that require additional insurance. Later on that morning, a staff member from The Forum met with Derek to talk about an aviation display in the atrium in March, and arrange a meeting for next week to discuss details. Andrea Bean Hough, the 2ADA/Fulbright Librarian, provided information on the Memorial Library in response to an e-mail request from a veteran. She also worked on letters to area high school history teachers, and prepared a short speech.

After lunch, a group of librarians from Hull visited the Memorial Library as part of their tour of The Forum. They were impressed by the Memorial Library, and asked several questions about the collections as well as the displays. Jean Pelling-Smith, one of our new staff members, retrieved almost fifty books that had been returned by patrons and reshelfed them. A small boy on the way to the next-door Children's Library saw WITCHCRAFT, the large B-24 model hanging at the entry. He came in with his family to look at all of the assembly ship models and found a book on B-24s to take home. All the while, patrons asked questions, used the computers, browsed the books, looked at the paintings and models, and listened to the interactive video display.

These are some of the questions we've answered this afternoon:

*Where are the books on Pearl Harbor?*

*Where are your books on the Civil War?*

*What is this library?*

*Do you have any books on Native American art?*

*Do you have any books on Grace Kelly?*

*How do I search the Internet to find concert listings?*

*Where are your books on World War II?*

*How do I find information on a particular World War II general?*

*Do you have a large map of wartime airfields in Norfolk?*

*How do I join the library?*

*Is that Jimmy Stewart in the mural?*

Tonight, the library is open until 8:00 PM, as it is Monday through Friday. Jean will be here to assist patrons until closing time. Andrea is attending a dinner meeting of the Great Yarmouth Royal Air Force Association this evening to give a short talk about the Memorial Library and her work here in England, following a presentation by David Hastings, Vice Chair of the Memorial Trust.

## ABOUT THE STAFF OF THE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Derek Hills is the Trust Librarian for the Memorial Library. He is responsible for coordinating the day-to-day activities of the library, such as scheduling staff and ordering books, as well as working with patrons and giving tours of the library. Lesley Fleetwood and Jenny Christian have been with the Memorial Library for several years as Enquiry & Information Assistants. They work with patrons, prepare new books for the shelves, take care of typing needs, and many other tasks.

Because of the increased activity in the library and the increase in opening hours, two new staff have been added for the year. Jean Pelling-Smith has assisted in the Memorial Library in the past, and is now on contract for one year. Deborah Medhurst has joined the staff as well. They provide assistance at the desk and pitch in wherever needed.

Andrea Bean Hough is the 2ADA/Fulbright Librarian for 2001-2002. In addition to working with the patrons in the library, she has been contacting area high schools to arrange visits. She and her husband, Paul, will be returning to Indianapolis at the end of August.

Future articles about the Memorial Library will share information on special projects or events in which the Memorial Library and its staff are participating. ■

## 54TH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING (continued from page 11)

### J. Report of the Nominating Committee (Geoff Gregory):

Mr. Gregory stated that it is a pleasure to present the following names of nominees for the 2ADA offices:

President: Walter Mundy (467th Bomb Group)

Executive Vice President: Richard Butler (44th Bomb Group)

Treasurer: E.W. (Bill) Nothstein (466th Bomb Group)

Secretary: David Patterson (445th Bomb Group)

Vice President, Membership: Evelyn Cohen (Headquarters)

Journal Editor: Ray Pytel (445th Bomb Group)

Mr. Gregory then asked for any nominations from the floor. There were none, and James Lorenz moved that the nominations be closed, and the slate be accepted by acclamation. Motion carried.

A motion (m: Gregory) to accept his report was seconded and approved.

### K. Other Business:

#### a. Comments from David Hastings, Vice Chairman, Memorial Trust:

On behalf of the Governors and the Memorial Library staff, Mr. Hastings thanked the 2ADA attendees for coming to the aid of England in the 1940s war years and for coming back again this week despite being faced with possible terrorist activities. He thanked them for establishing and perpetuating the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library here in Norwich, and for making possible the continued presence of outstanding Fulbright scholars to staff it. Mr. Hastings pointed out that much work has been done to make the 2ADA visit a memorable one, and assured all that they would be more than pleased with the Library and with the events planned.

#### b. Comments from 2ADA Treasurer Nothstein:

A major cost associated with making the annual audits of the Association books of account is the cost of travel for participants. To minimize this cost to the

Association, Mr. Nothstein appealed for volunteers from the membership who live near the Treasurer to become members of future audit committees, to help with this annual task.

c. President Leeton pointed out the beautiful medallion designed by Bud Chamberlain and Alan Senior which was donated to each member attending this convention. He thanked Bud and those involved in its production, and said that more were available from Bud and Alan after this meeting. [Note: The medallion was jointly designed by Bud (489th BG) and Alan (446th BG). Bud and Dick Butler (44th BG) then shared the expense of having it produced as a gift to every member supporting this 54th Annual 2ADA Convention, as a meaningful memento of the convention's events — the awarding of the "Freedom of the City of Norwich" and the reopening of the 2AD Memorial Library.]

d. Newly elected President Walter Mundy announced that immediately after this meeting he will hold a short Executive Committee meeting in this room for all 2ADA Executive Committee members, including the new members (i.e., there are five new Group Vice Presidents).

e. Evelyn Cohen, VP Membership / Chair, Conventions; and David Hastings, Vice Chair, Governors; stressed that security will be very tight during this convention, and that all must wear their identification badges and display their written invitations to all events.

### L. Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was seconded and approved. Adjournment was at 11:05 AM.

David G. Patterson  
Secretary, 2nd Air Division Association, 8th USAAF



The Governors of the Memorial Trust wish to put on record their gratitude to those stalwart individuals who spent several hours on Saturday 3 November 2001 signing prints to earn \$5,000 for the Memorial Library. This was the total sum the Military Gallery paid for each man to sign 500 prints of the 2nd Air Division's famed B-24 "Witchcraft" in action. The painting, by international renowned artist Nick Trudgian, had been specially commissioned for the occasion of the Second Air Division Association's visit to Norwich to attend the dedication of the new library. A room at the Swallow Nelson Hotel had been set aside for the print-signing event, but several of the signatories had no idea that they would be involved until solicited that morning. Commencing soon after 9:00 AM, the worthy band of veterans signed away until lunch time and with never a complaint about aching hands and fingers. Nick Trudgian was also present to add his signature to the 500 prints.

The noble signatories were: Vernon R. Swain (93rd BG), George E. Hammond (389th BG), Perry Morse (44th BG), James P. Dyke (453rd BG), Charles H. Booth (458th BG), Robert Dubowsky (44th BG), C. Will Lundy (44th BG), Everett R. Jones (466th BG), J. Richard Butler (458th BG), and Elmo W. Geppelt (458th BG). Alfred Asch (93rd BG) also signed ten extra copies. To all for their industry and kindness, the Governors offer sincere thanks.

The Military Gallery has also presented the Second Air Division Association with 100 copies of the print which will be available for the membership. ■

## THE CONVENTION OF THE SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION: NORWICH, NOVEMBER 2001

By Paul R. King, Chairman of The  
Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust

The week when your convention was held in Norwich was a truly magical one, which we in Norwich and Norfolk will never forget. The granting of the Freedom of the City to the Association, the highest honour which the City can bestow, was a memorable ceremony with its due pomp and circumstance. The service the next day, a semi-State occasion, was so moving, and amongst the finest I have ever witnessed at our glorious Cathedral Church. The Bishop's address was outstanding, and I am asking him to provide me with a transcript, which I hope may be published in the *Journal*. (See page 23.)

The Opening itself with its ceremonial attaching to it was also remarkable. How well the younger generation did in bearing the standards and the Roll of Honour.

We were honoured to have the Guard of Honour provided by RAF Coltishall parading all four standards presented to the Station by the Queen during her reign. It was good also to have an Honour Guard

from the USAF based at RAF Mildenhall, and we were extremely fortunate to have the crack Band of the RAF Regiment play for us.

I was so glad to have our Lord Lieutenant representing the Queen open the new Memorial Library with General Kenneth A. Hess, the Commanding General of the 3rd Air Force. I cannot conceal my considerable disappointment that the U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain was not present, but the General represented him well. It was an added bonus that his father had flown from Hethel in World War II.

Words are inadequate to express the feelings which all the Governors feel towards the Association for your generosity on a massive scale made known at your excellent banquet. Whilst we knew of the large Edwin Becker Legacy, we had no idea that we would be the recipients of another \$150,000. Your generosity is deeply appreciated, and our appeal for an additional £500,000 to add to the corpus of our Capital Fund to be launched next year will get off to a flying start as a result of your substantial gifts.

I am so glad all of you are pleased with your new Memorial Library, which we are determined will survive into perpetuity. It has certainly never been in better shape to do so.

Whilst this was the last 2ADA convention in Norwich, we hope to be able to welcome numerous veterans to the Memorial Library with their families in the years to come. This love affair with the people of Norfolk and Norwich and members of the 2nd Air Division must continue!

Finally may I pay enormous tribute to Evelyn Cohen and David & Jean Hastings. They were faced with every conceivable problem with which to contend, and they came through triumphant. Without them, this convention could not have taken place. Our debt of gratitude to them is enormous. ■

## NORFOLK NOTES

By Bill Wuest, Trust Governor

Greetings from the Folk of the North! We had lovely snow before and after Christmas, but not on The Day. The bookies breathed a sigh of relief! We may be on course for our coldest winter since 1981 — time will tell. A nearly-White Christmas, perhaps?

Lots of tasty Thanksgiving memories left over from the happy supper, enjoyed by over 120 Friends and guests. Pearl Neale's legendary raffle brought in nearly 500 USD for our Friends coffers. Since our first Turkey Day feast, back in 1988, this event has gained a county-wide reputation, and was given a full page of photo coverage in the Norwich *Eastern Daily Press*, England's leading provincial newspaper. An aside: American pumpkin pie was a *Norfolk* dish, brought over by Puritans in the early 17th century. It was NOT an American Indian dish. Not a lot of people know that!

Our first Friends 2AD Liberator Calendar has really "taken off." Very few allegedly remain from the first printing. If you wish to buy one or more, try phoning Friends Chairman David Neale on 44-1986-873474, but remember, it is from five to eight hours later here in Norfolk, so don't wake David from a sound sleep! We all owe a deep word of thanks to Friend Colin Mann, known affectionately now as Mr. Calendar, for his successful efforts. We are already thinking about a 2003 Friends Calendar.

Our Friends Committee is looking forward to holding our February meeting at the great new Second Air Division Memorial Library — our first meeting "in the Memorial" for over eight years. A full report will be found in your next Norfolk Notes. Til then, best wishes from your Norfolk Friends to everyone in our wonderful Association and Heritage League.

"Cheers!" from Bill Wuest, a Friend of the Eighth Air Force since 1972, a Friend of the 2AD since 1988, and one of your 2AD Trust Governors for nearly a quarter-of-a-century!

*Editor's Note: Governor Bill is the Liaison Officer from the Governors to the Friends of the 2nd Air Division Memorial.* ■



The 2ADA convention in Norwich was held November 2-9, 2001. It was a very busy week with fairly nice weather. The historic events are covered elsewhere; I'll focus here on our "Day at Attlebridge."

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE 466TH BOMB GROUP

Our 466th BG had 17 veterans, with a total of 42 attendees including spouses, children, and grandchildren. The group was scattered in four Norwich hotels and a time-share in Cromer. Thus, our only opportunity to have a meeting was on our base bus.

The annual meeting of the 466th BG (2ADA) was held in Norwich on November 8, 2001. As Group VP, I called the meeting to order at 8:25 AM. Our treasurer, Stanley Mohr, could not attend due to illness in his family, so I read his report, which indicated that expenses for 2001 were \$247.50 for 50% of our nine banquet guests (the 466th BGA paid an equal amount) and \$60 for the November wreath for placing at our memorial, leaving an October 2001 balance of \$773.48. As a thank you to our local supporters, we invited the following to be our banquet guests: Reverend Illingworth; Digby & Molly Horner; Ted & Joyce Clarke; Cathy Thomson & her daughter; and Eddie Brighty. (*Brian Youngs & Barbara could not attend, as Brian had a stroke. He is recovering now with some eye problems.*) The report was accepted.

Assistant VP John Horan collected £10 per person for our expenses for the day, with any excess to be given to All Saints Church. There was no excess, as I neglected to note that VAT (17%) was collected on our meal costs. Our only business was to elect officers for 2002. I indicated that the current officers (Jim Lorenz, VP; John Horan, assistant VP; Stanley Mohr, treasurer) were amenable to continuing, if elected. Bill Nothstein moved, and it was seconded, that the current officers be reelected. There being no nominations from the floor, it was voted to elect the slate presented. There being no other business, it was voted to close the meeting at 8:35 AM. I would like to further note that I received a beautiful plaque from the 2ADA for three years' service as your VP. And the Heritage League presented Mary and me with a Certificate of Appreciation for our dedication and valuable contributions to the League these past two years as 2ADA Liaisons to the League.

### BASE VISIT

Ted Clarke and Digby Horner kindly did the arrangements for the day. It was a cloudy, cool, rainy day, and four of our veterans did not feel up to the visit. We had twelve veterans on the bus, with family members making a total of 42. Our special guests were Andrea Hough, our new 2ADA/Fulbright Memorial Librarian, whose great-uncle Harry Bean served in the 466th BG (Andrea's husband Paul had to work!); and U.S. Navy pi-

### ATTLEBRIDGE



### BY JIM LORENZ

lot Lt. Chris Thurmond, on the end of a two-year assignment at RAF Mildenhall Base, whose grandfather, Col. Robert P. Baumann, Jr. served in the 466th BG (Baumann died in 1996). Chris' wife, Julie, did not make the trip — staying at their Norwich home with their two-year-old and their brand new baby.

We also had former Memorial Librarian Phyllis DuBois and former 2ADA/Fulbright Librarian Linda Berube, who live in Norwich; Tony Lovett, a young businessman who is a 466th BG buff and his parents Olivia and Harry; our base guides; and several other locals for a total of 56.



**Bernard Matthews and Jim Lorenz, as Mr. Matthews hosted the 466th at his office, 11/8/2001. PHOTO BY MARY LORENZ**

We started the day parking close to the old control tower, which is the office for the Bernard Matthews Ltd. Attlebridge turkey farm. (Mr. Matthews strongly supported our banquet — even having his Matthews Norfolk Brass Band play for us.) Mr. N.R. Simons, Matthews' manager at Attlebridge, hosted our visit to the tower, which has been remodeled to provide an inside stairway. Thus, we had to visit in groups of ten. Mr. Simons gave each of us laminated photos of our base in the 1960s and the 1980s. While we were visiting the tower, Mr. Matthews' car drove up and parked. I had talked with him at the banquet, where he stated that he wanted to do something more for our base visit and would be in touch. He contacted Ted Clarke and asked if we could be at his headquarters at 11:00 AM; we assured him

that we'd be glad to change our schedule and would be delighted to visit. I also invited all the locals. So, as it was raining, the 56 of us dragged the main runway in the bus and proceeded to our old headquarters area. The Thomsons lived here some years ago; the current owners — Stephanie Collard — run a small chemical business (Simple Solutions) there.

While we were there, we experienced the ultimate in the security they provided us — two British vets drove up the driveway in their old British tank! Several of our old Quonset huts are still being used on this property.

We then proceeded to Fran's Green, where our granite memorial is located, just off the end of our old main runway. Here, Digby Horner and Ted Clarke had arranged to have the traffic stopped while we had our short ceremony of the laying of the wreath. I thanked everyone for attending on this blustery day; Reverend Illingworth gave a prayer and Digby handed me the wreath to place in memory of our comrades.

Then, with the locals following the bus, we went to Bernard Matthews Ltd. World Headquarters at Great Witchingham (see photo), just a few miles from our base. Mr. Matthews met us at the door, and served us champagne and delicious hors d'oeuvres. He took all of us on a tour of the rooms, explaining the photographs and telling us about his company. He served his national service in 1948-50 with the RAF as Squadron Administrator for the famous 617 Squadron (The Dambusters). He spent over an hour with us, and thanked us for being there in 1943-45. A real highlight of the day!

We then stopped at All Saints Church — not for a service, but for all to see our 466th BG Roll of Honor there. They had the heaters on for us (felt real good), and the organist played our national anthem. Digby gave all of us a copy of the November "Wensum Diary" — a local monthly publication for which he serves as editor. Our memorial was on the front cover, with an article about our visit and the schedule for the day.

We proceeded to the Lenwade Country Hotel for a light lunch. Our room was a little crowded, as I had estimated some 45 of us, and 56 attended. I regret that we couldn't roam around to spend time with our local guests, but we did have each of them introduce themselves and their interest in the 466th.

Mary and I felt badly that we were scheduled for events morning, noon, and night for the whole week — as we could not spend time with our friends. But, I do feel that the 466th will return in a few years!

### FOLLOW-UP ON THE BOMBING OF SWITZERLAND, MARCH 4, 1945

In the Summer 2001 *Journal*, I presented some of my notes on the 466th BG, 785th Squadron, bombing of Switzerland. I received the following letters, with permission



to publish, on August 18, 2001 from Bob Pettersen, navigator on C.J. Ellison's crew in the plane "Generator Geny" on this mission. (Note: Bob Pettersen died in December, 2001, after his visit to Norwich with us.)

Bob wrote me on July 27, 2001:

"I was the navigator on Ellison's crew on the March 4, 1945 mission. I still have the original navigation maps of that mission, as well as the briefing weather report (WHICH WAS WAY OFF!) and my original briefing notes for this mission.

"I believe I am the only navigator of our nine planes who came home with an actual GEE fix recorded about thirty seconds after bombs away, showing in fact we had bombed Basel . . . I had decided that my navigation was off after tracking on DR (dead reckoning) for a long time."

### A HISTORY OF THE BOMBING OF BASEL, SWITZERLAND

BY R.W. PETTERSEN (466TH BG)

This is one navigator's version from original maps and diary notes covering the 466th's mission on March 4, 1945. [This] was supposed to be a [bombing] of a jet aircraft plant at Kitzingen; bad weather resulted in some of our squadrons (including eight planes from the 785th Squadron, 466th BG) bombing Basel, Switzerland.

We were up at 02:30 AM; briefing at 04:30; takeoff at 06:30. Because of bad weather, we headed for France to form; we crossed the Belgian coast at 07:31 hours; had bad weather all the way, finally finding the formation playing hide-and-go-seek in the clouds, southwest of Reims. The formation took off on course at 09:50 AM; climbed in formation through clouds all the way. We reached an altitude of 27,000 feet near Lake Constantine — "hanging on the props" when they finally decided the weather was too bad for the primary and decided to bomb Stuttgart. We couldn't get there either, so we split up. Our lead ship turned around at 09:50 and headed for Freiburg. We were joined by some planes from other groups.

At approximately 10:00 hours, I told Ellison [pilot] that I had us located approximately 15 miles southwest of Freiburg heading for Switzerland. He radioed the lead plane and advised them, but they told us the radar navigator had positively identified Freiburg and that we would drop.

During this time, the Swiss were sending up colored flak to tell us we were getting close to the Swiss border. We started down the bomb run still in the clouds, but a short time before bombs away, we broke out into the open so we were able to bomb visually with the trusty Norden bombsight. (Ed. Note: And to get beautiful photos of the strike.)

During the bomb run, my GEE box was starting to come in. We had bombs away at



466th Memorial Ceremony, November 8, 2001. L-R: Digby Horner, British Legion; Jim Lorenz, VP 466th BG; and Reverend Paul Illingworth. PHOTO BY CATHY THOMSON

10:13:30. Thirty seconds after bombs away, the fix showed that we had indeed bombed Basel, Switzerland. We were carrying ten 500-pound RDX bombs, flying in "Generator Geny."

Heading for home, we crossed the French coast at Ostend, France at 12:20, crossed the English coast south of Lowestoft at 13:13, and landed at 13:28. This was a seven-hour, fifteen-minute flight.

That day, those of us that dropped had 100% of our bombs in the 500-foot circle, and as a result, all of our bombs hit railroad cars in the marshaling yard; almost unheard-of bombing accuracy.

I have been told that we did not kill any people that day, and later intelligence revealed that the marshaling yard was filled with freight cars carrying war materials to Germany. So, although the bombing was a terrible mistake, we may have saved some American lives down the road.



Pilot C.J. Ellison wrote to Bob on August 19, 2001:

"Thank you for your notes on the Freiburg-Basel mission. My recollection is that the group was either on the bomb run or approaching it, when a group of black-tailed B-24s came out of the murk. Our entire group made a steep left turn to avoid the biggest mid-air collision in history. Our group broke into squadrons and was told that each squadron should bomb 'targets of opportunity' but to make certain of the target. Our squadron socked in tight and headed for Freiburg..."

"You and I had agreed that in tight spots you would call out the position of the other planes as you observed from your windows. That is what you were doing when we ap-

proached Basel. Immediately after bombs away you got back on your GEE box and let out a scream, 'We just bombed Switzerland!'

"We agreed to stick to the story that the GEE box was acting up — which it was — rather than get into a long-winded explanation. Upon entering debriefing, I asked the officer checking us in what target the third squadron hit, and he replied 'Freiburg.'

"We went through debriefing on that premise, knowing full well that it was Basel. That night, while in the club, the entire squadron was summoned to HQ. It was like a funeral parlor when we entered the room. Total silence during the strike photos. I did feel sympathy for Col. Ligon, as the group would have gotten the Presidential Citation upon completion of 200 missions had it not been for Basel." (Ed. Note: This was the 466th's 196th mission.)

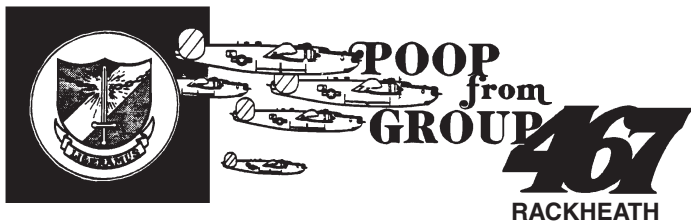
"Our copilot that day completed his missions about a week later, but could not leave until the court martial was concluded. The pilot of the lead ship was demoted to a wing pilot, and I do not recall the penalty for the [lead] navigator, who did not have adjacent regional maps as required. Col. Ligon, as base commander . . . gained our respect by his attitude and art of survival."

Bob Pettersen commented on the above: "I always carried adjacent GEE regional maps; the configuration of Freiburg and Basel . . . were almost identical."

I would appreciate comments from anyone else about that ill-fated mission.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

The 2ADA will hold its annual convention from August 30 – September 3, 2002 at the Hyatt Resort, Cambridge, Maryland. The 466th BGA will meet from October 2-6, 2002 at the Sheraton in Norfolk, Virginia. ■



BY GEOFF GREGORY

Well, life is pretty much back to normal. The Norwich convention and Christmas/New Year's have come and gone, and the winter weather is here...except for Texas, which has good weather all year!

Nothing really new to report, but I would like to tell you about a visit we made to Wymondham College after the convention. Terry and I were pleased to have been invited to a luncheon at the college, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the school. You will remember that the college is located on the old base of the hospital which served so many 2AD servicemen.

That evening, as part of that celebration, we attended a concert by the Wymondham College Band (the same band that played in The Forum for the opening of the Memorial Library). Now, we are "old softies" when it comes to FLAG AND COUNTRY! So imagine the lump that came in my throat to hear — 5,000 miles from home — "The Stars and Stripes Forever" played by that group of young English men and women. We were the only Americans present, but the applause of appreciation vibrated the walls! It was a most moving moment, and a memory we shall not forget.

As I write this report, it is now January 2002; but take heart!!! It won't be long before you will be breathing in that pure, life-giving, fresh air of Texas in the city of San Antonio, when we meet for our 467th convention in 2003. It is a lovely, interesting, "different" city — a great convention town. Thank you, President Davis! I'm happy now! We're going to San Antonio!

Once more I wish all of you good health and happiness in 2002. ■

*In Loving Memory of  
Colonel Albert Joseph Shower  
United States Air Force (Retired)*



*16 June 1910 — 15 October 2001*

*Interment at Arlington National Cemetery  
With Full Military Honors*

*16 November 2001*

## *A Beautiful Fall Day*

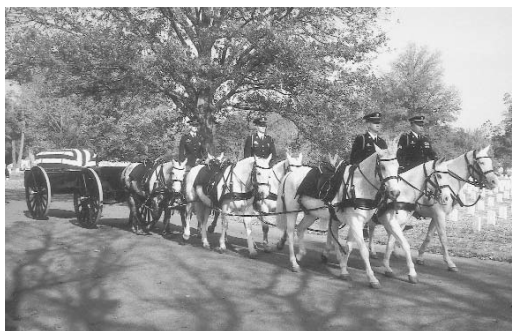
The following ode was written and presented by MARY FORD, a family friend, at Arlington National Cemetery on the afternoon of the burial of Colonel Albert J. Shower, 16 November 2001.

*It is a beautiful Fall day.  
There is a breeze  
That causes the fallen Oak  
and Maple leaves  
To dance along the grass,  
Skipping to the unheard rhythm  
of the Universe.*

*Today is a beautiful Fall day  
To be buried and remembered.  
Today my family and friends  
Have come together to bid me farewell.*

*I was old and aching,  
Too frail to serve the world any longer  
In a manner to my liking.  
I left them behind,  
But they need not weep for me,  
For I belong to a larger, more renowned  
Group of flyers now.*

*It is a warm, beautiful Fall day.  
A peaceful day.  
A day that is signaling the passing  
Of one season to another:  
A force over which we have no control.*



*It is a beautiful day  
And the trees are full of color  
As far as one can see,  
Even into the mist in the valleys  
And down hillsides  
Where the afternoon sun warms the earth  
And draws the last of the color  
from fallen leaves.  
Leaves that now fall upon  
And dance over my resting place,  
Where I now lay peacefully  
Among my peers and comrades.*

*Nearby, there are  
some towering Maple trees  
And a large red Oak  
To guard over me.  
In them now,  
my great-grandchildren climb,  
And their laughter  
Drifts up and between the leaves  
of red and gold.*

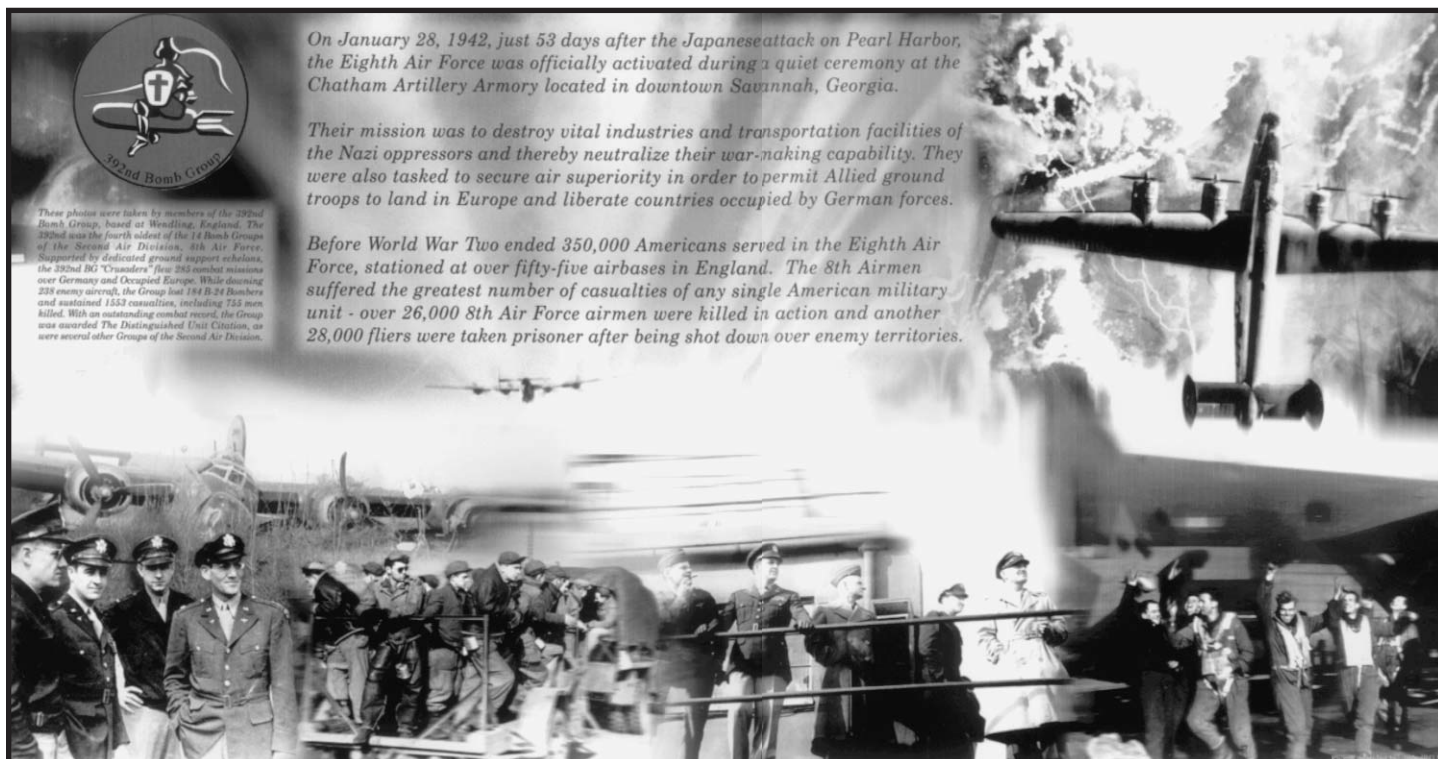
*My life has been spent  
and I am content.  
So be like the children  
and enjoy life,  
For all too soon another Fall will come  
And the children  
will be remembering you  
On a day such as this.*

*Today is a beautiful Fall day:  
Warm and colorful.  
It is a perfect day.  
A perfect day to be surrounded  
by the warmth of God.*



# Queen Mary Revisited: or, "A Poster Fit for a Queen"

BY J. FRED THOMAS (392ND BG)



Reproduced above is a portion of the poster which is framed and hung in the military exhibit of the Queen Mary.

Back around 1981, when I was young and full of enthusiasm about the 2ADA, I set about getting 2ADA posters placed at places frequented by the public. Places like Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm turned me down with the excuse that if they let me put up a poster, they would have to let numerous others do the same. Could be, but when I spoke to the management of the Queen Mary, they said not only would they let me put a poster in their military exhibit, but they would frame it and hang it for me. They couldn't have been nicer. The poster has hung in the exhibit ever since, and due to this, we have received many calls that have resulted in new members for the 2ADA. Also, we have become good friends with some who have called, both from the U.S. and overseas.

Things had been quiet for a while, but last May, we were surprised by a call from Mr. Jerry Rubin, a designer whom the management of the Queen Mary had selected to redesign and upgrade their military exhibit. Mr. Rubin was seeking help in getting some material and memorabilia in order to do his redesign work.

It seemed to me that we not only had a chance to return a favor for the Queen Mary, but we also had an opportunity to get some exposure for the 392nd BG, the 2AD, and the 8th AF. So, I got the word out to the 392nd BG Memorial Association and several members of the 2ADA. All agreed that we had an opportunity for publicity and should support the project.

First, I contacted Jim Goar, now VP for the 392nd BG, 2ADA. He contacted Mr. Greg Hatton, who is the keeper of all the photos taken by the 392nd BG people during the war. Mr. Hatton supplied Mr. Rubin with a sheaf of photos. Further contacts were C.N. "Bud" Chamberlain, 489th BG; and Richard Baynes, 466th BG, and President of the 8th AFHS. We contacted Mr. Mark Hoage, a collector of AF WWII memorabilia, but Mark was unable to help. However, Bud Chamberlain, via Dick Butler, VP 44th BG, got a copy of 44th BG historian Will Lundy's diary of his voyage on the Queen Mary to England in 1942. Bud also came up with a new 2ADA poster to replace mine that had aged to a degree in twenty years. Dick Baynes obtained text in re the 8th AF from the Heritage Museum PR peo-

ple at Savannah. I was able, with the help of our good friend Phyllis DuBois, to get a poster of the logos of every group in the 8th AF.

After a summer and fall of phone calls and e-mails, we finally have a photo montage mounted in the Queen Mary. The montage pictures B-24s, in flight and crashed; flight crews; mechanics; officers with Glenn Miller; text with history of the 8th AF; and a picture of men standing shoulder to shoulder on the deck of the Queen Mary, returning to New York in 1945. Across the top of the montage are several excerpts from Will Lundy's diary. Further excerpts from the diary are mounted in several areas of the military exhibit.

Another mission accomplished! The help from all who participated in the montage project is fully appreciated. If I have overlooked anyone who helped, it is unintentional and regretted.

Take a visit to the Queen Mary when you can. So far, there isn't a "tail dragger" in sight. ■

## 2ADA 2002 Convention August 31–September 3

**Hotel:** Hyatt Regency, Chesapeake Bay

**Place:** 2800 Ocean Gateway, Cambridge, Maryland  
(on Route 50 between Easton and Salisbury)

**Costs:** Information to come in a separate mailing.

**August 29:** Arrival, 2ADA Executive Committee

**August 30:** Executive Committee Meeting  
Early Bird Party

**August 31:** Executive Committee Meeting  
Cocktail Party, Buffet Dinner, Film

**September 1:** Buffet Breakfast  
Cocktail Party, Group Dinners

**September 2:** Buffet Breakfast  
Cocktail Party, Banquet

**September 3:** Buffet Breakfast, Departure





## 492nd BOMB GROUP

# HAPPY WARRIOR HAPPENINGS

NORTH PICKENHAM

BY WILLIS H. BEASLEY

### THE BRANCH FAMILY

Recognition and appreciation goes to Warren Branch, a dedicated member of the 492nd Bomb Group and the 2ADA. He was the tail gunner on the Gaulke crew in the 856th BS. On the mission to Politz, Germany, May 29, 1944, their plane was damaged during fierce fighter attacks near Stepenitz north of the target, lost altitude, ran out of fuel, and was forced to land in Sweden at Rinkaby Air Field.

Warren has not only located all of the remaining members of his crew, but he and his wife Lee have traveled from coast to coast making a concerted effort to meet with each of them. The latest contact has been Francis Baker, who is now a member of the 2ADA.

Warren's daughter, Karen Cline, publishes a newsletter for and about the Swedish internees. Karen and her husband Floyd have traveled to Sweden to meet with Ingemar Melln and Bo Widfield, the people who have had first-hand knowledge of the internees.

### THANKS...

...and appreciation to two of the 492nd BG wives, who wish to remain anonymous, who gave \$300 each in honor of their husbands for the 492nd Bomb Group banner that now hangs in the 2AD Memorial Library in The Forum in Norwich, England.

### VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL PARK

In 1980, Congress enlarged the bounda-

ries of Valley Forge National Historical Park in order to safeguard the park's resources from development pressures. However, one of the nation's top homebuilders (Toll Brother) has option to purchase 62 acres of privately-owned land within the park for the purpose of building 60 homes. If you feel this commercial encroachment of historic Valley Forge National Park should not be allowed, you may want to contact your federal representatives and other pertinent officials to add your voice of protest.

### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF THE CROIX DE GUERRE

This association was formed in 1954, and its principal focus was to unite in military friendship those American, French, and other Allied veterans who served in the European-African Theater of Operations during World War II. The association has provided a great service to many of our groups, so it was with sadness that a letter from president Steven Kovach was received stating that at the end of 2002, this organization is considering plans for deactivation. In spite of their efforts to attract new members, their membership roll is rapidly declining. Many small unit associations that are a few members away from extinction also face this condition. The address of the American Association of the Croix de Guerre is: 18 East 41st Street, Suite 401, New York, NY 10017.

### "FORTUNES OF WAR"

Unfortunately, this book by Allan G. Blue is now out of print; however, I would like to encourage those members who do not already have a copy of *Carpetbaggers: America's Secret War in Europe*, by Ben Parnell, to order a copy from the publisher, Eakin Press, P.O. Box 23069, Austin, TX 78735, at \$24.95 a copy plus \$4.95. Many of the 492nd BG (H) crews were transferred to the 801st/492nd. Ben has excellent write-ups about them in his book.

### MEMBERSHIP

Although we have gained new members during the past months, we have also had numerous letters recently of the passing of our members; e.g., Charles Alvis, Ralph Beaman, Louis D'Aquino, Dottie Leister, John Lyons, Harold Seidl, and Charles Trout. In addition, Harold Gietz, chaplain for the 492nd Bomb Group, is seriously ill. He is on dialysis and has a bad heart. His address is: 30 Stehr Street, Branchville, NJ 07826; or send e-mail to: hgietz@juno.com.

### NEWS OF A HERITAGE LEAGUE MEMBER

Our grandson, Matthew Beasley, a former winner of a Heritage League essay contest, was one of 160 students selected to attend Harlaxton College in Grantham, England, for the winter quarter. He is a student at the University of Wisconsin in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and will return there in the fall. The curriculum at Harlaxton is English History and Literature. Matthew is also involved in their equestrian studies. He is an accomplished horseman. The quarter ends in April, at which time he will travel to the Netherlands for additional horsemanship training. Needless to say, we are very proud of him. ■

## KETTERINGHAM HALL DIVISION



BY RAY STRONG

I thought that the coverage in the Winter *Journal* of the 54th 2ADA convention was very good. The two-page article by Executive Vice President Dick Butler was very well done and covered all of the major events in detail. I am asking our editor, Ray Pytel, to include here a picture of the dedication of a tree that had already been planted just outside the Memorial Library. I was told that it is a tulip tree. The picture was sent to Jordan Uttal by Paul King, and Jordan sent it to me. I have forgotten the names of some of those

in the picture, but on the left that is me behind Paul King, then Tom Eaton, Jordan with the shovel, and Dick Butler. I am 99% certain that David Hastings is behind the tree and behind David is Andrea Hough, our 2ADA/Fulbright Librarian. I apologize to all those whose names I cannot remember. Old age is hard on my memory. Even though several months have gone by, I am still savoring every one of the events of this convention in Norwich. We cannot thank Evelyn & Lillian Cohen and David & Jean Hastings enough for the work they did. There were, of course, many other important participants too numerous for me to remember.

Just a couple of reminders: First, if your address changes, let Evelyn Cohen know at once. Doing so will save the Association some money and will also ensure that you get the next *Journal* on time. Secondly, if you have not registered for the 55th 2ADA convention, to be held in Maryland over the 2002 Labor Day weekend, do it now. ■



Ceremonial Tree Planting of American Tree outside the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library



Presentation of the Lund Watercolors in the 2ADA Meeting Room of 2AD Memorial Library

# Scenes From Norwich

NOVEMBER 1-8, 2001

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALAN HOWARD



Chairman of the Board of Governors Paul King (left) presents watercolors to T.C. Eaton, former Chairman



Left to right: Paul King, Jordan Uttal, and Tom Eaton outside Norwich Cathedral



The Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, Sir Timothy Colman, and the Vicar of the Cathedral joining the procession into the Cathedral



2ADA members & guests seated in the magnificent Norwich Cathedral



The Norwich Cathedral Choir in action



Left: Past 2ADA President Bud Koorndyk, reading the lesson from the altar.

Right: At the beginning of the Service of Dedication, visible in the front row are 2ADA President Felix Leeton; former Governor Carol Lynn MacCurdy; the High Sheriff of Norfolk, Sheila Keffer; Lady Mary Colman; and The Lord Lieutenant, Sir Timothy Colman.

Next row: Paul King, Tom Eaton, Jordan Uttal.







The Vicar of the Cathedral and The Lord Bishop of Norwich



RAF Band in procession from the Cathedral to the 2AD Memorial Library



U.S. Air Force troops from 3rd AF – Mildenhall



Inspection of 3rd AF troops by General Hess and The Lord-Lieutenant



RAF troops from RAF Coltishall, ready for inspection



Americans and British awaiting flyover at noon





The crowd included USAF and RAF personnel.



Promptly at noon, there was a flyover by a USAF tanker aircraft (above). It was accompanied by two Jaguars from RAF Coltishall (below).



Our British friends, happy and eager to see us



Student band from Wymondham College greeting us as we assembled on the lower level



Enthusiastic audience of over 700 2ADers and local friends singing the National Anthem



Putting our hands together for the flags and the Roll of Honor





The Start of the Opening Ceremonies: At the podium is the first speaker, the Chairman of the Memorial Trust, Paul King.



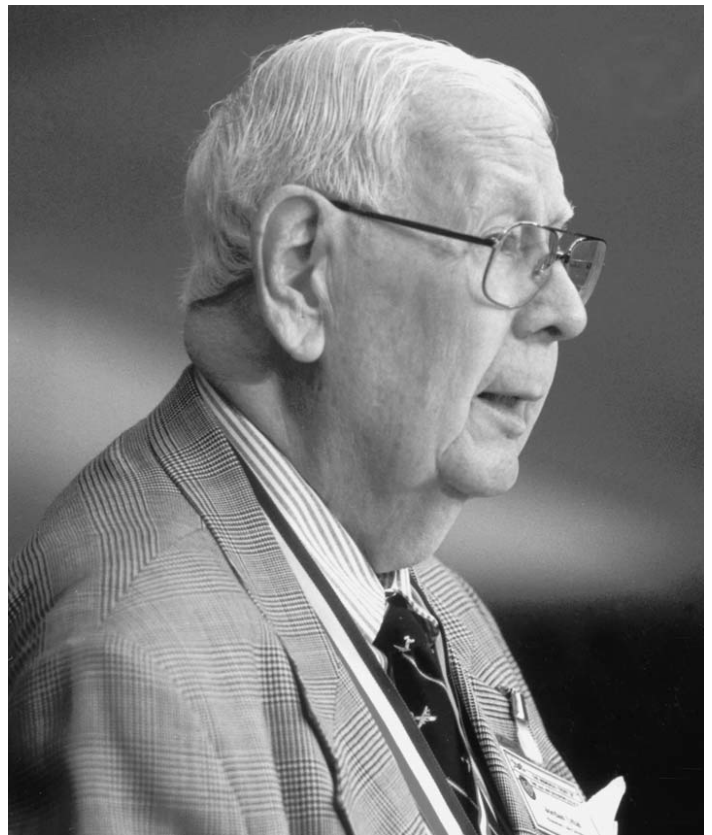
The second speaker, The Lord-Lieutenant, Sir Timothy Colman



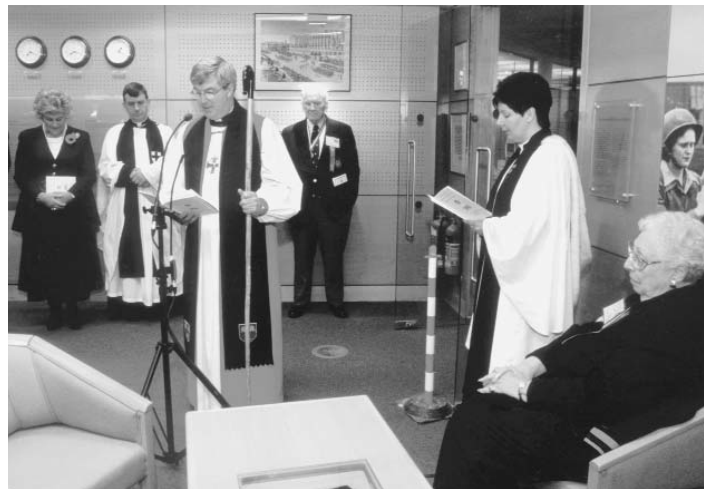
The third speaker, Major General Hess, 3rd AF Commander



The fourth speaker, Jordan Uttal, 2ADA Honorary President



Jordan Uttal speaking at the opening ceremonies



Official Blessing of the 2AD Memorial Library by The Lord Bishop of Norwich, Graham James.



Mutual congratulations on completion of ceremony: Sir Timothy Colman (left) and General Hess.

## Address by The Lord Bishop of Norwich, The Right Reverend Graham James, at the Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance at Norwich Cathedral before the Opening and Dedication of the Second Air Division Memorial Library

In March 1946 Winston Churchill went on a lengthy visit to the United States. He could take his time because, to the surprise of many Americans, he was no longer Prime Minister. Churchill was a victim of the very democratic freedom he sought so valiantly to defend. While in America, he delivered a memorable speech in Fulton, Missouri. He spoke of an "Iron Curtain" descending across Europe.

As so often with Churchill, the phrase stuck. But in that same speech Churchill also paid eloquent tribute to the many thousands of Americans who had given their lives in two world wars. As he did so, he recognised even then that the character of war was changing. He said:

**"Twice in this century the United States has had to send several million of its young men across the Atlantic to find the war; but now war can find any nation, wherever it may dwell between dusk and dawn."**

War can find any nation. We learned that truth afresh on September 11th.

This service has been a long time in the planning. No one anticipated the circumstances in which it would be held. American and British forces, especially air crews, are again fighting a war. This time the enemy is of a strangely shadowy kind compared with the one that brought so many Americans to Norfolk nearly sixty years ago. But the anxieties of the present lend an even keener awareness to our consciousness of the past. There is no better time to remember those who fought from airfields here and to honour the cause for which so many died.

Wherever I go in this diocese I discover a former airfield. From Attlebridge, through Hethel and Rackheath to Wendling, by the end of the Second World War there were thirty-seven airfields in Norfolk. In late 1944, over 4,000 flights were being mounted daily from this county. Norfolk's skies were as busy as the New Jersey Turnpike. American heavy bombers during the day were followed by the throb of RAF bombers at night, returning hours later, their mission completed. Or not returning, for thousands gave their lives in the air war. This county was a prime target for enemy aircraft too. It's worth recalling that no less than 1,400 of Norfolk's civilians were killed while going about their everyday business, just as so many did a couple of months ago in New York and Washington. Terror is not new. Many of you here, veterans of the last great conflict, know that only too well.

Such is the passage of time that the Bishop of Norwich cannot claim any personal experience of the Second World War. I was not born until January 1951. Yet the effects of that war were still felt. Within a few days of my birth, the meat ration in this country was reduced to its lowest level ever. I don't think the two events were connected. It dropped to one shilling and four pence a week. That's about twenty cents in real money. It bought you a few sausages, but not much more.

No wonder there was a flourishing black market. A month later, the United States ratified the 22nd Amendment, which limited your Presidents to a maximum of eight years in office. Those in favour said it would curb presidential power. Opponents argued that a re-elected president would be an unaccountable lame duck during his second period of office. It would be indelicate for an Englishman to offer any assessment of this constitutional change.

When I was born, the Korean War was being fought. There was anxiety that full-scale war might break out between the United States and China. That's what General MacArthur wanted. President Truman sacked him. The world into which I was born five and a half years after the great conflict was over was not peaceful and united. But it was free. It would not have been if Hitler had triumphed, and many of you and your comrades had not fought. That is why I give thanks to God for you today.

There is no such thing as a war to end all wars. That illusion was served up in the First World War and made people cynical. We must recognize now that we cannot destroy all forms of terrorism without surrendering the very freedoms we hold dear. What we can do is resist wickedness and evil and believe, as Jesus taught us, that the truth will set us free.

Read the gospels carefully and you will notice that Jesus of Nazareth was unfailingly kind to soldiers. He lived in an occupied land. His own people were subjected to an invading army. Yet Roman centurions are never depicted as the devil incarnate. Jesus is tender towards them. I can't tell you how he regarded air crews, of course, since the air divisions of his day were purely angelic. But Jesus does use harsh words — directed against zealots and warmongers. I've often noticed that it is the armchair combatants who are usually the most belligerent. Those who know the horrors of war rarely glamorize it.

War is the result of human wickedness, but we do not go to war because we are wicked. We must always remember that wars come about not simply because armies exist or that political muddles can only be resolved by force. Wars are also caused by our sense of justice, our belief in the difference between right and wrong, our loyalty to freedom, our readiness to defend a way of life. But in war the innocent do suffer. War can dehumanize us. When I hear the death of human beings described as collateral damage, I know we are beginning to lose our moral sensibilities. That's why discipline and a sound moral and ethical framework are essential. We may win a war but lose our moral dignity. That did not happen in the Second World War, praise God, mainly because it was a war fought with pain in the mind and an ache in the heart. Europe and the United States did not rush to that war gladly but knew Hitler had to be defeated. We should remember too that the peace we have largely enjoyed in

Europe for the past fifty years was not achieved simply because Hitler's Germany was defeated.

The post-war peace was preserved by the firm resolve of the western allies, through the long and bitter Cold War, until after nearly half a century the Iron Curtain of which Churchill spoke fell to the ground. But the enlightenment of the western allies in their treatment of defeated Germany was crucial to the lasting peace of Europe.

Europe has been at peace because Germany was rebuilt. It has been at peace because the German people were not humiliated by their allied conquerors, but fed, educated, and rehoused. That's a lesson we shall have to remember in the current conflict in Afghanistan. It is a moral necessity. There is always a peace to be won, and not merely a war.

There could be no more fitting memorial for the airmen we honour today than a library. It is more than an archive of the Division, for it tells also of American life and culture now. You make a continuing contribution to Norfolk through it. Your library helps build peace and friendship. What better memorial could there be?

The Memorial Library is set within a modern temple to learning, leisure, and free access to the written word. Remember that dictators and totalitarian regimes always hate libraries and learning. It is a long time since the Taliban abolished higher education in Afghanistan. Hitler was more cunning. The universities ceased to be free but became part of the propaganda machine. Books are dangerous. They contain ideas. They stimulate thinking. When men and women think freely, you cannot control what they may think. But it is that freedom which many of you sought to defend. We must guarantee particularly the freedom to dissent from prevailing orthodoxy. That is why I was disturbed when a British government minister was reported to have said to a member of Parliament that war was not a matter of conscience. As Cardinal Newman said a century ago when asked to drink a toast to the Pope: **"I will gladly do so, but I'll drink to conscience first."**

The Christian faith has a high doctrine of the written word. But it has an even higher doctrine of the word made flesh — Jesus Christ who "came and lived among us." Jesus did not pass unharmed through this world but fought its wickedness with arms outstretched, hands bleeding, and brow sweating on the cross. His weapons were faith, hope, mercy, and love. And his word from the cross was one of forgiveness. Loving your enemies is hard. And it doesn't mean giving in to wickedness and evil, but triumphing over it. Christ shows us the way. It was a soldier seeing Christ's loving sacrifice who had the insight: **"Truly, this was the Son of God."** In this Cathedral we look to the Prince of Peace as our inspiration and guide. May we in our generation salute those who died for our peace, and cherish and defend now all that is good, with hearts open and arms outstretched. ■



# Norwich Honors Second Air Division Veterans

BY MARY G. SALTARELLI  
SUBMITTED BY E.W. NOTHSTEIN (466TH BG)

On a bright, colorful fall day at Cambridge Memorial Cemetery at Madingley in Norfolk, England, a World War II B-24 Liberator tail gunner stood before the remembrance wall with tears welling in his eyes.

Pointing with his outstretched hand, Bill Nothstein showed his copilot's son the names of his late father's fallen friends, who are among those of more than 5,000 missing U.S. servicemen. Since he was a child, the son had heard about these Second Air Division comrades who went down in the North Sea on a bombing mission takeoff.

Behind them, standing amongst the long, curved rows of more than 3,000 stone crosses and stars, Everett Jones Jr. of Dallas visited his training classmates who died in action during the Allied air war.

"When you see all those crosses, you realize how many lives were cut short — they never knew life's joys like a good wife and children," said the 83-year-old formation lead pilot, who with his crew, flew 32 missions over Europe. "This time I had to tell my friends, 'I don't think I'll be back.'"

Early this month, more than six hundred B-24 Liberator crewmen and their families visited Norfolk in East Anglia, as the City of Norwich bestowed the Freedom of the City award to the veterans, and a new Second Air Division Memorial Library was dedicated in their honor.

More than 43,000 U.S. airmen flew 95,948 bombing sorties over Europe and the Mediterranean from 30 airfields in Norfolk. Their presence made an indelible impact on the City of Norwich, said Lord Mayor Keith Ratcliffe as he presented the Freedom of the City scroll to the Second Air Division Association.

Telling American veterans that he was one of the local youths who called out, "Got any gum, chum?" to the airmen stationed near Norwich, Lord Mayor Ratcliffe thanked them for saving the city's freedom, and saluted them for fulfilling their latest mission overseas.

"Since the terrible events of the 11th of September in the United States, we, in Norwich, have been moved by your resolute determination to come to our city, your second home, for...the opening of the wonderful new Memorial Library," wrote Paul R. King, Chairman of the Memorial Trust of the Second Air Division USAAF which is based in Norwich.

Just before a memorial service at the medieval Norwich Cathedral, built in 1091, residents of Norwich warmly shook hands with veterans and told them, "Welcome home."

"It's very touching," Jones said of the local people's gratitude. "People come to you and

*"Take these men as your example, like them remember that posterity can only be for the free: that freedom is the sure possession of those alone who have the courage to defend it."*  
— Pericles, 431 B.C.

ask for your autograph. It's something you don't experience anywhere else. I love Norwich — I'd love to come back again, but I think it's a little late in life."

After the memorial service, Second Air Division veterans mounted the steps of the new Forum building, which houses the Memorial Library, for a dedication ceremony. Hundreds of Norwich residents gathered around, and applauded their arrival. A Royal Air Force honor guard greeted veterans as two British Jaguar fighters and a U.S. Air Force KC-135 tanker flew overhead.

During the Memorial Library dedication, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, Sir Timothy Colman, read a message from Queen Elizabeth II; and U.S. Air Force Major General Kenneth A. Hess, Commander of the 3rd Air Force, read a message from President George W. Bush.

"This room is a living memorial to those Americans of the Second Air Division, Eighth Air Force, who flying from bases in these parts, lost their lives defending freedom, 1942-1945. 'They gave their tomorrows for our today,'" reads an inscription on the wall of the Memorial Library.

Below the inscription is the Second Air Division Roll of Honor, which includes the names of 6,700 men who lost their lives flying from the Norwich area. "To the glory of God and in memory of the Americans of the Second Air Division who gave their lives defending freedom," reads the front page of the Roll of Honor.

"If I had crew members I could enjoy this with, it would mean a lot more to me," said Bob Cash of Dallas, a radio operator and top turret gunner with the 492nd Bomb Group who was shot down during a raid on Politz on June 20, 1944.

Two weeks after D-Day, 20-millimeter cannons from German Messerschmitt ME-410s hit Cash's plane, setting it on fire. As Cash struggled to attach his parachute, he and the pilot were thrown from the catwalk, which crosses the bomb bay, onto the plunging plane's bombs. Cash, who is 6' 3" tall, thrust his pilot, who had his parachute on, back onto the catwalk and out the bomb bay door.

"Nobody has seen him since," he said, crying quietly.

Cash jumped out of the plane behind his pilot and landed in the frigid Baltic Sea, where he was picked up by German Marines.

The only survivor of his nine-man crew, Cash spent the remainder of the war in POW camps in Poland and Germany, marching 800 miles from the Polish camp during the winter of 1945 as the Russian army was advancing.

"It hammers it home to you that freedom has to be bought — it's not free," said Cash of his war experiences. "You've got to fight for it."

On a large turkey farm near the Norfolk village of Weston Longville, members of the 466th Bomb Group visited their airfield, known as Attlebridge. Turkey barns now line the runways that once roared with sounds of B-24 engines straining for takeoff. The airfield's control tower now houses modern agricultural offices with computers.

"Memories come back of taxiing down these runways — then coming home and trying to land," said Frank Bostwick, a B-24 tail gunner from Jacksonville, Texas, who flew 35 missions. "They would come in really early and wake us up for breakfast and briefing, and then we stood around waiting to get in our planes."

During one mission, a piece of anti-aircraft flak came through his B-24's thin metal skin and hit the 19-year-old Bostwick's parachute as it was hanging out behind him, narrowly missing his hand.

"You just had to get the fear out of your system and focus on what you had to do," he said.

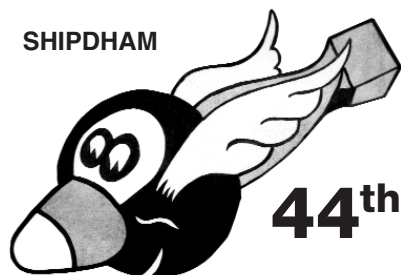
Digby Horner, a veteran Royal Air Force pilot in his '70s and a member of the Royal British Legion, lays a wreath twice each year at the 466th Bomb Group Memorial near Weston Longville — once each Memorial Day and once each November 11, England's Remembrance Day.

This time, Horner laid a wreath of red poppies, the English Remembrance Day symbol, while surrounded by veterans of the 466th Bomb Group and their families as blustery winds whipped the Norfolk coastal area, bringing rain, sleet, and snow.

"We were having problems here in 1940 and '41, and they came and gave us a hand," Horner said, explaining why he devotedly lays the wreaths remembering American veterans. "It's a gratitude."

Residents of Weston Longville, which has less than 200 cottages, shared their war memories with the veterans and their families over lunch. There was Eddie, whose mother laundered sheets for the airmen; while he lit the

*(continued on page 25)*



BY JULIAN S. ERTZ

Although I have been a member of the 2ADA for years and my four children are members of the Heritage League, our activities over the years have been primarily as entertainers at 44th BG and 2ADA conventions.

Now, I am honored to succeed Dick Butler as 44th BG vice president. No doubt, many readers of the *Journal* will ask, "Who is this guy Ertz?" So, with your permission, I'll introduce myself.

I was born in Bradford, PA; grew up in the public schools, and attended Temple University on a football scholarship under the coaching of the great "Pop" Warner. I entered the service in October of 1941, before Pearl Harbor, and applied for the aviation cadets while in the Corps of Engineers at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

When I applied and took the physical, I was told that I passed and was acceptable to be a cadet except for my weight of 218.5 pounds. The examining doctor told me he would approve me if I were to reduce to the then 200-pound weight limit.

I then went on a strict diet, and worked hard all day at the usual construction work of the engineer soldier. After each evening meal, I put on a rubber jacket and ran for several miles each evening in the Virginia heat. Fourteen days later, I had gotten down to 202.5 pounds (lost sixteen pounds in fourteen days). Next, I went to the medical office and told the medical corps man that I didn't think I could lose any more, so he called the doctor on the phone and told him, "That Ertz kid who wants to be a cadet very badly is back, and believe it or not, he is down to 199 pounds." Thus, I became a cadet by misrepresentation (199 pounds rather than the actual 202.5 pounds).

I then went to Maxwell Field, where the food was so bad that I went down to 188 pounds. Then it was on to primary flying school at Americus, Georgia, where, in my second solo, I got lost and nearly ran out of fuel before finding the field. I landed with so many bumps that a mechanic ran up to me as I got out of the plane and told me we were not permitted to do acrobatics on the ground. Then I was washed out and eventually reassigned to navigation training at Selmman Field in Monroe, Louisiana. I completed this successfully, received my navigator's wings, and went, in order, to Moses Lake, Washington, Gowan Field, Boise, Idaho, and finally, Wendover, Utah for combat training.

Our crew then went, via the southern route,

to Valley, Wales. We took off (we were later told for assignment to the 44th BG) on January 7, 1944 in abominable weather (no visibility), and our plane crashed and burned before being airborne. Four of my crew were killed, and I sustained a fractured spine and spent nearly five months in the hospital in England before going back to the States, Mitchell Field, and rehabilitation at Pawling, New York. My next assignment was to statistical control training at Harvard University, and then I was Statistical Control Officer at La Junta, Colorado. Although I could never claim the talent and abilities of our 2ADA Honorary President, Jordan Uttal, I have one thing in common with him — Statistical Control Officer.

After separation from the service, I had a recurrence of my spinal injury which required back surgery. I went to law school, and practiced law in New Mexico for fifteen years and in California for thirty-three years. I am now semi-retired, and I hope to be of great service henceforth to the 2ADA.

The recent convention at Norwich was memorable. In fact, it was thrilling. I think it would be wonderful if all of us in the Second Air Division Association would take it upon ourselves to be individual public relations persons and tell everybody that we can get to listen about our Memorial Library in Norwich. Such public relations activity might well be to have a presentation to give to service clubs and local newspapers.

I apologize for writing so much about myself, but since I want to know about as many of the 2ADA members as possible, I thus have done this to introduce myself.

## MESSAGE FROM DICK BUTLER

*Ed. Note: The following was inadvertently omitted from the 44th column by Dick Butler in the Winter 2001 issue of the Journal.*

At the 2ADA Executive Committee meeting in April 2001, when Bud Koorndyk issued his challenge that if each of the fourteen bomb groups and the headquarters would give one thousand dollars to the Memorial Library Capital Fund, he would match those donations, our 44th Bomb Group Veterans Association was one of the first to donate the thousand dollars. Subsequently I learned that some groups were seeking contributions from their members and were exceeding the one-thousand dollars needed to meet the challenge. In early September, I decided to contact our 44th people who are members of the 2ADA and see if they were interested in contributing to the Capital Fund so as to ensure sufficient income to operate our Memorial Library. The response by our members to my request has been stupendous; far more than anything I ever anticipated. As of the time of this writing on 19 October 2001, including the one thousand dollars contributed by the 44th BGVA, our members have contributed \$16,005.49. There has been a better than 26% response to my request letter; 91 replies with

donations ranging from some of ten dollars to one of three thousand dollars. I made a breakdown of the amounts of the donations: In addition to the \$3,000.00 donation, there have been eight donations of \$1,000.00; one of \$500.00; twenty-seven of \$100.00; one of \$75.49; sixteen of \$50.00; one of \$40.00; two of \$35.00; nineteen of \$25.00; seven of \$20.00; and seven of \$10.00.

I again thank each and every one of our contributors. Regardless of the size of the contribution, they have maintained the importance of ensuring that there is sufficient income to permanently maintain our memorial to our 6,700 fallen comrades.

One member wrote me in a letter accompanying his contribution:

"I want to thank you for your letter of the 4th, and I want to let you know that the couple of years I spent with the Second Air Division are still in my mind along with a whole host of pleasant memories. I was gung-ho from the start about the idea of the Memorial Library, and I hope the enclosed donation will help with its perpetuation. I also want to express my thanks to you and the other officers of the Association for your work in keeping this great memory alive." ■

## NORWICH HONORS VETS (cont.)

stoves in their barracks each day after school so they would be warm when they returned from their missions.

"Every spring, we pick snowdrops that were planted by the Americans," said Michael Pointer, 60, a member of the British Royal Legion who lives in the village. "And the local girls here received nylons from the airmen — The prettier you were, the more nylons you had."

Jones, whose crew led 22 missions for the 466th Bomb Group, is proud of their four Distinguished Flying Crosses, twenty Air Medals, and two Purple Hearts. He was accompanied on this return visit to Attlebridge by his tail gunner, Bill Campbell, whom he had not seen since 1945. Together, they reminisced about their many missions.

"You didn't know from one time to the next when it would be your time," Jones said. "You'd see guys going down off your right wing. We once watched two planes go down — one exploded in mid-air, and the other went down in a spin. It could happen to you that quick — we were lucky."

"You were a good pilot," Campbell said.

Current officers and men of the U.S. Air Force who are stationed in England were on hand in Norwich for the Memorial Library dedication to honor the World War II airmen.

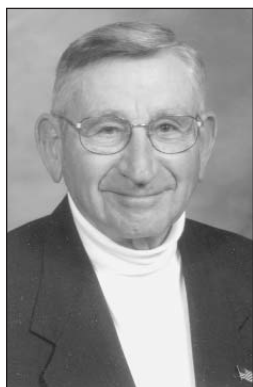
"They're anxious to go and do their thing, as we all were," Cash said of the possibility that these officers and men would soon go to war.

"I told all of them that if they need me, to call me, and they laughed," Jones said. ■





## WENDLING 392nd B.G. BY JAMES GOAR



**H**ello, I'm Jim Goar, the 392nd's new VP for 2ADA affairs, vice Charley Dye, relieved for medical reasons. (But he's coming along fine.) Probably most Crusaders will identify me as editor of the

392 BGMA NEWS. For those of you who can still remember Wendling: I joined the 392nd at Alamogordo a month or so before we left for overseas. I was a brand new 2nd Lieutenant fresh out of OCS, but with a year's experience as a NCO. I saw duty as the 578th Squadron's Supply Officer, and later as Group Transportation Officer.

In civilian life, along with the usual ups and downs, I have been a real estate broker in Frankfort, Indiana, population 16,000, for most of my life. I'm still going to the office regularly.

## VISIT TO WENDLING

Arming themselves with plenty of prescription pills, eleven Crusaders and their families joined over 500 other aging warriors and their families and set out for England on November 1, 2001. There we joined our British friends at Norwich and spent a week celebrating the close ties established in 1942-45. The event is well covered elsewhere in this issue. However, here is the detail of the 392nd's visit to Wendling on Thursday:

We found the memorial to be in impeccable condition, manicured to perfection and with new flags flapping in the breeze. Tom and Jill Scotts' hard work and devotion was very evident.

Thursday was the only bad-weather day of the week. And bad it was, a reminder of the damp, bone-chilling weather we remember from 1943-45. There was even a short but sharp hail storm, striking during the service at the memorial. But the unflappable Reverend Jonathon Boston epitomized the legendary Brit resolve by conducting the service without faltering, in spite of pea-sized hailstones pelting him on his bare head and covering his prayer book.

A wreath was laid by three past presidents of the 2ADA and the widow of another, in the persons of John Conrad, Oak Mackey, J. Fred Thomas, and Emily Reid Long. Another wreath was laid by Ian Blackamore of the Lincolnshire Aircraft Recovery Group. That group helps to maintain a small museum near Boston that contains many 392nd artifacts.

Denis and Hilary Duffield planned the tour which was led by Mike Hyde and John Gilbert. Denis is awaiting an operation for a serious heart condition, but he surprised the Crusaders and possibly himself by the condition of his health being good enough for him to be able to continue the 30-odd years that he has been the 392nd's base contact and official host.

Our group visited the Beeston elementary school, where we met the staff and students and were presented with gifts of Beeston-inscribed mugs and copies of a painting of 392nd aircraft by artist Peter Westacott.

A visit to Wendling would not be complete without refreshments at The Ploughshare, the ancient pub that has welcomed sojourners for centuries. The Crusaders were joined by Capt. Christine Weeks, USAF, and a few of her fighter pilot cohorts from Lakenheath and Mildenhall. Capt. Weeks is the granddaughter of Willis Miller, 579th pilot, and Dorothy Miller. All would have stayed there into the night had it not been for the schedule.

On the loading list for this mission were: John Conrad & Wanda, with daughter Margy and her husband Ronald White; Jerry Gersten & Roz; Jim Goar & Annabelle; Burt Gorback & Sylvia; Bob Harned & Ida Jane; Willis Miller & Dorothy; Murray Milrod & Helen, with Murray's sister, Sylvia Rubin; Oak Mackey & Maxine; Emily Long Reid with daughter Ann Phillips; J. Fred Thomas & Elva; and Joe Micksch & Ella. ■

## 58-YEAR-OLD MYSTERY SOLVED?

**W**hile at the 2ADA convention and new Second Air Division Memorial Library dedication, these two alleged WWII flyers were found visiting the American Air Museum at Duxford.

Both claimed that they flew back the nose of the B-24 in the picture after a "stiff encounter" with the notorious Luftwaffe. While being questioned about the missing part of the plane, both claimed that they didn't know that the rest of the plane was missing until they landed in England and were asked, "Where's the rest of your plane?"

"I had a suspicion something was wrong when the pilot did not return from his visit to the back of the plane to check the battle damage," said the copilot, Dave Patterson, "but the old B-24 was in a steep glide, and the engines did not respond, so I asked the navigator if we could make the beach in England."

"We had a chance to make it, and with the superb pilot skill of Dave, we made a perfect one-point landing on the beach," commented the navigator, Joe Dzenowagis.

"This story tops the B-17 story of being attacked by 62 fighters and coming home

with 2,000 bullet holes, left wing and engine gone, and flames raging from nose to tail in the Summer 1998 issue of the *Journal*," con-

cluded the editor, Ray Pytel; "but not by much; it would be more believable if they were from the same group." ■



L-R: Dave Patterson (445th) and Joe Dzenowagis (467th) at the hangar at Duxford





I love the holidays, and this past year was no exception. Hearing from old friends from the 446th BG and other groups helps to make it even more special. This year's mail came with both sad and happy news.

I heard from a crew member whose wife died; another healthy, happy crew member who travels all over the world; another with some health problems overshadowed by the arrival of grandchildren; another in sunny Arizona; and many more. It is a great time to be in touch with friends.

It was sad to hear of the death of Herbert Gordon of Pennsylvania, a good and jolly friend to many of us at 446th reunions.

Have you made your reservations for the 446th Reunion, May 15-18, 2002 in Dayton, Ohio? A visit to the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base is worth the trip. Reservations may be made at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dayton; call (937) 224-0800 by April 23. Registration is \$220 per person, which includes some meals and the gala annual banquet on Saturday, as well as transportation to special events. For other details, contact Bill Davenport. See you in Dayton.

Fred Breuninger and Eric Sherman took a side trip while attending the John Gannon Florida 446th Reunion to visit the Fantasy of Flight Air Museum at Polk City, FL. Their comments were not flattering, and they said the prices were high. However, if you are in the area and bored with Disneyworld, you may want to consider it.

I will close this Bungay Bull column with a wonderful story from Kathy Gigstad, and hope to hear from you with your support of the Flixton memorial along with news for our next issue.

## HEY, LIEUTENANT, YOU FORGOT YOUR PANTS!

BY KATHY GIGSTAD

Have you ever taken some clothing to the cleaners and forgotten about it? Have you ever waited forty years to have someone call you and remind you of your forgotten dry cleaning? My dad did, and it is a remarkable story of coincidence.

My dad, George O. Gigstad, was copilot on the Howard K. Phillips crew. His crew flew thirty missions with the 446th BG, 704th Squadron, from February to May of 1944.

In 1985 my dad received a phone call from his Aunt Frieda Gigstad, who is known as the family historian. She knows about everyone in the Gigstad family, living and dead for hundreds of years. She said she had been in contact with Elman Gigstad, a distant cousin from Wisconsin. Elman told her that he was anxious to speak to a George Gigstad who was stationed in England during World War II. Aunt Frieda knew immediately who Elman was talking about, and called Dad.

Several days later, Dad received a call from Elman, who asked if he was speaking to the George Gigstad who had served in the 8th Air Force, 446th BG, Bungay, England.

"Yes, that's me," Dad answered.

"Well, I've been looking for you for forty years. I've got a pair of trousers that belonged to you, and I have waited a long time to return them."

Elman told Dad the following story:

In June 1944 he was assigned to the 446th BG, Bungay. After a

few days on base, he went to the PX to have some dry cleaning done. When he turned over his cleaning, the guy behind the counter said, "Your name Gigstad? I've got some trousers here that belong to you. They have been here quite a while."

Elman said that they were not his because he had just been assigned there. The cleaning man said, "They have your name on them. If they fit, just pay and they are yours." So Elman tried them on, and they fit like they were tailor-made for him. He paid the man, and wore those trousers for the duration of the war.

Neither Dad nor his cousin had any idea that there was anyone else in the whole Air Force with the name Gigstad. The idea that two men with the same unusual name, distant cousins unknown to one another, being assigned to the same base is an amazing coincidence. To be exactly the same size and height was beyond chance; it was a miracle.

I just thought you might like to know that if those pants were found again today, Dad would not be able to wear them. It seems that over time those old Army uniforms have a problem with shrinking. Right, Dad?

*Dad is fine and living in Kansas. ■*

## THE 446<sup>TH</sup> AIRFIELD MEMORIAL: We Need Your Help!

While you may have seen Alan Hague's photo of the 446th airfield memorial site in the recent issue of the *Beachbell Echo*, here's a photo of Sidney Dailey, taken on November 8, 2001, when seven of us had the chance to view it. It is a fitting memorial initiated by the people of the area to show appreciation for what we did for them.



While they have been able to raise funds for initial improvements, the suitable plaque has yet to be designed and funded. The site was donated by Mark Haddingham, who owns the farm; and on our visit we committed to support the memorial's final completion. **WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

Donations will be gratefully received by me (make your checks out to 2ADA, as this will make them tax-deductible), and payment will be made to the folks in Flixton this summer. I hope you will be as supportive of the Flixton memorial as you were when we asked for donations to the recent Koorndyk Challenge. Send to: J.A. "Aud" Risley, 682 Slade Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120. Thank you!

# 458th BOMB GROUP

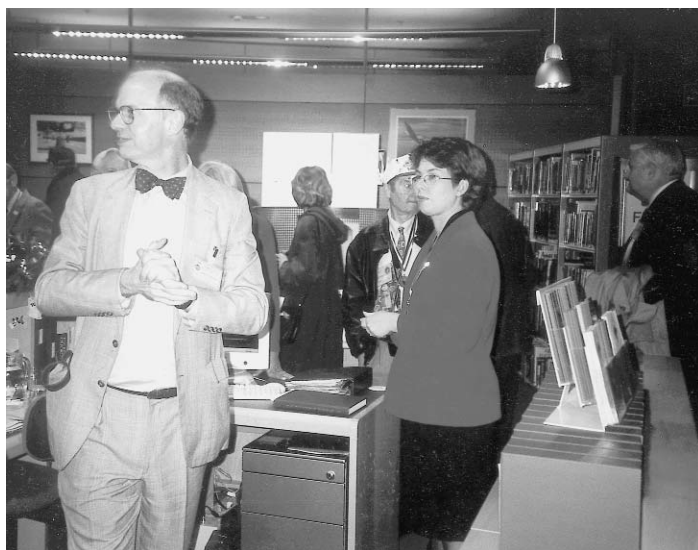
HORSHAM ST. FAITH



BY RICK ROKICKI

## THE FORUM AT MILLENNIUM PLAIN

Much has been written of this structure over the last few years, and I'm sure even more will be the subject of this issue of the *Journal*. My statement to you is: "It's more than you expected, more than your eyes can believe, and the 2500 square foot 2AD Memorial Library area is even harder to visualize — until you actually see it and are in it!" The Brits have done an excellent job; it is well worth the long wait and the delays that were a part of this new and very modern facility.



Derek Hills and Andrea Hough were overwhelmed by our influx on opening day. The fact is, that as good as everything looked, the Memorial Library as well as the total structure is striving to complete all functions before the Queen's visit in early May for the formal British dedication. To sum up, we all should be very pleased with The Forum.

Before we left for the convention, I received a listing of all books bought with the interest generated by our 458th Book Endowment Fund since our last notification as given in the Spring 2001 *Journal*. The books are:

(1) *Douglas DC-3, The Survivors*, by Kenso Yamamoto. (2) *Arming America, The Origins of a National Gun Culture*, by M.A. Bellesiles. (3) *Jeff Davis's Own, Cavalry, Comanches and the Battle for the Texas Frontier*, by James R. Arnold. (4) *Cold War at Sea, High Seas Confrontations Between the U.S. and the Soviet Union*, by David Winkler. (5) *Josh White, Society Blues*, by Elijah Wald. (6) *Black Sheep One, The Life of Gregory "Pappy" Boyington*, by Bruce Gamble.

None of the above books could have been a part of the Memorial but for the generosity of those who contributed \$3,000 to the original Endowment Fund. Again, many thanks.

I took two books: One was *Giles*, which the U.S. Forces printed during the war years, and which Clinton Wallace, a previous 458th

group VP, requested me to give to the library before he passed on. This book of cartoons, printed in 1943-44 and purchased in Norwich, has returned to that city some 58 years later. The second book, *With Courage*, is complete with large fold-out maps of the Continent and our targets by the USAAF in Europe. This book of 336 pages, originally printed in 1994, was available through the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Offices, Washington, D.C. 20402. I bought two copies last year, so I assume it's still available: ISBN 0-16-0363396-9.

## BEQUEST REQUEST

Originally sent to 521 458th members in May, 2001, and officially closed out on September 1st, I received the last check for \$50.00 which became the last check added to make it \$13,230.00, with 223 responding to that appeal. Once again, many thanks!

## BASE VISIT, NOVEMBER 8, 2001

After about seven days of fair to good weather, our "Base Day" suffered the ultimate of very bad weather. It started with a rain drizzle, later with 40 mph winds with gusts to 60, then sleet, hail, heavy rain and snow. Enough said.

We had a good "game plan" which Christine Armes gave me before we left for Norwich. If the weather had been cooperative, most of the plan would have been accomplished and we would have been very happy. HOWEVER . . .

After the coach pick-up from three hotels, we went to Fifers Lane. Unfortunately, most of the original base quarters were torn down for new public housing. Rain kept us inside the coach. From there we went to the Norwich International Airport. We each had our "pass identity," but were still subjected to an intensive search. This delayed us at least a half-hour and shortened our visit to the perimeter track, runway, dispersal areas, etc. Finally, arriving at the flight training hangar, we found John Deacon and his R/C model of "Hookem Cow." Needless to say, it wasn't flown, and remained as a static display.

From there, it was on to the "Firs" for lunch. That ended on a poor note when the pub owner felt that one of us should have collected the meal cost. I did not realize that Christine had agreed to that. Unfortunately, Chris was not with us because of her injuries (see explanation below). Then we were off to the Norwich City Air Museum. By this time it was sleeting and delaying us further, much to the chagrin of the temporary man in charge. No great British hospitality there, either. Following the plan, but now more than an hour late, we were off to St. Mary's Church at Horsham for the congratulatory and thanksgiving sermon by the reverend, who had asked that Christine write it. Well, he didn't give it, for whatever reason. Next was the singing of the hymns, two of which the organist played in the wrong key; plus the increasingly terrible weather caused a delay in the arrival of the six bell-ringers, who had a considerable distance to drive to the church. However, it wouldn't have mattered if they did make it in time, since the reverend concluded services after only twenty minutes.

The real shame of it all was that Christine Armes went through considerable expense to buy flowers and decorations for the church and museum, but wasn't allowed to display them. Additionally, she rented flag poles (some of which disappeared before being picked up), American flags, and other decorative items that were appropriate to our celebration (at the Firs, the museum, and the church). Christine was unable to join us at the library, banquet, museum, or church because she injured her knee at the museum while removing the flowers that the "temporary" representative in charge insisted be removed from "his" museum. Further, she injured her back while decorating the church. I never was able to see her and personally thank her for her efforts on our behalf. The weather really became worse as it started to snow and our people were desperate to get



back to the hotel and start packing for an early morning departure to Heathrow, which was scheduled for 3:30 AM. The coach driver said he would be driving and had a manifest for each hotel. Neither Ceil nor I were listed, and the local bus company was of little help until Evelyn Cohen made her call. No problem. Since there was still packing to do, it meant a minimum of sleep. The coach ride to Heathrow started with rain, which then changed to snow for the next three and a half hours. We checked in at 7:00 AM for a scheduled 11:30 departure, with long lines and security checks (twice), plus the fact that the airline would not post a departure gate until one hour before departure, making it difficult to know in which area to sit and wait. Only after walking the entire British Airways terminal for hours did we sit halfway in the middle, which proved to be right at the proper gate. Only after a hour delay because of a malfunctioning lower cargo door and then a fire warning indicator problem, did we take off. I couldn't lose the thought that the only thing left to go bad would be a lost bag, but fortunately that didn't happen.

Again, I mentioned that we had a great "game plan," but the execution was not to be. The very fact that there is such a thing called Murphy's Law and it all happened on November 8th, was sad enough, but all the other functions went well, and we shall fondly remember our second dedication of our Memorial Library.

I've since written to Christine Armes and received word from her that she is slowly recovering from her injuries. Those of you who attended the Base Day might wish to write her a short note of appreciation for all her efforts. As she said to me, "I only wish the weather had been more cooperative." Her address is: 5 Primrose Court, Norwich, Norfolk NR7 0SF, England.

#### ON FINAL

Art Vanderbeek advises that the VA has a prescription service that costs very little. Take a copy of your discharge and your doctor's prescription to your local VA clinic and fill out some paperwork. Maintenance medication can be as little as \$2.00 for a 90-day refillable prescription.

Alan S. Sheren, 458th associate member, advised that on a recent trip to Ottawa, Canada, he visited the National Aviation Museum at Rockcliffe Airport. They have a fine collection of vintage aircraft, among which is a B-24L model. In contacting the supervisor, whose name was Johic Nicolas, and explaining his connection with the 2ADA, Alan was allowed to enter the aircraft and stay as long as he wanted! The supervisor then said that all members of our Association are welcome to the same courtesy if they ask for him at the entrance door.

A new, current 458th roster will be available for \$4.50 P.P. Make your check out to me. As of this writing we show 589 members, of which 46 are associates (AM).



The demand for Martin Bowman's *Fields of Little America* prompted a fifth reprinting since its original 1977 publication. To the best of my knowledge, there is no finer publication dealing only with the Second Air Division in its entirety. I wasn't able to get the cost or the stateside distributor before this column had to be submitted, but I suspect a "ballpark" figure would be in the neighborhood of \$30.00. The book is in soft-cover with 183 pages, many photos, and an excellent text. The number is ISBN 1-870384-85-5. Inquiries should be addressed to Mr. Martin W. Bowman,

3 Armes Crescent, Norwich, Norfolk NR3 4EW, England. ■



## HETHEL 389th Green Dragon Flares

BY FIELDER NEWTON

Greetings from Happy Valley, home of Penn State and our alma mater, where we enjoy living in retirement. It is an honor to be the new VP of the 389th and to have Dave Borland as assistant VP. Dave lives in nearby Lewiston, and we plan to work as a team. This being my first report, you should be aware that I am not a prolific writer, but will do my best to keep you informed about the present and the past.

My thoughts for this writing will be centered on Lt. Lloyd H. Hughes, the only man from the 389th BG to receive the Medal of Honor. As many of you know, he received the Medal for attempting to save his crew by ditching his burning plane in a nearby river on the August 1, 1943 Ploesti mission, but unfortunately the plane exploded before he was able to reach the river.

Prior to the 2ADA convention in Austin, Texas, Marge and I decided to visit the Texas A&M campus, where I had started college in 1941. When we visited the Corps of Cadets Center, we found that Lt. Hughes was one of seven "Aggies" who received the Medal of Honor. There are bronze plaques in the Corps Hall of Honor for each man. One plaque honors Lt. Hughes for valor, as noted with the picture below. A write-up below the plaque states that he was in the Class of '43 and had received the Medal of Honor posthumously for the Ploesti mission. The additional data had him flying a B-25 with the 5th Air Force. While at the Cadet Center I tried to get these errors corrected and also later wrote to them, but have never received a reply. I can only hope that these corrections have been made.

Our English friends from Hethel would like to have another reunion in the States; and Dave, Barney, and I would welcome any suggestions in this endeavor. ■



Plaque at the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Center honoring Lt. Lloyd H. Hughes of the 389th, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions at Ploesti.



This has been a busy year for your Heritage League. We brought our members up to date with our year-end newsletter, however we would like to take this opportunity now to report to the members of the Second Air Division Association. It is also our opportunity to share with you, the veterans, our thoughts and impressions of our visit to Norwich — from the perspective of descendants of veterans of World War II.

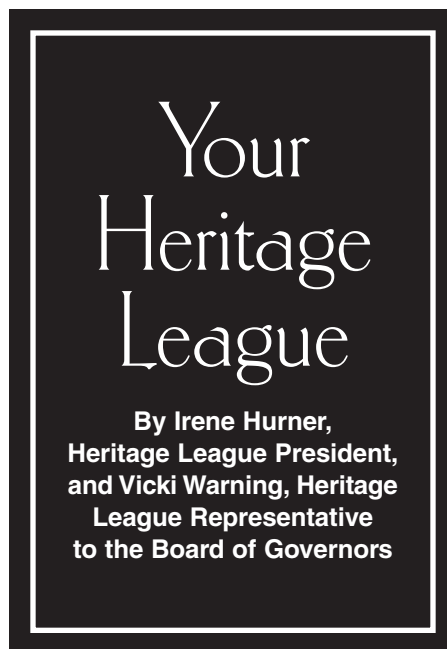
#### APRIL 2001

In April, at the invitation of 2ADA President Felix Leeton, Irene traveled to Colorado Springs to observe the Second Air Division Association Executive Committee meeting. She visited with many members, some for the first time. It was a wonderful experience to listen to the discussion and to understand the process and consideration of subjects before decisions are made. The *Journal* editor, Ray Pytel, was generous with his advice. Before Irene arrived, the group spent an afternoon and evening at the Air Force Academy. Alfred Asch and sons David and Peter posed for a picture standing in front of the B-24 bronze model in the Academy Memorial Garden at the Air Force Academy.

#### JUNE

Our Heritage League Executive Committee met in Dayton, Ohio at the end of June for a long weekend. We were able to combine sightseeing at the Wright-Patterson Air Museum with meetings regarding the business of The Heritage League. Jim Lorenz, our liaison to the 2ADA, was able to obtain permission for us to have a private visit to the B-24 "Strawberry Bitch." Jim explained the many dials, gauges, and other parts of the plane, and answered our many questions regarding his flying experiences. Ruth Anderson writes, "This was a no-frills aircraft in every sense of the expression. One could not stand up straight without encountering some obstacle on which to bang the head. Imagine firing guns out of an open window at high altitude while everything is freezing! Crew members had the smallest area in which to carry out their functions. As we took turns in the various seats, there was a tremendous sense of vulnerability to enemy assault. Sitting in the cockpit one can scarcely imagine how the pilots flew the Liberator over the sea carrying out prescribed missions. It had to be a team effort. It may not have seemed so at the time, but compared to present-day aeronautical technology, these bombers were primitive. The skill and the courage required to carry out those missions is astounding! This learning experience is one that none of us who were there will forget. It deepened our appreciation of what the veterans did for us and for our country. Thank you, Jim, for the personal tour."

It was noted during the meeting that Kathy



Jackson, then Communications VP, and Bob Books had worked for several months redesigning our Web site, [www.heritageleague.org](http://www.heritageleague.org). We all appreciate the time and knowledge that this required. Ed Zobac explained to the membership the database he has designed. Ruth reported on ways in which members have been spreading the word about our organization and read a letter sent with dues notices. Jim Lorenz told of the chain of people who assist in answering queries about veterans during the war. He mentioned that in several instances Phyllis DuBois has helped with research, and thanked her for it. Irene reported that Norma Beasley sent information that made it possible for The Heritage League to make arrangements to have a wreath laid during the Memorial Day ceremonies in May at Madingley. Our past presidents, including Billy Sheely Johnson and Craig Beasley, have done so in the past. A donation of a book endowment for the Memorial Library was approved, as well as a donation of a book in the names of Milt, Hathy, and Caron Veynar in remembrance of all they have done on behalf of the League.

#### SEPTEMBER/NOVEMBER

The shock of September 11 remains with us all. In our prayers we include those who were lost or suffered the loss of friends and loved ones and any who have been lost since that time. The tragedy that occurred made members of the Second Air Division Association and The Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF) pause and reflect. Those of us who had planned to attend the rededication of the Memorial Library wondered whether we should go to Norwich as had been planned for almost two years. We did go. The experience was something that could not be duplicated. The week of November 1-9 was a whirlwind of activities. Unforgettable memories and new

friendships were formed. The British treated us as most welcome friends.

Saturday was a free day for us to explore the city and to visit the newly opened library, which is located within The Forum. At the invitation of President Leeton, Irene Hurner and Vicki Warning attended the meeting of the 2ADA Executive Committee as observers.

Sunday afternoon our Heritage League and the Friends of the Second Air Division Memorial met at the Airport Hilton for an afternoon social. David Hastings planned the afternoon, which was filled with a variety of entertainment. The films *Return of the Liberator* and *One Last Look* were shown, speakers welcomed us, the Wymondham College jazz band entertained us, and a delicious buffet dinner was served. This was a time for the members of our organization to visit, to meet members of the Friends, and to get to know one another.

On Monday, Vicki Warning of The Heritage League joined in the ceremony at Madingley at which a wreath was laid, prayers said, and Taps played. The ceremony was quite moving. Later, many went to visit the American Air Museum at Duxford.

On Tuesday, Vicki and Irene were invited to attend the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust along with the bomb group vice presidents. Vicki presented Paul King, Chairman, a check for \$1,000 from The Heritage League to the Executive Committee of the 2ADA towards a book endowment. As always, we were treated royally.

In the evening, the Second Air Division Association was presented The Freedom of the City award by the city of Norwich. This is the highest honor an individual or group may receive. The ceremony was truly unique. Entertainment and a buffet followed.

Wednesday was well described in the *Winter Journal*, but we would like to mention that Irene presented Certificates of Appreciation to Milt, Hathy, and Caron Veynar and to Jim & Mary Lorenz as a thank-you for all they have done.

Thursday was Base Day. For my mother, Claire Biel; for my daughter, Gretchen Hurner; for my sister, Christine Argentieri; and for me; this was the most special day of all. It was a time when my father, Albert Biel, could tell us what it was like to be a young man in uniform so far from home; a time when he could help us to envision what he saw, felt, and did when charged with the duty to defend freedom. This was our moment, a time to be savored. I believe that for other members of The Heritage League attending the convention in Norwich, the same was also true. There will be a convention in Maryland in 2002, but the group as a whole may not ever return to this special place.

(continued on page 32)



# NEWS OF THE 453RD FROM FLAME LEAP

BY LLOYD W. PRANG

The 453rd BG reunion in Dayton, Ohio was held September 14-17, 2001. Irene and I arrived on the 12th, only to find the Wright-Patterson Base, the museum and the commissary, closed. Only essential military personnel were permitted access to the base due to the military security condition "Threat-con Delta," which was caused by the terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C. We hoped that the next day might bring about a change in the situation, so we just checked into the hotel and waited.

On Thursday, the 13th, the security condition at the base was downgraded to "Threat-con Charlie." This permitted those with Department of Defense ID cards and a base decal on their cars to have access to the base. The museum was still closed to all visitors. I proceeded to the base security office and offered an updated list of the people to be admitted to the Officers' Club on Sunday night, but was told they didn't want the list because the security alert in effect would not permit any reunions to be held on the base.

I then proceeded to the Officers' Club, where the people in charge of catering our reunion assured me that by Sunday we definitely would be allowed access to the base for our banquet. It appeared that our reunion would turn out all right after all, although the museum was still closed to the public. On Friday, the museum was allowed to reopen. I went there and placed flags on each end of our monument, which made it look very nice.

On Saturday, a small memorial service was conducted at the site of the monument. **ABE WILEN** was to give the invocation, but since no commercial planes were flying, he faxed his prayer and **JIM KOTAPISH** filled in for him. Both Abe and Jim are original crew members, and it seemed appropriate that someone from an original crew should give the invocation. The Wright-Patterson Band of Flight graciously sent Airman First Class **BRIAN HORNBuckle** to the site to play Taps for the occasion.

After the ceremony I chatted with Brian about the difficulties we had encountered with the security alert. I mentioned that we had been assured that we would be admitted to the base for our banquet on Sunday night. He then told me that according to his knowledge of the situation, "Charlie" would still be in effect, and those without proper ID (as noted above) would very definitely not be allowed admittance to the base.

Oh, great! Here we go again! Luckily, **LINDA WITTIG** had gotten the cell phone number of the lady who runs the catering service for the club. The conversation we had went something like, "Well, I guess that's the way it is!" I explained that due to her earlier opinion we had cancelled all negotiations to have the dinner at the hotel — now what were we to do? She said she'd call the club manager and see what, if anything, could be done. I called the security police, and Linda Wittig and her daughter **BRENDA TUDEK** made some calls — and let me tell you, these two ladies are very convincing people, and they do it in such a charming manner. It's impossible to say no to them. A short time later I received a call from the Chief Master Sergeant of the Base Security Section. He asked me to fax to him a list of the people we intended to bring on the base. Shortly thereafter it was agreed that we would be allowed to use the facilities at the Officers' Club.

As part of the wonderful program Linda had prepared, she and Brenda and their husbands had driven from Texas to Dayton with a van full of four TV sets and assorted boxes of electrical equipment. The Chief Master Sergeant, along with a bomb-sniffing dog, met us at the gate at about noon on Sunday. The dog cleared the contents of the van, and we were allowed to proceed to the club. Our little group made quite a sight by the side of the entrance gate, what with my car, the van, the Security Police car, and the bomb dog. All that was missing were the TV camera crews. Later, during our brunch break at the club, I met the officer in charge of the Base Security Section. He said, "At a critical time such as this one, you guys really ran the flag up the flag pole faster and farther than anyone I've ever encountered. We're proud to have you World War II guys on the base. I hope you enjoy the evening." Thank you, sir, we sure did!

That evening we were required to have an officer in charge of the two buses that were allowed to enter the base. **LT. COL. JIM DYKE** assumed the task and assured the Chief Master Sergeant (yes, the sergeant was there to personally see to it that we did not encounter any difficulties) that these were all good people, and the buses were allowed to proceed to the club. After everyone was in the club — they locked the doors!

We started out with an attendance of about 160 people. Because of the terrorist attacks, planes were not flying and therefore about

one-third of our people were not able to get to Dayton. But this situation didn't stop **MO & LUDIE MORRIS**. When Mo learned that the airlines were grounded, he simply got into his car and drove fourteen hours to get to Dayton. In the end we had about 100 people in attendance, and in spite of all that had occurred, everyone had a very good time. The hospitality room was crowded all the time. The memorabilia that **DON OLDS** brought was a continuing focus of attention. And Jim Kotapish never had a dull moment taking care of the "peanuts and pretzels" crowd. The thought that we should have a 453rd reunion for the people who were not going to the 2ADA convention in Norwich proved to be a good idea.

Everyone who had registered and was unable to attend this reunion in Dayton received a full refund of their registration fees. In a situation such as this, it seemed appropriate that we think first about protecting the finances of our members. Later we could think about the financial impact on the 453rd treasury (it turned out just fine). The integrity of the Group was a most important consideration. When we ask for your trust in sending money to us, it's important for you know that it's in safe hands.

At our business meeting, people wanted to know where we were going next. However, there was no consensus regarding where to go, and no one volunteered to take on the job of planning the next reunion. Given these circumstances and the short time we had to prepare, it seemed appropriate to put aside a 453rd group reunion in 2002. So, the next time we get together will be at the 2ADA convention in Cambridge, Maryland, on the 2002 Labor Day weekend. Please come prepared with your ideas for a 453rd reunion in 2003. ■

## New Members

**93rd**

David Goldberg

**389th**

James J. Ellsworth

**445th**

Lewis J. Byers

**448th**

Dan McGrew

**453rd**

James R. Kelley

**458th**

Donald L. Tapie

**492nd & 93rd**

Wesley Sheffield



# HEY, IT'S THE 2002 BEQUEST PROGRAM

BY GEOFF GREGORY (467TH)

I'd like to begin this report by thanking the many people who contributed to the initial success of this program, particularly as it relates to the presentation of the donations to the Capital Fund of the Trust. It began with the generous bequest of Edwin Becker (445th BG) and the redemption of that bequest by his nephew, Nelson. Couple that redemption with the inspirational action of Bud Koorndyk in developing the **money** donations for the benefit of the Trust. It was indeed a proud moment for me to be part of the presentation of \$100,000 to the Board of Governors represented by Paul King. Mention must also be made of Ray Strong, who showed the way by writing a personal letter to the group membership. Dick Butler, who started late, did a "hell-of-a-job" with the 44th BG. Rick Rokicki also did a splendid job for the 458th BG. A sincere THANK YOU goes out to ALL the VPs for their outstanding efforts in each of the groups. Still a fledgling program, it is very heartwarming to see additional bequests and cash donations continue to arrive in Bill Nothstein's office.

Speaking particularly to those 225 veterans who attended our wonderful festivi-

ties in Norwich, think of this. You were interested enough to spend thousands of dollars to attend. If each of you were to make a bequest of just \$1,000, to be paid on your death, the program would be richer by \$225,000!!!!!! How special would THAT be? And wouldn't it be great to be part of that?!

At this point, I would like to address the tax situation relating to the money donations and bequests made to this program. **The Memorial Trust of the 2nd Air Division is a FOREIGN CHARITY; thus it is not recognized by the IRS. Therefore, it does not qualify for any tax benefits. Donations of checks should be made to the 2nd Air Division Association, which is a 501 (c) 19 organization, and as such, IT presents some tax benefits. I repeat — DONATION CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO THE 2ND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION.**

Instructions left to your **executors** should also direct them to make **redemption checks** out to the **2nd Air Division Association**. Rest assured that all moneys and bequests will be handled properly. When you send a bequest pledge to the treasurer of the 2ADA, be sure to include the **name, address,**

**and phone number of your executor.** Please remember that a pledge is most important to this program, and helps track progress.

I have been asked to comment on the feasibility of initiating a program to invest funds received, thus providing income for the donor. Upon the death of the donor, the funds would accrue to the Memorial Fund. This is an oversimplification, but many charities, universities, and the like use this method. It requires a management team in place; and occasionally, salaried personnel as well. I wonder if this would be right for us? This late in life, our program should probably be as direct and simple as possible. However, the mind is open; so if you have thoughts on this subject, my phone number is (972) 278-8537.

The dust of the holidays has settled! Those who made the trip to Norwich have seen what we have wrought in that city. I hope you will enthusiastically describe to all who were not able to attend, the magnificent Memorial in place there. Won't as many of you who are in a position to do so, sit down and perform the easiest and most satisfactory act you will ever do! **MAKE A BEQUEST! NOW!** Thanks, and God Bless! ■

## HERITAGE LEAGUE (continued)

On Friday morning, most attendees bid a poignant farewell to their friends new and old, to the wonderful city of Norwich, and to the English countryside. Home was hours away. In the hearts and memories of those attending, each will remember the words heard many times throughout the week: "They came as friends, stayed friends, and remain friends." We individually mused about whether a plan could be devised for just one more get-together in this special country with its special people. Would it be possible?

As we traveled home, we found ourselves understanding the reason that The Heritage League was created. The purposes and goals of our organization include, but are not limited to, carrying on programs to perpetuate the memory of the Second Air Division, to comfort survivors, and to conduct programs for educational purposes. Support of the Memorial Library is the primary focus. The current officers each have a parent who served in the Second Air Division. Linda Wittig, Secretary, whose father, "Moose" Allen, was in the 453rd Bomb Group, stated that part of the reason she is a member "is the honor of honoring [her] father and the other veterans" she has met. Linda wishes to bring that across to our members in hopes that this will pass on to future generations. "If you

do not remember the past, we will relive our past. You must remember what these men and women did for us so that we do not have to go through and do it again."

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN FEBRUARY 2002

The Executive Committee of The Heritage League will be having its second annual meeting in February. Much was accomplished in our first stand-alone meeting, held in June 2001. We will provide a full report in the next issue of the *Journal*.

## THE HERITAGE HERALD

One way for us to keep in touch with our membership is through our newsletter. Articles for consideration to be included in our publication relative to the Second Air Division, its veterans, spouses, and/or other pertinent information would be appreciated. These may be articles on how life was affected here in the U.S., recipes that helped cope with rationing, or other articles of interest on various subjects. Please send them to Penny Kerr, Editor of The Heritage Herald, P.O. Box 9103, Woodlands, TX 77387.

## WEB SITE

Another way to keep in touch is through our Web site at [www.heritageleague.org](http://www.heritageleague.org). Meeting dates of the bomb groups and other information may be sent to Irene for posting.

## HERITAGE LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

The Heritage League depends on the support of an active, growing membership to enable it to pursue its goals. I want to welcome our new Membership Vice President, Ann Phillips, who was elected at our business meeting in Norwich. You are encouraged to invite your spouses, children, grandchildren, and friends to join The Heritage League of the Second Air Division (USAAF) 8th Air Force. Together we can ensure that the memory of those who fought for the cause of peace and freedom during World War II and the Memorial they created will continue. **Dues for The Heritage League are \$8.00 per year and are payable in December. Please check the space above your name on the address label for your expiration date.** For current members, send your renewal to Ann. If you would like to enroll a new member, please send the name, address, telephone number, and relationship of member to veteran (with the veteran's bomb group if known), and a check made payable to The Heritage League, addressed to Ann Phillips, Membership Vice President, 3701 Chiswell CT, Greensboro, NC 27410.

We want to thank you for your support during the past year, and wish each and every one of you a prosperous 2002. ■



HARDWICK

# Open Letter to the 93rd

BY ALFRED ASCH

## UNLUCKY LIB

I read the article "The Judas Goats" in the Winter 2001 issue of the *Journal* with a great deal of interest. I noted that the author devoted a paragraph to the 93rd Bomb Group which stated that on November 30, 1943, Ball of Fire was used as a "rendezvous ship." "Ball of Fire" was the name given to B-24D 41-23667, which was so badly damaged in the course of five combat missions during the autumn of 1942 that it was removed from combat and used as an air ambulance and for target towing duties.

The late General John Brooks sent me a story by Al Newman, one of *Newsweek's* war correspondents in Britain, about the unlucky Lib, the Ball of Fire, with serial number 41-23667. Notice of John's passing away on September 7, 2001 was also in the Winter *Journal* together with a short eulogy which was so deserving. I knew John perhaps better than most anyone else coming out of World War II because I was his copilot on the B-24 starting in April 1942 when we first organized the 93rd BG at Barksdale Field, Shreveport, Louisiana. This is how it happened.

When John graduated from West Point in June of 1941, he attended flying school and upon graduation, was assigned to Barksdale to the 328th Squadron of the 93rd. I arrived soon after and also ended up in the 328th. Captain Addison Baker was our squadron commander. (He became the group commander in 1943 and received the Medal of Honor, posthumously, from group leader of the low-altitude Ploesti raid.) Captain Baker wanted John to be the Squadron Adjutant and Joseph Tate, also a West Point graduate, to be the Squadron Operations Officer. Both John and Joe wanted a crew to fly combat, and opposed a desk job as vigorously as they could. John won, as the adjutant needn't be a flying officer, while the Operations job required a pilot. I became John's copilot.

We soon moved to Fort Meyers, Florida; then to Pinecastle, Florida for training under field conditions. At Pinecastle, we operated out of tents. John trained us very well as a crew. None of us had formal crew training in B-24s, so John taught us what he learned at the Point about combat, survival, dedication, and responsibility. We both became quite proficient in flying the B-24 and took our turns at flying submarine patrol over the Gulf of Mexico.

It soon became time for the group to go to England for combat. Our crew flew one of our old B-24Ds to Manchester, New Hampshire for staging. Soon after takeoff, John reported that he was not feeling well and asked that I fly the airplane. Yes sir! John stretched

out on the flight deck and went to sleep. When we arrived at Manchester, the engineer asked whether to awaken John for landing, and I said, "No, let him sleep," and I landed the B-24 and parked it. John had been sedated for infections in both ears and was a bit groggy. I did not know about his ear problems, and coming down from altitude made things worse. The outcome was that the flight surgeon grounded John and wouldn't let him go overseas with us. Joe Tate got his combat chance by taking over John's crew, with me as the copilot. We received our new B-24D number 41-23667, and Joe promptly named her "Ball of Fire."

This is the story of Ball of Fire by Al Newman that John Brooks sent me along with this short note: "If you ever publish anything about our crew, please mention me and how proud I am of them." Although John was assigned to the 389th with General Jack Woods, he never forgot the 93rd. He had always been a member of our Association, joined us for dinners and special occasions, supported a bronze bust for General Timberlake, and was a big help to me in raising funds and placement of our B-24 bronze model at the Air Force Academy. Here is the essence of the article; remember, we were John's crew all during training.

## "BALL OF FIRE"

"This is the story of a Consolidated Liberator bomber, No. 41-23667, unofficially known as 'Unlucky Lib.' Scarred and bat-

tered, she squats on a bomber field somewhere in England, shunned by all. The bravest pilots avert their eyes as they walk past. Navigators, who are imaginative fellows, have a theory that it all goes back to the curse put on her at birth.

"It seems that Field Marshal I. Sure Hexem Goode, chief of all gremlins, was on a tour of the United States at the time and dropped in at a Consolidated factory just as 'Unlucky Lib' was rolling off the assembly line. Pointing a long, green, bony finger at her, the Field Marshal delivered the following execrable verse: 'You'll never get to heaven, flying 4123667.' Then he departed screaming with laughter.

"She became the pride and joy of her pilot, Captain Joe Tate, who, having no inkling of the gremlin's incantation, unsuspectingly named her 'Ball of Fire.' It was not until the first mission that the Ball of Fire's true nature as a veritable magnet for flak and cannon fire came out. Over the target, [our first combat mission, over Lille, France, October 9, 1942], three Focke-Wulfs attacked and put a shell through the right vertical stabilizer, but Sgt. Arthur Crandall of Campbellsburg, Indiana, got one of the enemy planes. Then, on the way back from the target, another put a shot into the bomb bay. It cut the oxygen and gas lines. Another landed right under Tate. It filled the seat of his pants with splinters, punctured the tire in the nose wheel, frayed the main control cables, severed the oxygen lines, and cut copilot Lt. Alfred Asch of Beaverton, Michigan in the leg. Another piece of bomb (shrapnel) barely missed Sgt. Gotrell Wright of Shaw, Mississippi, the radio operator. (We also had the right wheel tire flat from a flak burst.)

(continued on page 34)



Returning from Lille, Joe Tate's Ball of Fire crew retraces route. Back row: Sgt. E.W. Eichman (gunner), Sgt. Gotrell Wright (radio operator), Sgts. Cleiborn V. Booker and James T. South (gunners), Sgt. Aaron F. Moses (engineer), Sgt. Arthur L. Crandall (gunner). Front row: Lts. Thaddaas I. Hawkins (navigator) and Orval O. Huff (bombardier), Lt. Alfred Asch (copilot), Lt. Joseph Tate (pilot), Maj. Joseph Stehlin (public relations).



## OPEN LETTER TO THE 93RD (cont.)

"Meanwhile, Sgt. Aaron Moses of Monroe, Louisiana, and Sgt. James South of Lavonia, Georgia, were shooting down another fighter. The white cliffs were in sight, but trouble was not through with the Ball of Fire yet. Tate and the bombardier, Orval Huff of Waterman, Illinois, started to pass out because of the lack of oxygen, but a few whiffs from a portable bottle revived them. Then the gas vapor which was streaming out from the severed lines of the bomb bay began to look like smoke as Huff went back to investigate. There he found Moses sick through lack of oxygen and blinded by the fumes, his hands frozen on the lines we were trying to plug. Huff relieved him and shortly afterward Tate edged her in, in a tricky landing on a strange field (a small, sod Spit fighter field on the coast of England). But they all walked — or rather limped — away.

"So badly riddled was the Ball of Fire, they wanted to use her for spare parts for other planes. But Tate screamed to high heaven. It took a month to put her into combat shape again, and by this time Tate had another ship, so Lt. Howard Young of Berkeley, California took her out. Before he reached the target he had to turn back because of gun failure.

"A few days later the Ball of Fire staged her most successful raid over France. Hardly anything happened except that a ball of flak burst under her belly and a fragment ruined one of the rollers on which the bomb bay doors slide shut. On the way home, other crews in the formation were treated to a strange sight as a pair of legs dangled from the open bomb bay. They belonged to Lt. Joe Abels of Lebanon, Tennessee, and he was securing the bomb bay doors which were flapping around in the wind and cutting the air speed. He succeeded. For the only time in her short career, the Ball of Fire returned to her own field with her sister ships.

"She made up for this momentary lapse into virtue on the fourth mission. Perfect hits had been scored on the submarine base at Lorient, and flak over the target had missed her. Then, three Junkers 88s swept in. Sgt. Warren Sherwood of Brooklyn, who was the waist gunner, was hit in the stomach. Another bullet ripped through pilot Young's right arm and then ricocheted off the steering wheel and inflicted a painful, disabling wound in the left knee of copilot Cleveland Hickman of Albany, California. Young held the controls and called the bombardier, Lt. Anthony Yenallavage of Kingston, Pennsylvania from the flight deck (actually, from the nose section, as he was the bombardier). Then Young passed out. Hickman took over the controls. When Hickman grew faint, Yenallavage, who had had some training on smaller ships but had never tried the Lib, brought her in with advice from Hickman and the engineer, Sgt. Benjamin Hall of Haynesville, Louisiana. They really sweated that one out.

Young lost an arm; Sherwood recovered; and Hickman is flying again.

"Some days later, the Ball of Fire took off again under new management. This time, Major Robert Hoover of Dallas, Texas battled the jinx. Among the crew were Sgts. Charles Lockwood of Paragould, Arkansas; James Poe of Sanford, N.C.; James Sharp of Paulsboro, N.C.; Joe D'Agostino of Millinocket, Maine; and Lt. Charles Weiss of San Antonio. 'That was some trip,' said Weiss. 'It looked smooth at first, but two fighters camped on us over the target and made life hell. I got one after they had put holes in the tanks in the wing as big as buckets. The motors began sputtering. We broke away from the formation and made for an airfield on the coast of England. One motor cut out just before we got there, and Hoover told us to get ready to come down on the sea. But the motor caught again and we came in on top of a high cliff. We hit the runway with one punctured tire, and just then all four motors died.'

"That was the end of combat for 'Unlucky Lib.' While her sister ships delivered at the same time are piling up missions beyond the 30-mark and are scarred but sound, she is a cripple for life. Her teeth and claws are gone, and so is the stinger in the tail, for other ships have taken her guns and turrets. The old Ball of Fire which once took so many into trouble, now gets them out of it. Though she is only a hospital ship, Joe Tate still loves her. 'She is still the sweetest handling Lib on the field,' he says."

I left Joe Tate's crew after the first mission with Ball of Fire and was assigned my own crew and airplane, 'Wham Bam.' My crew members came from other crews that lost their pilots; e.g., Yenallavage, bombardier, and Beny Hall, engineer, from Young's crew. They were outstanding. When I think back, few of us ever thought about quitting. Nevertheless, it was difficult in that we did not have a limit on the number of missions for a combat tour. We all believed we would fly until either getting killed or becoming a POW. This was the tough part, because we were not getting either replacement crews or airplanes and our ranks became quite thin.

### BOOKS BOUGHT FOR THE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Two books were purchased by the Second Air Division Memorial Library from the 93rd Bomb Group Endowment for the year 2000-2001. I received this message from Derek S. Hills, Trust Librarian:

"The book collection is under heavier use than ever before. It is through endowments such as yours that we are able to provide additions to the collections, which focus on American life, history, culture, travel, and the arts, in addition to a strong collection on the Second World War and the 2nd Air Division, which are all used by our East Anglian patrons."

The memorial statement which goes in-

side the books is as follows: "In memory of all who served in the 93rd Bomb Group during World War II, 1943-1945, Hardwick, England." The books purchased:

*The Mighty Eighth* (revised edition)  
by Roger Freeman

*Operation Pseudo Miranda:  
A Veteran of the CIA Drug Wars Tells All*  
by Kenneth Bucchi



I have an interest in World War II and have written a book first published in 1994. I'm now working on a revised version which I hope to publish next year.

The original title was SEA EAGLES, subtitled "The Operational History of the Messerschmidt Bf 109T." The book concerns this German fighter aircraft built to serve on the aircraft carrier Graf Zeppelin. As this carrier was never finished, the aircraft served as a normal land-based fighter, based in Norway and on the island of Heligoland. This aircraft was flown against the Eighth Air Force including the Second Air Division in 1943.

I would like to make contact with the aircrews who might have encountered these fighters. I have met some of your members: Joseph Whittaker, Jim McMahon, and Forrest Clark; having attended the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Kjeller airfield in Norway in 1993.

I obtained the book *Second Air Division*, and going through the listing of veterans I found a number of members who specifically mention taking part in this and other attacks during which they might have encountered Bf 109T fighters.

The relevant dates are:

14 May 1943, target: Kiel (44th BG)

4 October 1943, diversion over the North Sea by the 392nd BG

18 November 1943, target: Kjeller, Norway (44th BG, 389th BG, 392nd BG)

I would be grateful to hear from anyone who took part in the above operations, and I look forward to contributing to recording the history of the Second Air Division.

Francis L. Marshall  
Sonnenstr. 32  
D-82205 Gilching  
GERMANY

# CONGRATULATIONS FROM STATE GOVERNORS ON SECOND AIR DIVISION MEMORIAL LIBRARY DEDICATION

*James H. Reeves (HDQ) sent a briefing letter on the library dedication to President Bush and to the governors of each of the fifty states. To his surprise he received 38 congratulatory replies, which he deposited with the librarian in Norwich. Following is the text of the letters received from each of the responding governors. The reply of the President, and a letter from the First Lady in response to Geoff Gregory, appears on the front cover of this issue.*

## ALABAMA

As Governor of the great State of Alabama, it is my pleasure to extend my congratulations to the Second Air Division Association in celebration of the dedication of its new and expanded Second Air Division Memorial Library, located in Norwich, England. The reopening of the Second Air Division Memorial Library is an exciting and momentous occasion for America.

The Second Air Division lost 6,700 loyal, honorable, and dedicated men during World War II. Some were creating better opportunities to support their families, and others wanted to preserve the American dream of hope and prosperity. These individuals represent the true spirit of America, and their sacrifices will never be forgotten.

Please know that Alabama is proud of the Second Air Division Association for its efforts in providing access to information documenting World War II and the experiences of those involved in this historical event.

Again, congratulations, and please know that the State of Alabama extends its best wishes for continued success in the years to come. May God continue to bless the great nations of England and the United States, the Second Air Division Association, and the sponsors, friends and supporters of the Second Air Division Memorial Library.

Don Siegelman, Governor of Alabama

## ALASKA

As Governor of Alaska and as a Vietnam veteran I am pleased to join with governors from the other states to wish you great success in the dedication and expansion of the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

During World War II battles took place in Alaska on the Aleutian Islands. Two of these islands, Attu and Kiska, were occupied by the Japanese. Throughout our state, residents organized to do their part to protect our freedoms and our liberties. Part of that effort was the formation of a unique state militia – the Alaska Territorial Guard, or ATG.

With the Alaska National Guard deployed elsewhere, and the bulk of U.S. armed forces committed to the European and Pacific theaters, the mission of the ATG scout was to assist in the defense of Alaska. Over 6,000 Alaskans — men and women, mostly Alaska Natives — proudly served their Territory and the United States in the Alaska Territorial Guard. I am pleased to be able to send to the museum, under separate cover, a book describing the ATG's history.

Again, on behalf of all Alaskans, best wishes for the Second Air Division Memorial Library.

Tony Knowles, Governor of Alaska

## ARIZONA

I am proud to add my congratulations to you and the Second Air Division Association, Eighth Air Force, for your perseverance and resolve in rebuilding the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

Your commitment to a new library, after the tragic and disastrous loss of the original library in a fire seven years ago, is most admirable. Be assured that our thoughts will be with you as you dedicate the new and expanded library on November 1, 2001.

The Second Air Division Memorial Library is

a splendid tribute to our veterans of World War II and serves as an outstanding example of America's dedication to its fallen heroes. Arizona is proud to remember those veterans from our great state and to add our best wishes to this most noble endeavor.

Jane Dee Hull, Governor of Arizona

## ARKANSAS

Greetings to the members of the Second Air Division Association! Congratulations on the reconstruction of the library. It's especially fitting it has been rebuilt to honor veterans.

Words cannot express our gratitude for the sacrifices veterans have made for this country and all civilized people. You've worked to preserve the freedoms we hold dear. Thanks for serving our country with dignity.

On behalf of all Arkansas, I send best wishes.

Mike Huckabee, Governor of Arkansas

## CALIFORNIA

It is a great pleasure to welcome all who have gathered for the dedication of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library.

This event is a unique opportunity to recognize the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of the members of the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force. Their valuable contributions helped to change the course of world history.

I commend all those who have made the new, renovated Memorial Library a reality. This important resource will both honor the outstanding service of WWII veterans and educate library visitors about this critical time in our past.

On behalf of the people of the State of California, I extend best wishes for a successful event.

Gray Davis, Governor of California

## CONNECTICUT

On behalf of the State of Connecticut, please accept our expression of congratulations on the rededication of the Second Air Division Memorial Library. Although I regret that I am unable to be with you on this special occasion, it is important to me that our respect for the feted accomplishments of the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force be appropriately recognized.

I commend the members of the Second Air Division Association on their record of conduct, performance, and devotion to duty, which reflected their allegiance to the highest standards of the military profession.

As you gather to honor the members of the Second Air Division Association, let us express our sincere and earnest gratitude for their unselfish contributions to protect freedom and liberty throughout the world. Please know that Patty and I deeply appreciate all of your efforts to honor these veterans and wish you the best of luck for continued success in all your future endeavors.

John G. Rowland, Governor of Connecticut

## DELAWARE

As Governor of the State of Delaware, it gives me great pleasure to offer my greetings at the rededication of this library.

This library stands as a very tangible part of the bridge between the nations of the United States and Great Britain. This bridge that has been forged over generations continues to stand in times of war and in times of peace. It is my fondest wish that the visitors to this library from all over the world

find themselves in times of peace, as this would be the greatest tribute to the men honored here.

Ruth Ann Minner, Governor of Delaware

## FLORIDA

It is a pleasure to extend greetings to the members of the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force on the dedication of the new and expanded Memorial Library in Norwich, England. I understand that the original library that was dedicated in 1963 was destroyed by fire seven years ago. The members of the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force are to be commended for again constructing this library to honor its brave and fallen comrades.

Our two countries forged a bond of respect, democracy, military strength, and a common goal of peace on earth. We have remained friends in both war and peace. I salute all those who continue to work toward the common good of all nations.

Please accept my congratulations on this very momentous occasion. Best wishes for a successful event.

Jeb Bush, Governor of Florida

## GEORGIA

It is my great pleasure to extend warmest regards at the reopening ceremony of the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England. This is truly a momentous occasion.

In 1963, the original library was completed and dedicated to the brave members of the Second Air Division, Eighth Air Force, who fought in World War II in England. It contained a fifty-year collection of books and extremely rare memorabilia, all reflective of the era and the fallen comrades. Sadly, it was completely destroyed by fire in 1994.

Through the tenacity and goodwill of the members of the Second Air Division Association, Eighth Air Force, their families, and the English citizenry, the library has been rebuilt on a larger scale, replacing memorabilia, expanding exhibits, and awaiting the introduction of interactive high-tech equipment to enhance the visitors' experience. The new library is a fitting tribute to the ultimate sacrifices made by our veterans, and I am privileged to be a small part of this ceremony.

Best wishes for a memorable event.

Roy E. Barnes, Governor of Georgia

## ILLINOIS

On behalf of the citizens of Illinois, I would like to commend the members of the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force for all the hard work and dedication that has gone into the Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

This new library will be visited by millions of people from countries around the world. It is a fitting tribute to those 6,700 soldiers who gave their lives for their country on the shores of England in 1945.

Please accept best wishes for a successful endeavor and a memorable dedication ceremony.

George H. Ryan, Governor of Illinois

## INDIANA

Thank you so much for the opportunity for Hoosiers to say thank you to the men of the Second Air Division Association for their unflinching bravery during World War II and to honor the



memory of the 6,700 men who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom.

Please also send our deepest thanks to the citizens of Norwich who have honored the Division these many years and who will honor you and your fellow soldiers next month by dedicating a new library that will continue to honor those who fought so fiercely for freedom.

The men and women who served during World War II defined a nation and shaped world history. The war, once and for all, firmly placed the United States in its position as a world power and as the constant guardian of freedom and democracy on this planet. Today, sadly, that battle for freedom continues. Once again united in the cause of liberty, the United States and the United Kingdom have embarked on a war against terrorism that will be unlike any war ever fought before. It is my hope that our troops will be guided and bolstered by the courage and commitment to freedom that you and your fellow soldiers of World War II displayed throughout that conflict.

And just as Norwich rose from the rubble to prosper once again, we will emerge from the attacks of September 11 a more unified and peaceful world. Thank you for your service to your country and for working so hard to make sure the memory of these great men does not fade.

Frank O'Bannon, Governor of Indiana

## KANSAS

On behalf of the State of Kansas, it is a privilege to extend my good wishes as you dedicate the new Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

Many have paid the ultimate price for the freedom we Americans so richly enjoy. Thousands left their homes and families to ensure that future generations could live in a land overflowing with privilege and liberty. Because of their commitment and loyalty to this great nation, America now stands as a beacon of freedom to the world.

Thank you for your dedication to preserving and honoring the memories of your fallen comrades. I wish you an unforgettable day.

Bill Graves, Governor of Kansas

## KENTUCKY

I am pleased to send my most sincere congratulations as you celebrate the opening of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England. As with the first library which opened its doors in 1963, this structure will serve as an appropriate memorial to your comrades who died in defense of freedom during World War II.

Few things serve a community better than a good library. Its wealth of information is valuable to both old and young, and it holds the promise for the future. Perhaps the knowledge within its walls will help prevent tragedies such as World War II from happening again.

I am pleased to provide your library with a copy of *Kentucky, Land of Tomorrow*. I hope its beauty will entertain and inspire the visitors to your new facility.

Paul E. Patton, Governor of Kentucky

## LOUISIANA

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the people of Louisiana, to extend to you all of my best as you embark on rebuilding the new Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

The world owes a great debt of gratitude to the men and women who bravely fought the forces of evil that threatened to conquer the world in World War II. Without the collective efforts of the Allied Forces, the freedom that so many of us enjoy would not exist, and we should do everything we can to thank and memorialize those soldiers.

I want to commend you for your hard work and efforts in overcoming the tragic burning of your old library and wish you all the best as you set out to rebuild the library so that everyone can enjoy it again.

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr., Governor of Louisiana

## MARYLAND

Thank you for your letter regarding the Second Air Division Memorial Library. My deepest sympathy goes out to you and all the members of the Second Air Division Association on the loss of your previous library. I am grateful for the opportunity to include a piece of Maryland in your new high tech library.

On behalf of Maryland, I would like to express good wishes for the success of your endeavor to rebuild the Second Air Division Memorial Library. I am providing a copy of *Maryland: A Portrait* to be included as a part of the Second Air Division Memorial Library.

Thank you again for your letter and the opportunity to help with the rededication of the Second Air Division Memorial Library. If I may be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland

## MISSISSIPPI

Please allow me to congratulate the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force on the dedication of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library. As you gather to celebrate the opening of the new library, you also celebrate the memory of your fallen comrades. The reconstruction of this library serves as a second chance to make a mark in history in honor of your fellow soldiers, and to take a moment to create memories for future generations.

I am happy to donate a book from the great State of Mississippi to the Second Air Division Association for the dedication of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library. Please allow me to thank you all for your dedication and commitment to preserving the memory of your comrades and for your contributions to education.

I am sure this new library will achieve and surpass its goals, and I look forward to hearing about the projects that will result from the great success of this event and the hard work of your organization.

If I may be of assistance, please feel free to call on me.

Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of Mississippi

## MISSOURI

On behalf of the citizens of the State of Missouri, I want to congratulate all involved with the completion of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

We all seek ways to honor those brave men and women of our armed forces — many of whom gave their lives to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today. Preserving knowledge for generations to come is indeed a fitting tribute to these heroes.

We join you in honoring those of the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force who sacrificed their lives in World War II to protect the American way of life and safeguard the democratic principles that are the foundation of our nation in other parts of the world.

Bob Holden, Governor of Missouri

## MONTANA

On behalf of the citizens of the great State of Montana, I extend to you my best wishes on the dedication of your new Memorial Library that honors your many fallen comrades from World War II.

It is sad to learn that your original library, completed in 1963, and its historic collection of

memorabilia, were destroyed by fire. How inspiring that you were able to band together and construct a new memorial for those who so gallantly gave their lives for their country.

I wish you all the very best and send my congratulations on your new facility.

Judy H. Martz, Governor of Montana

## NEBRASKA

It is with great pride and admiration that I offer my support and best wishes as you dedicate the new Second Air Division Memorial Library. It is a reminder of the courage and honor of America's fighting men and women, and it stands as a fitting tribute to the commitment of your members to preserve the memory of the Second Air Division's important contribution to one of the most critical periods in world history.

Freedom is not free. It is something that must be worked at, watched over, fought for, and sometimes even died for. The members of the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force epitomize this spirit of vigilance.

Once again, I applaud your efforts and I wish you all the best in the months and years ahead.

Mike Johanns, Governor of Nebraska

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

As Governor of New Hampshire, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to all in attendance for the dedication of the newly rebuilt Second Air Division Memorial Library.

The generation of men and women who came of age during the Great Depression and World War II faced two of our nation's greatest challenges with courage and determination. Their record of service and sacrifice throughout the Second World War is a true reflection of their commitment and dedication to the betterment of our nation.

Given that the citizens of New Hampshire hold a special affinity for those who have preserved our freedom and honor through service in the armed forces, I commend their contributions to the continued prosperity and freedoms that we enjoy today. The sacrifices they have made, both large and small, serve as a testament of their concern for their fellow man, and shall not be forgotten.

On behalf of the State of New Hampshire, I extend my best wishes to you all upon this occasion and with your future endeavors.

Jeanne Shaheen, Governor of New Hampshire

## NEW YORK

It is a pleasure to send warm greetings to the members of the Second Air Division Association who are gathered in Norwich, England to dedicate the new and expanded Second Air Division Memorial Library.

This library preserves the history of the Second Air Division during World War II, offering a collection of comprehensive books, personal diaries, original documents, photographs, and other historical items. Established in memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice during combat, the library's archival collection includes original materials from members of the Second Air Division which dramatically convey events that occurred during a most crucial time in the history of our nation and all mankind. Providing services and coordinating visits to Air Force bases, the library also serves as an information resource and continues to inspire, educate, and offer insight to new and future generations.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of the Second Air Division of the United States Eighth Air Force, which served from 1942 to 1945 restoring peace to the world. The Eighth Air Force was the largest offensive air force in history, in terms of men and aircraft,

comprising almost two-thirds of the total USAAF combat strength. These honored citizens — our veterans — are recognized for their courage and lasting sacrifices that made this country the home of the brave and the free. In that regard, I praise all those individuals who helped create the Second Air Division Memorial Library, which is a fitting tribute to the noble men and women who manned the barricades during World War II so that others might live in freedom.

In reflecting upon the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001, we can be thankful for our military men and women in whom lie our greatest strength. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I extend gratitude to the members of the Second Air Division Association for their unyielding dedication and years of faithful service to the United States. Best wishes for future success in all of your worthy goals and endeavors.

George E. Pataki, Governor of New York

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

I am delighted to extend greetings as members of the Second Air Division Association of the Eighth Air Force travel to Norwich, England to dedicate a new and expanded library. This exciting event will take place on November 1, 2001.

In order to honor the 6,700 comrades who were killed in action during World War II, members contributed close to \$100,000 to build the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich. The library was dedicated in 1963 during a ceremony that attracted a huge audience. Sadly, the library was completely destroyed by fire in 1994.

As is often the case, good things come from adversity. With contributions and donations pouring in, it has been possible to rebuild the library on a much larger scale with technologically advanced equipment. Without question, the new library will continue to honor the fallen comrades of the Second Air Division who gave their lives to protect and defend our freedom.

Mrs. Easley joins me in sending greetings on this auspicious occasion.

Michael F. Easley, Governor of North Carolina

### **NORTH DAKOTA**

Greetings from the Office of the Governor! Congratulations on the dedication of the new and expanded Second Air Division Memorial Library.

Your patriotism and service to your country during the war are commendable. The library is a tremendous way for us to remember the comrades who were killed in action and show our appreciation of the suffering endured during a very difficult time in American history.

Best wishes for continued success!

John Hoeven, Governor of North Dakota

### **OHIO**

I want to extend my warmest greetings to everyone in attendance at the dedication of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

The Second Air Division Association can be proud of its ability to rebuild the library on a much larger scale. It will be a wonderful honor to your brave, fallen comrades.

On behalf of all Ohioans, best wishes for a wonderful day filled with renewed friendships and good memories for years to come.

Bob Taft, Governor of Ohio

### **OKLAHOMA**

I am honored to extend Oklahoma's official greetings to visitors to this wonderful library, which recalls the veterans who served in the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force during World War II — and remembers the some 6,700 men who gave their lives in that great struggle.

The Second Air Division included men from every state in America, sent far from home to battle tyranny and defend freedom. They fought that war aloft, and many perished there. Those who survived are dwindling in number, but not in valor. They were — and are — the embodiment of America, and Oklahoma is proud to salute them all.

Frank Keating, Governor of Oklahoma

### **OREGON**

As Governor of Oregon, it is an honor to recognize the members of the Second Air Division Association and their service to our nation. The Second Air Division Memorial Library pays tribute to their contributions during World War II and promises to be a memorable experience.

During war, soldiers and civilians experience extremely difficult conditions that demand an inner strength and commitment to their nation. It is important to remember the men and women who served our nation and supported the Constitution of the United States of America and its freedoms. On behalf of the citizens of Oregon, I am honored to offer our appreciation and gratitude.

The Memorial Library is an excellent resource that provides a historical and personal accounting of one of the gravest times in the history of the world. It is imperative that we preserve this vital piece of history so we do not forget the lessons of the past and we continue to grow in our commitment to seek world peace.

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor of Oregon

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Greetings! It gives me great pleasure to extend my personal regards and heartfelt welcome to everyone gathered for the dedication of the Second Air Division Memorial Library.

The history of our great nation reflects the memories of the men and women who have endeavored to preserve our freedom. Their task, never to be forgotten or underestimated, stands as a lasting tribute to the ideals we value as Americans. As a Commonwealth, we strive to preserve and uphold a lasting tribute to the sacrifice and commitment our American heroes have displayed in defense of our nation.

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I am proud to take a moment to join with the veterans, families and citizens gathered in honor of the selfless dedication and admirable service of our veterans. Throughout our history, our freedom and democratic way of life have been safeguarded by brave soldiers who were willing to offer the ultimate sacrifice in our defense. Though the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owe our veterans a debt of gratitude that can never be paid in mere words, this library will stand as an enduring emblem of the pride and gratitude we hold as a community in their name.

On behalf of all Pennsylvanians, it is an honor to commemorate and preserve such outstanding and brave individuals. It is my hope that veterans, their families, friends, and the many generations of residents and visitors to this library will pay tribute to the memories and service of these truly great men and women.

Mark Schweiker, Governor of Pennsylvania

### **RHODE ISLAND**

On behalf of the people of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to all of you and those who devoted so much effort to completing the library project.

For most generations, there is a single defining moment, an event that lives forever in our memories because it changed all of our lives.

Like the attack on Pearl Harbor, the assaults on New York and Washington, D.C. challenge all of us to work toward a common goal. As it was sixty years ago, this generation of Americans is faced with the task of preserving our freedoms. Those of us who remember World War II know the unity and resolve this nation can muster when faced with great adversity.

Though I was nine years old when the Second World War ended, I still have vivid memories of those who served and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. I also remember how everyone in my Central Falls, Rhode Island neighborhood had a sense of purpose, a common goal, and a willingness to endure hardships.

This new century has dawned with a horrible tragedy. As a nation, we have responded with an outpouring of support for the victims, their families, and the rescue workers. We have unfurled our flag with a renewed sense of patriotism. I will never forget addressing thousands who attended a candlelight vigil at our State House in September. All Americans have taken comfort in the heartfelt expressions of support from across Europe, and particularly those of the British people.

As it was in 1941, our nation and our allies must now respond to a foreign threat. While today's enemies are profoundly different from those we faced in the '40s, the challenge to protect our way of life remains the same. We cannot live in a world of fear. We must preserve our liberty for future generations.

Our strength is not found in our economy or military capabilities, it is found in our people. As a free and diverse people, we often seem divided. In reality, behind our apparent divisions lies a common commitment to the fundamental principles of our country, and to each other. That commitment isn't always apparent, but when faced with adversity we have always come together. That was true in 1941. It is true today.

The Second Air Division Memorial Library celebrates that commitment, along with the unique friendship between the people of the United States and the United Kingdom.

Lincoln L. Almond, Governor of Rhode Island

### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

On behalf of the State of South Carolina, I am pleased to offer my greetings and best wishes as you gather for the dedication ceremony for the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force's Memorial Library in Norwich, England.

With the completion of the new library, today's celebration not only pays tribute to the Second Air Division's WWII veterans, but also looks upon the positive impact all veterans have had on our world and the many lives they have touched. As you navigate through the halls of the library, I am certain that you will be constantly reminded of the bravery, sacrifice and selflessness that every member of the Second Air Division displayed during the Second World War. I hope you will use this opportunity to reflect on the blessings and prosperity that our servicemen and women have made possible through their dedication to freedom, peace, and liberty.

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the book *South Carolina: Then & Now* for your library. Please accept my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable event, and let me know if I can ever be of help to you in any way.

Jim Hodges, Governor of South Carolina

### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

More South Dakotans per capita went off to World War II than from any other state in the Union. We were number one in the percentage of our



people who served in the United States Navy. We were number one in the percentage of our people who served in the United States Marine Corps. We were number one in the percentage of our people who were underage veterans, who joined the service when they were too young and went off to fight. We had the lowest percentage of our people that were draft dodgers. Over 11 percent of our entire population served in the military in World War II. Per capita, South Dakotans bought more war bonds. Per capita, they cashed the fewest. Why? Because we weren't buying war bonds to invest in America. We were investing in our sons and daughters who had put themselves in harm's way.

During the war, with so many men and women gone from South Dakota, our agriculture production in grain doubled from 1940 to 1945. There were no new tractors being made during the war. Those old, decrepit things from the Depression were used to double grain production during the war by the sheer force of will of the people back home.

South Dakotans who served in World War II and who supported the war efforts taught the world about courage, commitment, duty, honor, and patriotism. No one could embody those words more than the men and women of South Dakota who gave their lives in World War II, who made the supreme sacrifice. We owe our very way of life to them, and we owe it to them to turn back aggression as they did and to put on their mantle of courage, commitment, duty, honor, and patriotism, and teach them to future generations.

William J. Janklow, Governor of South Dakota

## TENNESSEE

As Governor of Tennessee, it is a privilege to extend my best wishes on the occasion of the dedication of the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England. I know that you have long looked forward to this time of remembrance and celebration.

The Second Air Division Memorial Library is a testament to the courage of those who gave their lives in World War II to protect liberty and peace, and I am proud to recognize their bravery. We appreciate those whose valuable service continues to keep us safe and free, and I am pleased to commend the Second Air Division Association for making this such a memorable occasion for everyone in attendance.

Congratulations on the completion of the Second Air Division Memorial Library. May the best of the future be yours.

Don Sundquist, Governor of Tennessee

## TEXAS

Congratulations as you dedicate the new and expanded Second Air Division Memorial Library! This building signifies a proud legacy of service and will undoubtedly continue to embody the spirit of courage and cooperation that built the first library 38 years ago.

As a veteran of the United States Air Force, and as the son of a World War II veteran, I fully understand the deep commitment of the men and women who have served their nation honorably in times of peace and in times of war. Our history tells us that it is the actions of the brave, their love of country and commitment to the principles for which this nation stands, that have contributed immeasurably to our foundation through time.

I salute all involved with this project. Your sterling endeavors to make this building a reality honor those who fought for freedom; those who were willing to sacrifice their dreams of the future for ours. I commend this accomplishment, and I have no doubt that it will become an invaluable resource for the future and a treasured monument

to our proud past.

Anita joins me in extending our sincere best wishes for future success.

Rick Perry, Governor of Texas

## UTAH

I would like to take this moment to pay tribute to the dedication of the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich, England. On behalf of the citizens of Utah, we commend your efforts to rebuild a very important monument honoring our fallen heroes.

I greatly admire the dedication of those who served and gave their lives for this country. Please accept my congratulations as you dedicate this historical library. May every generation be reminded of the value of America's freedom.

Michael O. Leavitt, Governor of Utah

## VIRGINIA

On behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am pleased to donate a copy of *The Hornbook of Virginia History*, by Emily J. Salmon and Edward D.C. Campbell, Jr., to the Second Air Division Memorial Library in celebration of the dedication of the library's new and expanded facility.

Nearly four decades ago, the Second Air Division Memorial Library was completed and dedicated in honor of thousands of Air Force personnel who lost their lives during World War II. Unfortunately, the library was destroyed by fire seven years ago, but thanks to many generous donations from Englanders and from members of the Second Air Division Association, the library promises to be restored to its previous grandeur. The library's dedication is a testament to the character and diligence of its Board of Governors, and I am confident that it will serve the people of Norwich well.

I hope you enjoy the book, and I extend my sincere best wishes for much continued success.

James S. Gilmore, III, Governor of Virginia

## WEST VIRGINIA

Congratulations from the Governor to the Second Air Division Association. On behalf of the citizens of the State of West Virginia, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and praise for your sacrifice to our nation.

The leadership, hard work, and personal sacrifice you have demonstrated during your tenure have been of vital importance to the United States. You have shown yourselves to be worthy of the highest praise.

Your record of accomplishments must be a source of great pride to your families and your friends. Your loyalty and sense of duty set a tremendous example for all of us.

Best wishes and kindest personal regards from the citizens of West Virginia.

Bob Wise, Governor of West Virginia

## WISCONSIN

Greetings! On behalf of the people of the State of Wisconsin, I am pleased and proud to congratulate the Second Air Division Association for their loyalty and vision in rebuilding the library in memory of their fallen comrades in World War II. Their dedication and hard work will preserve the memory of all those who fought and died for our nation.

In Wisconsin, we embrace the fundamental principle that nothing is more hallowed than the loyal actions of our military forces to protect the freedom we hold most dear. Your patriotic efforts to protect our country during World War II will stand as a model for us all to follow. I am inspired by your courage, and extend my sincere gratitude for your service to our state and nation.

Again, congratulations on all your heroic efforts both during and after the war, and best wishes for the future.

Scott McCallum, Governor of Wisconsin

## WYOMING

I extend my utmost admiration as I wish you and your comrades the very best of luck as you dedicate your newly rebuilt Memorial Library. I commend you for your indomitable spirit after the loss of the original library in a tragic fire.

In view of your unit's splendid history during World War II, I find it not at all surprising that you took such a devastating loss in stride and were quickly able to initiate plans for a new library. What loss, indeed, could equal that of your 6,700 comrades who died fighting for freedom?

We in Wyoming are especially interested in honoring those fallen fighters, since it is more than likely that some, perhaps many, of them were trained at Casper Air Base in central Wyoming between 1942-1945. During that period, some 25,000 heavy bomber air crewmen were trained in both B-17 and B-24 bombers at Casper Air Base, and they subsequently flew combat missions in every theater of the war, including the European theater.

Please accept the accompanying signed book, *The West*, as a donation to your library.

On behalf of every Wyoming resident, I extend our most sincere congratulations and best wishes as you and your comrades rededicate a truly honorable remembrance of your fallen comrades.

Jim Geringer, Governor of Wyoming

## LIST OF BOOKS DONATED BY STATE GOVERNORS TO THE 2AD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### *Soldiers of the Mists:*

#### *Minutemen of the Alaska Frontier*

donated by

Governor Tony Knowles of Alaska

#### *Oglethorpe's Dream: A Picture of Georgia*

donated by

Governor Roy E. Barnes of Georgia

#### *Beautiful America's Idaho*

donated by

Governor Dirk Kempthorne of Idaho

#### *Iowa, Portrait of the Land*

donated by

Governor Thomas J. Vilsack of Iowa

#### *Kentucky, Land of Tomorrow*

donated by

Governor Paul E. Patton of Kentucky

#### *Maryland: A Portrait*

donated by

Governor Parris N. Glendening of Maryland

#### *Mississippi: The State*

donated by

Governor Ronnie Musgrove of Mississippi

#### *Montana Vacation Guide 2001-2002*

donated by

Governor John Hoeven of Montana

#### *South Carolina: Then and Now*

donated by

Governor Jim Hodges of South Carolina

#### *The Hornbook of Virginia History*

donated by

Governor James S. Gilmore, III of Virginia

#### *The West*

donated by

Governor Jim Geringer of Wyoming

# Attendees at 2ADA Convention in Norwich • November 2-9, 2001

## 44th Bomb Group

Apgar, George & Beryl  
Butler, Dick & Ardith & Emily DeShazo &  
Dan & Theresa Butler & Frank &  
Kay Butler Drake  
Dubowsky, Bob & Irma & Beryl Vickers  
Ertz, Julian  
Fitzmaurice, Walt & Michael  
Lowenthal, Lee & Lisa Silverstein  
Lundy, Will & Irene  
Morse, Perry & Ruth  
Schwarm, Ed & Erla  
Wright, Jim & Marion

## 93rd Bomb Group

Adams, Jim & Dot  
Asch, Al, Naomi, David & Peter  
Bargamian, Sam & Josephine  
Brown, Lew & Lew III  
Comingore, Richard & Linda  
Cooley, Alice & Ann Urlick  
Davidson, Cal  
Delguidice, Lou & Alberta &  
Sandra Comstock  
Geyer, Donald  
Graves, Charles & Jane  
Jaquith, Kent  
Johnson, George & Thomas &  
Wendy Johnson Eveland  
Kelleher, Harry & Louise  
Magill, Art & Pat Terro  
Neumann, Clarence & Mary Ann Swanson  
Nykamp, Henry & Beatrice  
Peloquin, Paul & Steven  
Regan, Bernie & Tom  
Rhoades, Ray & Mary  
Roure, Dan & Eileen Hunt  
Sargent, William  
Schneider, Raymond & Tim &  
Karen Schneider Crain  
Spencer, Don & Mary Lou  
Steichen, Paul & Marissa & Ted Steichen,  
Mary Steichen Yamamoto & John &  
Christine Steichen Flaningam & Gene &  
Julie Steichen Mathews & Joan, Ann &  
Nancy Blacker  
Strombom, Fred & Inez  
Sullivan, John & Bee & Patrick,  
Cynthia & Brendon Sullivan &  
James, Peggy & Michael Sellers  
Swaim, Vernon  
Thompson, Glen

## 389th Bomb Group

Baird, Ralph & Merlene  
Ball, John  
Bekiesz, Steven & Peter Kiziu  
Berry, Bill & Betty  
Borland, Dave  
Carlson, Bill  
Cavit, Charles, Dennis & Douglas  
Crum, Will  
Denton, Helene  
Driscoll, Barney & Emme  
Glass, Bob & Helen  
Greenberg, Sol & Joyce  
Hallett, Allan & Jean & Martha Hallett &  
Kristina Testagrossa  
Hammond, George & Marie & Andrew &  
Jo Hammond  
Hare, Charles  
Helmer, Bruce & Ruth  
Howell, Rudy & Myrtis  
Jefferson, Harold & Ruth  
Koepfer, John & Theodora  
Koorndyk, Bud & Meriel DeGraff &  
Greg & Marsha Koorndyk Peters  
Leeton, Felix & Marge  
Mann, Val & Luella  
Morgan, John & Mary Detwiler  
Newton, Fielder & Marge  
Pease, Frank

Toczko, Wilfred & Marcelle  
Watson, Bob  
Zimmerman, Earl

## 392nd Bomb Group

Conrad, John & Wanda & Ron &  
Margy Conrad White  
Gersten, Jerry & Roz  
Goar, Jim & Annabelle Garoffolo  
Gorback, Burton & Sylvia  
Harned, Bob & Ida Jane  
Mackey, Oak & Maxine  
Micksch, Joe & Ella  
Miller, Willis & Dorothy  
Milrod, Murray & Helen & Sylvia Rubin  
Planche, Milt & Bunny  
Reid, Emily Long & Ann Long Phillips  
Thomas, Fred & Elva

## 445th Bomb Group

Allen, Wayne & Betty  
Bason, Maurice & Hilda  
Bertapelle, Tony & Lois  
Bowen, Doc  
Bowers, Larry & Mary & Beth Newsome  
Bromm, Fred & Jacqueline  
Campana, Tom & James  
Dale, Fred & Cindy Moy  
DiMola, Frank & Elizabeth & John &  
Jennifer DiMola, Michael &  
Elizabeth Fernandes  
Garren, Lamar & Judy  
Hester, Henry  
Kinder, Earl & Louise  
Kowalski, Ed & Gladys  
Luhmann, Clarence & Winnefred  
Myers, Mark & Darlene Miller  
Patterson, Dave & Joan  
Pytel, Ray  
Rambo, Carl  
Ramp, Richard & Viola & Mark &  
Paula Ramp Sorrell  
Rolooff, Ed  
Schnitzer, Abe & Edith  
Shankwiler, Horace & Jane  
Shore, Kitty & Cherie & Tim Williamson &  
Lynn, Jeff, Jeff, Jr. & Hilary Grace &  
John & Tillie Mark, Roland Bridge &  
Jack Strickland  
Stephan, Billy & Elaine  
Suckow, Bob & Shirley Ann  
Thevaos, Ted & Maria Thevaos Beasley  
Van Horn, Howard, Grace & Tim  
Walker, Chuck & Susan &  
Andrew Horlock  
Webster, Sam & Ruth  
Zobac, Ed & Rosalie

## 446th Bomb Group

Clement, Harry & Sally  
Dailey, Sidney & Heddy Quest  
Farrington, John & Helen  
Hay, Andy & Shirley Wagner  
Minear, Max & Shirley  
Risley, Aud, Fern & Susan  
Senior, Alan & Joyce

## 448th Bomb Group

Grew, Frank & Maria  
Nicholas, Hap & Olga  
Schultz, King & Paula

## 453rd Bomb Group

Bala, Walt  
Becker, Nelson, Alexandra & Nick  
Biel, Bert & Claire & Irene Biel Hurner &  
Christine Argentieri & Gretchen Hurner  
& Becki Bulls  
Bradley, Herb & Cynthia  
Brown, Jessie  
Brown, Dick & Cora &  
Debora Brown English  
Butler, John & Allie

Carlton, Roy & Jacqueline Trudeau  
Chipman, George & Christy Adams  
Dyke, Jim & Dorothy &  
Glenna Dyke Whitmill  
Fleming, Peter & Christa  
Harriman, Russ  
Kassab, John & Nita  
Kotapish, Jim  
Morris, Walt  
Prang, Lloyd & Irene  
Ricci, Aldo & Rickey  
Ryan, Leo & Geraldine Suskin  
Schwartz, Morris & Shirley  
Stout, Caleb, John & Jessica  
Thompson, John & Edna  
Wells, Ed

## 458th Bomb Group

Armbruster, Bob & Mary Aileen  
Betts, Bert & Barbara  
Birmingham, Bob & Marie  
Booth, Chuck & Trudi Clements  
Brewer, Don & Beryl & Dennis &  
Cheryl Brewer Arcangel  
Brewster, Bill & Dorothy &  
Nancy Brewster Cromer  
Bullard, Tom & Christine  
Butler, Dick & Edith  
Coleman, Bill  
Craft, Harry & Margaret  
Fair, Duane, Mary & Robert  
Forrest, Larry P. & Lawrence C.  
Geppelt, Elmo & Joanna  
Glagola, John & Michael  
Greene, Kermit  
Hartzell, Paul & June  
Hiemstra, Bob & Kathy  
Hilborn, Allen & Jan  
Honold, Fred & Virginia  
Hoyt, Ralph & Ronald  
Josephson, Frank, Craig, Mike &  
Cathy & Svierrerr Asgrimsson  
Newmark, Bernie & Jean & Dale &  
Sherry Newmark Herendeen  
Pulse, Dick & Betty  
Renn, Bob & Marty  
Rokicki, Rick & Ceil  
Vanderbeek, Art & Gerry & Clare & Susan  
Wilkening, Clay & Gretta

## 466th Bomb Group

Anderson, Elmer, Barbara & Trudye &  
David, Shellye, Samantha &  
Lauren Karell  
Auman, Jim  
Bostwick, Frank & Louise  
Calderalo, Margaret  
Cambon, Mike & Joy Yawn  
Campbell, Bill  
Dike, Malcolm  
Horan, John & Irene  
Jones, Everett  
Kerr, Perry, Joyce, Penny, Pam & Jay  
Lorenz, Jim & Mary  
Marshall, Clayton & Brian McBride  
Nothstein, Bill & Lue  
Pettersen, Bob, Sybil, Alan & Karen &  
David, Barbara & Lisa Schoonover,  
Seth & Denise Vanlandingham,  
John, Gail & Christin Schoonover  
Saltarelli, Joe & Mary  
Sargent, Bud  
Stone, Westcot  
Walter, Jim & Verlee  
Warning, Kurt & Vicki  
Woinowsk, Russ & Russ, Jr.

## 467th Bomb Group

Brinson, Jack & Joyce & Fount &  
Elizabeth May  
Davis, Ralph & Doris  
Drucker, Marjorie

Dunnam, Blackwell  
Dzenowagis, Joe, Helen, Joe, Jr., Joan &  
Victor, Bill Kubota & John Gulas  
Goggin, John & Patricia  
Gregory, Geoff & Terry  
Holmes, Capers  
Katz, Stan & Vivian Bernstien  
Kirby, M.F.  
Kurtz, Larry & Faye  
Maris, Anthony & Alicia  
Mundy, Walt, Ruth, Jeffrey, John & Linda  
Nanne, Zelta  
Noden, Wilson & Cecily  
Palmer, Bruce, Mary, Jon & Michael &  
Donald & Peggy Davis  
Renaud, Roland & Mary  
Rothchild, Ida & Robert & Connie Fligg &  
Bert & Cheri Sandman  
Shower, Jay & Mary  
Stevens, John, Lucile, Cynthia & Pam &  
Charles & Judi Palmer  
Touchette, Al  
Troy, Robert & Lila

## 489th Bomb Group

Chamberlain, Bud & Mike  
Decani, John  
Kiernan, Jim & Sharon & Jose Walton  
Lingenberg, Evelyn & Dwam Wilson  
McGrath, Jean

## 491st Bomb Group

Bennett, Hugh & Jean  
Brown, Ed & Sue  
Cahill, Vince & Wilma  
Johns, Norman  
Leppert, John & Marilyn  
Little, Bob  
Redfern, David & Karyn Kappa  
Stephey, Harry & Betsy

## 492nd Bomb Group

Beasley, Bill, Norma & Craig &  
Dorothy Wayman  
Blue, Allan & Laura  
Cash, Bob, Dorothy & Beki & Mike &  
Glennis Cash Wilson  
Floyd, Tom, Margaret, Edie & Julie &  
Lenore Thompson & Karen Piskurich  
Heckman, Howard & Margaret &  
Frances Gamberg & Laverne Hughes  
Mahoney, Brian & Jeremiah Mahoney  
& Karen Mayberry &  
Patty & Mac Dempsey  
Robertson, Scott & Summer

## Headquarters

Cohen, Evelyn & Lillian  
Krogmann, Dottie & Donna Nagle &  
Lois Edwards  
McCormick, Hal & Jeanne & Roger &  
Ellen McCormick Noland  
Reeves, Jim & Edna & Michael &  
Karin Usry  
Stevens, Tess & Kay & Paul Domino  
Storms, Eleanor  
Strong, Ray & Ruth & Laura Lowe  
Uttal, Jordan & Gillian Reckitt &  
Dr. Arnold Kassanoff  
Veynar, Milt, Hathy & Caron

## In Addition

2ADA Memorial Library Governors  
and Family  
City & County Officials  
RAF & USAF Officers  
Friends of the 2ADA  
Guests of the 14 Bomb Groups and HDQ  
The Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk  
Sir Timothy Colman & Lady Mary Colman  
Norwich Cathedral and  
St. Peter Mancroft Clergy



# The Birth of an Idea and Salute to Its Progenitors

BY JORDAN R. UTTAL, 2ADA HONORARY PRESIDENT

In May of 2001, as I was visualizing the proposed opening ceremonies of the new Second Air Division Memorial Library on 7 November 2001, it occurred to me that a most vital part of the story was, in fact, its very conception.

It has long been a matter of record that there was a coming-together of three Second Air Division senior officers in early 1945 who came up with the idea. General Kepner concurred and enthusiastically cooperated, and the rest is history. Before our trip to Norwich last year, I established renewed contact with General Milt Arnold; Lt. Col. Ion Walker; and Col. Fred Bryan's widow, Denise Farquahar Bryan, whom Fred met and married in England. (*Note: Fred and Denise were married on the 4th or 5th of April, 1945, shortly after the idea for the Memorial evolved, and Denise was a part of the planning.*) I asked each of them if they would prepare a few words that could be conveyed to the celebrants, and each of them willingly complied.

When I approached the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Paul King, with this information, he readily made time available on the program for the formal ceremonies of 7 November which were reported on so very well by 2ADA Executive Vice President Dick Butler in the Winter 2001 issue of the *Journal*. Each of the three was very pleased to have this opportunity. Here is what they had to say.

## Message from B/G Milton Arnold (Commander, 2nd Combat Bomb Wing, Hethel):

"The 2nd Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich incorporates the best ideas of the two greatest English-speaking nations in

the world!!

"It is thrilling to see the enthusiasm, interest, and dedication evidenced by the participation of our Second Air Division veterans, their families, and our British friends in such a project.

"My warmest greetings to each of you at this celebration of the rebuilding of the Second Air Division Memorial Library in Norwich in November 2001."

## Message from Lt. Col. Ion S. Walker (Ground Executive Officer, 467th Bomb Group, Rackheath):

"I enthusiastically salute the camaraderie which existed between us which helped greatly toward the successful end of our struggle in 1945.

"The Second Air Division participated in a most distinguished manner to achieve our victory. The thought that Fred, Milt, and I shared...to recognize the participation of our personnel, so heartily endorsed by General Kepner, is a great thrill to this day!!!

"I send my heartfelt congratulations to a group of wonderful people who have kept the light alive.

"We have indeed lost people in combat ...and in all the years since. BUT, we have not lost the spirit which produced the Second Air Division Memorial Library. I am sure you all are as proud of this everlasting feeling of our love for each other as I am. BLESS YOU ALL!!!"

## Message from Denise F. Bryan (Mrs. Frederick VanPelt Bryan):

"It is easy to remember my late husband's satisfaction with being part of the small group that took the idea for a Second Air Division Memorial to General Kepner

as the war was winding down victoriously in 1945. It was even more gratifying to learn of the General's immediate acceptance of the idea and his positive message to the troops just after V.E. Day.

"A further connection with the Memorial for me is the fact that my father was asked to offer preliminary sketches for the project, and although his ideas were not used in the original concept, the Bryan/Farquahar family was further involved when the Memorial Trust was formed; and Fred Bryan, along with General Arnold and Lt. Col. Walker, [was one of] the original thirteen Founder Governors.

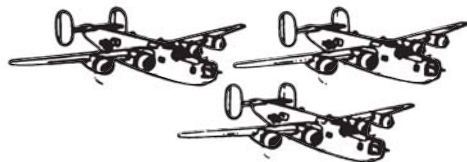
"Fred was indeed happy to see the results of the project when he went over in 1963 along with Generals Kepner, Hodges, Griswold, and Arnold and more than 100 veterans from the Second Air Division Association to dedicate the Second Air Division Memorial Library.

"I also recall with pleasure attending the 1976 convention at Valley Forge and Fred's and my reactions to the devotion of the Association to the Memorial.

"It is a thrill to know that in November 2001, a large party of Second Air Division veterans and their families, some of them friends of ours, will be present at the dedication of the rebuilt [Norwich] library and the unique Second Air Division Memorial. GODSPEED."

It pleases me that each of these friends of long standing used the word "thrilling," just as I did on the evening of 6 November at the Freedom of the City award ceremony. As Dick Butler reported, the whole celebration in Norwich could accurately be described as *thrilling*... A BASH!!! ■

SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
RAY PYTEL, JOURNAL EDITOR  
P.O. BOX 484, ELKHORN, WI 53121-0484



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Address changes should be sent to:

**Evelyn Cohen**  
6410 Delaire Landing Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114-4157

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