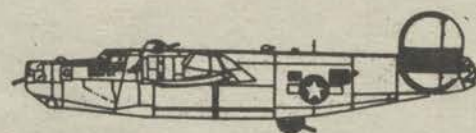


NEWS



392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 11

AUGUST 1996

LONG AWAITED ANTHOLOGY GOES TO PRINTER

Compiled by the noted British anthologist Ian Hawkins and edited by the 392nd's own M/Sgt Bill Braddock, radio operator on the 578th's crew number 1, the book is aptly named 20TH CENTURY CRUSADERS.

Over 100 authors from our own ranks produced the accounts of missions, crashes, air-sea rescues, bail-outs and evasions, as well as the never-ending grinding support effort by the ground crews.

Also included is material about the

CRUSADERS' OWN STORIES TOLD IN FIRST PERSON SPELL OUT THE WWII EXPERIENCES OF THE 392nd

English villagers in and around Beeston and Wendling who were a part of the Group's 23-month stay in East Anglia.

There will be many photographs and maps and charts from Ernie Barber's collection of memorabilia.

A long search for a publisher ended when Turner Publishing was chosen. They produced the highly successful

Second Air Division history, and specialize in military histories.

"This book should be in the hands of every Crusader child and grandchild", declared Col Lawence Gilbert, CEO of 392 BGMA and former Group commander. "We will soon all be gone, and our families deserve to know first-hand from our own mouths our contributions

to the long and hard-fought struggle in the ETO in 1943-45," he continued.

"In order to have a successful publication, it is vital that some 1000 books be produced. To reach this goal, each Crusader needs to distribute several copies to his family," Col Gilbert said.

It is expected that the book will be ready for delivery early in 1997. They cost \$52.50 plus shipping and handling, and an order blank is to be found on the inside page of this newsletter.

"WALL OF VALOR" AT MIGHTY 8AF MUSEUM

Following are the words of Judge Ben Smith, 303 BG, chairman of the Memorial Gardens Committee at the Mighty 8AF Museum:

"There is a way that Crusaders can share in the building of the magnificent memorial at Savannah.

"As a part of the museum we are building a sanctuary called the Memorial Gardens. A place to pray, a place to reflect, a place to pay tribute to those we loved and lost.

"In the gardens will be the 'Wall Of Valor', much like the impressive wall in the American Cemetery at Cambridge, England. To enhance the serene setting, a long reflecting pool will traverse the center of the gardens alongside the memorial wall. The wall will be an ongoing effort and will continue to expand throughout the gardens.

"Each 8AF veteran may make a donation to the Memorial Gardens. For a minimum donation of \$100, his gift will be recognized on the 'Wall Of Valor'. His name, with rank and unit number,

will be incised on the handsome stone tablet by a master stone carver. These panels will be 4 x 12 inches. The names will be installed on the wall in the order the gifts are received. No matter what the rank or service of the 8AF veteran, he will be accorded equal status on the 'Wall Of Valor'. Those making donations may in like manner honor bomber crews, fighter pilots and crews, ground crews, or service units.

"The wall will be in numbered sections with a master directory for easy identification of your own memorial.

"A memorial committee is on staff to help you with your choice of memorials. They are also available to aid those 8AF veterans that want to be a part of the memorial wall but sincerely feel they cannot make a donation.

"If you make a donation of \$100, your gift recognition memorial will include 24 letters which will suffice for most inscriptions. If additional space is needed for your inscription add at least \$1 per letter to your gift. Please call toll

SSGT CLARENCE COGDELL 360 SQ 303 BG	BRINKLEYS CREW 360 SQ 303 BG
CAPT ARNOLD LITMAN MY HUSBAND 303 BG	SSGT BILLY ELLIOTT KIA JUL 13 1944 491 BG

Sample segment of the Wall of Valor

tree 1-800-544-8878 or 912-283-9966 to place orders by phone or for further information. If you wish to make a larger donation call our toll free number for information. (Note: we believe these gifts are tax deductible.)

"Our goal is to see that every person who has ever served in the Eighth Air Force is given a chance to share in this great memorial. There could be no more fitting monument for veterans of the Mighty Eighth."

COL NED HUMPHREYS

Col E. C. "Ned" Humphreys, Jr., USAF (Ret) died April 22, 1996 at Daphne, AL.

Col Humphreys was a navigator-bombardier in WWII, and continued his career in the Air Force after the war.

Upon retirement, he founded Bombardiers, Inc., an organization devoted to collecting, recording, and preserving the heritage and tradition of the military profession of bombardiering.

He set himself the task of locating every WWII bombardier, and published a newsletter concerning bombardiers.

Bombardiers, Inc. will be shut down in accordance with Ned's pre-set procedures.

He is survived by his wife, Marcia, Spanish Town, AL., 3 sons, a sister, a brother, and 4 grandchildren.

Services with military honors were held May 8 at Arlington National Cemetery.

Ned will be sadly missed by his friends in the 392nd. His passing is yet another reminder of the finiteness of the mighty USAAF.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Over 1,200 paratroopers dropped on Salerno, Italy without loss of man or plane-1943.

JOE WHITTAKER TAKES A WIFE

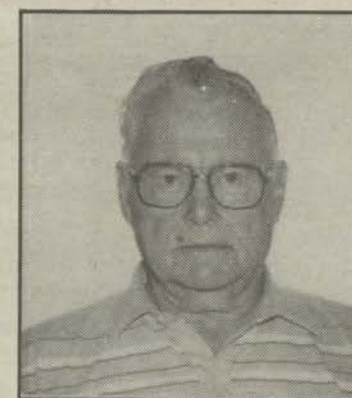


Mr. and Mrs. Joe Whittaker, shown with the B-24 "All American"

Joe Whittaker and Marie Mitchell Olesen Urbanski were married at Trinity Episcopal Church in the bride's family hometown of Mount Airy, NC on June 8, 1996.

Joe is known to Crusaders as successively the 578th Squadron, the 392nd Bomb Group, and the Second Air Division Bombardier. Marie, a Ph.D., is a retired professor of American Literature from the University of Maine. She has published two books about the nineteenth century feminist and transcendentalist, Margaret Fuller, as well as various essays and book reviews.

Emily Long and Joe and Mary Westbrook represented the 392nd at the ceremony. The couple are at home at 811 North Juniata St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.



RETREADED VP

J. Fred Thomas

J. Fred Thomas, 579th pilot, was named Group vice-president for the Second Air Division Association at the Milwaukee meeting in June. He replaces Oak Mackey, who resigned the post to become executive vice-president of the 2AD association.

Fred is no stranger to the position, as he was Group vice-president from 1980 to 1984. He is also a past president of 2AD association.

He may hold the time record for completing a combat tour, doing 30 missions in 68 days, from May 24 to Aug. 1, 1944.

PROFILE

T/Sgt Early L. Lewis, Jr. was the flight engineer on the Barnes crew in the 576th. He was early cadre, joining the 392nd at Tucson in March, 1943.

He retired, as Captain, after 38 years service in the Tuscaloosa Fire Department.

His spouse is Alice, and their address is 510 Browning Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405. They have one son, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

PROFILE

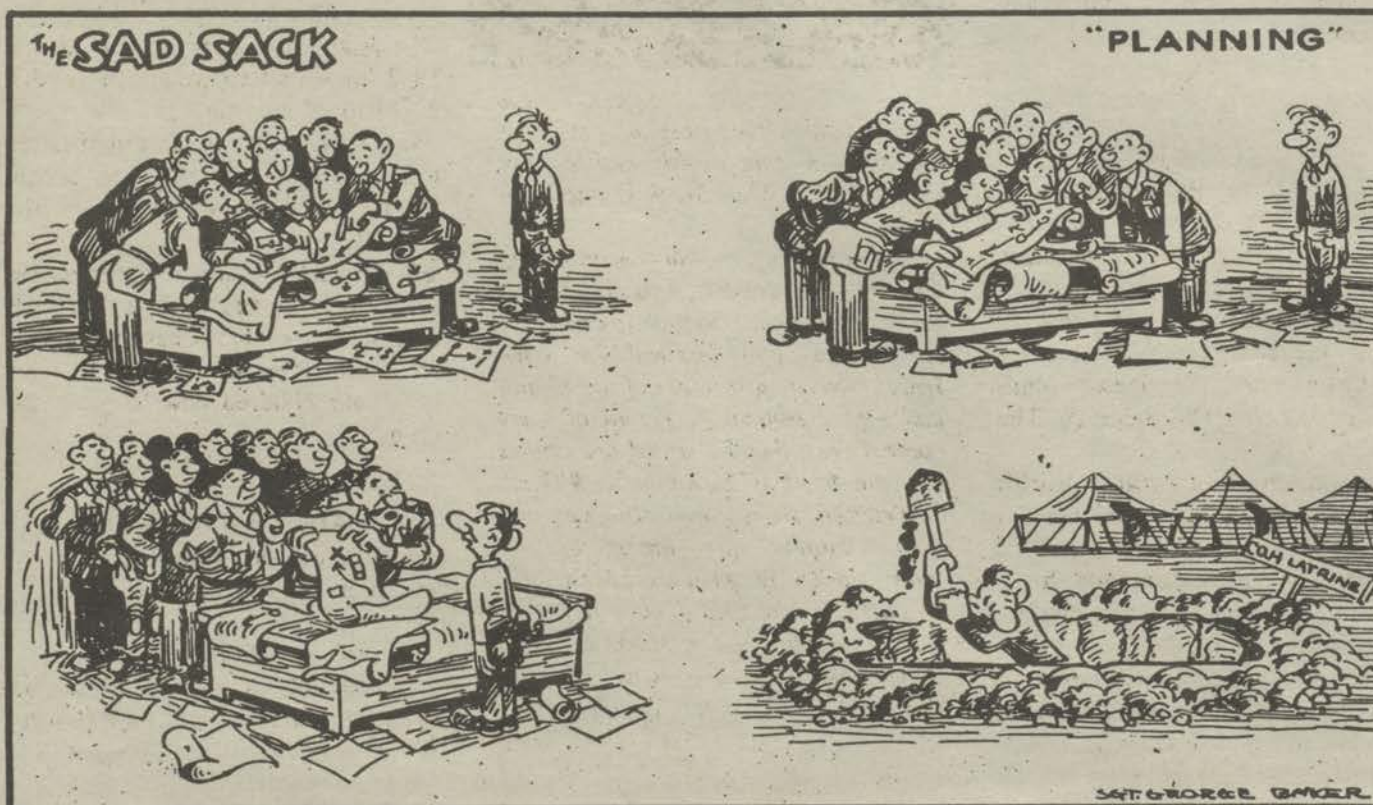
T/Sgt Donald E. LaChance was the flight engineer on the Sturm crew in the 578th. He arrived at Wendling in July, 1944.

From 1949 to 1959, he was in the Army Reserves, serving in various posts in Massachusetts. He retired as M/Sgt. In civilian life, he was a machinist in Vermont and Massachusetts.

Moving to Florida, he was in the construction industry, and then retired as a deputy sheriff in Pinellas County, Florida.

He is married to Dolores, and they live at 8755 Bridle Wood Way, North, Seminole, FL 34647. They have five children, 14 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

YANK The Army Weekly



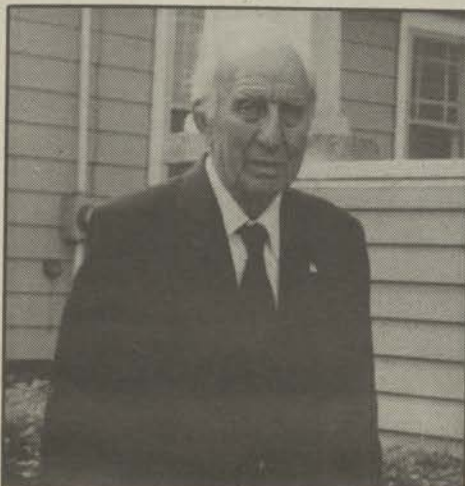
Courtesy the late Capt Charles Taylor, 576/8 Ass't Eng O

TREASURER'S BATON PASSES TO CECIL ROTHROCK

At the Second Air Division meeting in Milwaukee, "Rocky" Rothrock was elected to the Board of Directors, taking the place of J. D. Long, deceased. The Board then elected him Treasurer, replacing Gil Bambauer, resigned.

Characterized by Col Myron Keilman, his former commander, as "one of the best gunners the 579th ever had", and by himself as a country lawyer, Rocky's duties commenced at once.

(See Profiles, this issue, for more information on Rocky)



Rocky Rothrock

Gil Bambauer has not only served as the association Treasurer, but also was the man who kept the flame alive in the 70's and 80's, before we gathered ourselves together into the official 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Association.

Gil said, "I shall attempt to keep in touch with the many friends who have wished me well. My association with the Board members and officers has been a very rewarding experience. I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to all. Please extend the same courtesies to our new Treasurer."

NEW DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

A Directory containing the names of the some 1200 Crusaders that we have been able to locate has been published. It is up to date as of May 1996, and is available from the PX for \$10. (See PX order blank, this issue)

The Directory gives unit, addresses, and phone numbers. It also contains the names and addresses of the several Friends of the 392nd, as well as a growing list of Folded Wings.

DISCOUNTED LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

The processing of annual dues payments takes up valuable time for the Treasurer and the NEWS editor. Therefore, the Association is offering a discount on Life Memberships. If you wish to become a Life Member, and have paid your 1996 dues, you may deduct \$12 from what a Life Membership would have cost at your attained age. If you have paid both 1996 and 1997 dues, you may deduct \$24. THIS IS A ONE-TIME OFFER, AND IT EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 1996.

Name _____ Ground [] Air [] Sqdn _____ Assoc []

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Age 61-65 \$120

Less discount _____

[]

Age 66-70 \$96

Less discount _____

[]

Age 71 and over \$78

Less discount _____

[]

Send with check to Gil Bambauer, 974 Fairway Dr., Dewey, AZ 86327

392nd STAND-ALONE REUNION TO BE AT ORLANDO FEB 23-24, '97

Crusaders will gather at the Clarion Hotel in Orlando on Feb. 23 and 24, 1997, for a stand-alone reunion.

The 2AD Association, Florida chapter, meets at the same place on Sunday, Feb. 22. Thus any Crusader who wishes can attend both affairs, since the 392nd reunion follows on Monday and Tuesday.

The hotel has made a special rate of \$67, plus tax, and will honor that rate for three days before and after.

More complete information will follow in upcoming newsletters.

PROFILE

2/Lt (later Lt/Col) William B. Petree was navigator on the McFarlane crew in the 576th. He arrived at Wendling in January 1945.

He was recalled in 1951, and flew 50 missions in the Korean War. (See accompanying story, "Navigator Finds Korea To Be Not The Same As The ETO")

He was in the 60th Military Airlift Wing at Travis, and flew 39 missions to Viet Nam.

Still active in civilian pursuits, he is risk manager of a high-tech manufacturer in Santa Clara, CA.

His spouse is LaVerne, and they have two children. Their address is 20 Wil-low Rd., #22, Menlo Park, CA.



Teddy Egan photo

Found in the 392nd hospitality room at the 2AD meeting in Milwaukee were Arthur Jensen, Oak Mackey, and Don Bailey.

578th combat crews will remember Sgt Jensen as the squadron's parachute specialist. (And those who took to one of his chutes to save their lives will bless him) Jensen was an early joiner of the 392nd, and kept a meticulous record of every combat crew that he issued parachutes to, from #1, Cliff Edwards, to #97. R. R. Petersen. He is now a widower, and the next birthday up is number 90.

Oak Mackey resigned as 2AD's vice-president for the 392nd in order to be named executive vice-president of 2AD.

Don Bailey was was a radar navigator, flying as a lead navigator with various crews.

PROFILE

S/Sgt Cecil Rothrock was a gunner in the 579th on the Harrison Cassell crew. He was early cadre, joining the 392nd at Davis Monthan Field at Tucson.

His postwar military service was as a Naval officer, and he served at Coronado Naval Air Station at San Diego during the Korean war. He was released to inactive duty to complete his law degree.

He graduated from law school at Lincoln, NE, in 1951. After a few jobs in California, he returned to Wisconsin and practiced law in several positions before becoming corporate counsel for American Motors.

He established a private practice in 1967, known as Rothrock and Kendall, in Bristol, Wisconsin.

He was elected to the Board of Directors and named Treasurer of the 392BGMA at the Milwaukee meeting June 14, 1996.

He is married to Mary, whom he met at Cornell University when they were both students there. They live at 7334 26th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143. They have four children and 12 grandchildren.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Parachute troops used for first time in an American tactical exercise-1941.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Transfer of personnel, bases, and materiel from Army to USAF ordered-1947.

8AFHS REUNION AT ORLANDO OCT 1-6

The information below was taken from the May 1996 issue of the 8AF NEWS. For further information about the reunion, contact 8AF Reunion, PO Box 11327, Norfolk, VA 23517; or Cliff Peterson, 8AF Group vice-president, 2120 Woodcrest Dr., Winter Park, FL 32792, phone 407 647 7741.

The 392nd will have their own hospitality room, and Ernie Barber will be there with the Group's memorabilia. There will be a strong contingent of Crusaders present. The hotel will honor its special rates for three days before and after the reunion, so this is a good opportunity to sample Orlando's many exciting features.

EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REUNION CLARION PLAZA HOTEL, ORLANDO

Tuesday, 10/1

2:00pm - 7:00pm Early bird registration
2:00pm - 10:00pm Gathering room open

Wednesday, 10/2

8:00am - 5:00pm Reunion registration open
8:45am - 4:45pm (Option) Kennedy Space Center
9:00am - 10:00pm Gathering Room open
9:00am - 'Mighty Eighth' Theater open until Saturday afternoon (hours tba)
1:00pm - 4:30pm (Option) Flying Tigers Museum
1:00pm - 5:00pm 'PX' open

Thursday, 10/3

7:00am - 8:30am Extended Continental Breakfast
8:00am - 5:00pm Reunion registration open
9:00am - 11:00pm Gathering room open
9:30am - 4:30pm 'PX' open
TBA (Option) Sea World
TBA (Option) Universal Studios
11:00am - 3:00pm (Option) Church Street Station
1:00pm - 4:00pm Chapter & Unit Development Workshop
6:00pm - 9:30pm King Henry's Feast Dinner Outing

Friday, 10/4

7:00am - 8:30am Extended Continental Breakfast
8:00am - 10:00am Reunion registration open
8:45am - 4:45pm (Option) Kennedy Space Center
9:00am - 10:30am Individual group meetings
9:00am - 3:00pm Gathering room open
TBA (Option) EPCOT Center
TBA (Option) Splendid China
10:00am - 5:00pm 'PX' open
1:00pm - 5:00pm 8th AFMMF Board of Directors annual meeting
2:00pm - 5:00pm Reunion registration open
6:00pm - 7:00pm 8AF Cash Bar Reception
7:00pm - Rendezvous Dinner and 'hangar flying'

Saturday, 10/5

7:00am - 8:30am Full Breakfast Buffet
9:00am - 11:30am General Membership Meeting
10:00am - 4:00pm 'PX' open
1:00pm - 4:00pm (Option) City Tour
1:30pm - 4:30pm Annual 8AFMMF Symposium
5:30pm - 6:30pm Reunion registration open
6:00pm - 7:00pm 8AF Cash Bar Reception
7:15pm - 11:30pm Military Color Guard Ceremony followed by 8AF Gala Banquet and Dance

Sunday, 10/6

7:00am - 8:30am Extended Continental Breakfast
8:30am - 9:00am Catholic and Protestant Services at the hotel
9:00am - 9:30am Memorial Service
9:30am - 8th AFHS Annual Board Meeting

UNTIL NEXT YEAR - IN MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

NAMES (for nametags) _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

8AFHS Membership # _____ Check () if Life Member? PHONE # () _____

WWII Group (for seating arrangements) _____ 1st 8AFHS Reunion? _____

Please note Banquet Choice: # _____ Sliced Beef Tenderloin # _____ Chef's Selection of Fish _____

Meals Section

Package Choice #1 per person \$157 \$ _____

Package Choice #2 per person \$112 \$ _____

Choice #3 - Individual Events

Note: Thurs. dinner is included in Choice #1. Fri. & Sat. dinners are included in #1 and #2 above.

Friday: Rendezvous Dinner (Chicken) per person \$28 \$ _____

Saturday: Banquet & Dance per person \$33 \$ _____

Events Section (Tour Options)

Wednesday: Kennedy Space Center per person \$31 \$ _____

Flying Tigers Museum per person \$16 \$ _____

Thursday: Sea World per person \$45 \$ _____

Universal Studios per person \$45 \$ _____

Church Street Station per person \$12 \$ _____

Friday: Kennedy Space Center per person \$31 \$ _____

EPCOT Center per person \$52 \$ _____

Splendid China per person \$34 \$ _____

Saturday: City Tour per person \$12 \$ _____

Mandatory Registration fee per person \$32 \$ _____

(Reg. fee includes Unit rebates, Symposium, 8AFMMF memorial plans, postage, and a raffle ticket for a special gift)

Enclose Full Payment to 8AF Reunion \$ _____

Registration forms must be received by August 30, 1996.

MAIL TO: 8AF Reunion * P.O. Box 11327 * Norfolk, VA 23517

TRAVEL INFORMATION

If you are flying into Orlando International Airport, many transportation companies offer service to the Clarion. Transtar has agreed to a reduced rate for airport transportation. The current price is \$21 per person roundtrip. However, if you present the coupon at the bottom of this page to the Transtar Ticket Booth, you are entitled to a \$3 discount. After claiming your luggage, go outside to the Transportation Level at both "A" and "B" Terminals. Advance reservations are not necessary, but please call 24 hours prior to your departure from Orlando to schedule a return trip to the airport.

If you are driving, the hotel is located at 9700 International Drive, near the convention center.

From Interstate 4 East, take the Sand Lake Road exit and bear right. Turn right onto International Drive, and the hotel will be on your right after King Henry's Feast and Pizza Hut.

From Interstate 4 West, take the Sand Lake Road exit and bear left. Turn right onto International Drive, and the hotel will be on your right.

If you are driving an RV, there are numerous campgrounds in the area. The Orlando KOA is about twenty minutes from the hotel. Please call 800-999-5267 for more information. You may park your RV in the hotel parking lot while attending hotel functions.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- See choices below and complete the Registration Form. Remit by check or money order made payable to 8AF Reunion by August 30, 1996. Forms received after this date will be accepted on a space available basis only. Please complete the entire form (Member number, WWII group, etc.).
- Canceled check will serve as your receipt, although you are not expected to present it at registration. Confirmations will not be sent.
- After you check into the hotel, report to our registration desk on the 2nd floor to pick up your nametags, tickets, etc.
- Full refund for cancellations received by September 25, 1996. After this date, refund amount will depend on charges made for unused portion of services. Please call 804-625-6401 (9am-5pm EST) if you need to cancel.

MEALS / EVENTS CHOICES

CHOICE #1 TOTAL PACKAGE \$157
Package includes 7 food functions starting with breakfast on Thursday. The Thursday evening dinner outing is available only in this package. Options are separate.

CHOICE #2 PARTIAL PACKAGE \$112
Package includes 5 food functions starting with breakfast on Friday. Options are separate.

CHOICE #3 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS
Friday Rendezvous Dinner \$28 and Saturday Banquet \$33 can be purchased separately.

TOUR OPTIONS

Wednesday: Kennedy Space Center \$31 or Flying Tigers Museum \$16. Thursday: Sea World \$45, Universal Studios \$45, or Church Street Station \$12. Friday: Kennedy Space Center \$31, EPCOT Center \$52, or Splendid China \$34. Saturday: City Tour \$12.

***** CUT HERE *****

8th AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY DISCOUNTED CASH COUPON

\$3 off regular round trip price.
Present this coupon to TRANSTAR AIRPORT SHUTTLE.
The counter collects all cash, and gratuity is not included in the price. Please call 24 hours in advance for transportation back to the airport.
856-7777

***** CUT HERE AND MAIL BOTTOM PORTION TO HOTEL *****
8th AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOTEL RESERVATION FORM - OCT. 1 - 6, 1996

NAME (last) _____ (first) _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE () _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ NUMBER OF NIGHTS IN ROOM _____

SPECIAL REQUESTS

RATE: Singles and Doubles: \$73, Triples: \$87, Quads: \$102 (plus tax, currently 11% + 1% surcharge)

Reservations received after September 2 will be processed on a space available basis.

Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 3 days in advance of arrival date. Be sure to record your cancellation number. Special circumstances will be considered.

Please include first night's deposit by check, travelers check, or credit card to confirm your reservation.

CREDIT CARD # _____ TYPE _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) _____
(CHECK-IN 3PM, CHECK-OUT NOON)

MAIL TO: Reservations * Clarion Plaza Hotel Orlando * 9700 International Drive * Orlando, FL 32819

NAVIGATOR FINDS KOREA TO BE NOT THE SAME AS THE ETO

The role of the navigator on a B-24 bomber in the ETO in WWII was no picnic. Although bombing was generally done in daylight at high altitude, the long steady run from the IP to the target made the bombers sitting ducks for enemy flak and fighters.

1/Lt (later Lt Col) Bill Petree found things a little different in 1952 when he found himself to be navigator on a B-26 in Korea. Missions were flown by single aircraft at night, at tree-top level, and sometimes in hilly terrain.

On the eighth of his 50 missions, the B-26 was bombing and strafing enemy columns attempting to move at night. On its final run, the a/c was hit by ground fire, and Petree was wounded by a shell which exploded in the cockpit, severely damaging the a/c and knocking out the pilot's communication equipment.

In spite of his wounds, Petree navigated the plane to a friendly position, where the 3-man crew bailed out.

They contacted South Koreans who fought off the attacking North Koreans. After 2 1/2 days of hiding, traveling by night, and fighting, they reached an area where a chopper could pick them up.

For this action Petree was awarded the Silver Star.

(See Profile, this issue, for further information about Col Petree)



GLENN MILLER MYSTERY WOMAN IDENTIFIED

This photo, taken at the Glenn Miller concert at Wendling on Aug. 25, 1944, has been in Ernie Barber's collection for some time, but the lady lieutenant in the picture was not named.

Now, thanks to Mary Beth Barnard, archivist at the Mighty 8AF Heritage Museum at Savannah, she has been identified. She is the former Lt Nancy Luce, a cryptographic officer at 14th Combat Wing. She was in charge of the cryptography at all three 14 CW bases, and on account of that a frequent visitor to Wendling. Now Mrs. Hugh Van Epps, she is the wife of a retired Navy flier, living in Pensacola, FL.

Nancy related to the NEWS that she was in the audience that day, and Glenn Miller asked her to come forward to draw names in a War Bond promotion.

The announcer in the picture is Capt Emmett Fore, 392 Special Services Officer. Between Capt Fore and Lt Luce can be seen (the NEWS thinks) the face of the late Johnny Desmond, the famous singer.

PX ITEMS

Book, "392nd War Stories", by Col Myron Keilman, 579th, \$21.50 postpaid	\$
Book, "The Liberators From Wendling", by Col Bob Vickers, 578th, \$28.00 postpaid	\$
Book, "Crew Dog", by Maj John Matt, 579th, \$28.95 postpaid	\$
Cap, black, 392nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, summer, \$10.50 postpaid	\$
Cap, black, 392nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, winter, \$10.50 postpaid	\$
Cap, blue, 392nd Bomb Group w/B-24 and Crusader logo, \$10.50 postpaid	\$
Directory, May 1966, \$10 postpaid	\$
Jacket, white nylon, w/392BG and Crusader patches, \$26 postpaid (Circle size wanted) M L XL XXL	\$
Patch, 392nd Bomb Group logo, \$1.50 postpaid	\$
Print, "The Flying Crusader", by Frederick T. Searle, signed, reduced to \$16.50 postpaid	\$
TOTAL	\$

Send with check to Cecil Rothrock, Treas., 7334 26th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143

Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, "The Early Days" \$17.50 postpaid
 Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, "The Ground Support Teams Prepare For A Mission" \$17.50 postpaid
 Video, Symposium above, "The Tough Missions, Pt 1: Bremen, Keil, Gotha, Freidrichshafen Both parts \$27.50 pp
 Video, Symposium above, "The Tough Missions, Pt 2: Politz, Berlin, Bernberg, Bingen, Wesel Both parts \$27.50 pp
 Video, from Albuquerque Reunion Symposium, general scenes from the reunion, 2 parts, \$27.50 pp
 (ORDER VIDEOS DIRECT FROM DAN A. MCGOVERN PRODUCTIONS, 5307 CANTANTE, LAGUNA HILLS CA 92653)

RUDE WELCOME TO ETO: SHOT DOWN BEFORE 1ST MISSION

Arnold Dovey, 579th navigator, has the dubious distinction of being shot down before ever being assigned to a combat mission.

It happened on May 8, 1944. Dovey, not yet assigned to the 392nd, was with a group of Mickey navigators on a training mission out of the 44th BG. The only gunners aboard were the flight engineer and the radio operator; the rest of the crew was the pilot and co-pilot, with no bombardier.

Dovey recounts that it was about noon, and they were at about 23,000 feet, doing their thing with the Mickey equipment. No one expected enemy action, and no look-outs had been posted.

Suddenly they were under fire, taking hits in the tail. The a/c went out of control, and the bail-out was sounded.

The pilot did not survive the jump, and the radio operator was killed, but the rest of the occupants of the plane reached the ground safely. They landed near Acle, between Great Yarmouth and Norwich.

Dovey left the a/c by the bomb bay, but was injured by the premature opening of his chute. He spent about a month in the hospital, recovering.

He went to duty with the 44th, but was transferred to the 392nd on July 29, 1944, and flew with the Cassell lead crew in the 579th. He finished his tour on March 23, 1945.

WORD FROM ROGER FREEMAN ON "YMCA FLYING SERVICE"

The NEWS has carried in its last two issues stories about the 577th's a/c that were named "YMCA Flying Service".

A letter belatedly received from Roger Freeman, the noted English author and historian, indicates that the facts reported were true. Roger, with his inexhaustible hoard of 8AF information, added that the first a/c was christened in November 1944 by 17-year old Maureen Mayne of Norwich, who was one of the young ladies who served on the YMCA tea wagon.

Roger, and the NEWS, wonder what ever happened to Maureen Mayne.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

P-47s escorting B-17s on a raid on Germany set a distance record of over 600 miles-1943.

392ND WAS WELL REPRESENTED AT 2AD MILWAUKEE

The Second Air Division Association met for their 49th annual convention at Milwaukee June 13-16. The 392BGMA also met, naming Cecil Rothrock to be Treasurer and J. Fred Thomas to be Group vice-president. (See accompanying stories, this issue)

Crusaders who were in attendance were: Louis Affinito and Kay; Don Bailey and Marlyce; Ernie Barber; Joe Bonanno and Anne; John Conrad and Wanda; Arnold Dovey and Cleome; Charley Dye and Helen.

Also, Teddy Egan, Lawrence Gilbert and Marjie; Jim Goar and Virginia; Fred Hollien and Lorraine; Arthur Jensen and nephew David with wife Virginia; Myron Keilman and Blanche; Oak Mackey and Maxine, Jim Marsteller.

Also, Matt Mateski and Marge; Cliff Peterson and Mary; Ed Popek and Erma; John Rosenberg and Marie with guests Roy and Irene Davis; Cecil Rothrock and Mary; Bill Singleton and Thelma; J. Fred Thomas; and Harry Vanconcellos and Edythe.

PROFILE

2/Lt Jack Kaplan was the navigator on the Barnett crew in the 577th. He joined the 392nd at Wendling in November 1943 and was shot down Feb. 24, 1944. He was POW at Barth.

He is a retired restaurateur.

His wife is Lee, and they live at 400 E. 56th St., New York, NY 10022. They have three daughters.



MIGHTY EIGHTH AF HERITAGE MUSEUM OPENS

"The largest gathering of 8AF veterans ever," mused Sherman Small, 8AF Historical Society director, when some 4,000 former 8AF members and their families attended the opening of the new Museum at Savannah, GA., on May 13, 1996.

Featuring a 100,000 volume capacity library, huge archives, memorial gardens, an art gallery, meeting and study rooms, a gift shop, and a snack bar, as well as a huge exhibit area, the 90,000 square foot Museum is located at the intersection of Interstate 95 and US Highway 80 (Exit 18) in the town of Pooler, Ga.

Crusaders attending the opening noted that much construction work on the outside remains to be done, and there is unfinished work in the Museum itself. However, the main exhibits were in place and were outstanding in character.

The most popular and moving exhibit was the Mission Experience Theatre. Visitors get a mission briefing in a Nissan hut constructed from an original WWII hut brought over from England. Then the visitors move into the Mission Experience Theatre where they "fly" a lifelike WWII mission recreated through the use of film, sound and huge screens. Realistic? A blast of air hits the faces of the audience when the bomb bay doors open.

The Museum promises to be a fitting memorial to the more than 350,000 people who served in the 8AF during WWII, as well as the remainder of the more than one million men and women have served in it from its birth in Savannah in 1942 to the present day.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

You can tell where you stand with your dues by the code right after your name on the label of the newsletter. If is LM (for Life Membership) or 96 or higher, you're paid up. If Frnd is after your name, you're our guest. If there is an error, contact Cecil Rothrock.

The Board of Directors has ruled that no Crusader will be denied membership because of financial difficulty, so if you are in straitened circumstances check the Hardship Waiver Box. Fill out the form below and send it in now!

Name _____ Ground [] Air [] Sqdn _____ Assoc []

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Age 61-65 \$120

Age 66-70 \$96

Age 71 and over \$78

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[]

[]

PHYLLIS DUBOIS, 2ADA NORWICH LIBRARIAN, IS RESIGNING IN FALL

Phyllis, after eight years' faithful service to the the Memorial Library in Norwich, is resigning her post on 31 August.

She is resigning, not retiring, because she will continue to serve the Library on a part-time basis. Her first task will be to revise the 2AD archive inventory, making it more user-friendly, correcting errors, and adding the 300 deposits that the Library has received since the inventory was last made in 1992.

She has asked the NEWS to urge any Crusaders who may be considering sending copies of their wartime memorabilia to the Norwich Library send it to her within the next few months.

She only wants paper items: photographs, diaries, memoirs, orders, formation sheets, information on base activities (celebrations, sporting events, etc.) Send copies, not originals of papers, and, if possible, laser prints of photos.

Most of us are in our 70's and time's a-wastin'. Your memorabilia could die with you, because your family might not know what to send or where to send it. Wartime paper and photos do not last forever, especially if they are in the possession of family members or private collectors who do not store them in proper archival conditions. If you deposit copies of these documents with the Memorial Library you can be sure that your descendants, researchers, and local Norfolk people know about what you accomplished in World War II.

Please send material to her at the Library or to her home at 22 Hungate St., Aylsham, Norwich, NR11 6AA, England.

And don't forget that the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum at Savannah is also looking for the same range of material. Send a copy to both places. (Mighty 8AF Museum, PO Box 1992, Savannah, GA 31402, attention Mary Beth Barnard.)

HUMOR-PURE STEPHENS

If you're lucky enough to be around Lou Stephens, 578th pilot, ask him about the duck that flew backwards; and the heart-rending story of the tractor buddies, Johnny Deere and Freddie Ford and their girl friend, Alice Chalmers.

In his relaxed moments, (which according to wife Delores is most of the time) Lou is a pure Middle Western philosopher and comedian.

Send with check to Cecil Rothrock, 7334 26th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143

WIDOW OF MAJOR SCHOOLMASTER, 577TH COMMANDER, IS FOUND

Recently the Group has been in contact with Mrs. Janet Engelmann, the widow of Maj Clinton Schoolmaster. Schoolmaster was lost on May 25, 1944.

Since remarried and again widowed, Mrs. Engelmann has become an associate member of 392BGMA, and has said that her contact with the Association has made a great difference in her life, knowing that there are people who knew and remember Maj Schoolmaster.

Schoolmaster joined the Group in Tucson, and after holding several staff positions became commander of the 577th in January, 1944.

He later transferred to the 14th Combat Wing, and was reported missing after take-off from Halesworth in a P-47. He was helping the a/c form for an operational mission.

Before the war, the Schoolmasters attended the University of Delaware, where Maj Schoolmaster was a physical education major. He was Delaware state diving champion for three years.

They were married at Alamogordo in August, 1942, and Janet traveled with



*Janet and Clinton Schoolmaster
Orlando, March 23, 1943*

him until the air echelon departed for England in August 1943.

PROFILE

S/Sgt James E. Harvell was the tail gunner on the Barnes crew in the 576th, arriving at Wendling in August 1944.

He was employed by Western Electric and Virginia Electric and Power Company. Now retired, he is active in

church affairs. He is also Treasurer of the Virginia chapter of 8AFHS.

His wife is Ina Rae, and they live at 11200 Misty Hollow Road, Midlothian, VA 23112. They have six children and seven grandchildren.

PROFILE

M/Sgt Jerome F. Hough was flight engineer on the Crowell crew in the 576th. He joined the 392nd at Wendling in November, 1944.

Postwar, he earned a B.S. in electrical engineering and was a staff engineer at Ford Motor Company at Dearborn, MI. He retired in 1980.

He is married to Winnie, and they reside at 19249 Pinecrest Dr., Allen Park, MI 48101. They have two children and one granddaughter.

PROFILE

Pfc Charles H. Jacobson was in the communications section of the 578th. He arrived at Wendling Jan. 15, 1944.

After leaving the service he joined Illinois Bell as an installer, and was a manager when he retired in 1984.

His spouse is Dolores, and their address is 450 Plum Creek #503, Wheeling, IL 60090. They have two children and nine grandchildren.



Teddy Egan photo

Present at the 2AD meeting at Milwaukee were Associate member Jim Marsteller and his guest Bob Books. Marsteller is the nephew of S/Sgt E. N. (Jim) Morris, who was KIA March 18 on the Friedrichshafen mission. Bob Books is the son of Dallas Books, the pilot, who was also KIA.

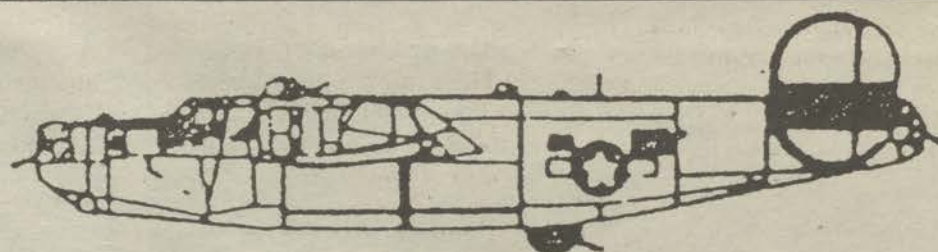
PROFILE

S/Sgt Roy H. Grimm was the right waist gunner ("and chaff thrower") on the Twining crew in the 578th and 579th. He joined the Group at Wendling in July 1944.

He retired from the construction business in 1982.

His wife is Virginia, aka Rusty, and their address is 5218 Pine Way, Durham, NC 27712. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Here's your first chance to order the new **392nd Bomb Group (H) Anthology: 20th Century Crusaders**



Over 100 authors, including Ian Hawkins and Ernie Barber, have contributed to this new anthology, edited by Bill and Marge Braddock of Blaine, MN. There are personal stories of bombing missions, aerial dogfights, air-sea rescues, aircraft crashes, life-saving parachute bail-outs, captures by the enemy, evasions, escapes, resistance fighters' assistance to downed airmen and airmen returning to England.

Many rare photographs also will be featured, as well as many maps and charts of the 392nd's areas of operation. This 9x12-inch hardbound edition is slated to feature a full-color cover of the exciting print, "Liberators from Wendling." To keep this collector's item in perfect shape, it will be printed on high-quality, glossy acid-free paper for superior photo reproduction and longevity, and will have a Smyth-sewn library-quality binding for durability.

Turner Publishing Company, "The Front Line of Military History Books" and one of the foremost publishers of military and specialty titles in the country, expects publication in the winter of 1997.

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FOLDED WINGS REPORT (PLEASE REPORT ANY DEATH OF SPOUSE AS WELL AS OF MEMBER)

Name of deceased _____ Sqdn. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of death _____ Survivors: (Send copy of obit from newspaper if possible) _____

Reported by _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

[] Record a memorial contribution to 392nd BGMA in my name, check made out to 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n., enclosed. Send this report to Jim Goar, 5 N. Columbia St., Frankfort, IN 46041.

NEWS

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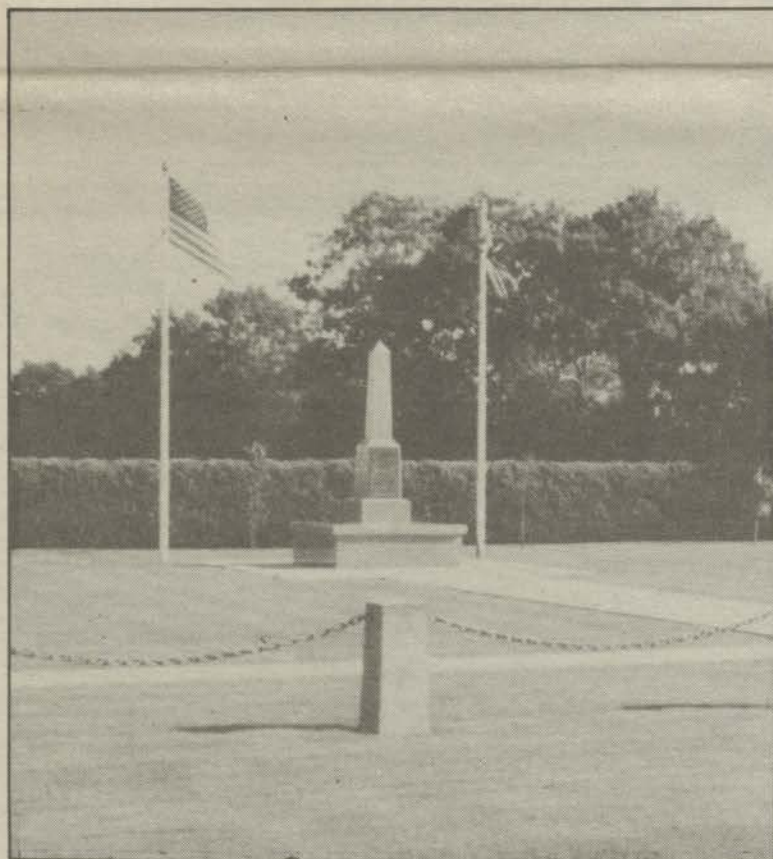
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THE 392nd MEMORIAL AT WENDLING

Almighty God, Who has blessed us with the will and courage to do our duty, we praise You for our comrades whose death kept freedom living. We praise You also for giving us the years we have lived since their departure. We pray that You will strengthen and sustain our devotion to truth and justice, so that we may be faithful beneficiaries of their sacrifice. Continue Your mercy to our comrades; keep them in Your care; and bring us all at last into Your presence there to rejoice eternally. Amen.

-Prayer composed by 576th pilot the Very Reverend Robert C. Martin, retired Dean of the Cathedral at Erie, Pa.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By George Barger, Chaplain

Do you remember our two chaplains at the 392nd, quite different from one another, but both came to each mission briefing? Chapl. McDonough was a Roman Catholic, quite gregarious, outgoing, and the possessor of a great sense of humor. I am told that it was he who began the practice of offering Holy Communion to crew members at briefing. Chapl. Clark was quiet, somewhat introverted, and very patient. At the edge of our awareness was a vague consciousness that life could be limited; and their presence a reminder to consider that, but to remember as well the hope that comes with faith. Thanks to them.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

First transcontinental air crossing made within a single day-1922.

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Berlin Airlift officially terminated-1949.

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But we..shall be remembered;

**We few,
we happy few,
we band of
brothers;**

**For he to-day
that sheds his
blood with me**

**Shall be
my brother...**

William Shakespeare
Henry V

FOLDED WINGS

Richard K. Crowell, 579, Mar. 19, 1996
Lloyd Byam, 576, June 5, 1996
Raymond G. Emery, Jan. 7, 1996
John Frey, March 1996
Joseph J. Jackson, 576, 1992
Norman Spitzer, 576, 1990
Harold G. Finch, Hq., July 4, 1996
Wayne Byers, 578, May 31, 1996
Ray Argast, 577, June 1994
George W. Kent
Delmar G. McCully, 1994

PROFILE

1/Lt Michael Karas was co-pilot on the Teipel crew in the 577th. He arrived at Wendling in November 1944.

Now retired, he worked as a CPA for US Steel, now known as USX.

He is married to Mary, and their address is 9419 Almar Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. They have three children and four grandchildren.

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