





392nd BG Memorial Association

VOLUME 13

MAY 1998

BRONZE B-24 AT AF ACADEMY ASSURED

COL. MYRON H. KEILMAN, COMMANDER 579TH SQUADRON

Col Myron Keilman died Feb. 13, 1998 at Sacramento, CA., after a valiant 3-year fight against cancer. He was 81.

He leaves Blanche, his wife of 54 years, and two sons, Guy and Gary, both employed as commercial pilots.

Capt Keilman arrived at Wendling in August 1943 with the original cadre as Operations Officer of the 579th. The 579th's commander, Major Donald Appert, was lost on the Group's third mission on Oct. 4. Capt Keilman was then promoted to Major and assumed command of the 579th, a position he held until the war's end in May, 1945.

He flew a total of 43 combat missions, almost all of them as Command Pilot of the 579th, which often led the 392nd Bomb Group, the 14th Combat Wing, and, on occasion, the Second Air Division.

In September of 1944, all of the 392nd's lead crews were placed in the 579th. This was done to standardize the training of the lead crews under the tutelage and superb leadership of Maj Keilman.

He remained in the Air Force after the war, and during that phase of his service he fathered Forestry fire bombing, and saw duty with SEATO and as liason with the Saudi Air Force. He retired as Colonel.

Always active and interested in the world around him, he went on many Nature Expedition trips, including a visit to the Antarctic.

He and Blanche traveled to England at least two times since 1945. In 1989, it was for the re-dedication of the refurbished Group Memorial at Wendling. In 1995, he and Blanche were among the Crusaders



Col Myron Keilman at Wendling in 1945, upon the occasion of his being awarded the French Croix-de-Guerre. (The NEWS thanks Ann Horn, widow of T/Sgt Tom Horn, Grp Armament, for this photo.)

who returned to Norwich and Wendling to celebrate the 50th anniversary of VE Day.

Col Keilman was a native of Hobson, Montana, and graduated from the University of Montana in 1940 with a degree in forestry.

The funeral was held at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, where he had been the parish gardener. "The only parish I know of that had a full colonel as its gardener", remarked son Guy.

Crusaders present at the funeral were Oak Mackey, J. Fred Thomas, Roland Sabourin, Harry White, Charles Neundorf, Bill Long, Bob Berger, and Don Clover.

Col Lawrence Gilbert, former commander of the 392nd and CEO of its Memorial Association, said "Doc Keilman was an original member of our Group and an original in in every sense. He was a dedicated commander, extremely conscientious and concerned with the welfare of his people, and a true leader. In our Group Memorial Association, he was unfailingly supportive and a vital contributor in perpetuating our history. We will miss him."

Oak Mackey, 392nd pilot and presently President of the Second Air Division Association, said "Col Myron H. Keilman was an excellent soldier and a dedicated leader, he was a good man, he was a good friend to all in the 392nd Bomb Group, he was truly one of a kind. He will be missed and remembered for a very long time."

J. Fred Thomas, one of Myron's pilots in the 570th, said "Myron's passing certainly leaves a void in our lives. A fine man gone. We will miss him, as will a great number of people."

Jim Goar, a ground officer at Wendling and presently editor of the 392 BGMA NEWS, said, "I looked in my newsletter files and found a note that I had written to myself

CAMPAIGN GOES OVER THE TOP

Neal Sorenson, Treasurer of the group that organized to fund the B-24 replica at the AF Academy, has announced that the fund raising campaign was a success.

Dedication ceremonies are scheduled for Sept. 25 at 1000 hours.

The names of Col Rendle, Col Gilbert, and Col Keilman will be snown on the plaque accompanying the B-24. This was accomplished by the deployment of the personal checkbooks of a few concerned Crusaders.

before becoming re-acquainted with Myron after the war, so this note is truly the way I remember him from serving with him at Wendling: He was was a man of somewhat slight build, with a quick step and a determined visage."

(The NEWS thanks Oak Mackey, J. Fred Thomas, and Roland Sabourin for their help in compiling this report.)

AIR ANNIVERSARY
First fighter-escorted mission made
by B-29's against Japan-1945.

AIR ANNIVERSARY 375 B-17's and B-24's made first heavy air attack on Budapest-1944.

EUROPEAN MEMORIALS TO FALLEN CRUSADERS



Photo courtesy Bernard Ballanger

At Montlieu-la-Garde, France McKee Crew

FRENCH, DUTCH NOTE SACRIFICES OF US AIRMEN

French villagers have erected at monument to the 578th's McKee crew, shot down on Dec. 31,1943, on a mission to St. Jean D'Angley. The Dutch in 1995 dedicated an impressive memorial to a band of Resistance fighters, one of whom was S/Sgt John E. McCormick. He was a member of the 578th's Walker crew that had crash-landed nearby, and he had joined the Resistance group while evading capture. The memorial was designed by Mrs. Corry Ammerlaan, a Dutch artist; Elmer Duerr, a surviving member of the Walker crew, was present a few days after the dedication and placed a wreath at the monument.



At Zoetermeer, Holland S/Sgt John E. McCormick

McKee Crew

The McKee crew was one of the 578th's original crews and was an early 392nd loss. The tail gunner, S/Sgt Anthony Malavasic, was the only survivor and was POW. He survived the war, and passed away in 1986. The nine men listed as KIA are: P, 1/Lt Thomas R. McKee; CP, 2/Lt Thomas G. Walker, N. 2/Lt Robert S. Dinsmore; B, 2/Lt Les Simons; RO, T/Sgt Thomas C. Morrison; E, T/Sgt Ward M.. Sackal; WG, S/Sgt Horace G. Murphy, Jr.; WG, Sgt. Marion E. Musum; BG, S/Sgt Richard D. Painter.

A crewman from one of the returning ships reported that "the plane blew up going to the target area". S/Sgt Maiavasic's report after the war said, "The ship left the bomber formation over the target at about 1215 hours, altitude 18,000 ft, (though not available in the single page report, it is presumed that enemy fighter attacks caused this aircrew's downing) that all other crewmen were in their respective

positions either seriously wounded or dead at the time of the plane's destruction; and that the a/c struck the ground about 20 miles from the target."

Walker Crew

The 392nd's target on Feb. 22, 1945, was the marshalling yards at Norhausen. The Walker ship was heavily damaged by flak, and the crew, attempting to reach Allied lines in France, nevertheless were forced to crash-land in enemy held Holland. Most suffered only minor injuries, but S/Sgt Hicks experienced a broken shoulder and leg.

Four of the crew were captured by the Germans, and five evaded. One of the evadees, S/Sgt McCormick, joined the Dutch Resistance but was killed on April 29, five days before the war was over, when the Germans surrounded the Resistance Group's hide-out.

The other evadees, 1/Lt Walker, 1/Lt Donohue, 2/Lt Casstevens, and S/Sgt Duerr were hidden by the Dutch Resistance until the Germans in Holland capitulated on May 4.

The loading list for the mission was: P, 1/Lt Joseph R. Walker, Jr.; CP, 2/Lt Ralph C. Casstevens; B-N, 1/Lt John A. Donahue, NG, S/Sgt Harold A. Shea; RO, Sgt. Francis R. Nagle; E, S/Sgt Allan W. Hicks; WG, S/Sgt John E. McCormick; WG, S/Sgt John A. H. Lingle; TG, S/Sgt Elmer E. Duerr.

To the best knowledge of the NEWS, Duerr, Nagle, and Donahue have at one time or another returned to Holland for visits.

(The NEWS is indebted to Cliff Peterson, President of 392BGMA, whose correspondence with Bernard Ballanger resulted in the McKee crew story; and to Leo Wery, a resident of Savannah and a docent at the Mighty 8th Heritage Museum for present and past help with the Walker crew story. And, as always, the NEWS leans heavily on the material found in Bob Vickers' two books.)

392BGMA ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD DURING 2AD MEET AT CHICAGO

The 2AD Association's annual reunion is scheduled for May 23-26 at Oak Brook, a suburb of Chicago.

Col Lawrence Gilbert, CEO of 392BGMA, announced that, in accordance with our custom of alternating our annual meetings between 2AD and 8AF, the annual meeting of 392BCMA will be on

Sunday, May 24, at 0900. The Board of Directors will meet on Saturday at 1500.

Evelyn Cohen, 2AD secretary, told the NEWS that they are expecting about 500, and "if you want to come, call me right away." Her phone number is 215-632-3992.

REPORT FROM DENIS DUFFIELD, **OUR MAN AT** WENDLING

Denis Duffield grew up around Wendling and with wife Hilary has been for years the 392nd's contact there. He makes himself available when possible to greet and escort visiting Crusaders or their families.

Each year he furnishes the NEWS with a list of the year's visitors. His note said, "We are all fine here. We had a good turnout of local people for Remembrance Day service at the Wendling Memorial. Wreaths were laid by the British Legion and also by a U. S. Lt/Col from Lakenheath. This was on Nov. 9, and the weather was very kind to us, most usual for that time of year."

Denis recounted the visitors he had

SGT ART JENSEN

If you were in the 578th and ever had to exit your aircraft by parachute, Sgt Art Jensen probably had something to do with your reaching the ground safely.

He was the 578th's parachute rigger. He was a decade or so older than most of us, and he kept a a meticulous record of the chutes that he issued to the crews. These records helped the Association greatly when we started to piece together the 392nd, years after the war ended.

Art died at the age of 91 in Kenosha, WI., on March 11, 1998.

WEED-ROBINSON

Toni Robinson, widow of L. D. Robinson, and Oscar Weed, 579th pilot, were married at Winter Park, FL on Feb. 20.



Mr. And Mrs. Oscar Weed



Bob Vickers and Denis Duffield at the Ploughshare.

seen in 1997: Fred and Elva Thomas, Oak and Maxine Mackey, Bob Vickers, and Bob Lane's grandson and a friend. Denis took them to the Beeston church to see where his grandfather and grandmother were married in 1945.

Other visitors were a grandson of Bernard Paroly, and John Henning and his son.

On April 16, 1998, Denis and Phyllis DuBois welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Manny Abrams, 579th

HILLS CA 92653)

Now Available at 392nd PX



Over 100 authors, including Ian Hawkins and Ernie Barber, have contributed to this new anthology, edited by Bill and Marge Braddock. 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

\$57.50 postpaid, order from PX order blank contained in this paper.

Also, a new video containing all of 392nd's memorabilia photos. \$17.50 postpaid, order from PX order blank in this paper.

PX ITEMS

Anthology, "20th Century Crusaders", \$57.50 postpaid \$	
Book, "Remembrance of The Missing", by Vickers, \$35 postpaid\$	
Book, "392nd War Stories", by Keilman, \$21.50 postpaid	
Book, "The Liberators From Wendling", by Vickers, \$28.00 postpaids	
Book, "Crew Dog", by Maj John Matt, 579th, \$28,95 postpaid	
Book, "Country Boy Combat Bomber Pilot". By Tays. \$13.50 postpaids	
Book, "My Combat Diary", by Cranson, \$13.50 postpaid\$	
Cap, black, 392nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, summer, \$10.50 pp. \$	
Cap, black, 392nd Bomb Group w/gold braid, winter, \$10.50 pp\$	
Directory, May 1996, \$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", reduced to \$16.50 postpaid \$	
Video, 392nd's memorbilia photos, \$17.50 postpaid\$	
TOTAL \$	
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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

THE WAR AS SEEN FROM THE AIR:



March 24, 1944, St. Dozier: 26 plane mission, 577th leading. Command pilot was the late Gen Leon Johnson, 14 CW commander. Take-off at 0620. The primary target, an airfield at Metz, was obscured by clouds and the St. Dozier airfield nearby was bombed as an alternative target. 312 500# bombs impacted the target, causing extensive damage to the main shop areas of the airdrome. No enemy a/c encountered, AA fire light. All a/c returned to base around 1400 with 2 damaged by flak.



May 25, 1944, Belfort: A two-pronged mission with the first wave assigned gun emplacements at Fecamp and the second the marshalling yards at Belfort. The Belfort mission, 28 ships from the 576th and 579th squadrons with Lts George Jackson and John Rodriquez as bombardiers, took off at 0615. Bombing results were fair. No fighters were encountered, but 7 a/c suffered flak damage. All a/c were back on the ground around 1800.

GROUP PHOTO-INTERPRETER SENDS PHOTOS

T/Sgt Paul Wright was the Group's photo-interpreter, and he recently reached down into his foot-locker and sent us some of his aerial photos that were shot during the 392nd's 1943-45 visit to Europe.

The NEWS chose a few that would reproduce best in newsprint. There are more that the NEWS will print in subsequent editions, some with notorious targets: Berlin, Hamburg, Kassell.

The NEWS thanks Bob Vickers for the use of mission narratives taken from his book, "The Liberators From Wendling".

The Group's aerial photographers didn't confine their efforts to strike photos. Also included in Paul Wright's collection are some interesting shots of a/c in flight, and some of them are included in this "photo essay".



Unidentified a/c on the March 17, 1945 mission to Münster, dropping through 10/10 cloud cover.



Unidentified a/c on the Jan. 1, 1945 mission to Dortmund. (Note the snow cover on the ground).

STRIKE PHOTOS OF 1944 MISSIONS



Paul Wright

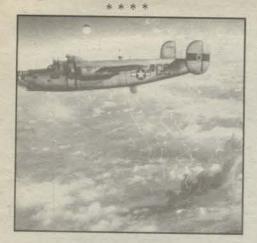
T/Sgt Paul Wright, Hq., was an early joiner of the 392nd, being assigned to the Group at Tucson.

He was in S-2, the Group photo-interpreter.

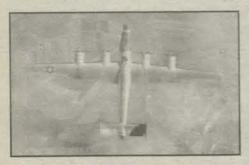
After the war he finished college at Kansas State, graduating with a degree in architecture.

His life work was in housing design and engineering, being the architect and engineer in firms engaged in factory construction of housing. He has lived in Sedalia, MO, Denver, CO, and Ft. Morgan, CO.

His spouse is V. Ilene Wright, and they live at 718 E. 10th St., Sedalia, MO 65301. They have a son, a daughter, and one grandson.



A/C # 42-51958, Bar-O in the 579th, on the March 3, 1945 mission to Magdeburg. (Note the smoke markers and the PFF equipment extended from the belly of the a/c). It survived the war and was returned to the US. (It was also assigned to the 577th, where it was marked S Plus.)



Unidentified a/c on the June 29, 1944 mission to Magdeburg.



August 16, 1944, Kothen: An industrial target in this suburb near Koblenz was the assigned target. 36 ships, take-off at 0650. The primary was visual and bombing results were excellent with 93% impacting within a 2000 foot radius of the MPI. No enemy fighters were engaged but flak was intense and accurate. All ships returned around 1415 hours with 17 damaged.



August 19, 1944, Nancy-Essey Airfield: 576th and 579th squadron shared leads in this mission. 24 ships, take-off at 1110. All 24 ships went over the target, dropping 288 500# GP's with very good results. No flak or fighters were encountered and all a/c returned safely around 1900.

VICKERS CREW RETURNS TO SCENE OF



Jarnisy

Parti ce 16 janvier 1945 pour bombarder les environs de Dresde, jamais le B 24 Liberator américain nº 121 ne revit la base d'Angleterre d'où il avait décollé. A son bord, les aviateurs firent pris dans un déluge de feu alors qu'ils reve-naient de mission. L'histoire n'a pas retenu le nom de ces petits gars d'Amérique qui, par un après-midi d'hiver, ou-vraient leur parachute dans le ciel de Mouaville alors que

Welcome in Mouaville!

leur avion s'écrasait en terre de France. L'istoire non, mais la mémoire collective st. Ainsi demain et le 16 janvier. Bob Vickers. Keith Roberts et William Nock seront-ils accueillis en héros dans le petit village du Jarnisy. Ces irois-id incarnant tous leurs compagnons d'arme tombés sur une plage de Normandie, fauchés en libérant Paris, mortellement blessés à l'approche de Berlin...

Cinquante-trois ans après sa "mésaventure"; le trio revient sur les traces de son passé, de sa jeunesse. Sûr que lout aira changé depuis l'attertissage forcé des Yankees, mais qu'importe. A chacun de se faire le récit noir et blanc de cette journée, digne d'un film de guarre. Aventure doni les acteurs ne jouaient pas la comédie mais combattaient pour la liberié. Il était une fois un B 24 de l'US Air Force...





Trois aviateurs américains sur le sol de Mouaville

Il y a 53 ans, trois aviateurs de l'US Air Force étaient contraints de sauter de leur bombardier en flammes au-dessus de Mouaville. Demain, ils seront de retour dans le village comme en ce 16 janvier 1945.

Fausses pistes

Quand en mai 1994, un dea trois Américains du B 24 Liberator est revenu en France, c'est à Doncouri-lès-Conflanns que l'ancien de l'US Air Force etait persuadé d'avoir atterri en parachute. Sar de lui, il reconnaît même les maisons où il a été accuellit en 1945. Hic : aucun bombardier ne s'est crashé sur la commune en date du 16 janvier 1945... Bernard Michel (\(\text{\text{Mire ci-deusous}\), assisté d'in autre historien local, Louis Gutvein, se mettent donc à fouiner pour retrouver la trace de l'accident si cher au coeur du soldal. A Doncouri-lès-Longuyon, un autre B 24 c'est bien écrasé courant 1945, mais début mai. Il faut donc chercher alleurs. A Doncouri-aux-Templiers, en Meuse, ce sont deux forteresses volanies B 17 qui ont mordu la poussière entre 44 et 45. Nouvelle investigation. C'est finalement M. Falsetti, rédacteur du bulletin "Mémoire du Pays de l'Orne" qui mettra fin à loutes ces recherches après avoir la l'ouvrage du Dr Mangin "De la Mouse à la Moselle avec l'Armée Patton". Dans ce dernier, quelques lignes évoquent la certerouve son vraf passé ; les Américains peuvent

En souvenir de la mission du 16 janvier 1945

Parti d'Angleterre pour bombarder un site en Allemagne, le B 24 Libérator baptisé "Niagara Spécial" ne retourna jamais à sa base de départ. Il y a 53 ans, l'appareil américain se crashait à Mouaville. Flash-back.

a mission était délicate, pas impossible. Comme S9 autres appareils, le B 24 Libérator nº 251 pi- alorte par Bob Vickers avait pris son envol du sud-est de l'Angleterre dans le frais matin du 16 janvier 1945. Objectif: bombarder le complexe de raffinage pétroller de Ruhand, tout près de Dresde. L'appareil n'a po longtemps compter sur l'assistance des chasseurs P/51 Mustaing qui avaient re- joint l'escadrille an-dessaus de la mer du Nord. En raison d'un epais brouillard et de fumées sur l'assistance des chasseurs P/51 Mustaing qui avaient re- joint l'escadrille an-dessaus de la mer du Nord. En raison d'un epais brouillard et de fumées sur l'objectif visé, les plans avaient et revus en cours de mission. Finalement, l'appareil était partipilonner des installations industrielles à Werminghoff.

Mais la DCA germanique n'a pas laisse les bombardiers survoler l'Allernagne sans réagir. Le Niagara Spécial ser de cible à la Flak, « Les morceaux de métal heurtaient le "Niagara Spécial" avec un bruit de grêle sur un toit de tôle », se souvient encore le navigateur Keith Robetts. Les

ANGUETERRE

Norwich

au milieu de l'après-midi

Amsterdam

Mer du Nord

ville. Mais déjà, Briey defile sous les ailes. A leur tour na-vigateur, pilote et copilote sautent. Dans ses souvenirs. Keith Roberts se souvenir que l'un atterrira dans un champ et les deux autres dans un ruissean Mais sous les che-

Bombardement d'installations



Bob Vickers et Keith Roberts reviennent à Mouaville. Là où its s'étaient parachutés



Ils étaient neuf trois reviennent



navigateur Keith Roberts, le 4e soldat se faisait pas partie de l'équipage du Té janvier

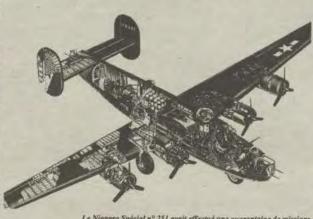
Champagne pour l'historien



La bonne étoile

industrielles à Werminghoff Rotterdám Berlin PAYS-BAS Londres Hanovre Nouveau tir de la DCA, Décollage au petit matin du 16 janvier ALLEMAGNE BELGIOUE Dresde. Luxembourg 1 Zwickau FRANCE Paris Francfort Prague • Metz Pris pour cible par la DCA allemande, Le B 24 s'écrase près de Mouaville TOHEC. deux moteurs

Aux commandes du B 24 Liberator



Le Niogara Spécial nº 251 avait effectué une quarantaine de missions au-dessus de l'Allemagne, avant de tomber près de Mouaville.

L'évocation du nom de l'appareil américain "B 24 Liberator" suffit à rappe-ler les bombardements sur l'Allemagne entrepris par les Alliés, peu de temps avant la victoire de mai 1945.

avant la victoire de mai 1945.

Ce bombardier lourd made in USA aura été un des outils de la défaire nazie. Il s'agit d'un quadrimoteur de 33,5 m d'envergure et de 22,5 m de longueur. Malgré cette taille respectable, l'avion pouvait atteindre une vitesse maximale proche des 490 km/h. Volant à une vitesse de croisière de 335 km/h. l'engin disposait d'une autonomie de 3 300 km. D'où son utilisation pour des bombardements partis d'Angleterre vers partis d'Angleterre vers l'Europe centrale durant la

Seconde Guerre mondiale.

Avec 10 hommes normalement à son bord, le B
24 est armé de 10 mitrailleuses et pout emporter avec lui plus de 2
tonnes de bombes dans ses soutes. Sans oublier les 5,8 tonnes de bombes qui peuvent être chargées sur le fuselage de l'avion, mais là sur des missions de plus courte distance.

L'US Navy a su tirer profit des capacités du B 24 pour en faire un de ses meilleurs patrouilleurs.

Le 16 janvier au matin quand décolla l'appareil piloté par Bob Vickers, 59 autres B 24 prirent les airs. Sur l'aérodrome c'étair « la valse des éléphants » raconte dans ses mémoires le navigateur Keith Roberts.

OUVENIR OUVENIA

« Les grands de l'école ont fait le mur »

Albert Albrech, actuel maire de Monaville.—

« J'avais 8 ans quand l'avion americain est tombé. On venait de sortir en récréation quand, dans le ciel, on a entendu une grosse explosion. Le temps de lever le nez el j'ai aperçu deux des trois parachutistes qui descendaient. Il était environ 15 h 30. Aussitôt, les grands ont fait le mur pour aller à leur rencontre et voir ce qui restait de l'avion qui s'était écrasé dans un parc, à la sortie du village en direction de Thumerèville. Les parachutistes n'ont pas que d'autres soldats américains ne viennent les récupèrer. Des ambulances sont venues de Rouvres et c'en était fini des paras à Mouaville. L'avion, lui, est resté plus d'un an sur place. Chacun toi s'est servi en pièces et autres bricoles



« Je dois encore avoir une bonbonne d'oxygène »

Jean-Marie Delatte.—
« Ce jour-là, je-m'en souviens comme si c'était hier. Il y avait 20 cm de neige partout. Quand les parachutes ont été aperçus, mon père à couru chercher les jumelles pour voir où les bons-bommes allaient toucher le sol.

Quand il est apparu devant celui qui était tombé en lisière du bois, mon père criait "camanade" pour le rassurer car visiblement le pauvre Américain était persuadé être tombé en Germanie... Moi et le fils de l'institutrice, on a fait le mur de l'école pour voir la carcasse de l'avion. Elle était en feu et nous, on n'ossit pas approcher de peur que des bombes n'explosent... J'avais 12 ans mais j'entends encore le bruit des balles de la mitrailleuse 12,7 qui crépitaient dans les flammes. Mon père avait reussi à récupèrer dans la neige le poignard d'un des Américains.

C'était une lame un peu courbe pour pouvoir couper les sangles de parachutes si besoin. Ce couteau, je ne l'ai plus mais je dois encore avoir une bonbonne d'oxygène qui était dans l'appareil...»

'45 BAILOUT-PRECIPITATES MEDIA EVENT

Nancy le lourna Meurthe-et-Moselle

Diplômés de 25-30 ans

Johnny

Réhabilitation

PROFILE 1/Lt John E. Buecheler was a pilot in the 577th, arriving at Wendling in June 1944. On their 20th mission, to Hanover, they received a direct hit on #3 engine. Gas was leaking into the a/c, and the a/c was flying sideways. Just as they got to Kassell they were again in heavy flak and it became

He was POW for 9 months, and was

He graduated from Syracuse University in 1948, and then spent 35 years with the Hartford Insurance Company, retiring in

He and spouse Ruth live at 1128 Culligan Blvd, San Jose CA 95120. They have two

necessary to bail out.

1984

liberated by the Russians.

sons and one granddaughter.

au courrier &

vive les slaloms

Marcelle Peltier: 100 ans d'amour

Paroisses recherchent prêtre désespérément



Mouaville retrouve ses boys

b Vickers, Keith Roberts et William Nock avair dû sauter de leur bombardier en flammes le 16 janvier 1945 au dessus de la Lorraine. Cinquante-trois ans plus tard, ils ont retrouvé la terre de Mouaville qui les a vus atterrir... et l'avion se crasher.

PROFILE

2/Lt Lester J. Frazier was a pilot in the 576th and later the 579th. He joined the Group at Wendling in January 1945, and completed 15 missions before the European war ended.

After the war, he was an investment broker and limited partner with the Edward D. Jones Company. He retired after 35 years with the firm.

He has been active in local politics, having served as Mayor and Commissioner. and is presently president of the Hospital

He is married to June, and their address is 210 Spruce, Goodland, KS 67735. They have 4 children, 10 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Les « Liberator » sont de retour

Ils étaient neuf le 16 janvier 45 dans le B24 de l'US Air force qui s'est crashé tout près de Rouvres-en-Woëvre. Trois sont revenus hi r à Mouaville. Séquence émotion.









OPERATE HERE

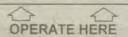
MEMBERSHIP DUES-TIME TO SEND IN YOUR 1998 DUES PAYMENT

We don't send out dues notices, so you can help the news editor and the Treasurer if you will sit down right now and send in your 1998 dues. If you are paid ahead, you can check it by the code right after your name on the label of the newsletter. If is is LM (for Life Membership) or 98 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

Name	Ground [] Air [] Sqdn	Assoc []
Street		
City	State	Zip
Dues for 1998, \$12	LIFE MEMBERSHIP Age 61-65 \$120 Age 66-70 \$96	[
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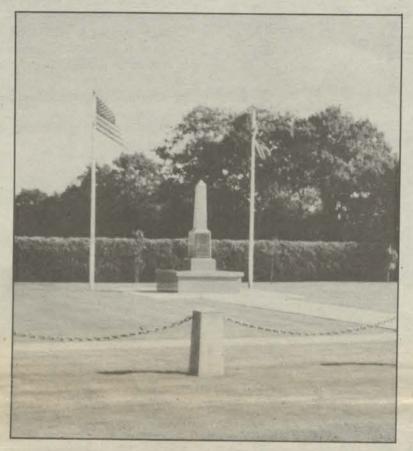
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THE 392nd MEMORIAL AT WENDLING

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 Catheoral at Erie, Pa.

Chaplain's Corner

More than 53 years since VE Day. The intervening decades may question what we actually accomplished. True, the Nazi tyranny was overcome, but the Stalinist tyranny remained, and, even with its demise can we say the world is a safer place? We'd have to look hard to find a year since 1945 when planet Earth was peaceful. On this year's Memorial Day what can we say to one another? First, that we did our duty at a time when it needed to be done. It's a sober, Stoic virtue, but that doesn't make it any less virtuous. Secondly, and also sobering, we can remind ourselves that this world is a

place of tribulation (See St. John 16:33) to each of us. VE Day offered a breathing space in which we prepare for new duty, and look forward to the gift of grace.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

8th AF made its last attack on an industrial target during WWII-1945.

AIR ANNIVSERSARY Lt Col James Doolittle led 16 B-25's on Tokyo raid-1942.

AIR ANNIVERSARY
7th AF B-24's made first attack on
Tarawa-1943.

392nd Bomb Group Memorial Ass'n NEWS 5 N. Columbia St. Frankfort, IN 46041

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[] 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.

AIR ANNIVERSARY
Twentieth Air Force was activated-1944.

AIR ANNIVERSARY
Bill creating the Air Force Academy signed by President
Eisenhower-1954.

AIR ANNIVERSARY
First two enemy aircraft shot down
by AEF-1918.

AIR ANNIVERSARY
German jets shot down 10 American bombers near Berlin. The Germans lost 20 Me 262 jets-1945.

AIR ANNIVERSARY
P-47's were first flown in combat
over Western Europe-1943.

AIR ANNIVERSARY

Army's first permanent flying school established at College Park, Md.-1911.

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...

Folded Wings

Joe C. Johnson, 577, Nov. 14, 1997 Don Fehrenbacher, 577, 12/13/97 Francis Kane, 578, Jan. 2, 1994 Roy Lotterhos, 579, Jan. 24, 1998 James M. Rohe, August, 1997 Col Myron Keilman, 579, 2/14/98 Peter J. Borracini Arthur H. Jensen, 578, 3/11/98 Earl R. Mann, 578, Apr. 2, 1998