

DEC. 1983

9th Edition - 63rd, 64th, 65th, 403rd, Hdqs Squadrons. December 1983

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL

The 3rd annual reunion of the 43rd was held on board the Queen Mary at Long Beach, California, Sept 30 to Oct 3rd, 1983. under the able direction of Howard K. "Andy" Anderson who forwarded this brief report.

I had many letters expressing appreciation for the reunion. Those who rode the QM in 1942, especially fired up about it and grateful. Am enclosing Los Angeles Times article which also appeared in Miami Herald and in other newspapers including Fayetteville which Bob Butler spotted. Also enclosed is a article from an old Life Magazine about our new member from Oregon, ROLAND FISHER. I found the Fishers to be delightful people. and a real asset to our organization... even though he can't sing "Waltzing Matilda" very well.

Andy

Since most of this newsletter is written by Bob Butler, (supplemented, printed, and mailed by Lloyd Boren), Bob will attempt to review his impressions of the happy times enjoyed at this reunion, followed by a list of those who attended, and some plans and goals for the future.

It was a nostalgic moment for the original 43rd members who shared the 40 day trip on the Queen, but also for later members who had duty in the 43rd. After registration on Friday. there was much greeting and eating around the messes and decks of the beautiful ship and good restaurants.

On Saturday morning, an 84 nominating committee headed by SID LEE, 403rd, and JIM MURPHY, 63rd, selected BOB BUTLER for a 4th (and last) term as Chairman. JOHN LOMBARD, 63rd, a Seattle attorney, for Vice-Chairman. LLOYD "Breezy" (old faithful) BOREN, 65th, as Executive Secretary. and HOWARD K. "Andy" ANDERSON, 64th, as Corresponding Secretary. The following were appointed to explore and develop plans for regional reunions in their areas.

GEORGE GREEN	OAKLAND, CA.	MAX AXELSON	SAN ANTONIO, TX
MAX OSBORN	CHEYANNE, WY	BOB BEAUDEAN	BOSSIER CITY, LA
NEIL FAIRBANKS	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	JOHN ROCHE	NEW HAVEN, CT
DR. BUD GUSAK	WASHINGTON, DC	HAL WINFREY	ATLANTA, GA
WILLIAM "RADAR" HOOVER	FLORIDA		

As a last item of business endorsed by the nominating committee. it was decided to have the 84 reunion in the D.C. area. We have many members in the East and this site should be a good one because of ample facilities, historical places to visit, shopping with subway connections and good airfare discounts.

After the business meeting, we finally had the chance as a group, to get to the mike for a few words to identify each member. This was much too brief, but our next meeting, this should be expanded in Sqd and Grp meetings to allow more time to get re-acquainted. I'm sure that there were many who didn't have time to tell at least one good story about the last 41 years, and some items of personal interest to all.

On Saturday afternoon. JOSE HOLGUIN recounted his 1943 POW experience. and his recent trip to the crash site near Rabaul. This story was briefed in a local newspaper by Tom Hennesey. On Friday afternoon. J.T. BRITTON, BUTLER, FRED BLAIR (all the way from Australia), and HOLGUIN were interviewed for a 30 minute cable TV show, for details on the QM, the ZEAMER combat recon. mission, and the HOLGUIN story. Paul Dean. of the Los Angeles Times. interviewed several members and wrote an excellent article which was later published in many newspapers. (copies will be sent to you upon request to BUTLER), this article brought several new members.

Saturday night. everyone joined at a banquet in the ballroom for dinner and dancing to a good band. There was much picture taking and celebration. More of this in my personal recollections. On Sunday morning, a Memorial service was conducted by FATHER THOMAS SHEA. assisted by, TYSON BARNES, CYRUS MICHAELS & BUTLER. FATHER SHEA gave a beautiful message of remembrance and hope.

After the service. most of the group met again for an elegant brunch in the Main Salon, and in the afternoon. a free boat trip around Long Beach Harbor. Doris and I enjoyed this ride with FRED and MAUREEN MCALLISTER, and TED EOFF.

Departures began on Sunday. but several remained on board thru Tuesday. The following is a alphabetical list of those attending, and lists the State they are from.

A. GEORGE O. ANDERSON	NJ	WILLIAM "RED" ALMOND	FL
ROBERT AUGUSTINE	IN	MAX AXELSEN	TX
LLOYD ANDERSON	OR	LOUIS ALPE	AR
HOWARD "ANDY" ANDERSON	CA	CLETUS ANGERMEIER	IN
P. D. ALEXANDER	OK		
B. ROBERT E. BEAUDEAN	LA	MARCIA BRENNEMAN	IN
WILLIAM R. BRYAN	TX	RICHARD B. BELL	NE
EDWARD Q. BELL	ME	DON P. BAKER	TX
"DUTCH" BENEDETTI	CA	J. T. BRITTON	NM
JOHN BORTELL	IL	TYSON BARNES	TX
KEN BECKSTROM	NM	TED BURDA	CA
ANDREW BUROCHONOCK	NY	ROBERT F. BROCK	CA
JOHN F. BERKEY	NJ	HARRY BRADLEY	NE
LLOYD "BREEZY" BOREN	TX	R.H. "BOB" BUTLER	NC
MIKE BACHI	OK	GAGE BIREN	CA
NELSON BROUILLETTE	WA	FRED BLAIR	AUS.
WILLIAM C. BURNS	AL	WILLIAM BEDNARSKI	CT
HERBERT J. BRUNE	TX		
C. JOE CHEPULIS	PA	LOUIS CORDAGAN	IL
BILL CHURCH	TX	DR. ALBERT CARP	PA
PAUL COBER	PA	ODIS CLEER	CA
ROBERT S. CUTLER	MA	FREDERIC CHEUVRON	CA
PETE CARDARO	AK	ALLEN CLATWORTHY	CA
WILLIAM CRAIG	CA		
D. JAMES W. DUANE	KS	HARRY DALZIEL	NY
BILL DITZ	MO	THOMAS DOYLE JR.	PA
ANSEL M. DAVID	TX	LARRY DE HAVEN	TX
CHUCK DOWNER	CA	TONY DEANGELIS	FL
HENRY DALTON	CA	ELLIOTT DRESDEN	CA
KEN DAWSON	TX	LARRY DE RUSHA	CA
ROBERT DE MARIA	NJ	PAUL DEAN	L.A. TIMES
WAYNE DOWNING	CA	JIM DALY	NY
BOB DEUPREE	CA	GUS DRUMM	CA
E. TED EOFF	TX	KEN EIDEN	WI
DON ELLIS	CA		
F. NEIL FAIRBANKS	MN	AL FISCHER	MO
NORM FRIEDBERG	CA	ED. "SHORTY" FEILLE	CA
ROLAND FISHER	WA		
G. ROBERT GOODWIN	IL	DR. "BUD" GUSAK	DC
FRED GROSCHE	ID	GEORGE B. GREEN	CA
LES GOODRIDGE	CA	ED GAMMILL	AZ
TED GEHRINGER	CA		
H. ART HANE	OK	KEN HAYDEN	AR
HARLEY HAYDEN	MO	JOE HIRSH	TX
WALT HAYS F	CA	FRANK HASSETT	CA
GEORGE HUNTER	CA	JOE HEUSTON	CA
HARRY HAWTHORNE	OR	J. A. HOLT	CA
PHIL HOFFECKER	PA	ROBERT HALL JR.	NY
E. H. HANSEN	NE	TOM HENNESSY - L.B. PRESS TELEGRAM	
JOSE HOLGUIN	CA	MATT HOLOHAN	FL
ALVIN HAAS	IL		
I. TONY IAMPIETRO	MA		
J. HAROLD JOHNSON	MN	E. HENRY JAMES	CA
TOM JAMISON	CA	F. JASTRZEMSKI	FL
WILLIAM H. JONES	TX	EUGENE C. JACKSON	FL
JOE JANCOSKO	PA		

ROGER KETTLESON	NE	WADE T. KEHR	PA
DONALD KING	WA		
GEORGE LEAHEY	CA	JOHN LOMBARD	WA
BILL LAIRD	CA	SID LEE	TX
EMIL LANGE JR.	NY	JOHN L. LANDT	WA
M. LEE MC GOWN	NE	JIM MURPHY	AL
ROBERT MC LARTY	RI	HESTON MC DONNELL	CA
CHARLIE MARVEL	KS	FRED MC ALLISTER	TX
ROB MURPHY	CA	LOUIS MOLIN	CA
ARTHUR MULLIGAN	NY	CYRUS MICHAELS	PA
N. FRED NICKEL	OH	MARSHALL NELSON	TX
JOE NIECE	ND	ALLEN NELSON	TX
BILL NANCE	AUS.	GERALD NEWMAN	PA
O. MAX OSBORN	WY		
P. LOUIS PRIFTI	VA	JIM PETTUS	HA
PAUL PASKVAN	IL	JOLIN PRESTON	FL
CHRIS PARR	CA	CHARLIE PARKER	NC
RICHARD PATTON	CO		
CHUCK QUINETTE	CA		
R. WES ROWE	PA	JOHN ROCHE	CT
BOB ROTH	CA	EARL RESHAW	IN
S. FOLMER SOGAARD	OR	LUKE SONNER JR.	ID
WALDO SCHAUWEKER	OH	CHRIS SUNDERMAN	TX
EDITH SILVIERA	CA	CHARLES SULLIVAN	NY
WILLIAM P. STAMPER	NC	RUSS SEDERBERG	WA
ROBERT SWANSON	CA	CLAUDE SACHSE	OK
HARRY STEVENSON	CA	BILL SCHRIEVER	MA
JAMES SHROPSHIRE	CA	WALT SISMILICH	NY
FATHER THOMAS SHEA	CT	LUCKY STEVENS	NJ
ROBERT N. SMITH	AZ	JOE STRONG	CA
BUCKSHOT SINCLAIR	CA	DON SIBLERUD	MT
NAT SUGARMAN	RI		
T. JOHN E. TAYLORF	OK	CHARLES THOMASON	ID
ART TASSONI	NJ	TED THORNHILL	CA
U. HARRY URBAN	CO		
V. ROGER VARGAS	CA	BOB VALLANCE	CA
W. BILL WILSON	TX	BILL WELCH	CO
PHIL WELCH	AZ	DICK WOOD	CA
HERMAN WEBER	CA	J. C. WILFERT	LA
FRED WILSON	CA	GEORGE WHITE	NY
CHARLES WIEDERF	PA	FRANK WAYSSE	NY
HOWARD WAUGH JR.	MD		
Y. HARRY N. YOUNG	FL		
Z. JAY ZEAMER	ME		

IMPRESSIONS

Everyone gets different impressions of a reunion, and due to the limited time we are together, it is hard to really visit together and catch up on old and new times. I was dismayed after reading the list of those attending, of the number of members I failed to meet. although I had written personal letters to most of them. Hopefully, in 1984, and at regional meetings. we will have more time for meeting. I enjoyed seeing old and new friends such as JAY ZEAMER, Cols. HARRY HAWTHORNE and JIM PETTUS, former 43rd Commanders. Lt Gen. ROBERT N. SMITH, Ret. who sailed on the QM as a 2nd Lt. the original Sgt. Major of the 43rd, retired as Major J. A. HOLT. aged 80. who has been married for 59 years. and

scorns a golf cart on his golf rounds at Riverside. CA. Prizes should have been awarded to ED BELL, 64th cook, and LARRY DE RUSHA for their great war stories. also a prize to FREDERIC CHEUVRONT. who procured 43rd baseball caps which sold out like hot cakes. ROLAND FISHER, shipping warehouse executive from Portland, WA. lead the singing of "Waltzing Matilda". Awards of an inscribed clock-plaque were made to BOREN and BUTLER. Many old buddies getting together like ED "LUCKY" STEVENS. PHIL HOFFEKER, AL HAAS, WES ROWE. JOE CHEPULIS, BOB HALL and BOB GOODWIN of the 64th; CHRIS PARR. SID LEE. ART HANE and MAX AXELSON of the 403rd; TONY DEANGELIS, AL FISCHER, BILL DITZ and KEN EIDEN of the 63rd, not to mention that "ANDY" ANDERSON had eight of his crew there. followed by JIM MURPHY who had PRIFTY. HIRSH and JAMES from his crew. I enjoyed seeing my navigator KEN BECKSTRUM and a bombardier classmate. ED FEILLE. who was seen wearing his old A-2 leather jacket with Sqd. insignia and decorations. TOM JAMISON and BILL STAMPER had a reunion after many years. BOB ROTH who has located all of his crew, sent me some great pictures, some of which were such good portraits I have forwarded them in Christmas Cards to the subjects. Old friendships were renewed and new ones were formed based on a common bond and pride in the 43rd including those who joined after 1946.

IN MEMORY

We remember not only those who died in SW Pacific and after, but in sympathy with the wives and families, those 43rd vets who, though still living, are physically and mentally disabled; such as EUGENE MILLER, whose wife is a member, and RUTH ZASTROW, her husband was the pilot on ROTH'S crew, but his career as Circuit Judge in Wisconsin ended in 1976. he was a victim of viral encephalitis. We remember, with great respect, the following not previously listed. Former Commanders; M/GEN RICHARD CARMICHAEL, COL. VALENTINE, COL. DIEHL. The deceased wives of WES ROWE. AND LOU KANOPA. TOM KELLEY, Hdq, a good friend of LOU ALPE. MICHAELS, AND FR. SHEA. M/SGT JOHN MELCO. New Bern, NC. LT/COL STAN SALISBURG, LT/COL JIM ELLIS, 63rd Commander. My own tail gunner, CHARLES RESER, six years ago in Miami, Fl. ((NOTE by Lloyd, I received a call from Bob the other night after he had already sent this. He received a call from the son of LARRY DE RUSHA. LARRY passed away in his sleep. Our condolences to Georgia and family. We will miss him. Larry was one of the ones we depended on for news, new members, and was a strong supporter of the Association.))

MEMORIAL FUND

The 43rd Bomb Group Association fully supports the creation of a memorial to be erected in New Guinea. Because of complaints by Museum officials in New Guinea about the 83 visit to the crash site by Holguin. it is suggested that contributions to the fund by our members be made to R. H. Butler until the 5th AF Memorial Foundation is organized in Atlanta. Ga. in March 1984.

GENERAL AIMS

1. To locate and round up all veterans of the 43rd from 1941 to the present. This has to be a joint effort, to be encouraged by all of us in phone calls and letters and media publication.
2. The collection, preservation and publication of 43rd history, which continues to be made (a recent bit of information from Dick Wood of recent honors won by the 43rd SAC Wing in Guam in competition for the Barantine Trophy).
3. To get better organized for mini and regional reunions for those, who, for financial or health reasons, can't make annual meeting.
4. A home in the USA for permanent collection of 43rd history. This could be Langley, VA, Davis Monathan in Arizona or Carswell in Ft. Worth, TX. All air bases which once sponsored our Group after 1945.

PLANS FOR 1984

Still in the planning stages, the 1984 reunion will probably be held in Arlington, VA, in mid-September. Arlington is next door to Washington, DC, and National Airport, convenient by Metro to all points of interest in the District. good shopping and plentiful hotels etc. Time will be provided for Sqd. and general meetings where we can just talk and plan, a dinner meeting where we can join together in social and singing activities. There should be events for the wives during the day periods, and wives (and husbands) encouraged to bring

samples of their crafts, such as the beautiful 63rd ceramic beer mug given to me by the wife of AL FISHER. One bright idea, hatched by my wife Doris, is a post-reunion trip from National to Bermuda for those interested in extending the good times for a few more days.

SHORT NEWS ITEMS

The pleasure of an overnight visit to the Butlers in Fayetteville, NC from RAY CHRISTIAN and wife DOTTIE. Ray was a cook in the 64th. He couldn't make 83 reunion, but was in NC for visit to their son who is Prof. at East Carolina Univ.

Volunteers for 84 - I'm already getting offers from members to assist in annual reunion next year. Which reminds me that the 83 reunion was a product of hard work by "ANDY" ANDERSON, LLOYD BOREN, FREDERIC CHEUVRONT, and many others who deserve our gratitude. My personal thanks to all and the many persons who gave me pictures, mementos, and good wishes.

FINANCES

Like a preacher trying to raise the church budget, the need for financial support is always with us. The 83 meeting was good, but also expensive because of many cancellations of guaranteed reservations, free coffee, soft drinks and promotional costs. "Andy" reports that we broke even with all bills paid, including the band, partly with funds advanced by me; but for next year, our assets for newsletters, phone calls, letters and reunion planning, and expence, are virtually depleted. It should not be expected that the leaders should underwrite such expenses, so, although there have been some generous contributions, let's all get in the act and mail \$ 10.00 dues for 1984 to R.H. Butler, also please write some personal notes about yourself for future newsletters. After 1984, I hope to step aside, but will still work for the 43rd roundup, and maybe do some personal writing about those days in 1942-43.

A FEW NOTES FROM LLOYD

I'm sure many of you who did not get to make the reunion, and traveled on the Queen, would like to know what kind of shape she is in. SHE IS GREAT !!. Although I did not travel on the Queen, I was amazed that after all this time, it is still a Palace. The staterooms are terrific, and much larger than I expected, King size bed, air conditioning, and the most courteous and speedy service you can imagine. The ballrooms are in splendid shape, and the Grand Ballroom still remains the largest room afloat. The Sunday Brunch was held in the Grand Ballroom, and there had to be well over a hundred food choices. They even provided a harpist, playing "Waltzing Matilda". I mentioned afloat above. The Queen is afloat along side a wharf inside a breakwater dam. It is moored fore and aft with cables, and is held away from the wharf with pneumatic bumpers.

It was nice to get together again with old friends BILL and MARY LOIS WILSON, TED EOFF, DON BAKER, LARRY DE HAVEN, ANSEL DAVID, "SHORTY" FEILLE and his wife PAT who painted the SQD plaques for us, J.T. BRITTON, and "DUTCH" BENDETTI. It was a real pleasure to see "DOC" GUSAK after all these years, he has probably changed less than any of us, and of course, always good to see Coach Shea, he has never missed a reunion.

We are now at 690 members, and will probably go well over 700 this coming year. When I arrived on the Queen, we had members in every state in the union except Alaska, and I hadn't been there more than 20 minutes when PETE CARDERO from Fairbanks, Alaska checked in, and gave us a full house. This is quite a tribute to BOB BUTLER when you think back to two years ago almost to the day, we had our first reunion in San Antonio with about 50 or 60 present. Including wives, family and guests, the Queen Mary hosted well over 300, over 300 at the banquet alone.

The two states having the largest number of members are California and Texas in that order. I will try in the next newsletter to list the number of members in each state. Not counting associate members, we have 3 in Australia.

BRUCE HOY from New Guinea is requesting info on downed planes, personell etc. He distributed questionnaires at the reunion. If any of you can help him, get in touch, he is on the roster as a associate member. Bob also has a request

from Susan Sheehan, New York for information of a 65th crash in 1943. any info of the pilot Capt. Benny Frans.

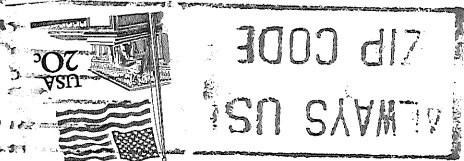
I just heard from a 65th buddy, CHARLIE BELLOWS, that he had seen navigator, WARREN E. BRYANT "Doc" BRYANT about 2 years ago in Hemet, California, and he had previously been in Pioneer, Calif. How about some help from some of you guys in that area. We had heard years ago he had died. I would sure like to hear from him.

BEST WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

Lloyd Boren & Helen	Bob Butler & Doris	"Andy" Anderson & Marcella
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