

43rd BOMB GROUP



ASSOCIATION

- Hds.
- 63rd
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- 403rd

43rd BOMBARDMENT GROUP NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1

18th Edition - 63rd, 64th, 65th, 403rd, Hdqs Squadrons - December 1985

FROM GEORGE WHITE

The 1985 Omaha Group reunion was a resounding success due to the planning and arrangements made by the Co-Chairmen, DALE BARR, 403rd, Omaha, and MAX AXELSEN, 403RD, San Antonio, with outstanding support from our Secretary-Treasurer, LLOYD BOREN, 65th, San Antonio.

Approximately 191 members and 142 wives descended upon Omaha and enjoyed five days of non-stop fun and relaxation. The New Tower Inn provided the right atmosphere for our group and most of us felt it was there just for our own use. The memorabilia room was well decorated with maps, poster pictures and two 43rd Group banners prepared by HARRY DALZIEL, 63rd, Valley Stream, NY. for the Seattle B-17 party and the Omaha reunion. DALE BARR also supplied a number of model planes he built last winter. FRED CHEUVRON, 63rd, Whittier, CA. sold caps, DON BAKER, 65th, Alvin, Texas, sold 43rd buttons and BREEZY BOREN sold decals. Profits from all three ventures were turned over to the Group. FRED'S cap sales over the last three years have given us over \$1200.00 which has helped to keep us solvent. In fairness to FRED, this particular chore will be assumed by each future reunion committee.

There were many reunion highlights but just to mention a few; the style show for the ladies (with plenty of men present also), featuring lovely women and beautiful clothes plus door prizes for the ladies. The show, clothes, presentation and all were well planned and enjoyed by all. The golf tournament was blessed with a fair day on a demanding course. JIM HARCROW, 65th, Ft Walton Beach, FL. was low net, HAROLD JOHNSON, 403rd, Kettle River, MN. was 2nd low net, and JIM and JOHN CROSBY, 403rd, Ocala, FL. tied for longest drive. The scores and distances have been forwarded to Army Intelligence for verification since there were no photos of damage reports. The tour of Boystown was enjoyed by all. Of particular note, the student body now includes a number of women and the housing is in separate homes to foster a family atmosphere. The SAC briefing at the Inn was very professional and gave us a good picture of our defense posture and the capabilities of our possible adversaries. We enjoyed a visit to the SAC Museum at Offutt AFB where there is a display of Air Force Medal of Honor recipients including our own JAY ZEAMER and JOE SARNOSKI. Many took the opportunity to climb into a static display B-17. Our traditional memorial service was conducted by FATHER SHEA with layman participation by CY MICHAELS, DALE BARR, JAY ZEAMER and GEORGE WHITE. A memorial wreath was placed in front of the Flying Fortress. A number of the men were given a tour of the Underground at Offutt also.

feature event Friday was the barbecue at Peony Park, across from the Inn, then dancing under the stars to 1940's music topped off with a barbershop quartet contributed by BREEZY. Unfortunately, a cold front blew in chasing all but the real die-hards inside, but not before a real good meal, and some dancing to fine music. The Saturday night dinner dance was held in the Officers Club and the music was out of this world. The SAC band flew in that evening and gave us four hours of the best music ever. MAX AXELSEN, a retired colonel gets my vote for retired B.G. selectee if there is such a thing. MAX also conducted a sing-a-long enjoyed by all. Everything was fine until our Chairman, who is now a retired Buck Private, demoted our honored guest, MAJOR GENERAL E. G. SHULER JR., Commanding, 3rd AIR DIVISION, STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND, to the rank of Major. COLONEL and MRS RON BEEZLEY, formerly Commanding, 43rd STRATEGIC WING, were also honored guests. We were told that the new Commanding Officer of the 43rd is COLONEL ROBERT ISAAC. Hopefully he can make the next reunion.

The Sunday farewell brunch was first rate, as were all the reunion meals, and gave us the opportunity to say thanks to DALE BARR AND FAMILY for a job well done.

Squadron meetings were held on Thursday night and the following men were designated to represent their Squadrons on a newly formed Steering Committee.

Headquarters -- Cyrus Michaels, Bob Haase
63rd ----- Folmer Sogaard, Roger Vargas
64th ----- Roger Kettleson, Art Mulligan
65th ----- Jim Harcrow, Bill Wilson
403rd ----- Art Hane, Odis Cleere

These along with your Chairman, George White, Secty - Treasurer, Lloyd Boren, and Founder and Past Chairman, Bob Butler, will form the Steering Committee.

On the subject of frequency of reunions, the individual squadrons were fairly evenly divided to annual or biannual reunions. However, at the Saturday Group meeting, a large majority of members voted in favor of a Group reunion in 1986. Presentations were made by BOB BEAUDEAN, 64th for Bossier City, LA. and by MAX AXELSEN and LLOYD BOREN for San Antonio, TX. The vote was 75 55 for San Antonio.

The group was in favor of forming a non-profit corporation and the process for accomplishing this has been started.

DICK WOOD, 63rd, Saratoga, CA. reported on the Guam trip and the Seattle Boeing B-17 Anniversary Party. DICK showed slides from both trips.

NEIL FAIRBANKS, 403rd, Anoka, MN. showed us design slides of the 5th Air Force Memorial to be erected at Wright-Patterson Field. The erection and dedication will probably take place in 1986 or 1987.

Following is a number of news items from members received both before and after the reunion. WALTER (DUTCH) OSENBAUGH, 64th, Santa Ana, CA. saw the reunion notice placed by FRED CHEUVRON in the Los Angeles Times. He was a radio operator who joined the Group at Nadzab. He would like to hear from former crewmates, some of whom, to the best of his knowledge, were, CAPT CHEVIS AMICK, EDWARD ICKOWSKI, THOMAS DOYLE, ROBERT SCHWARTZ, ED KYLE and ALFRED PUTZ. DUTCH does not remember his missions, he does remember spam, salmon, bully beef, salty beef, pineapple, list bags filled with chlorine and a little water, all night poker games, carnivorous mosquitos, crummy movies, the great days and fantastic nights in Kings Cross, Sydney, the magnificent Australian beer and atabrine tablets. I think that about says it all for most of us.

DOROTHY MILLER, 323 W. Monroe St., Princeton, Indiana 47670 is seeking information about her brother, 2nd Lt. FRANCIS SMITH, 65th, a pilot based at Clark Field in 1944-45. He was killed on a run over Formosa flying a B-24 with Capt. PAUL B. HANSEN. R. L. "MONTY" MONTGOMERY, Colorado Springs, CO. who retired in 1971 after putting in his 30 years, was in the 63rd in 1943-44 and the 403rd in Tuscon in 1949-51. He didn't know that when they were cleaning out millions of tons of shipping in the straits, they were the 1st Sea Search Attack Group. MONTY was a tail gunner on Capt HARRY PARK'S crew. NICHOLAS ARABINKO, 64th, Punta Gorda, FL. was kind enough to send in a three page article about Gen. GEORGE KENNEY that appeared in the July 1985 issue of "Airman", the official magazine of the U.S. Air Force. Following is the text of a wire from Gen. ARNOLD to Gen. KINNEY on the day Gen. MAC ARTHUR accepted the Japanese surrender. "The Brilliant offensive of the Far East Air Forces under your inspiring leadership was an outstanding factor in Japan's defeat. Looking back to the heroic operations of the early war in which, gravely outnumbered and under-supplied, you rose from the dust of the Port Moresby strips to stop the Australia-bound Japs in their tracks. It may be truthfully said that no air commander ever did so much with so little. All that you have done has made air history. The Army Air Forces honor your fighting spirit, to which we so largely owe today's splendid triumph." If anyone wants zerox copies of the article, write to me and I will be pleased to send it. Better yet, if you have not yet paid your \$10.00 dues for 1986, which were due Sept 1985, make your request to LLOYD BOREN when you send your check in. LLOYD will sent your request on to me.

ROBERT LOCKWOOD, 65th, Chamois, MO. was a crew chief on Ie Shima. On his flight back to the States he remembers changing a fuel cell at Guam and a carburator at Hickham AFB. He retired from SAC in 1969 from the 351st Missile Maintenance Sqdn as First Sgt. after 29 years of service reaching the grade of Chief Master Sergeant. We would like to know if BEN DAMRON, 65th, Stanford, KY. was able to contact ROBERT STEVENS, Jackson, MI who signed his copy of DOWN UNDER many years ago. JESS GIBSON, 63rd, Woodland Park, CO. looks back on his 27 years of service and feels it was a great life. He recalls his days as food supervisor at Iron Range when there was not much food to go around. We hope he will write again and give us some details on the convoy "I will never forget". We also want a report on his elk hunt with CLYDE FARRELL, 63rd, Denver, CO.

MIKE OWEN, 63rd, Marietta, GA. joined the Air Force in 1946, went to aircraft engine mechanic and B-29 school and joined the Group at Davis-Monthan where he remembers the 63rd, 64th, and 65th had 10 B-29's each. He finished up as a crew chief on a B-50. MIKE earned a degree in Aero engineering at the University of Florida and has been with Lockheed for over 30 years. JACK MATISOFF, 64th, Huntington Beach, CA. would like to locate his pilot, Capt. JOHN R. O'NEAL, formerly of Pine Bluff, AR. and his flight engineer, DELRAY B. ECHOHAWK of Pawnee, OK. BOB ROTH, 403rd, Redlands, CA is one of our best head hunters, he has added several names to our roster. URBAN NYE, 64th, Lucerne, CA. wants to know if anyone recalls "The Shining Example", an all silver B-24 in New Guinea, also the whereabouts of BURKE R. MOWATT from Bangor, Maine. HELEN BAUDER, wife of BILL, 64th, Omaha, NE. wrote to say BILL had been ill. She sent a picture of his flight crew and some addresses.

Just before the Omaha reunion BOB RICHARDSON, 63rd, Roanoke, VA. wrote to claim that he was the

^{SON}
 youngest WWII combat veteran in the 43rd. He was born March 11, 1926, flew 9 missions out of Clark and Ie Shima and was with the Group when the war ended. He was 19 when he was discharged in 1945. Which one of you claims to be the oldest combat veteran? How is this for good news. At Omaha, BOB told FRED NICKEL, 63rd, Brecksville, OH. to look up JOE SOSNOWSKI, 63rd, Mentor, OH. in the Cleveland phone directory. FRED reached JOE'S son on the phone and the message was relayed to JOE who is tickled pink to be in touch with us.

Following his return to Australia from the Omaha reunion, FRED BLAIR, 63rd, sent us a tape of the TV interview made at the Queen Mary reunion. This copy will end up in our archives. FRED has also been in touch with LOUIS LEBLANC, 63rd, Waltham, Mass. FRED also says that space available people can easily get passage via MAC from Richmond Air Base, Sydney, Australia to San Bernardino, CA. No bumping and billeting is usually available at Hickham Field.

GEORGE HOUSTON, 64th, Orangevale, CA. was in the Group in 1951-52. His 22 years of service included the 11th Bomb Group, (B-24's), in WWII and the 19th Bomb Group, (B-29's), in the Korean War. GEORGE collects Distinctive Insignia and suggests we consider having one made. Sounds like a good idea for a fund raiser. GARNETT PEELING, 65th, Presque Island, MI. enjoys hearing from us. He and a number of others that were not able to get to the Omaha reunion are looking forward to San Antonio in 1986.

RICHARD SCHULTZ, 65th, Austin, TX. retired from the Air Force in 1961 after 13 years of service. Before that, he was a Navy man from 1937 to 1948 and was aboard the USS New Orleans during the Pearl Harbor Attack. HUGH GLOVER, Sqd Unknown, Alto, GA. caught LLOYD'S reunion notice in the D.A.V. magazine but was unable to get to Omaha. He flew with HAROLD COWAN, Cerritos, CA. and is looking for WILLIAM SHAKLEFORD, last known to live in Newport News, VA. Which squadron were you fellows in?

BILL ALMAND, 64th, Ft Walton Beach, FL. would like to be in contact with other rock hounds, particularly out West. EDWIN JOHNSON, 63rd, Loves Park, Ill. was pleased to see the names of four old crew members on LLOYD'S roster additions in the last newsletter. He has a large number of 35MM colored slides that were taken between Nov 1944 and the Japanese surrender. He should bring them to the San Antonio reunion for showing in our registration-memorabilia room. ED was lead bombardier on the first B-52 combat mission over Northern Luzon.

MAX MAYER, 65th, Memphis, TN. just caught up to us, too late for Omaha but a good bet for San Antonio. He sends his best wishes to FATHER SHEA, BUD GUSACK, and PINKY HANLON -- PINKY ????. Nice letter to LLOYD from ROBERT HELMKAY, Mt Morris, MI. a suburb of Flint. BOB was in the 61st Service Squadron based at Mareeba. They serviced both the 19th and the 43rd. He is about to retire from General Motors and we hope he will be with us in Texas next year.

JOHN PICKERING, 64th, Norfolk, VA. was all set for Omaha but Hurricane "Gloria" made him stay at home. He was on the first crew and plane assigned to the 64th Sqdn. Originally designated for the 93rd Sqdn of the 19th Group, they were sent on short notice to Charleville where they were given a new B-17, "Chief Seattle". From there to the 64th on Aug 4, 1942 where they met then C.O. Major BLEASDALE and a handful of men that constituted the 64th. On Aug 6, 1942, they flew to Port Moresby and operated from Seven Mile for about a month. They rejoined the Group at Mareeba on Sept 18, 1942. One of our early war heroes, Sgt MEYER LEVIN was on the crew as bombardier.

Our good friend BRUCE HOY, Curator of the National Museum (Aviation, Maritime, and War Branch) of Papua, New Guinea, continues to be in touch with many of us. If you ever make that nostalgic trip to New Guinea, BRUCE has offered to meet you at the Airport and give you a guided tour of the Moresby Area, just let him know beforehand. Last year BRUCE published an excellent article about efforts to locate downed 5th Air Force planes. I will send copies of it to any of you that would like to read it.

ROBERT CUTLER, Hdqs, Braintree, MA is among many that have written in to say they greatly appreciate the efforts of our Omaha reunion team. He hopes that more of the old "Bangor, Maine Gang" will be at the next reunion. LLOYD is listing all that attended this year and you will note that the Dow Field bunch was well represented. To name a few, LOU MIKLOS, MOOCH MANCINI, BOB DE MARIA, HUGH HIMES, CY MICHAELS, RUSS SEDERBERG whose covered wagon held together for another year, JOHN ROCHE, JOHN HOLT, MR. IMPATIENCE TONY IAMPIETRO, BOB BEAUDEAN who received the best looking hat award, and of course, "The Coach" FATHER SHEA. The day of the SAC Museum trip Father SHEA said to CY MICHAELS "If I get too tired you might have to pick up the pieces and carry me." to which CY replied "That's OK Father, he ain't heavy, he's my brother.". Bob regrets to report to all those that asked for JOHN MC COSKER, 64th, Braintree, Mass., that JOHN passed away last winter. We lost another fine member just shortly after the reunion, GEORGE L. M. IIESEN of Huntington Beach, CA. GEORGE'S sister wrote to say that he had passed away. Our condolences to both families.

GEORGE CRITSIMILIOS, 64th, New York, a radio man, recalls how fortunate his crew felt when JIM PETTUS became their pilot following an injury to their regular pilot. This was the start of JIMS second combat tour and the crew felt they had acquired a good luck charm as well as a dedicated Officer and Gentleman. Following his return from Omaha, ED TROCCIA, 65th, Poughkeepsie, NY. an overnight visit from WALTER BILL, 403rd, Pittsburg, PA. They flew together in the 93rd Sqdn of the 19th Group from July to Nov 1942.

DICK and JANE HENNIG, 64th, New Carlisle, OH. checked in to say Omaha was their first reunion and they had a wonderful time. They live 15 miles from the Air Force Museum at Wright Patterson so they are in a position to tell us about local accomodations if we ever decide to hold a reunion there. One of the things that JANE and RUSS BURNETT, 64th, Conway, Mass. enjoy about the reunions is meeting new friends from across our great U.S.A.

On a recent trip to Pittsburg to visit son JOHN, DORIS and BOB BUTLER, 63rd, Fayetteville, NC. visited JOE JANKOSKO, 64th, Pittsburg, PA. VIRGINIA and BILL "RADAR" HOOVER, 63rd, St Cloud, FL. flew in to New Jersey to visit her sister and spent an afternoon with AILEEN and GEORGE WHITE, 63rd, Chatham, NJ. FRED EPPLEN, 63rd, Aurora, CO. sent in some good information on reunion notices.

The Christmas holiday season is here and what better time is there to send a card to, or phone, some of your 43rd friends.

FROM LLOYD

Let me add my thanks to MAX AXELSEN and DALE BARR, along with his entire family, for a magnificent job on the reunion. I am not positive how DALE and GEN feel, but we are thankful they have such a large family. Everyone of them pitched in and helped make the Omaha reunion a success it was.

Please add the following new members to your roster. Incidentally, the next roster will go out with the June 86 newsletter to all members who have paid their dues for 86.

HEADQUARTERS SQDN.

COL. ROBERT ISAAK
43/CC
APO SF 96334

COL. RON BEEZLEY
2934 LEAWOOD DR.
OMAHA, NE 68123

403RD SQDN

THOMAS BROWN
2507 BAR HARBOR DR.
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78228

LAURENCE C. CECIL
6608 WYOMING ST.
VANCOUVER, WA

LA VERNE M. KINZLER
RR 4 BOX 128
WILMINGTON, IL 60481

FREDRICK J. LLOYD
28 KENMONT
PENFIELD, NY 14526

JAMES W. PRESTON
914 TOYAH CREEK LN.
GARLAND, TX 75040

PAUL R. SEYMOUR
1298 SWEENEY ST.
NORTH TONAWANDA, NY 14120

JOHN TALLITSCH
701 OAK KNOLL DR.
MOUNTAIN HOME, AR 72653

RICHARD E. WILLIAMS
723 ST. ANDREWS ST.
RAPID CITY, SD 57701

JACOB EUGENE YARIAN
RR 2 BOX 238
ATTICA, IN 47918

63RD SQDN

CHANGE MICHAEL M. OWEN FROM SQDN UNKNOWN TO 63RD, WALTER BUTLER FROM 65TH TO 63RD.

HOWARD BOOTH
125 FIESTA CIRCLE
ORINDA, CA 94563

HAROLD L. HAHN
3901 TOWER DR. #5B12
RICHTON PARK, IL 60471

RODGER W. LITTLE
1706 1ST PLACE
VERO BEACH, FL 32962

JOSEPH L. SOSNOWSKI
7283 HAWTHORN DR.
MENTOR, OH 44060

JAKE E. TIMMONS
827 20TH ST.
LOGANSPOUT, IN 46947

64TH SQDN

CHANGE WILLIAM BAUDER AND EVERETT F. PERKINS FROM SQDN UNKNOWN TO 64TH SQDN.

WALTER E. ANDREWS
1106 MEADOWWOOD RD.
COLUMBIA, MS 39429

WALTER I. BLUNK
3021 CHAPEL LANE
NEW ALBANY, IN 47150

ROBERT R. BOWKER
38 PEARL ST.
FORESTVILLE, NY 14062

JOHN J. DEVINE JR.
HAMPTON MANOR, 392 EASTERN
RE SSELAEER, NY 12144

BURL HAMILTON
16032-46 RUSS ST.
SEATTLE, WA

C. RAY HARPER JR.
216 WICKLAW AVE.
GLEN BURNIE, MD 21051

ROBERT L. HITCH
4142 45TH AVE S.W.
SEATTLE, WA

JOHN F. KARL
15632 GRAYSTONE AVE.
NORWALK, CA 90650

JOHN H. PICKERING
6001 W. RIVER RD.
NORFOLK, VA 23505

EDWARD TORDOFF
2109 14TH AVE.
ELDORA, IA 50627

65TH SQDN

CHANGE LEE W. MC GOWN FROM 403RD TO 65TH SQDN, AND JOHN C. WHIPPLE FROM SQDN UNKNOWN TO 65TH SQDN.

ARTHUR "BUD" FLETCHER
5 ESPERANZA CIRCLE
LIMINGTON PARK, MD 20653

EDWARD W. HAGAR
RT 3 BOX 294
TRENTON, FL 32693

MAX H. MAYER
5482 POPLAR APT 2
MEMPHIS, TN 38119

DONALD B. PATTERSON
P.O. BOX 1744
DUFUR, GA 30031

RICHARD J. SCHULTZ
12702A SHERBOURNE
AUSTIN, TX 78729

SQDN UNKNOWN

HUGH W. GLOVER
RT 1 BOX 415
ALTO, GA 30510

ROBERT MILLETTE
RT 1 BOX 149
VERMILLION, SD 57069

EDWARD ST. ONGE
R.D. NO. 4
FULTON, NY 13069

CARL SHRADER
4080 HANCOCK ST. APT 3910
SAN DIEGO, CA 92110

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

MRS LESLIE CHRISTIANSEN
RR 1 BOX 242
BRADSHAW, NE 68319

ROBERT HELMKAY
6399 GARDEN DRIVE
MT. MORRIS, MI 48458

P. H. "HANK" KRAMER
P. O. BOX 1299
ROCKPORT, TX 78382

MR HELEN ORMSBY
75 ROUND HILL RD.
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12603

The following is a listing by Sqdn of the members attending the reunion in Omaha. NOTE -- Those of you who attended and did not order one of the Group pictures, write DALE BARR for the address, cost, etc. It turned out good.

HEADQUARTERS SQDN.

ROBERT CUTLER
ANTHONY IMPIETRO
RUSS SEDERBERG

ROBERT DE MARIA
C. MC ALISTER JR.
FR THOMAS F. SHEA

HUGH HIMES
CYRUS MICHAELS
WILLIAM SPENCE

J. A. HOLT
JAMES PETTUS
LT GEN ENGINE TIGHE

403RD SQDN.

BURT ADEN
CLANCY BALES
JOE BEVILL
JACK CARLYLE
ODIS CLEERE
D. DAVIS
GERALD EGGER
ORVILLE FRITSCH
M. POLECHKO
JERRY SNYDER
CARL YODER

GEORGE ANDERSON
DALE BARR
TED BIBY
ZANE CARTER
PRUL COBER
LLOYD DEMMY
NEIL FAIRBANKS
TALBOT GARNER
RAY QUILLEN
WAYNE TARKINGTON
JAY ZEAMER

HERBERT ANDRESS JR.
GEORGE BARTA
HARRY BRADLEY
HOWARD CATLIN
JOHN CROSBY
MURRAY DUGGER
JAMES R. FRIEDL
GENE "FLASH" GORDON
GREGORY L. ROSS
W. L. WELCH

MAX AXELSEN
RICHARD BELL
ROBERT BYRNE
E. CHRISTENSON
DONALD DANKERT
ART DURBECK
B. M. FRISBY
DON PITTENGER
ROBERT P. ROTH
DICK WILLIAMS

63RD SQDN.

HARVEY BANCROFT	KENNETH BECKSTROM	FRED BLAIR	BOB BUTLER
FRED CHEUVRON	RAY CRAWFORD	FRANCIS DENAULT	RUSS EDWARDS
TED EOFF	FRED EPPLIN	ALBERT FISCHER	JIMMIE HALE
JOHN HARMON	NATHAN "JOE" HIRSH	VERLIN HOOD	RADAR HOOVER
CARL HUSTAD	EPHRON HENRY JAMES	RAYMOND MERZ	LOUIS MIKLOS
FRED NICKEL	CHUCK RAUCH	BOB RICHARDSON	DONALD SCAGGS
KEITH SLANE	FOLMER J. SOGAARD	ROGER VARGAS	GEORGE WHITE
CHUNKY WILFERT	DICK WOOD	CHARLES WOODS	

64TH SQDN.

DAVE ADAMS	LELAND ADAMS	NICK ARABINKO	ROY BAKER
PAUL BARBUS	BOB BEAUDEAN	RUSS BURNETT	WILLIAMS BURNS
JOE CHEPULIS	LES COFFMAN	ROBERT COOPER	ORVILLE COULTER
GEORGE CRITSIMILIOS	JAMES DALY	HENRY DAY	SLEPKO DENEGAN
MICHAEL EDSALL	HUNK ELSASSER	KENNETH ENGEL	FALCNOR GIFFORD
ALVIN HAAS	DICK HENNIG	GEORGE HUNTER	TED JASINA
GEORGE JUOPPERI	ROGER KETTLESON	DONALD KING	ALFRED LE CLAIRE
ART MULLIGAN	GLENN E. REAM	JOHN ROCHE	WILLIAM SMITH
K. E. STEVENS	HARRY STEVENSON	ART TASSONI	JOHN TAYLOR
CHARLES THOMPSON	ED TORDOFF	SAM WELBORN	CHARLES WIEDER

65TH SQDN.

LAYTON BACON	DON BAKER	JOSH BARNES	TOM BEISTY
CHARLIE BELLOW	BREEZY BOREN	JOHN BORTELL	J. T. BRITTON
HERB BRUNE	BEN DAMRON	ANSLEM DAVID	MAX DRAKE
PAT FREEMAN	JOHN "RED" HANLON	JIM HARCROW	HARLEY HAYDEN
KENNETH HAYDEN	JOE HEUSTON	GREGG JOHNSON	HAROLD KAHLER
EDDIE KIMBROUGH	ELDON LAWSON	DON MARSAGLIA	JIM MC CLURE
PAT MILLER	JOE NIECE	FRED RADTKE	GUS RAPISARDI
EARL RESHAW	HAROLD RITZE	CLAUDE SACHSE	MELVIN SCHROEDER
JAMES SHROPSHIRE	EDWIN STUELAND	REG TATRO	ED TROCCIA
BILL WILSON			

SQDN UNKNOWN

MIRON DUKES	ROBERT HAASE	ORVILLE PASWATERS	ED ST. ONGE
JOHN WHIPPLE			

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

COL RON BEEZLEY	MARCIA BRENNEMAN	MRS L. CHRISTIANSEN	M/GEN E G SHULER JR.
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GEORGE B. GREEN, 403rd, Oakland, CA. sends the following Re: KENNETH BROWN'S query in the 1st newsletter. "I can't answer his second question, but will confirm the answer to his first question with a few other details. August 12, 45, the 43rd went to Matsuyama A/D on Shikoku Island. T/O was scheduled for 6:00 a.m. with a load of 260-pound frag clusters. Time over the target was 10:00-to-10:10 a.m., squadrons in trail, bombing from an altitude of 12-thousand-feet etc. Speaking for the 403rd, pilots were: Lead, BOND, #405, WRIGHT (R/W), #260, PALMER (L/W), #970. Second Flight, Lead, GREEN, #261, BROWN (R/W), #177, DICKERSON (L/W), #821, and DAWSON in the slot, #974. Mission operational No. 224-A-1. As I noted at the time, the mission was planned to destroy parked aircraft, and according to my bombardier, 50-percent of the frag clusters fell within the target area. The squadron's lead B-24 apparently had a bomb release malfunction and went back for a second shot, while I took the balance of the squadron on a brief tour over the Inland Sea. It was, I believe, the last shot fired in anger by the 43rd and Fifth Air Force heavies. But four days earlier, that was the really big "zinger", not because anything special happened to our little "in-flight community", but because many of us were witness to one aspect of the Nagasaki atomic bomb drop -- the horrendous mushroom cloud. I had no idea at the time what we were looking at as we were making a run on USA A/D on Kyushu Island. The pilots were: MERCER, GREEN, BROWN, DAWSON, SELLERS, HENRY, and S.B (?)."

NEIL FAIRBANKS, 403rd, Anoka, MN. writes that the 5th AIR FORCE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION records show that the 43rd Bomb Group Association is far ahead of all groups represented in the Foundation in contributions. NEIL is on the Board of Trustees representing the 43rd Group. HAL WINFREY, 65th, Stone Mountain, GA. is Vice President, and BOB BUTLER, 63rd, Fayetteville, NC. is a Trustee in large. NEIL says he is going to work on his tennis game for San Antonio, NEIL, BOB BUTLER, and LLOYD played tennis in Omaha.

The Group received a generous check from Mrs. Merle Goetz in memory of her son, JAMES B. GOETZ, Hdars, Cincinnati, OH., who passed away August 6, 1985. JIM was 68. I am sure we all appreciate the thought behind the gift, and share Mrs GOETZ'S sorrow.

Due to skillful money management by DALE BARR, the reunion returned a profit to the treasury. This is hard to believe because of the low cost per person and the quality of the meals, entertainment, tours etc. Due to the windfall, I was able to purchase a computer exactly like mine for the Group. I plan on retiring one of these days, and my own computers will be leased out for part of my income. In this way, there will be no interruption in the records or newsletters should I retire, furthermore, in the event that I cannot continue, or wish to turn the job over to someone else, the transition will be fairly simple. The only thing we need now is a printer. If anyone runs across a NEC letter quality SPINWRITER (used) which can be had cheap, let me know.

A last reminder that dues for 86 are due as of the reunion in Omaha. Dues run from reunion to reunion. \$10.00 per year, although we have never turned anyone down who gave more. Dues are not mandatory. We send the newsletter to all members. However, the roster will be sent only to dues paying members.

THE NEXT REUNION

OK, get your calendars out. Its October 8, 1986 (WED) to Noon October 12 (SUN). The place EL TROPICANO HOTEL on THE RIVER, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

We were fortunate to get the EL TROPICANO which is one of the most unique Hotels in San Antonio, and the first on the river. They are very much in demand for conventions, reunions etc. Facilities are excellent, and being in the heart of San Antonio, you will be within walking distance of downtown, the Alamo, the Tower of the Americas, and of course, San Antonio's greatest attraction, The River Walk, which winds gracefully throughout the entire downtown area. Sidewalk cafes, art exhibits, entertainment, hotels and clubs line both sides of this beautiful river with river barges carrying sightseers and diners leisurly by. The River Walk begins at the EL TROPICANO. For those who want a taste of old Mexico, or want to visit the restored Williamsburg area, or the Alamo, there is a Trolly Car in front of the hotel every 20 minutes if you can spare .40 cents, or take the River Taxi which docks at the EL TROPICANO approximently every hour. These are just a few of the nearby attractions of one of America's Five Unique Cities, more in later issues. We were able to secure a rate at the EL TROPICANO of \$48.00 single or double plus State tax.

More on the reunion in coming issues, but get your reservations in early to the EL TROPICANO HOTEL as we will have a limited number of rooms held for us.

May we wish you and yours a most wonderful, and above all, a healthy HOLLIDAY SEASON.

Your Chairman, GEORGE WHITE and AILEEN
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