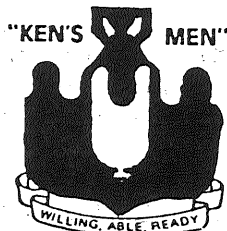


FORTY THIRD BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC.

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63rd Sqdn.



64th Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.

43RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP NEWSLETTER

29TH EDITION - November 1988

FROM BILL WILSON

The reunion in Dayton was a big success. Four hundred and forty three turned out with forty two men making their first reunion. We probably set some kind of a record.

Friday, October 7th, was spent at the Air Force Museum. One day is sure not enough time for this place. The high point of the day, and the entire Reunion, was the Dedication Ceremony. It took place at noon, BOB BUTLER gave a brief history of the 43rd, and LLOYD BOREN unveiled the Memorial. GEORGE WHITE made the presentation of the Memorial to the Air Force Museum. The Base Chaplain offered the invocation and benediction. The V.F.W. posted colors, then taps and the retirement of colors. It was very well done; not a dry eye in the place.

FATHER SHEA was not able to make the Reunion, the first and only one he has missed. So at high noon on Friday, October 7th, in West Hartford, CT. he gave his annual blessing on the 43rd. Also at 0300 hours on the 8th of October, 1988, the Mareeba Shire Council, represented by Cedric Davies and C.C. Mc Dowall, placed a flower on our super great Memorial at the Mareeba Air Drome. So we ended up with three services. A special thanks to our friends in Australia for the 3:00 A.M. service so they would all coincide.

Wednesday night the Board of Directors had their annual meeting. Thursday evening was taken up by Squadron meetings, and Saturday morning was the general meeting. The agenda for these meetings and the action taken is as follows: MEMORIAL FUND; Will continue seeking donations with these funds being kept in a separate account under the direction of BILL WILSON. Any requests or suggestions for memorials will be brought before the Board. It was voted for the next location of a memorial to be at the Air Force Academy - so keep sending in your donations to the 43rd Memorial fund % BILL. NON-PAYING NAMES ON THE ROSTER: We have about 1425 names on our roster and only about 600 think enough of the outfit to send in \$10.00 annual dues. This gets you the roster and four newsletters. There was a strong no pay and you are out vote. Dues are to be from one Reunion to the next, that is October to October.

PAY YOUR DUES NOW OR YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE ROSTER AND MAILING LIST

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: This is a new program that was approved. For \$100.00 you can become a life member. This money will be held in a special account and the interest income will be paid annually to the regular account. OLD RECORDS: LLOYD BOREN, BOB BUTLER, GEORGE WHITE, and I have a lot of super letters and stories that need to be cataloged and stored in a central location. DALE BARR, our Vice President, is trying to get a room in Omaha SAC Hdqrs. for all of our things. The 43rd, is still in business as the 43rd Bombardment Wing, and part of SAC. The members in the Omaha area would help SAC Museum catalog things as they come in. THE NEXT REUNION: Colorado Springs was approved for the 1989 Reunion. This will be subject to working out the details. We seem to do better on our Reunion sites if we have a two or three year lead. Maybe Florida in 1990, Langley Field in Norfolk, Virginia in 1991, then the Queen Mary in 1992 for the 50th Anniversary of her maiden voyage as a troop ship carrying a large part of the 43rd to Australia.

Col. Stephen F. Kollar, C/O. of Wright-Patterson, was kind enough to share the Officers Club with us on Saturday night. It was really a great treat. DICK and JANE HENNIG, with the 64th, ended up with almost all the work on our Dayton Reunion. Sorry it worked that way DICK, but you two really moved mountains. All four hundred forty three of us thank you very much - Good Show, Yank!

Speaking of the 64th, ANDY ANDERSON, ALLEN NELSON, and six other members of their crew made it this year to the Reunion. This is not the first time this crew has won the honor of having the most crew members present. This takes some doing.

FATHER THOMAS F. SHEA, is now at Saint Mary's Home, 291 Steele Road, West Hartford, CT 06117. He sent in the largest gift to the Memorial Fund. Asked his blessings on each of us and asked that we remember him in our prayers. God Bless you Father, and all you have meant to us.

My new members of the Memorial Fund are: PAGE PRESTON, 65th, CLINTON BRASSER, 65th, RICHARD WERTZ, 63rd, DAVID L. JENSKY, Hdqrs., GARRETT PEELING, 65th, HARVEY and JEAN LARSON, Hdqrs., ANSLEM M. DAVID, 65th. Also, an extra special thanks to: WILLIAM J. MC MURRAY, 63rd, E. J. and MARY SEDLANDER, BERNARD LYNN, AND MAX and MARGARET AXELSEN. Their donations were extra nice. Again, thanks to each of you.

WILLIAM R. EATON'S (403rd) project for the past quarter was to get MRS. ROGER RAMEY back in the 43rd. This has been done, MRS. ROGER MAXWELL RAMEY, 214 Hollyhill, Denton, TX 76205 is our newest Associate Member. A great lady and a real pleasure writing to her.

BILL EATON, 403rd, likes to exercise his "Bitching Privileges". This is just great, when the bitching stops we will have a real problem. This time it concerns the "Mareeba Butchers" being tagged on the 403rd. He has two or three good points. Number one: The 403rd was not in Mareeba in 1942. Try instead, Iron Range and Milne Bay. Early in 43, yes, but only on Recon and B24 check out. (May of 43, 7 mile strip). As I recall, "Tokyo Rose" called all of those flying out of Mareeba the "Mareeba Butchers". Not any one squadron. It might be interesting to hear some other variations on this story.

FRED COOKE, 65th, showed slide films of the Mareeba memorial. They were real good - even the ones that were upside-down. Good job, FRED, and thanks a lot.

DICK HEMPHILL, 65th, recalls several Mount Vernon passengers, JIM GARDNER, 65th, and FRANK KAVRIK, 65th. Yes DICK, the circling B24 was at Port Moresby. You asked about Doctor MILTON GUSACK. "BUD GUSACK did not make the reunion due to new complications from previous bone surgery. I'm sure he would like to hear from some of you guys.

The Board decided not to participate as a group in the 5th AF 1990 Las Vegas Reunion. But we were encouraged to attend individually if we could.

JIM REMBISZ, JOE SARNOSKI'S nephew, wrote Walt Disney Productions for possible insignias of the 43rd or of any squadron. Back comes a Walt Disney hippo sitting on the fuselage dropping bombs. If you are interested, just write: Walt Disney #101-340, 43rd Bomb Group (H), Langley Field, VA.

JIM and BERT HARCROW, 65th, showed up a day or two early. They missed the country music show in Nashville, but were a big help in getting the last minute things going at the Reunion. We could use the golf course and Officers Club, but just could not get a base clearance. Maybe things really have not changed all that much.

HERBERT ANDRESS, 403rd, also took the luxury ride on the Mount Vernon. First a 19th group fellow and then the 43rd. He became a member of the Ancient Order of the Deep, 29 July, 1942. This marked his first crossing of the equator.

C. F. MC ALISTER, Hdqrs., was by Snyder during the summer. Sorry I missed you C.F., but really, it was hot in Texas and I hid out in New Mexico for a while. Try it again this winter. GUS DRUMM, 64th, has a real project going. He and others are restoring a B-24 at Castle AFB, Merced, California. They have 37 aircraft restored. The B-24 came from South America in Crates. It had been used as a banana transport. Needless to say, GUS needs lots of parts. Please help by sending any leads on B-24 parts to: GUS DRUMM, 2942 N.G. St., Merced, CA 95340. If we can find enough parts, maybe we can put a 43rd insignia on it.

MARCIA BRENNEMAN, Assoc., says the Dayton Reunion was great. She hopes we will get back to the Queen Mary soon. MARCIA is promoting her upcoming book about her uncle WALTER BRENNEMAN, 403rd and 65th, who was killed over there, there will be

quite a bit about the 43rd in the book. WALTER was a pilot with BILL SMITH'S crew in both the 403rd and 65th Squadrons, and later had his own crew which was shot down at Bogadjim, New Guinea. MARCIA has quite an impressive list of credentials and has spent 10 years researching the book. If you are interested in a copy of the book, it is being offered at a pre-publication price until Dec. 13 of \$20.00 plus \$3.50 postage and handling. Delivery to be approx. March 1, 1989. Contact MARCIA at 65566 Washington Rd., Goshen, IN 46526.

HERB ANDRESS, 403rd, also sent in a good report on "Shoo-Shoo-Baby", a B-17G of the 8th AF. Dover AF Base reservists got 27 crates of B-17 10 years ago. The object: to restore as near as possible to perfect combat readiness. Ten years later it was flown to the Air Force Museum in Dayton. We just missed it: arrived a week after we were there. "Shoo-Shoo-Baby" will represent the 12,731 B-17's built. Also the 4750 plus lost in combat. WHAT A BIRD.

I had a card from ROBERT "BOB" RICHARDSON. He was a 63rd Gunner. He is selling aircraft in Ashland. I had a story to tell on BOB, but I forgot it. Maybe GEORGE WHITE needs a new aircraft; maybe a float plane.

A nice note from RALPH DE LOACH, 63rd Pilot. He says to mark your calendars for a real must: "BLACK JACK'S LAST FLIGHT". Steve Birdsall and crew and RALPH did a super job. National Geographic will show "BLACK JACK" on the November 20th program EXPLORER. It will be an aerial tribute to a great aircraft and a great outfit, the 43rd.

JAMES "JIM" MURPHY, 63rd Pilot, left Huntsville, Alabama on October 5th, and ended up in China. As long as he had to miss Dayton, he decided to R \$ R in China for a month. Big JIM says he will make Colorado Springs next year. I am going to make sure. I have assigned WILLIAM "RADAR" HOOVER and WILLIAM "BILL" O'BRIEN to your crew. Really, JIM, you were way the hell off course.

ALBERT L.C. PICKNILL, ex Sgt. Australian Intelligence Corp., sends his best regards to all Yanks, but a special hello to ROBERT G. "BOB" CUTLER, Hdqrs., and ANTHONY V. "TONY" IAMPIETRO, Hdqrs., and HAROLD HARFSHORN, of Lancaster, NH. Over the years, he has had visits from the Yanks and also visited some in the States. ALBERT says if you get to Brisbane please contact him. His address is: 6 Turnbull St., Shailer Park, Queensland, Australia, 4128. His telephone is 07-209-7990.

PAUL H. COBER, Director from the 403rd, wants to encourage all non-paying members to send in the \$10.00 dues. It is the only way we will know if you want to be a part of the Association. You might want to get a letter and read about one of your old friends, etc. It really is a good show. Hang in there - we need you: Thanks PAUL for the good words.

BILL "RADAR" HOOVER is a campaign worker for wife VIRGINIA. She is big in the political world in Osceola County, Florida. I hope you made it, VIRGINIA.

FRED RADTKE, 65th, was helpful in early planning of the Dayton Reunion. Thanks for everything. Also thanks go to WALDO SCHAUWEKER, 64th, for his help at the Club.

FRANK HOHMANN, 65th, says thanks for the good Reunion. He met two fellows from January 1940, both from the 74th Bomb Sqdn., Albrook Field, Panama. HARRY STALEY, 63rd, (it would be dull without HARRY) and FOLMER J. SOGAARD, 63rd. FRANK wants to hear from any other 74th fellows. FRANK says he and ALTON "DOUG" LEAMON, 65th, are all that's left of J.P. ROUSEK'S crew. I'm looking for JOHN COOP'S report on the B-26 crash that took JAY'S life. I will find it and make you a copy.

ROGER and NORMA LITTLE, 63rd, report a great time at the Dayton Reunion and wish to thank the gang that put it on. I believe that's mostly you DICK and JANE. Glad you enjoyed it RODGER, we tried.

Got to see PAT FREEMAN, 65th, and MAX OSBORN, 65th, and even recognized them after 44 years. MAX OSBORN, 65th, the quiet one from Cheyenne, Wyoming, had me wearing Wyoming badges, etc. I wonder if MAX is really a loud-mouth, misplaced Texan? (Although I haven't missed any). Col. GEORGE WHITE, of the New Jersey Whites, slipped across the Mason-Dixon Line after the Reunion to Asheville, North Carolina trying to hustle a poor Reb in a pool game. Sorry, GEORGE, no luck. The carpetbaggers worked that place over a long time ago.

AUSTIN R. "MATT" MATTESON and PATRICIA, 65th, made their first Reunion and thought it was great. They went on to Washington, D.C. and then back to Oregon. Made a really super outing. Vote for Queen Mary at a later date.

E. I. "ED" TROCCIA, 65th, sent in a good report on Dayton. Says JOHN "RED" HANLON, 65th, is holding his own and hoping to make the next reunion. I sent JOHN

a bunch of Texas "pee-cans" (that's Yankee talk). We are all rooting for you so hurry and get well.

J. C. "CHUNKY" and CLARE MARIE WILFERT, 63rd, were fun to be with in Dayton. They are extra nice folks that add a lot to any gathering.

GEORGE PUTNAM, 403rd, reports more on the circling B-24. GEORGE was the Co-pilot, first combat mission. (Ain't combat fun?). The aircraft was not RIO RITA, GEORGE later landed it on two engines, no nose wheel, and most of the crew shot up. GEORGE also reported the Class of 43-A and up, from Fort Stockton, Texas, had a Reunion the last of September.

ALTON D. "DOUG" LEAMAN, 65th Tail Gun, says no one knows ALTON, so we need to use the "DOUG" part now. DOUG thinks one of the pictures of a B-17 at the Air Force Museum has him looking out the waist window. DOUG brought copies of pictures of Air Crews to Dayton. Thanks for the help.

BOB and DORIS BUTLER, 63rd, seem to always be handy when you need them. BOB, this time in spite of a bad back. They are really a big help in keeping this thing flying.

GEORGE CRITSIMILLOS, 64th, reports that HARRY STEVENSON'S crew had their own reunion in Dayton in June, so they had to miss Dayton in October. See you next year GEORGE.

MAX and MARGARET AXELSEN missed Dayton. I think this is the first one they have missed. We really missed them this time. MAX wants to remind us all of two big events in 1989: Fort Worth, TX, May 19-21, the 50th Anniversary of the B-24. For more information, contact Bob Vickers, 6424 Torreon Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, telephone 505-821-4484. Then another Anniversary celebration, this one September 20-24, 1989, in San Diego, CA. Contact the B-24 Liberator Club, P.O. Box 841, San Diego, Calif. 92112, telephone 619-582-5445. These events are for all Air Crews, Ground Crews, and all people in B-24 Groups. That's us folks. MAX is also helping on the Memorial at the Air Force Academy. I'll keep you posted on this one. Bronze Plaque is the way it is done there, I think.

DALE BARR is also working on Colorado Springs for '89. He has asked all the bunch that live in and near Colorado Springs to get ready for a little work-out. This includes; HARRY URBAN, 403rd, BILL WELCH, 403rd, and GUS RAPISARDI, 65th. DALE has lots of ideas and maybe we have enough people in Colorado to carry them out. Stay after them Dale, they'll make a hell of a Reunion.

KENNETH "KEN" BROWN, 64th, sent me a couple of patches to put on my A-2 jacket. Thanks very much KEN. This is like most of my deals - I get a free patch that was too nice for my old jacket, so I bought a new jacket. If any of you want a new A-2 jacket, LLOYD BOREN has the order blanks. They are nice, a retired Air Force Colonel sells them. For \$175.00 you can get the regular GI cowhide, and the soft goatskin ones are \$195.00, both plus 6.50 postage and handling. A real buy.

FRED Q. EPPLEN, 63rd, sent in the combat log of Capt H. PARK and crew from August 1943 to April 1944. This is a one of a kind thing and we really need a place to put it. I hope DALE BARR works out something with Omaha SAC.

WILLIAM "BILL" KING, 1st Sgt., Hdqrs., has a son who is retiring after 26 years in service. There goes time again. I'm sure you are very proud of him.

CLIFFORD J. KOCHA, 65th, wants to thank BOB MITCHELL, 65th, for sending in his name. He says he got the roster, etc., and is sorry to report the death of AMBROSE LAUS, 63rd Crew Chief, in May of this year. We will all miss AMBROSE.

WILLIAM G. SCHMIDT, JR., 63rd, is a new member. He spotted us in the July Air Force Times Magazine. Has a good report on the 43rd from May 1946 on. Nice to have you BILL.

JACK FAERBER, 65th, reports a little heart flare-up. It occurred in mid-July, but says the treatment has been great. JACK lives in Newport, so his therapy includes walking on the beach. Way to go JACK.

HENRY J. LEWIS, 65th, sends kind words for HELEN and LLOYD. He has charts of Eastern and Western New Guinea. Hope you enjoyed the reunion HANK.

ED TROCCIA, 65th, reports he and WALTER BILL, 403rd, had a nice visit at Poughkeepsie. They were also together in Dayton at the reunion.

MAXON WOTRING, 403rd, sent in some of his writings from New Guinea days. One,

"Unexplored Territory", a tale about a mountain north of Nadzab was very good.

WARREN V. KAESSE, 65th, was operation clerk 1944 and 1945 from Owi to Ie Shima. WARREN missed a C-47 ride from Leyte to Ie Shima that didn't make it. Capt. TOM SCANLON pulled him off the C-47 and took him home in a B-24. WARREN is 78 and runs one to two miles every morning before 7:00. Needless to say, he is in excellent health. This should give GEORGE WHITE something to shoot at. Right now he is getting in shape by walking to the bathroom every morning at 7:00.

ROBERT HELMKAY, is wanting a Mareeba Butchers patch. BOB, you are in luck. LLOYD has patches of each squadron and the Group patch. They are \$10.00 each, and real nice. DOROTHY and BOB were looking at the Return of the Eagles trip Down Under. I'm sure it was a good one.

CARL O. SIMPSON, 403rd, was 13th Recon at Langley Field, VA - Sgt. of the Guard, Bangor on Pearl Harbor Day, then on to Melbourne August 14th, 1942. He left the service Sept. of '45 and worked for Exxon for 34 years.

WESLEY D. COWAN, 403rd, says he can't make the reunions, but he really enjoys the newsletters. He would to say hello to JOHN COOP, and others who may remember him.

WILLIAM E. DUMKA, 63rd Crew Chief, is looking for MARIUS EVELPETHIS, 63rd, who served on the ground crew of "TALISMAN". Let BILL know if you have any leads. He also sent a copy of "The Dinkum Oil", Headquarters 43rd Bomb Group (H) dated Oct 6, 1943. It was the first I had ever seen.

LLOYD tells me he talked to LON WEYLAND, 64th, 300 Mitchell St., Hot Springs, AR 71913. LON asked about another line crew fellow and all he could remember was the nickname "RACEHORSE". Several Crew Chiefs from the 64th knew the fellow, and one said he had died, but none knew any more than that his name started with an "A". If anyone knows more, let LON know.

BERNARD LYNN, 65th, a new member, sent in a nice donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Sgt. PAUL R. ELLIS, radio gunner who was killed on takeoff in November of 1943.

ERVIN CHAMPEAU, 65th, reports he was the owner and operator of a moonshine still at Nadzab. No wonder he got to return early.

SPENCER C. "SPIKE" WOOLLEY, Hdqrs., Assistant Group Intelligence Officer, says his fame is mostly from getting the super fine (??) movies at Port Moresby.

Paul J. Murphy, class of 43-E (WCTC & SETC), 7013 Bellrose NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110, is trying to locate his classmates for a reunion. Any help in this area, let Paul know.

CHARLES E. MARVEL, 403rd, says the 403rd Reunion in September was a very nice turnout. He just bought a two place Gruman and is looking forward to flying to our next reunion. He found CARL AVERILL at 8407 Dawn Drive, Rome, NY 13448. You might want to drop CARL a note.

New Member, MILTON H. COLLIER, 64th, reports on the 43rd post WWII days. Early days of the B-50's - taking part in refueling "LUCKY LADY II" on non-stop around the world flight, etc.

IRENE HOFFERBER reports the passing of her husband, KENNETH HOFFERBER, 403rd. IRENE would like to keep getting the newsletter and any other correspondence. She is a new Associate member. Glad to have you. IRENE is sending KENNETH'S pictures, etc. to DALE BARR for safe keeping. Thanks a lot.

JOHN J. ONDRIS, Hdqrs., says your old First Sgt. at Ranwick Race Track - Torrance Creek - Mareeba, says hello to all the troops.

CHARLIE BELLOWS, 65th, writes everything is back to normal after a little surgery. He and GENEVA also sent in more information on some of the members. He missed all you folks at the Reunion, but is already getting ready for next year.

The Collings Foundation, River Hill Farm, Stow, Mass. 01775, phone 617-562-9182, is moving along on restoring their B-24. They need money - donations of all kinds will be welcome. Write or call and they will fill you in on the program. They are holding a Open House called "Kick the Tires & Light Your Fires", Feb. 4-5, 89 at Tom Reilly Vintage Aircraft, 231 N. Airport Rd., in Kissimmee, Florida. Contact Marcia at 1-800-545-3349 for further details.

We regret to inform you that ARMAND LAMBERT, 63rd, has had his mail returned

marked "deceased".

FRED CHEUVRONT, 63rd, did move from Whittier, Calif. to Bishop, Calif. to be with his son. Shortly thereafter, in June, he passed away. We will all miss him. In addition to bringing and selling the caps through the Omaha reunion, FRED was the backup man for our computer program. If you have an IBM compatible and want to help, LLOYD will send you a copy of the program, and an updated roster disk each month. This is insurance for LLOYD, he may fall again playing tennis.

RUSSELL A. AURENTZ, 65th, sent in a report on the 43rd, "The First Team of the Pacific" written by ARTHUR VERSEY. Well maybe we were. He sounds very convincing.

It was a real treat to have Col. JAMES T. PETTUS with us in Dayton. That way we had our real C/C, not a used-car salesman trying to act like one. The funny thing, JIM and I were both in the RCAF before WWII. JIM was flying for the RCAF in 1940 and I was there in 1941. For a while we were both stationed with the Empire Training Scheme #5 Bombing and Gunnery School, Dafoe, Saskatchewan.

DON BAKER, 65th, was a big help again. As usual, DON sold caps and patches, etc. A real nice fellow. Thanks again DON.

This is the last newsletter for half of you, those who do not pay dues. We need all of you, each of you mean a lot to us, but our expenses have constantly risen as the membership has increased, and our income stays about the same. The only way we can offset this deficit is to drop those who do not pay dues. Knowing that if you are like me, you hate to address an envelope, the Board has instructed LLOYD to include a self addressed envelope with this mailout. NOW, IF YOU WILL LOOK AT THE LABEL ON THIS NEWSLETTER, YOU WILL SEE EITHER THE WORD "PAID" OR THE WORD "LIFE" AFTER YOUR NAME. THIS MEANS - PAID FOR 1989. IF NEITHER OF THESE APPEAR AFTER YOUR NAME, YOU ARE NOT PAID FOR 1989. IF AN ERROR HAS BEEN MADE, LET LLOYD KNOW RIGHT AWAY, OR IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PAY THE \$10.00, LET LLOYD OR I KNOW. Now pay up! Incidentally, if you don't want a life membership, how about 5 years. GEORGE MUNSELLE, Hdqrs., sent \$100.00 in and then phoned LLOYD and told him he didn't want the life membership, just to put it down as a contribution. "Hell" he said, "At my age I wouldn't buy green bananas". GEORGE admitted he got that line from George Burns. LLOYD promptly wrote GEORGE back and told him that the computer program was only set up for an additional 5 years and he would have to mark him paid for life cause GEORGE was too ornery to die in 5 years. Anyway folks, I'll be fired before too long, and the newsletters will be much better. A lot more to look forward to.

This is pretty much it for now. Missed hearing from JIM SHROPSHIRE, JAY ZEAMER, JOE NIECE, GEORGE SHAKO, GUS RAPISARDI, DR. MILTON GUSACK and lots of others. Well maybe next time.

We really need to get things rolling on the Colorado Springs Reunion in late September or early October '89. Let me know if any of you can be of help - we need all we can get.

Take care and God Bless.

FROM LLOYD

Heard from BILL GALIDA, 403rd. They had planned on making Dayton after visiting their daughter who was ill, however, by the time they were ready to leave, it was too late. BILL and DAYE hope to make the next one. He talked with HUGH BROWN and says HUGH is a 403rd man. We had him as Squadron Unknown. This brings me to another gripe, We have too many in Squadron Unknown. How about you guys letting me know, at least, what Squadron you were in.

Sent 2 caps and a Group Patch today to ED TORDOFF. ED was unable to make the reunion in Dayton. On top of all his other troubles, he developed pneumonia and suffered a collapsed lung. WINONA wrote that he fell the other day and bruised himself. She also sent in his dues and said he enjoys reading the newsletters. I'm sure he would also enjoy hearing from some of you.

The Costa Mesa Historical Society will sponsor the 14th Annual Reunion of the Santa Ana Army Air Base former military and civilian base personnel, Aviation Cadets and guests on March 11, 1989. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA. Contact SAAAB Wing, P.O. Box 1764, Costa Mesa, CA. 92628, Phone 714-631-5918.

PAUL MEYER, 65th, wrote to let us know about the death of another Bradenton, FL., member, M.C. "JOHN" TOWNSEND, 63rd. PAUL writes that he has worn his 43rd cap so long it getting worn out. He wanted a new one. It's on it's way.

M. L. "CRABBIE" CRABB wants the following in the newsletter: 74th Bomb Sqdn. stationed in Guatemala City during 1943 to 1945. Our reunion this year is being held in Las Vegas, NV. in September of 1989. Dates are 10-11-12-13. Contact CRABBIE at Box 85, Killeen, TX 76540.

Now, a very special letter from DICK and JANE HENNIG:

This is the only way that we know to thank all of you who attended the 8th Annual Reunion in Dayton. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

It started when you sent your reservations - you praised us for accepting something we hadn't asked for and some of you, we think, felt sorry for us - we did too, at times. However, we had a lot going for us as we had been to Omaha, San Antonio, and Bossier City and felt we had a lot to live up to, and also knew what would be expected of us. We also had the right people to call when we stumbled.

We want to thank you for the help and encouragement you gave us. Thanks, too, to the ladies who helped at the reservation table and ladies program, and a special thanks to Lloyd Boren and Bill Wilson - we couldn't have survived without them.

We appreciate your nice notes and letters - one mentioned that we even had an "in" with the weather man as it was so beautiful. It was good to see all of you - hope to see you next year in Colorado Springs - and thanks for helping us have such a "great" reunion.

The gifts - the leather jacket and silver tray - were greatly appreciated and unexpected. Dick is very proud of the jacket and shows it off every chance he gets - thank you so much.

DICK & JANE HENNIG

VINCENT STOPCZYNSKI, Hdqrs., wrote to say how much he enjoyed the Reunion. He asked for FATHER SHEA'S address. He and WALT SISMILICH, 64th, are going to try to drive up to see him. VINCE says that every time he went to confession, he would confess in Polish. He says FATHER SHEA always referred to him as a good boy. (FATHER SHEA didn't understand a word of Polish.)

CHARLIE STENGLEIN, 65th, wrote saying that he and PATRICIA attended the big Return of the Eagles Air Show at Richmond, Australia. They had a Jap Zero on display there. The plane had been abandoned at Gasmata, and was the personal aircraft of Saburo Sakai, the 4th ranked Jap Air Ace. Larry Hickey refers to him on Page 42 of "Warpath Across the Pacific". Anyhow, Sakai flew this plane while attached to the Rabaul based 204th Air Group in June - July of 1942. CHARLIE said he got a funny feeling looking at that plane and remembering the past.

ED TROCCIA, 65th, wrote with some bad news. MICKEY ANDRADE, 65th, who was the ball turret gunner on "The Old Man", the ship DUTCH EHLERS, DOC BRYANT, THE INDIAN, BILL BOLY and MYSELF flew in, died in 1987 of a heart attack. MICKEY had been in a Veteran's Hospital and had lost both hands in an accident. He never got to make a reunion, we located him too late.

The following members and wives were present at the Reunion in Dayton. We had a total of 443 present. We had a large turnout who were making their first reunion with us, and these are indicated by a asterisk after their last name.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

MARCIA BRENNEMAN, WRITER

LARRY HICKEY, WRITER

HEADQUARTERS SQDN.

ROBERT CUTLER, ROBERT DE MARIA SR., JOSEPH & ARLENE GREENWELL, SHELBY & MARION GRIFFIN*, HUGH HIMES, TONY IAMPIETRO, WILSON "BILL" KING, CYRUS "MIKE" MICHAELS, ALEX NOVELLI*, FRED O'NEILL, DEAN PAGE*, JIM PETTUS, RUSS & CLYTIE SEDERBERG. and VINCENT STOPCZYNSKI*.

63rd SQUADRON

JOHN & PATRICIA AHERN, CHAS. LLOYD & JO ANNE ANDERSON, ROBERT BACON, HARVEY & CAROLINE BANCROFT, WILLIAM & LAURA BENTZ, FRED BLAIR, ROBERT & DORIS BUTLER, STAN & BONITA CASEY, WILLIAM CHURCH & WIFE, RAY & DOROTHY CRAWFORD & GUEST, HARRY DALZIEL, TONY & VIRGINIA DEANGELIS, FRANCIS & PAULINE DENAULT, JAMES AND AUDREY DIEFENDERFER, RUSSELL & DOROTHY EDWARDS, KENNETH EIDEN & WIFE, FRED & HELEN EPPLER, ALBERT & CHARLOTTE FISCHER, ROLAND FISHER, S.L. & THELMA FLINNER*, RAYMOND & BETTY GATES, ELWYN & PHYLLIS HANSEN, ELMER & ALMA HANSEN, GARY & RUTH HAZEN, GEORGE HOLSTEAD, VERLIN HOOD, WILBERT & ELEANOR HOUSEHOLDER*, RICHARD & MILDRED HOWARD, CARL & GINNY HUSTAD, EPHRON HENRY JAMES, LEROY & NAOMI JASMER*,

EUGENE KILLIAN & WIFE, BILL LAIRD, RODGER & NORMA LITTLE, JOHN & LOUISE LYLE JR.*, WILLIAM MC MURRAY & WIFE, LOUIS & HELEN MIKLOS JR., RICHARD & DELEDA MONTGOMERY*, HAROLD & PATRICIA NEWTON, FRED & MARION NICKEL, CHARLES & ZUILA NUNEZ, BILL & HELEN O'BRIEN, CLARENCE & ELEANOR O'CONNOR, STEPHEN & MADELINE PERRONE, FRED PETERS*, CHARLES "CHUCK" & PAT RAUCH, FRANK & MARGERY REMANIAK, ROBERT & SHIRLEY RICHARDSON, ATTELIO ROSATI, FOLMER & FLORENCE SOGAARD, JOSEPH & FLORENCE SOSNOWSKI, EDWARD & HELEN ST. ONGE, HARRY STALEY, LEONARD SYMROSKI, JOE & STELLA TINSMAN, ROGER & OLGA VARGAS, JAMES & OMA WATTS, ALBERT & RUTH WEBBER, RICHARD & VALERIE WERTZ*, GEORGE & AILEEN WHITE, J.C. "CHUNKY" & CLARA MARIE WILFERT, RICHARD WOOD, and CHARLES WOOD.

64th SQUADRON

CHARLES & JEANNE ALBRIGHT, HOWARD ANDERSON, NICK & SHIRLEY ARABINKO, PHILLIP & ANNA BARBER, PAUL BARBUS, BOB & LIL BEAUDEAN, DEAN & VIRGINIA BROWN, KENNETH & ROSEMARY BROWN, BILL & LORA BROWNE JR., RUSS & JANE BURNETT, DR. HUGH & DOROTHY CASSIDY*, JOE CHEPULIS, LES & HELEN COFFMAN, ROBERT COOPER, O. K. & HELEN MAE COULTER, HENRY & CLARIETTA DAY, MICHAEL SLEPKO & SIGRUN DENEGAN, MICHAEL & JANE EDSALL, CHARLES & MARY LANE GIDDINGS, FALCNOR & GOLDIE GIFFORD, ROBERT GOODWIN & WIFE, RALPH & MOZELLE GRUBB*, ALVIN HAAS, DICK & JANE HENNIG, PHIL HOFFECKER, MATT HOLOHAN, DALE HUEY, GEORGE & IVY HUNTER, JOSEPH & HELEN JANCOSKO, GEORGE & ANNA JUOPPERI, ROGER & AUDREY KETTLESON, MAURICE & FLORENCE KOPEL*, EMIL & SHIRLEY LANGE, GEORGE & MARJORIE LYNCH, CHARLES MC CLENNY, TROY MC CONNELL, ROBERT & KAYE MC LARTY, BYRLE & DOLLY MILLER, GARRETT & MARY MINNICK, ART & BEV MULLIGAN, ALLEN NELSON JR., EVERETT & GRACE PERKINS*, JOHN & JEANNE PFEIFFER*, JOHN & GENEVIEVE ROCHE, JIM & GLADYS RODELLA, HOWARD & WILMA ROGERS*, WESLEY "WES" ROWE, WALDO & MARY SCHAUWEKER, WILLIAM & JEANNE SMITH, KEN & ADELE STEVENS, LUCKY STEVENS, FRANKLIN & LYNN WAYSSE, LEWIS "LEW" & VIRGINIA WHITWORTH*, WILLIAM F. WILSON*, DR. JACKSON & DOT SUE YOUNG, HARRY & FRANCES YOUNG.

65th SQUADRON

ARLEIGH & BILLYE JEAN APPEL*, RUSS & BETTIE AURENTZ*, DON BAKER, MILTON & IMOGENE BASS, DAYTON & ANN BLANCHARD, LLOYD & HELEN BOREN, ANDREW & DOROTHY BUROCHONOCK, EDWARD & LIL DALY*, BEN & JANE DAMRON, TED & LORI DE FEDERICIS*, JAMES EIDE*, OWEN & JOYCE ERNSTHAUSEN*, ALBERT FAIR, ED & PATRICIA FEILLE, PATRICK & ELIZABETH FREEMAN, ROMEO FURIO, W. "BOB" AND BETTY GAFFNEY*, ROBERT GIPE, JIM & BERT HARCROW, HARLEY & PATSY HAYDEN, KENNETH & MAYSEL HAYDEN, JOSEPH & ELIZABETH HENSLER*, ROBERT & PAULINE HEWITT, DR. LEROY & JO ANN HOCKENSMITH*, FRANK & VIRGINIA HOHMANN*, ARNOLD & EVELYN HUSKINS & GUESTS, THOMAS & KATHY JAMISON & GUESTS, RUBY & BETTY JOHNSTON, HAROLD & DONNA KAHLER, EDWARD & ALFREDA KURN (KUSNERCZYK)*, ELDON LAWSON & WIFE, ALTON LEAMAN, HENRY LEWIS, BERNARD LYNN, LARRY & LOIS MAIN*, AUSTIN & PATRICIA MATTESON*, MAX MAYER, JAMES "MAC" & CLARISSA MC CLURE, EDWARD O'CONOR* & WIFE, JAMES & MARY OBENOUR, MAX OSBORN, JAMES OTTINGER, GARNETT PEELING, EARL RESHAW, JOSEPH & HESTER MAE RICHARD, CLAUDE & CLARICE ROBINSON, ROSARIO & NELLITA SERIO, HOWARD & BETTY SPILLYARDS, CHARLES & LORRAINE STEWART, EDWIN STUELAND, LEWIS & DOROTHY SUTTON, CLETUS SWEIGARD, REGGIE & LUCILLE TATRO, WILTON & CATHERINE THOMAS*, ED AND JOHANNA TROCCIA & SON, JAMES & SOPHIE WARREN*, DONALD & LUCILE WATKINS, GEORGE & ANNE WEICHLEIN, JOHN & JANET WHIPPLE, AND BILL & MARY LOIS WILSON.

403rd SQUADRON

PERCY & JUANITA ALEXANDER, GEORGE & JEAN ANDERSON, HERBERT & MILDRED ANDRESS, DALE & GIN BARR, GEORGE BARTA & WIFE, PAUL BAUER & WIFE, KEN BECKSTROM & WIFE, RICHARD & FLORENCE BELL, JOE & EVELYN BEVILL, WALTER & MELISSA BILL, HARRY & ESTHER BRADLEY, ROBERT BYRNE, DR. ORLEY CAUDILL, ODIS & BARBARA CLEERE, PAUL & CAROLYN COBER, CHARLES & CLARA COLE, LLOYD DEMMY, CHARLES & MIDGE DOWNER, WILLIAM & MARY EATON & GUESTS, QUINTEN & NANCY EMBER*, DEXTER & BETTY FAIRBANKS*, TALBOT & WAUNETA GARNER, JOE GOSSEAU, JOSEPH & JEAN GREEN*, BRIAN & KATHERINE HASTINGS, HAROLD & PHYLLIS JOHNSON, JOSEPH KARMOSAY*, WADE & BURNELL KEHR, WALTER & FLORENCE KICHURA, LA VERNE & MARGARET KINZLER, LUCIAN KONOPA & WIFE, EVERETT & DOROTHY LIND*, FREDRICK & JANET LLOYD, MIKE LONG, LELAND & CHARLOTTE LOUGHREY, JOHN MC CRUM & SON, LLOYD & BETTY MORGAN, RICHARD MROWINSKI, GEORGE & HARRIET MUNSELLE, JOSEPH & MARY O'REILLY, PAUL & ELAINE PASKVAN, JOHN & MARGIE PERKINS, MIKE & THERESA POLECHKO, JAMES & OPAL PRATHER, GREGORY & VERA ROSS, JOHN & MARY SEDLANDER*, JERRY & VELL SNYDER, JOSEPH & SALLY SNYDER, BILL & NANCY SOLOMON, WILLIAM SPENCER, ALBERT & RENY SYLVIA, JOHN & ELEANOR TALLITSCH, WAYNE & BERTHA TARKINGTON, STANLEY & LILLIAN TULIG, AND RICHARD WILLIAMS & GUEST.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO YOUR ROSTER

SQUADRON UNKNOWN

FLOYD F. THOMPSON, 1112 RIDGEWAY DR., BRANDENBURG, KY 40108
 EZRA R. CHILDERS, 1309 12TH S.E., DECATUR, AL 35601
 JOHN GOOSHERST, 8069 CAMEO CIRCLE, TUSCON, AZ 85715
 KENNETH W. KRUSE, RR 8, LANCASTER, SC 29720
 PAUL J. WOGAN, RD 1 ELMBROOK RD., BEAVER FALLS, PA 15010

ROBERT J. BELDON, 625 NW 28TH COURT, FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33311
 ROBERT L. ADAMS, 1207 AVE D., BILLINGS, MT 59102
 FLOYD H. BREWER, 65 WEST HIGH ST., LOCKPORT, NY 14094
 EDWARD D. MOORE, 1620 WASHINGTON, BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009
 JOSEPH BABYACK, 93 SUSAN COURT, CLIFTON, NJ 07012
 JAMES O'BRIEN, 112 GILBERT AVE, WEST HAVEN, CT 06515
 WILLIAM WALLACE, 218 E. MERRITT AVE., TULARE, CA 93274
 HOMER READ, CITY MANAGER, WILLS POINT, TX 75169
 GLENN BOETTGER, 1050 MAURICE DR., BRIGHTON, MI 48116
 DONALD LEMOIN, 9547 MAPLE CT., CARNELL, CA 93923
 CHARLES RENTINENGOR, 4517 WOODCREST CIR., WICHITA FALLS, TX 70309
 CHARLES F. HOY, 730 ELKWOOD DR., NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070
 GEORGE M. BLEGEN, CANON, CO
 REVELLE D. BOWERMAN, 3222 HOWARD # 1003 W., SAN ANTONIO, TX 78212
 CLARENCE CREAMER, P.O. BOX 10160, OLYMPIA, WA 98502
 MERLE L. WILSON, 426 AVE E. WEST, KINGMAN, KS 67068
 JAMES GALLOW, 8 BARCELONA AVE, SALAM, MA 01970
 JOHN P. STUPAK, 10 MORSE ST., NORWOOD, MA 02062

HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON

DONALD E. AILES, 510 W. MAIN ST., ANNA, OH 45302
 MAJ/GEN NILS O. OHMAN, 618 BALFOUR, SAN ANTONIO, TX
 ROBERT DURRENBERGER, 19063 N. 98TH LN., PEORIA, AZ 85345
 GENE STRAW, 1117 LARKIN RD., GRIDLEY, CA 95948

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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 RUTH MC CLELLAN, 23 CREST, CONCORD, MA 01742
 MRS. DORIS LA PLANTE, 419 S. CENTRAL, PIERRE, SD 57501
 VICTOR HERNANDEZ, 2043 W. HUISACHE, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201

403rd SQUADRON

JOSEPH KARMOSEY, 67 E. MAPLEWOOD AVE., DAYTON, OH 45405
 PHILLIP CAMPBELL, 578 HARWOOD, MEMPHIS, TN 38119
 DELWYN SWANSON, 12908 S. WICKER DR., LA MIRADA, CA 90638
 ROBT. F. HENDRICKSON, 110 DINNERBELL RD., BUTLER, PA 16001
 HAROLD W. YEOMANS, 1506 MULBERRY # 26, MARTINSVILLE, VA 24112
 WAYNE E. CALDWELL, 117 RUSH CT., NOBLESVILLE, IN 46060
 WILLIAM R. SPENCER, 3340 D NORTHCREST RD., ATLANTA, GA 30340
 CHARLES H. SELLERS, 923 CENTRAL AVE., FT WALTON BEACH, FL 32548
 EDWARD BANKOWSKI, 1390 NEW LONDON AVE., CRANSTON, RI 02910
 HERBERT E. CONVERSE, 229 GARDENDALE, MONTGOMERY, AL 36110
 M. C. MYLES, RR2 VIOLET LANE, CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY 42718
 CARL AVERILL, 8407 DAWN DRIVE, ROME, NY 13448

63rd SQUADRON

WILLIAM G. SCHMIDT JR., 7132 LITTLE HARBOR, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648
 MAJ/GEN JOHN A WILSON 3RD, 1703 COONSKIN DR., CHARLESTON, WV 25311
 FRED PETERS, 42 ANTIOCH DR., SAN MATEO, CA 94403
 JOHN GRIFFITH, 29101 FOOTE RD., BAY VILLAGE, OH 44140
 WILLIAM J. PLEASANT JR., 5935 WESTMORE DR., JACKSON, MS 39206
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 FRANCIS LANGLAND, 8002 CLAY, WICHITA, KS 67207
 ROBERT "BOB" STEFFES, 3105 ADAMS ST., TWO RIVERS, WI 54241
 ALFRED M. BARON, BOX 96 WHITTAKER RD., HOLLAND PATENT, NY 13354
 ARMAND LAMBERT, 379 CANTON ST., FITCHBURG, MA 01420
 SHELBY E. GRIFFIN, 906 ASHFORD PKWY., HOUSTON, TX 77077

64th SQUADRON

HOWARD L. ROGERS, 2041 ALBANY ST., BEECH GROVE, IN 46107
 FRANK ROSEN, 1133 GOLDEN OLIVE, SANIBEL, FL 33957
 FRANK CUMMINS, BX 115, 502 W. MARK AV., OLNEY, IL 62450
 BOB ZAHN, 2456 HENRY DR., SEWICKLEY, PA 15143
 TED WITBRODT, 4652 BEVERLY LANE, BAY CITY, MI 48706
 RAY N. BAASE, 3014 S. MAIN, NEW CASTLE, IN 47362
 BOB MORROW, 533 LAY PORT DR., SEBASTIAN, FL 32958
 BRUNO LIPUT, 8021 N. ODELL, NILES, IL 60648
 ROBERT BELYER, BOX 666, POTSDAM, NY 13676
 JOE COX, RR 27 BOX 520-A, AUSTIN, TX 78737
 DON HOGUE, 593 ARCH ST., MEADVILLE, PA 16335
 NATHAN M. MALNEKOFF, 175 E. DELAWARE PL., CHICAGO, IL 60603
 GENE B. DOURLAIN, 14743 RIALTO AVE., BROOKSVILLE, FL 33512
 BILLY J. RASINOVICH, 99 CONCORD AVE., NORWOOD, MA 02062
 BYRLE MILLER, 1515 BIRDIE DR., ZACHARY, LA 70791

DON SQUIRES, 141 MILLER ST., MIDDLEBORO, MA 02346
MARTIN L. GILMORE, 129 FAUSTINA AVE., MODESTO, CA 95351
VICTOR KASTELIC, 501 S. 111 AVE EAST, TULSA, OK 74128
ROY B. BAILEY, 8160 WILLIAM ST., SOUTH GLEN FALLS, NY 12803
LEE CASON JR., P.O. BOX 535, MADISON, FL 32340

65th SQUADRON

BERNARD P. LYNN, RT 1 BOX 144, MINERVA, NY 12851
TED KROSCHER, 7604 RED ARROW HWY., WATERVLIET, MI 49098
ERVIN CHAMPEAU, 2032 MEDFORD AVE., INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46222
ROGER B. PARRY, 5757 66TH ST. N. #42, ST PETERSBURG, FL 33709
ELUTERIO NAVA, CEDRES CIRCLE, SANTA FE, NM 82501
ROBERT W. WHITE, 54 GOODALE ST., W. PEABODY, MA 01960
RAYMOND B. MC CABE, 6545 MAIN, DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60516
KARL P. DANCKWERTH, 80 CLIFF HILL RD., CLIFTON, NJ 07013
JOHN R. O'NEAL, OAKS, 4115 W. 16TH, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72204
JOHN J. WILLIAMS, P.O. BOX 26, PRATTSVILLE, AR 72129
JAMES E. COLLIE, STEPHENS DR., NORMAN, IL 61761
HAROLD PERKINS, RR2 177 RD O 5, GRAND RAPIDS, OH 43522
HARRIS N. LIEN, 233 RUNAWAY BAY DR., BRIDGEPORT, TX 76026
JOHN L. BETTINGER, 3413 N. 21ST, WACO, TX 76708
DALE F. MILLER, 802 MARSEILLES AVE., UPPER SANDUSKY, OH 43351
DON B. TRUDEAU, 143 S. 297TH PLACE, FEDERAL PLACE, WA 98003
EVON HOWELL, 1137 LEONARD RD., POINT PLEASANT, NJ 08742
ANDREW S. GULIUS, 249 IROQUOIS AVE., WILKES BARRE, PA 18702
EDWIN A. GUSTAFSON, P.O. BOX 419, STOW, MA 01775
JIM BROWN, RT 3 BOX 188, CLEARFIELD, PA 16830
ROBERT S. SMITH, 6140 GLENNOX LN., DALLAS, TX 75214

MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN YOUR ROSTER

CHANGE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF ALEXANDER NOVELLI PHONE # TO 1388
ADD PHONE # FOR CHARLIE BELLOWS -- 916-753-5426
ADD PHONE # FOR JIM HARCROW -- 904-862-7503
CHANGE PHONE # FOR ROGER KETTLESON TO 702-363-2824
CHANGE THE FOLLOWING FROM SQUADRON UNKNOWN
ROGER W. BUCHE TO HEADQUARTERS
F. NEAL FUGATE TO 63RD SQUADRON
PAUL LEDGER TO 63RD SQUADRON

One last word, LLOYD has a few caps left from Bossier City, and some from Dayton. In an effort to sell them out, they will go for \$5.00 and we pay the postage while they last. DALE BARR says he picked up a few 5th Air Force patches while in Dayton at the museum. Dale wants \$3.50 each. Contact him if you need one.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF BOB BUTLER'S ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLED 43RD AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES.

From the 20th day of November 1940, when the 43rd Bomb Group was constituted, until the present day, now serving as the 43 Bombardment Wing, the 43rd has established a proud history in the United States Air Force. In pre-war days, flying the B-18, and evolving through the years to the B-52. Thousands of air personnel, who worked together on the ground and in the air, can look back with pride, as we do, on the 43rd's record of achievement.

The group was activated at Langley Field, Virginia, on January 15, 1941, from elements of the 2nd Bomb Group, the birthplace for the implementation of the B-17. In August 1941, the group moved to Bangor, Maine for further training; comprised of Hdqrs., 63rd, 64th, and 65th Squadrons. It was joined in April 1942, after moving overseas, by the 403rd Bombardment Squadron, formerly the 13th Recon. Squadron.

After the outbreak of World War II, the group engaged in anti-submarine patrols on the Atlantic Coast until, in February 1942, it was moved to Boston for transport on the Queen Mary, with other troops, on a 40 day solo voyage across the Atlantic and Indian Oceans to Sydney, Australia, arriving on 28 March. Early elements of the 403rd Squadron had already arrived in Australia on the Argentina.

After moving to the Brisbane area and further combat training at air bases in northern Australia at Torrens Creek, Charters Towers, Iron Range, and finally settling in Mareeba, west of Townsville. Early combat missions were performed with the 19th Bomb Group.

The 43rd Bomb Group, now an established unit, continued to operate from

Australia, New Guinea, and Owi Island from August 1942 until November 1944 with numerous attacks on Japanese shipping in the Netherland East Indies and Bismark Archipelago, experimenting with low level skip bombing tactics for effective results. There were also many missions on enemy airfields and installations and tactical support of ground troops in the area of Buna and Sanananda Point. These actions were culminated in early March 1943 by participation in the complete victory over a large Japanese convoy in the Bismark Sea; a unified effort of all 5th Air Force units and those of the Royal Australian Air Force and five PT Boats of the U.S. Navy. Other targets during this period included Rabaul Harbor, Lae, Salamau, Wewak and Kavieng.

Until later in the summer of 1943, most of the 43rd missions were executed in the B-17, models "E" and "F". Then a transition was made into the B-24 Liberator, supplemented by 12 radar equipped B-24s for special missions. This latter innovation was known as the "Scott Project". The group moved from Jackson Strip at Port Moresby to Dobadura on the north coast of New Guinea in December 1943, and in later months to Nadzab and to Owi Island in July 1944. Constantly on the move, the group continued northwardly to Tacloban and Mindora in the Philippines, with some elements a Palau in the West Carolines Islands. In March 1945, the 43rd moved again to Clark Field in the Philippines and within four months began flying missions from Ie Shim in the Ryuku Islands.

As all units of the 5th Air Force grew in strength, attacks were made on the march north against Yap, Halamahera, the Southern Philippines, and oil refineries in Ceylon and Borneo. After the move to the Philippines in November 1944, missions were flown to installations in Formosa and China, with ground support for our Army forces in Luzon. Then in July 1945, as the end of the War approached, the group bombed the Japanese homeland and later participated in the surrender negotiations.

This has been an abbreviated and partial summary of World War II activity by the 43rd. Official battle honors are: Anti-submarine - New Guinea - Papua - Guadalcanal - Western Pacific - Bismark Archipelago - Northern Solomons - Ryukus - Luzon - Leyte.

The Presidential Unit Citation was awarded; first for New Guinea, and later for the Bismark Sea Battle, then the Philippines. Among many other individual decorations and awards for valor, was the award of the Medal of Honor to Major JAY ZEAMER, JR. and, posthumously, to Lt. JOSEPH H. SARNOSKI, his bombardier, for heroic action on a recon mission over Buka, in the Solomon Islands on 16 June 1943.

During the years from 1941 until the War ended, the 43rd Bomb Group was commanded by: LT. COL. HAROLD D. SMITH, LT. COL. FRANCIS B. VALENTINE, MAJOR CONRAD H. DIEHL, JR., COL. ROGER M. RAMEY, LT. COL. JOHN A. ROBERTS, COL. HARRY J. HAWTHORNE, LT. COL. EDWARD W. SCOTT, JR., AND COL. JAMES T. PETTUS, JR.

The group was inactivated at McKinley Field at Luzon on 29 April 1946 but, after return to the States, was re-activated at Davis-Monthan Field in Arizona. With the advent of Strategic Air Command, the 43rd continued to serve under its former 5th Air Force Commander, GENERAL GEORGE C. KENNEY, JR.

The group has continued to distinguish itself in peace and war until the present day, making the first round the world non-stop flight between 26 February and 2 March 1949 in a B-50 known as "LUCKY LADY II". Inscribed on her nose, was the legend "KEN'S MEN", "43rd BOMB GROUP".

And so, as we pause today, in reflection and memory for this dedication, we, as survivors, are proud to share in this event, but truly to remember our deceased fellow airmen and their devotion to duty on the ground and in the air.

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHFUL HOLIDAY SEASON

Bill and Mary Lois Wilson, Pres.
Drawer M
Snyder, TX 79549
915-573-6784

Lloyd and Helen Boren, Secty-Treas.
102 Beechwood
Universal City, TX 78148
512-658-5978