

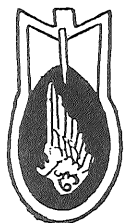
# FORTY THIRD BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC.

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Hdqrs & Hdqrs Sqdn



63rd Sqdn.



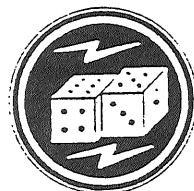
64th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



## 43RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP NEWSLETTER

32ND EDITION - AUGUST 1989

From BILL WILSON

Well, the 32nd edition of the 43rd Newsletter is being written in Ruidoso, New Mexico. It started raining here a week or so ago, and is cool and nice in the mountains. LLOYD BOREN found out I was hid out here, and put me back to work. So here we go ....

The New Zealand wing of the Confederate Air Force sends best wishes to the 43rd, and a big thanks for all our help when they needed it the most.

The 19th newsletter tells of efforts to return the "Swamp Ghost", a B-17E lost over New Guinea, to State side. All labor is volunteer. They need money, and if you like, send a donation to : B-17 Project, Travis Historical Society, P.O. Box 1565, Travis AFB, California 94635. They also suggest if you are passing through Pyote, Texas, which is on Interstate 20 between Monohans and Pecos, you stop by the Rattlesnake Bomber Base Museum, it is the 19th Museum. For the best results, call ahead to the Curator, her name is Lenore Price, P.O. Box 120, Pyote, Texas 79777, Phone 1-915-389-5548. Might get some good ideas for our Museum.

A.J. Belisle, Route 3 Box 338, Amery, WI 54001, is a retired Col. who has gotten interested in locating ex-Air Force people. He has come up with 60 rosters of the 40's Air Force units and lots of other things. He is getting out a catalog of things he has for sale. If interested, just contact him.

This brings up a point we will cover in Colorado Springs. We have received requests for a copy of our roster from several persons other than our own people. Lloyd and I have said no. We will see what you want to do at the reunion.

The 20th Air Force Association is having their reunion in San Antonio, Texas at the Marriott Riverwalk on August 23-26. Their secretary is John Misterly, 1400 S. Sunkist #88, Anaheim, CA 92806.

The "BAD 2 Association" is having their reunion at the Minneapolis Marriott in Bloomington, Minnesota September 21-24. This is the 8th Air Force Bunch. Some of you in that part of the country might want to stop by....

Collmer Aviation Video, 14368 Proton Road, Dallas, TX. has home videos of lots of the war birds. They cover from design to combat. About an hour each. The price is \$29.95. They have an 800 number - 1-800-527-0251. I have not seen one but they say they are great.

E.C. "Ned" Humphreys, Jr, Star Rt. 1 Box 254, Eagle Harbor, MI 49951, phone # 1-906-289-4440, heads up the BOMBARDIERS Assn., and gets out their newsletter, "The Crosshairs". He and LLOYD have an arrangement that has worked very well, we have picked up several members this way.

CHUNKY and CLARA MARIE WILFERT, 63rd, are bringing some good pictures of our Memorials to Colorado Springs. They will be on display and I think you will be real pleased.

Had a call yesterday from HARRY URBAN, 403rd. Our plaque is on the Memorial wall at the Air Force Academy and is ready for our dedication service in October. GREAT JOB HARRY!

Ivan L. Fail, Nixa, Missouri, sent me a poem he had written some time back about the B-17. It is called "Tribute to the Queen". The Confederate Air Force has read this poem at the Air Shows as "Sentimental Journey" flies over. I'll have to send the 43rd best Crew Chief a copy of this. (O.K. COULTER, 64th). He has to be the best, He is still Crew Chief of the Confederate Air Force "Sentimental Journey", and also a hell of a nice guy. Our thanks to Ivan, and I'll get some copies for the reunion, or write and I'll send you one.

DALE BARR, 403rd, sent lists of casualty reports of the 43rd Bomb Group from first activation to 1944. We will post this list at the reunion. Hope we get the report for 1944 and 1945 before October. The report covers about 16 months and a loss of about 400 personnel. Also covers number of missions, bombs dropped, damage results, etc. Each Squadron did something best, 63rd, most shipping destroyed, 64th, most bombs dropped, 65th, most bombs on target (LLOYD has been telling me this for 40 years), 403rd, most enemy aircraft destroyed, and so on.

The 400 personnel lost in the sixteen months were when each Squadron had about 16 crews and total Group crews around 54. It was a little tough, I guess. You might want to drop DALE a note if you want more details on the 43rd from 1941 through 1945.

The video on "Black Jack's Last Mission" is now available (the full hour version). It is very good. Write RALPH DE LOACH, 63rd, 4716 La Villa Marina #P, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. The video is being made in Australia, and RALPH will forward your request. The price is \$42.95. This is packing, airmail, etc. Send check payable to RALPH, and he will forward his check to the company making the video. Thanks RALPH for helping make this video available to us.

In going through some of my older mail, I found a long letter from FRED EPPLEN, 63rd. I don't think I ever mentioned the work FRED did on checking out Colorado Springs last year. He did a great job. I'm sure his input set up the Springs for "89". Good job FRED, and many thanks! All those making the reunion will be thanking you. A really great place.

A fellow in Tyler, Texas by the name of Elmer Dixson was Photo Officer for the 3rd Reco Squadron. He ended up with thousands of photos of the war in the Pacific. Back in February he was talking of giving these to the "Museum of the Pacific War". The Museum director, Bruce Smith, calls the photos "an amazing historical document". The museum is located at the Admiral Nimitz State Historical Park in Fredricksburg, Texas. If passing, stop by, it will be well worth your time.

JOHN S. "JACK" FAERBER, 65th, is all shook up, his last news letter was late getting to him. Thanks JACK, I was afraid no one was interested. Will try and do better this time. I had GEORGE WHITE making that mail route, should have known better!

One of my favorite friends, BILL EATON, 403rd, sent a three page letter (typed) to JOEL GRIFFIN, 403rd, and also sent me a copy. JOEL GRIFFIN and JOSE HOLGUIN, 65th, were the sole survivors of two separate B-17 crews. Now BILL EATON has come up with a third, GORDON E. MANUEL, 64th. All three aircraft were lost to Jap night fighters. Quentin Reynolds autobiography includes the story of MANUEL'S aircraft being shot down. I think Capt. WILLIAMS was the pilot ( not sure ). MANUEL bailed out, was taken in by natives, and was later picked up by U.S. Submarine. He met Reynolds in a hospital in New York. BOB BUTLER, 63rd, reported GORDON E. MANUEL passed away a few years back. Another great story. Hope LARRY HICKEY and BRUCE HOY get it all down.

Another threesome is DONALD D. MC EACHRAN, JAMES T. PETTUS and MYSELF. All three of us were pilots in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 40 and 41. Transferred to U.S. Army Air Force early 1942, along with many others, and we three ended up in the 43rd. MC EACHRAN was JOEL GRIFFIN'S pilot, and did not survive the mission. JIM PETTUS went on to be our Group C/O with 57 missions, in Japan for V.J. Day, etc. The third one sells used cars.

The 50th Anniversary of the B-24 was held in Fort Worth on May 17th through the 21st. I didn't get the head count, but it was well attended. Great times were had by all. The B-24 was produced in far greater numbers than the B-17. Served on more fronts, etc., so people from all over were there. Street Dancing, Texas Style Shoot-outs, the CAF B-24 in fly-by etc.

The 43rd was represented by BOB and DORIS BUTLER, 63rd, GEORGE and AILEEN WHITE, 63rd, LLOYD and HELEN BOREN, 65th, FRED and MAUREEN MC ALISTER, Hdqrs., ART MULLIGAN and NICK ARABINKO, both 64th, ROGER and AUDREY KETTLESON, 64th, WADE KEHR and GEORGE MUNSELLE, both 403rd. We picked up 10 new members in Fort Worth.

CLIFFORD and LORRAINE KOCHA, 65th, need help, they want to know how long the 65th was stationed at each station. The 65th arrived at Sydney the 28th of March 1942. Then New Castle, Torrens Creek, Iron Range, Mareeba, Port Moresby, Dobodura, etc. Check your records. CLIFF'S address is: 1102 Lark St., Green Bay, WI 54303.

FRED and MARGARET BLAIR, 63rd, wrote from Australia. He is going to his 50th Class Reunion at State University of New York at Plattsburg, NY. This takes place 11-16th of October, so will probably miss Colorado Springs. (Late news from HARRY URBAN. FRED is registered for one night only). We will miss FRED and MARGARET, they are regulars at our reunions. FRED sent in the following words to "TAPS":

Fading light dims the sight, and a star gems the sky,  
Gleaming bright from afar, drawing nigh falls the night,  
Dear one, Rest. In the West sable light dulls the day on her breast,  
Sweet good night. Now away to thy rest.

FRED also sent the words to "OFF WE GO INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER" - wants copies for reunion. Will do it.

Got a note from the New Zealand Confederate Air Force saying anytime the 43rd is in their country, be sure to come out to Dairy Flat Airfield. Better still, let them know you are coming and they will show you around. I have to pay all these groups to get to be Col. That dern GEORGE WHITE got to be one for free (field promotion, he says) ain't fair!

RICHARD J. MROWINSKI, 403rd, he was on GEORGE PUTMAN'S crew, sent in a nice memorial gift in memory of S/Sgt. HOWARD J. BOGLE, KIA, 29th August 1943 over Wewak, he and Lt. ROBERT L. MURPHY, KIA, were hit by Ack Ack. Thanks DICK, I think the memorials we are putting up are most fitting.

HAL and MAUDE WINFREY, 65th, sent a big gift to the Memorial Fund. This is in memory of his crew. HAL was sick and CHARLES TRININGHAM took the crew out. Jap night fighters shot them down 26th June 1943. JOSE HOLGUIN bailed out and was the only survivor. Those lost, in addition to TRININGHAM, were: WILLIAM J. SANSFIELD, FRANCIS PEATTIE, ROBERT L. CHRISTOPHERSON, LEONARD A. GIDNET, ROBERT E. GRIEBEL, HENRY GARCIA, and PACE P. PAYNE.

This brings up another point. The directors want to keep the Memorial fund going. We feel very strong about the 400 lost up to Jan. 1944, and many more in 1944 and 1945. It is only fitting that we continue to place memorials at proper places. So if you find an extra dollar or two, send it to me. It will be a proud investment.

LEE and JOANN HOCKENSMITH, 65th, report that KARL P. "DANCK" DANCKWERTH, 65th, is a little under the weather, he has emphysema. DANCK needs mail so all of you that are friends of DANCK and can write, send him a note or call him at 201-472-6967. I really put the phone number in for GEORGE WHITE, he's not too smart. LEE and JOANN are all set for Colorado Springs.

The San Antonio Express, on May 29th, ran a story on "BLACK JACK" with a different twist. Jean Michael Cousteau arrived at Boga Boga, Papua, New Guinea on board a ship by the name of Calypso. His mission was to see the remains of Black Jack. The real twist of the story was that the ship he was on, "J-826", was built in Seattle the same month as B-17-41-24521. "J-826" went lend lease to the British service in the Mediterranean. 41-24521 did yeoman service in the Pacific. Some 46 years later they met again. Calypso and Black Jack together at last.

A nice note from BRUCE HOY for BILL and LUE SPENCER, 403rd. S/Sgt. RICHARD V. FOWLKES, 13035035, was killed on 3rd April, 1944 in B-24J # 42-73135 on take-off from Nadzab. Their mission was to have been Wewak, Hollandia. BILL and four others of the crew were killed. Please pass this information on to Mrs. FOWLKES. For ROGER PARRY, 65th, BRUCE says S/Sgt. PAUL R. ELLIS was killed in the crash of B-24D, # 42-41089, 26th November, 1943. Plane crashed in a small valley southeast of Jackson strip, close to Bootless Bay Inlet, time 0230. Mission, recon over Gasmata.

PAUL BLASEWITZ, 63rd, BRUCE wants a copy of General Order # 197 dated 15th September, 1943. He is missing this one. Any one who saved General Orders send BRUCE a list of the numbers you have. He can cross check and let you know if he wants them. BRUCE has spent many years in New Guinea checking on downed aircraft. He plans to start writing a number of you shortly. His address is BRUCE HOY, P.O. Box 249, Aspley, QLD 4034, Australia.

Col. GEORGE L. WHITE, 63rd ball gunner, late of the New Jersey Air Force, is and project officer of the 43rd Bomb Group Book, is trying to raise enough money to get BRUCE HOY to Colorado Springs for the reunion. BRUCE could meet everyone

and put together lots of information. Any donations would be a big help. Refunds if it doesn't work. GEORGE has a letter following.

FATHER SHEA sent another donation to HARRY and RACHEL URBAN, 403rd, and recent assignment, Project Officer, 43rd Bomb Group Reunion, to pay for installing the memorial plaque on the Memorial Wall at the Academy. Another expression of FATHER SHEA'S continuing love and care for each of us. God knew what he was doing when he made that man. Pray for his well being.

Things are shaping up in Colorado Springs. BOB ROTH, 403rd, is sending reminders to his crew - result - BILL SOLOMAN, 403rd, has signed on. Way to go BOB! JESS and VIRGINIA GIBSON, 63rd, from Woodland Park, Colorado are ready to sign you in. JACK and CELESTA CAPERTON, 65th, from Albuquerque, are ready to help. For starters, JACK, call J.T. BRITTON, 65th, and tell him to report for duty. BETTY HAYES, our guest at the Queen Mary and San Antonio, will be helping. Thanks BETTY.

NEIL FAIRBANKS, 403rd is working on a lapel pin for the 43rd. It will be sorta like the 5th Air Force one, except where they have AFME, we would have 43rd B.G. NEIL, along with many others would like to see one of our plaques at Port Moresby, old 7 mile, then, Jackson strip, and now, Port Moresby International Airport. Maybe BRUCE HOY can help. NEIL may go over there this fall, and if so, he will work on it. If you make the San Diego B-24 Anniversary, look for NEIL, he is going.

LARRY HICKEY, the fellow who is writing our book, is getting lots of reports. He got an account of the capture of Heichel, it came from a German plantation owner. Also, the Jap that shot WALTER K. BRENNEMAN, 65th, down on 3rd August 1943. The book is at least a year away, but is going to be great.

Col. GEORGE WHITE asks about former Congressman Jim Wright. He lists his WWII duty as Bombardier, B-24's, Australia. If anyone knows, let me know, if not I'll check it out, he may be one of us.

P.D. "PERCY" ALEXANDER, 403rd, sent in a good report on a mini-reunion of 13th Recon and 403rd people 20th of May at the home of TALBOT and WANETA GARNER in Kaufman, Texas. Those that attended are: PERCY and JUANITA ALEXANDER, THOMAS and FRANCINE BEALL, JAKE and OLEENE BONDS, JAMES COMBS, RAYMOND ETTER, WARREN and BETTY MAUPIN, and ART and MAXINE HANE. CHARLES DAVIS was a bit under the weather and could not make it. Four of these fellows were PERCY'S tent mates. Lots of talk and fun. TALBOT GARNER gave a big pitch for Colorado Springs, hope to see you all there.

Had a note from JIM PETTUS, bragging on a lot of you, as special plug for STALEY, MULLIGAN, WALLY, WRIGHT, DOC GUSACK, and etc. JIM'S a good boy.

JOSH and ALICE BARNES, 65th, sent in a life membership plus a nice memorial gift in honor of Doctor MILTON "BUD" GUSACK. Couldn't have picked a better fellow. JOSH and ALICE are all set for Colorado Springs, see you there.

Had a nice letter from MAXWELL E. OSBORN, 65th, an attorney from the great state of Wyoming, the letter was addressed to General WILLIAM H. WILSON, JR. Eat your heart out Col. WHITE. MAX is all signed up for the reunion and most of the extra things. If you see some fellow handing out Wyoming buttons, that's him. The buttons sort of like a "Wilkie" Button. Be a good boy MAX.

WALTER H. BUTLER, JR., 403rd, sent in his dues, (new member). WALTER was in the 20th Combat Mapping Squadron. Most of his crew in the 20th went home so he put in for a transfer to the 403rd as a gunner. He ended up in Florida at the Atlantis Country Club. Well, you Yankees know that October is busy in Florida, so WALTER can't make our reunion. Maybe next time.

PHIL and WANDA HOFFECKER, 64th, from Kennet Square, PA, are all set for Colorado Springs. They camped out near Pikes Peak for a week once. Looking forward to seeing all his old friends at the Reunion. Don't disappoint him. Make roll call.

CMS EDMOND L. BOUTON, is a new member, also a new model. He started in the 63rd in 1946 and served in the 43rd until May of '53. He then transferred to USAFSS until he retired in 1966. TED was on the back up crew to LUCKY LADY II on first round the world flight. Welcome aboard TED. It is nice to have you.

KENNETH and ROSEMARY BROWN, 64th, from Fort Worth (my home town), got a call from AL FELDBIN, his bombardier. AL found WILLIAM F. CURRAN, 64th, and BILL had KEN'S phone number. This got the ball rolling, so KEN got busy and contacted JOE EDENS, flight engineer in Summeron, Carolina. Now JOE is a new member. KEN says he will

see us in Colorado Springs. JACK FAERBER, 65th, is all signed in with HARRY URBAN for the Reunion. JACK says, looks like this is the one for everyone to give maximum effort on. Right again JACK don't miss this one.

DELBERT SMITH, 63rd gunner from Rogers, Arkansas, got a letter from BRUCE HOY. SMITTY got the last ride on BLACK JACK. Good to hear from you. DELBERT wants information on WILLIAM POWELL and BILL O'BRIEN. Both were co-pilots.

I have not heard from HENRY JAMES lately. HENRY and I made the 2nd trip to Australia in the Spring of '86. He had just bought a new tux and reported the phone was ringing off the wall. Some fellows have all the luck, the last woman that called me was a bill collector. Hang tough HENRY!

HAZEL F. RICKABAUGH, wife of WILLARD C. RICKABAUGH, 63rd, reports that WILLARD passed away 10th May, '89, in Lubbock, Texas. Each of us express our sorrow in the loss of our comrade.

MARCUS D. CARRELL, 65th, was sorry to hear that B-24 LUCKY LUCILLE crashed. He ran several missions in the aircraft. MARCUS talked with DOC GUSACK, and BUD is sending him a picture of his crew and LUCKY LUCILLE. Had a call from his navigator, FRED RADTKE in California, says it is nice to be back in the 43rd. LLOYD picked MARK up at the B-24 thing in Fort Worth, and he wanted a roster quick. He also wants to say hello to DOC GUSACK, JIM PETTUS, RALPH POULSON, DOUG LEACHMAN, WELDON YOST, JOHN KAPITAN, JOHN BERTRAM, and many more. Nice to have you, MARCUS.

EDMOND and JOHANNA TROCCIA, 65th, send many thanks to LLOYD BOREN for great job on the roster. ED was in Operations then Intelligence. He was a Radio Operator in the 19th prior to the 43rd. Talks to RED HANLON, 65th, every 3 or 4 weeks. Says RED is getting along pretty good. Hope so. RED is someone special. ED'S wife broke her leg and he had a slight stroke in April. Both are coming along fine. Will miss Colorado Springs, but will be thinking about us. He made a history of the 65th for DAN CROMER (then C/O of the 65th) to take back to the States. Anyone know anything about DAN? The history would help on our new book. Captain BILL HARCLER(?) helped on the history. Maybe we can find him. The report was about 3 or 4 inches thick and lots of information.

CHARLES H. and MARY LANE GIDDINGS, 64th, are all signed in for the Reunion. Also they became LIFE MEMBERS. More and more are becoming LIFE MEMBERS. The money is in a special money market savings account with the interest to go into the General Fund until the reunion, at which time the board will decide whether to get a CD or continue with a savings account. As most of you know, our General Fund is kept in a checking account at 6% interest, and has been bringing in a good return.

LOU BEASON, wife of DR. DAVID L. BEASON, 65th, reports of his passing. LOU says DAVE looked forward to each newsletter. Drop LOU a note, she would like to hear from you.

CLINT and MAXINE DOUTHITT, 403rd, ordered some 403rd and 43rd patches from LLOYD BOREN. He still has a few of all the Squadrons left @ \$10.00 each. If you order either the 65th or the 63rd patch, be sure you specify which patch you want. The DOUTHITT'S are trying to work in Colorado Springs this fall. Maybe a note from one of you would get it done.

KARL J. LONNQUIST, 63rd, got the 29th Newsletter by way of FRED PETERS, 63rd, through DOUG SHEDD, through JAMES JURNEY. KARL, JIM JURNEY and JOHN MILLER, joined the 63rd at Torrens Creek just in time to move to Mareeba. KARL has paid his dues and will get the Newsletter direct now.

Debbie Dewees reports the passing of her father-in-law, CHARLES B. DEWEES, JR., of Fort Worth in 1985.

JULES and MARGARET POWELL, 63rd, are finally going to make a reunion. Their first will be Colorado Springs. Last time in Colorado, Lowry Field in 1941, JULES, it's changed some. Then you report you have also, that you have gone from a size 38 A2 jacket to (maybe) a 44. Why not do what the rest of us have done and get a size 46 or 48 and be comfortable.

BRYAN A. FLATT, 403rd, a new member, says to tell KENNETH GISSONNE, 403rd navigator, he was on the Wewak Mission, 27th August, 1943, and had returned when RIO RITA came in for landing, shot up, no landing gear etc. He will be at the reunion so just see him there KENNETH, and talk it over.

I don't think I have overlooked any letters, desk looks clean. Now if you please, I try real hard to be C.O. of the 43rd, not the 65th, but let me break the rules just once. Colorado Springs Reunion will really be something special. This, like all reunions, has required lots of thought and work. If I could get BILL CRAWFORD, HAL WINFREY, DUTCH EHLERS, BILL BOLY, JIM SHROPSHIRE, JOE NIECE, "DOC" BRYANT, GEORGE SHAKO, DR. CHET KENNEDY, J.T. BRITTON, JAY ZEAMER to show up, along with those I know will be there, such as: BOREN, RAPISARDI, HARCROW, BELLOWS and BILL, it would sure make my day. As my favorite singer, RAY PRICE'S song goes, "One More Time, for the Good Times".

May God continue to bless you and a very special blessing for the "Coach", FATHER SHEA.

#### From GEORGE WHITE

It is not true that I am missing in action. That is only a vicious rumor spread by BOB BEAUDEAN, the Mayor of Bossier City. However, this is a Mayday signal for assistance from all of you who are interested in seeing that the book being written about the 43rd Bomb Group is as fine a product as we can make it. Our author and publisher, LARRY HICKEY, (assoc. member), has persuaded BRUCE HOY to help with the preparation of the B-17 phase of our operations and Larry is concentrating on the B-24 era. I don't know who is covering the B-18 at Bangor, Maine or the poker games on the Queen Mary.

Bruce finished his tour of duty with the Papua New Guinea Government, returned to Australia and will be moving into a house being constructed out-side Brisbane. This July he is back in New Guinea assisting the U.S. Government in the MIA survey program which will be followed later by another full-scale recovery mission.

We are most anxious for Bruce to be with us at our reunion in October. At the Saturday morning Group meeting he will update us on the history project and what additional records and photos are needed. He will also be available to talk with individual members during the course of our stay at Colorado Springs.

The money necessary to bring Bruce to the reunion is substantial. The round trip airfare alone from Brisbane to Denver is \$1,800.00 in U.S. dollars. I have started a fund to help Bruce. Our President, BILL WILSON, has sent me a generous personal check to start things off. You can help by sending your check to me, GEORGE WHITE, 81 Orchard Rd., Chatham, N.J. 07928. All contributions will be acknowledged and if, for some unforeseen reason, Bruce cannot attend, I will immediately return all contributions received.

If you plan to attend this reunion, please make an effort to help us with this special attraction and bring along any information in the form of diaries, orders, flight information and photos of planes, campsites, etc. Even if you are not coming to the reunion, send me a few shillings to help the cause.

#### REUNION UPDATE SEQUEL -- BOOK II

##### From HARRY and RACHEL URBAN

Reunion is progressing nicely. If hotel confirmations continue at present pace, this could be the largest ever. But, I most strongly urge that if you plan to attend the reunion, get your reservations in by Sept. 11, 89, the cut-off date. We have 250 rooms reserved. The hotel is releasing all rooms not reserved on 12 Sept. They will sell like hotcakes at the regular hotel rate because of the Air Force/Notre Dame game the weekend of 14 Oct.

The optionals look good. We should have about 100 each for Tailgating, Pikes Peak, and Officers Club lunch. We have some for Royal Gorge and a few for Cripple Creek. Tailgating will be first class. Large tent, tables, barbecued ribs with all the trimmings, baked beans, cole slaw, beverage -- beer on the side. RACHEL will bring plenty of Wet Wipes. We have about 20 for golf so far. More on optionals later.

Have had queries on what the \$75.00 registration fee per person covers. As Pres. BILL WILSON noted in the Feb. newsletter, the \$75.00 is a little more than the registration fee for previous reunions. But you will be getting quite a bit for your money - well worth it. The fee covers:

- (1) Ladies Program with refreshments -- Wednesday
- (2) Two breakfasts -- full breakfast Thursday, Continental breakfast Saturday.

- (3) Cocktail reception Thursday before Pay-as-you-go Buffet plus a program following buffet for everyone.
- (4) Trip through Garden of the Gods Friday on way to the Flying W.
- (5) Country Western show and dinner at Flying W. Friday evening.
- (6) Full prime rib dinner at Marriott Saturday, followed by dance -- 40-50's music by 7 piece band.
- (7) Champagne Brunch at Marriott Sunday.
- (8) All bus transportation for events such as 43rd Memorial Plaque dedication and Academy tour Thursday. Garden of the Gods and Flying W Friday.
- (9) Coffee every day.
- (10) All taxes and gratuities paid for above.

### OPTIONALS

Our bus company will have a desk set up at registration to handle optional events such as Pikes Peak, Tailgating, etc. We will be assisting them on this. I think all the costs of optionals are quite reasonable -- minimal transportation charges plus normal cost of the event. Some group rates apply.

### HOTEL

I didn't write much about the hotel in the last newsletter. I think the scheduled and optional events will "Grab You", but the hotel is the icing on the cake. Its location is unique. 4 miles south of the Academy, it's on a hill 1 mile west off the Interstate (I-25). Pikes Peak serves as a backdrop. The hotel card LLOYD has enclosed doesn't do it justice. It opened 1 March 89. It is truly beautiful -- everything is sparkling new. Everyone should thoroughly enjoy the decor and ambience of the large lobby, furnishings, cocktail lounges and restaurant. The View is unsurpassed. I haven't been to all of the reunions, but I think I can safely say this will be the finest facility ever. My hotel coordinators are going out of their way to make sure all of our hotel events will be "FIRST CLASS".

Incidentally, for those of the cowboy persuasion, the "Pro Rodeo Hall of Champions" is within walking distance of the hotel -- 1/2 mile down hill (1 1/2 miles uphill). It is an action packed museum created to preserve the legacy of the cowboy and to immortalize the heroes of the rodeo -- the original American sport. Those not going to the football game or Royal Gorge, etc. Saturday may want to take this in on free time. WHO NEEDS REST?

I have sent out RV park information to all RV'ers.

### FOOTBALL

I sold the original 200 football tickets, but due to demand, I ordered 55 more. They are going fast. So if you "WANNA GO - I GOTTA KNOW"! The game is always a sell-out. Pre-game and half-time activities alone are worth the price of admission. Those requesting seating with crew members, etc. -- no problem. When I get the tickets about 4 Oct., RACHEL will have them sorted in accordance with your requests.

### MEMORIAL PLAQUE

We installed the 43rd plaque honoring our fallen comrades on the Pearl Harbor Survivors' Association Memorial Wall 26 July. There are two memorial walls at the Academy Cemetery, the main wall dedicated in 1979 holds about 72 plaques. The Pearl Harbor wall, dedicated 14 June 1989 will hold about 40. I think everyone will have a sense of pride and remembrance when they see our plaque at the dedication 12 Oct. We have a good spot on the wall. LLOYD BOREN did an outstanding job getting the plaque cast in San Antonio, and getting it to me post haste. Thanks, LLOYD. Time was of the essence -- there are approximately 70 organizations waiting to get on a wall -- there just "ain't no more walls". It took 3 years to get funding for the Pearl Harbor wall. Future walls will depend on contributions from individual organizations. Some units will have a long time to wait.

### AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

The hotel will operate an airport shuttle. Please send me a card with your airline flight #, date and time of arrival, and I will coordinate your pick-up with the hotel. In case of conflicting arrival time, etc., RACHEL and I are volunteering our handyman Ian and our '64 Buick to meet you. He will have a placard with your name on it at your arrival gate.

## WEATHER

I checked the meteorological office. It's too early for a long range forecast, but the October temperature is about 68 day -- 45 night. Last October we bettered that. A warm Sweater or light coat should do fine.

## KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING!

We have received many nice letters and phone calls thanking us for our work and offering to help. We thank you. Some of the letters are from people who are attending a 43rd reunion for the first time. I'm sure there are others, but some of the first-timers we have heard from are: The W.J. "JOE" BROWNS, 65th, A. M. JOHNSONS, 403rd, JACK CAPERTONS, 65th, ALLEN CHRISMANS, 65th, KARL LONNQUISTS, 63rd. JIM BRAY, 63rd. KENNETH GISSOME, 403rd, missed last year due to hospitalization, and MIRON DUKES, 403rd, missed last 2 reunions because of illness. They are both making this one. We have a couple of folks from Australia making the reunion. FRED BLAIR, 63rd, and ANN LEE-WARNER. JAY ZEAMER, 65th, will be making this reunion also. We warmly welcome them all.

Deservedly or not, RACHEL and I had a reputation for throwing great parties. Well, the URBANS are throwing another party. YOU ARE ALL INVITED. "UNDECIDEDS" YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME! "COME ON DOWN 43rd"!!

From LLOYD

Please list the following new members in your roster:

### SQUADRON UNKNOWN

WAYNE N. LONG  
1285 VALKENBURG DR.  
COLORADO SPRINGS  
COLORADO, 80907

GENE O'BRIEN  
11906 PASEO LOCIDO  
#C-151, SAN DIEGO  
CALIFORNIA 92128

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

ANNE LEE WARNER  
4/12 WALLAREY DR.  
DOUBLE BAY NSW  
AUSTRALIA 2028

RICHARD D. KING  
3228 NW 60TH ST.  
ORVALLIS, OR 97330

MILDRED MC KNIGHT  
131 SAGEMONT CREEK  
PARACHUTE, CO 81635

### 63RD SQUADRON

JAMES A. JURNEY 16024 NE 26TH ST. BELLEVUE, WA 98008	DAN M. MC KIRNAN 8250 S.R.703 E BOX 7 CELINA, OH 45822	EDMOND L. BOUTON 3370 CRUMPTON S. LAUREL, MD 20707	LOU CALITRI 22 CHRISTINE DR. BARRINGTON, RI 02806
ROBERT W. HALLEY 4013 STELLA ST. PARKERSBURG, WV 26104	GEORGE SETHER 4422 N HALE AVE. TAMPA, FL 33614	JIM HAMPSHIRE 6680 BAYSHORE DR. ST. CLOUD, FL	DR EDWARD G. HARRIS 8205 CORTELAND DR. KNOXVILLE, TN 37919
ROBERT L. GORDON 115 BRANDYWINE RD. SAVANNAH, GA 31405	JESSE A. KIMMEL 1955 NE 124TH ST. NORTH MIAMI, FL 33181	DAVID S. ANDERSON JR NEWTON, MS 39345	JAMES F. MARTIN 2914 ROSSMORE LN. SAN JOSE, CA 95148

### 64TH SQUADRON

JOE EDENS ROUTE 2 SUMMERTON, SC 29148	FRANK SHELTON 838 W. 29TH ST. SAN PEDRO, CA 90731	ALBERT E. FELDBIN 104 MANSION ST. COXSACKIE, NY 12051	HUGH G. SIMPSON 27454 CROW RD. EUGENE, OR 97402
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### 65TH SQUADRON

DAN CROMER 1635 HOLLINGSWORTH LAKELAND, FL 33803	JOHN L. GWYNN 4207 JANET LANE MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55429	FRANK D. HERNDON JR. M4 WOODLAND TRACE TUSCALOOSA, AL 35405	GERALD E. JOHNS 12774 TORREY BLUFF DR #86, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92130
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### 403RD SQUADRON

WILLIAM E. BURNS 312 WORTHY ST. SAGINAW, TX 76179	WALTER H. BUTLER JR. 915 PALAMA WAY LANTANA, FL 33462	JACK K. MINIERE 685 MINNESOTA AVE. WINTER PARK, FL 32789	EUGENE C. FILIP 12030 SW SPRINGWOOD TIGARD, OR 97223
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CHANGE FROM 65TH TO 63RD : WALTER M. BUTLER  
CHANGE FROM SQDN UNKNOWN TO 65TH SQDN: WILLIAM F. LANIGAN, CHARLES DEWEES  
ROBERT BAUMGARDNER, JOHN W. BERTRAM  
CHANGE FROM SQDN UNKNOWN TO 63RD SQDN: FLOYD F. THOMPSON  
ADD ZIP 77080 FOR CECIL TRENT, 64TH SQDN.  
CHANGE CITY TO KILLEEN FOR M.L. CRABB, 65TH SQDN.

This brings us to 1500 members, however, since only about 1000 have paid dues. I am waiting until after the reunion, and then will drop the ones who did not pay for this year. I have waited this long to do so in order to give those who really wanted to keep in touch a chance to forward dues. Those who pay for 89 through the reunion will be sent a roster and kept on the rolls.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank HARRY and RACHEL URBAN for their splendid effort and enthusiastic work on the Colorado Springs reunion. HARRY pulled off somewhat of a miracle in getting us space on a wall at the Academy for our plaque since there were between 60-70 other groups fighting for space. In addition to this feat, he managed to secure what, I'm sure, you will consider the best spot on the wall, the upper left corner on the front side. Next to the Pearl Harbor Survivor's plaque in the center, HARRY couldn't have picked a better spot. WELL DONE.

SOME LATE NEWS BULLETINS

Talked with DORWIN WILSON, 403rd, on the 16th. He is not going to be able to make the reunion. He is recovering from recent surgery. We wish him all the best.

Talked with FRED EPPLEN, 63rd, and he has arranged for a special car rental rate with NATIONAL CAR RENTAL, 7070 SMITH ROAD, DENVER, COLORADO 80207. Call for reservations 303-321-7990, and be sure to ask for the 43rd Bomb Group SPECIAL from the price list below. Also specify point of pick-up, Denver Airport or Colorado Springs Airport. The letters above the prices stand for the following:  
H = Sub-compact - E = Economy - M = Mid Size - F = Full Size - S = Sport  
L = Luxury - J & K = 4 Wheel drive - Y = Mini Van

<u>DAILY</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>RATE</u>	35.00	35.00	37.00	39.00	40.00	47.00	45.00	47.00	42.00
<u>MILES</u>	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<u>X MILES</u>	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30

FRED EPPLEN, although the info was in the May newsletter, wants to urge anyone coming for a vacation to take advantage of the Colorado Tourism Board's FREE offer of their 148 page Colorado Vacation Guide. Call 1-800-433-2656. But do it quickly, time's running out.

I have had mail returned from ART CURREN, Hdqrs. ART has been a paid up member for quite a while, and I have his mailing address as P.O. Box 785, Port Townsend, Washington, 98368. The mail is returned as "Addressee Unknown". Can someone help me on this one.

Mark Schwobel, son of Leonard Schwobel, writes seeking information from anyone formerly with the 19th Bomb Group, 28th Squadron, Torrens Creek, September 22nd, 1942, who might remember details about a strike mission against Rabaul by Plane # 19015, Pilot Lt. Nyblade. Leonard Schwobel, a radio operator and tail gunner, substituted with another crew that was short a crewman. The mission was particularly rough, and the crew was awarded either the Bronze Star or the Silver Star. When the orders were issued, the original crew-member was awarded the medal with Schwobel omitted. Contact Mark Schwobel, 421 Salem, Hurst, TX 76054. I have already told him to contact the 19th.

Spoke with BOB and DORIS BUTLER, 63rd, the other night, and they have been making a tour of the East coast. They had a nice visit with JAY and BARBARA ZEAMER, 65th, in Bar Harbor, Maine. JAY and BARBARA had previously been visited by J. T. BRITTON, 65th, his bridge playing co-pilot. J.T. has played bridge in every state in the Union. BOB and DORIS were on their way further down the coast to await the arrival of another grandchild.

Received word that WILLIS E. BRADY, 63rd Bombardier, of Penalosa, Kansas, has passed away.

A letter from J.K. Havener, 7340 Eastern, Germantown, TN 38138, 901-753-9730, asks that we let anyone interested know that he has authored a book called "ARMY AIR FORCE LYRICS", illustrated by Bob Stevens. It contains lyrics from WWII songs pertaining to Army Air Force life, most of them parodies. Cost is \$4.00 pp.

I have contacted United Air Lines in regards air travel rates to the reunion and the following is their offer.



United Airlines is pleased to offer the attendees of the 43RD BOMB GROUP MEETING, a 40% discount off unrestricted coach fares or, 5% off lowest applicable fares, including first class. This special offer, available only to attendees of this meeting, applies to travel on domestic segments of all United Airlines and United Express flights. These fares are available through United's Meeting Plus Desk with all fare rules applying.

United Meeting Plus Specialists are on duty 7 days a week, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. ET to make your reservations. Call today, as seats may be limited. Please refer to account number 40420.

United States and Canada call 1-800-521-4041.

As a United Meeting Plus attendee you also qualify for special discount rates on Hertz rental cars. Also, Mileage Plus members receive full credit for all miles flown. Tickets will be mailed by United or you can pick them up at your local travel agency or United Airlines ticket office.

I am including in the newsletter another questionnaire from LARRY HICKEY for our history book. Please check the items carefully, and if you can help in any way, send LARRY some answers. This is a project that concerns all of us, and the more answers he gets, the better the history will be. It is something I'm sure we will all be proud of when it comes out.

BEST OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO ALL

BILL and MARY LOIS WILSON	LLOYD and HELEN BOREN	HARRY and RACHEL URBAN
PRESIDENT	SECTY-TREASURER	REUNION CHAIRMAN
DRAWER M	102 BEECHWOOD	1602 CRESTA RD.
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549	UNIVERSAL CITY, TX 78148	COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80906
915-573-6784	512-658-5978	303-634-2917

#### 43RD BOMB GROUP HISTORY PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE 8/89

As co-author and publisher of the forthcoming 43rd Bomb Group history, I deeply appreciate all of you who took the time to send information and photos in response to my questionnaire in the May Newsletter. I will be attending the Colorado Springs Reunion and it is hoped that Bruce Hoy will also be able to attend. Some of the questions below are the same as last time, which means no one sent responses or gave a definitive answer. So if you have information, photos or diaries, please sit down now and give us what you know. We still need all of you who have not done so to write in and provide personal recollections of your most interesting, exciting or important missions or experiences, stories of camp life, etc. Send all responses to LARRY HICKEY, at International Research & Publishing Corp., P.O. Box 3334 High Mar Station, Boulder, CO 80307.

#### GENERAL

1. We must locate color movie film, slides or photos showing aircraft artwork, bases, missions, etc. for the 50-60 color photos planned for the color section of the book. Does anyone have or know of same?
2. We currently have two out of four potential sponsors for the four squadron paintings being commissioned for the book. We need sponsors for two other paintings.
3. We need hard copies of any of the Group or Squadron records from the Maxwell AFB archives microfilms or copies of the originals obtained overseas with the unit. This includes copies of both Group and Squadron historical reports.
4. Require details of construction of SQ clubs at Jackson Field early 43.
5. Urgently need copies of diaries, flightlogs, narratives for major decorations such as Silver Stars, Purple Hearts, DFC, DSC, etc.
6. The 63rd SQ maintained a SQ diary until the end of their B-17 operations. Does anyone know of the existence of squadron diaries for 64th, 65th, and 403rd, and for 63rd from Sept 43 to Aug 45?
7. Require eyewitness accounts of mid-air collision between Capt. Giddings and Capt. Mc Arthur near Hood Point on 17 April 43. Also require the crew listing for the B-17s flown by Capt. Giddings and Capt. Salisbury.
8. Serial number required for the B-17 ditched by Capt. Jean A. Jack near Urasi Island on 5 January 43.
9. Names of the crew required for the B-17 ditched by Lt. Ray Dau on 24 May 43. Pilot was Ray Dau, Navigator was 1/Lt. John Hanlon and the bombardier was 1/lt. Max Mayer. Who were the others? Also need description of the ditching.
10. Need the current address for Byron Heichel who survived the loss of his airplane on 7 May 43 and was captured by the Japanese. 403rd Jack K. Wisener also survived being shot down on 13 June 43, last known address was Austin, TX, as a

member of the State legislature. Paul F. Cascio is also believed to have survived his crash on 1 June 43. Contact with Mr. Cascio may assist the Army's recent re-investigation of the crash-site.

11. B-17E #41-2481 crashed on take-off at Seven Mile on 27 Aug 43. Clarence O'Connor being the pilot, equipment failure being the cause. Who were the other members of this crew?

12. B-17E #41-9234 crash-landed near Wau on 8 Jan 43 following a mission to Wau. Did this airplane have a nickname?

13. We previously requested information on the following nicknamed B-17s: THE VIGOROUS VIRGIN, CAROLINE, CHICO (64TH), STUD DUCK (64TH), SUPER SNOOPER (63RD), STRIP STRAFER, GONE FOREVER, FRANK BUCK (19TH BG?), and FLAGSHIP TEXAS II. Add to list GYPSY ROSE. Except where already noted, we need squadron assigned, tail numbers and crew chiefs' names.

14. Photos of the following B-24s have been submitted by 43rd veterans but squadron assignments or tail numbers unknown. Many may not even be 43rd A/C: ARMED VENUS, ... BLUE EYES, BAIL OUT BELLE, BARBARA JEAN, BELLE WRINGER, BEN BUZZARD, BIG TIME OPERATOR, BOMB BABE, CAROLYN MAE, DEVIL'S DELIGHT, DOUBLE TROUBLE, DUCHESS, THE DUCHESS, FAT STUFF, THE FLYING FIFEN, 4F, FURIOUS SAL, GOPHER GUS, HAND JOB, HELEN'S REVENGE, HELLS BELLE, IT'S HEAVEN, JUNE BRIDE, LADY FROM LEYTE, LOOSE LIVING IV, LONG DISTANCE, LUCKY PUPPY, MAG THE HAG, MAJORETTE, MANILA CALLING, MISS GIVING, THE MISSOURI MULE, MODEST MAIDEN (TWO VERSIONS), THE MRS, NET RESULTS, OLD GEORGE, THE PETER HEATER, PICKLED PEACH, THE PREGNANT WHALE, POM POM EXPRESS, PUG NOSE, REPUTATION CLOUDY, ROARING ROSIE, SACKTIME UNLIMITED, SITTING PRETTY, SKY WITCH, SLIDIN, THE SLOT, SMOOTH SAILING, THE SNOOPER, SOOPER DROOPER, SPORT MODEL, STARFU, SWEET ROUTINE, SWEET TAKEOFF, TEMPTATION, TEXAS KATE, TWO TIME, UNTIMELY VISITOR, WILCO, WOLF, ZOMBIE, THE GOON. Need any info on these A/C.

#### 63RD SQUADRON

15. We now know that Thomas Rote designed the 63rd "Seahawks" emblem in the summer of 44 at Owi Island. We still don't know when this emblem was put on the tails of the 63rd's black B-24s. I had to have been after October, 44. Can anyone pin down the date more precisely than that? Who actually painted the insignia on the plane tails? We need all available photos of "Seahawk" emblem on B-24 tails.

16. Several wrote in suggesting the all-black paint was first applied to 63rd B-24s about September 44. One source says after October 1944. Can Anyone provide more definite dates?

17. George Holstead, 63rd Ops Officer, sent us a list of serial numbers, nicknames and assigned pilots for 18 early 63rd B-24s. Of them, I need good photos of PUG, PITTI-SING, MALLET HEAD and BUSTER. Also need crew chiefs' names and dates of assignment for these plus I'LL BE AROUND, SACK WAGON, SWEET SIXTEEN, FERTILE MYRTLE, MISS LIBERTY, QUEEN OF HEARTS, ART'S CART, AT EASE, and WHO'S NEXT. The wheel of WHO'S NEXT broke on landing; does anyone know when, where, and how it happened? Can anyone provide the serial number and crew chief of early B-24 LADY LUCK? Was SHIRLEY ANN a 63rd or 65th B-24? Does anyone know anything about a B-24 named SITTING PRETTY?

18. We've received several photos of a black B-24 with a scoreboard below the pilot's window of 18 ships sunk and 28 mission markers. We want to do a color profile of this aircraft, but need details of crew chief, tail number, nickname (if any) and stories of the missions it flew. Can anyone help?

19. We also want to profile the B-24 QUEEN OF HEARTS and need similar info. Was this an all-black aircraft?

20. We need similar info on ART'S CART with photos of the scoreboard.

21. Can anyone provide the dress color of the girl on the B-17 PANAMA HATTIE?

22. We are attempting to document a night anti-shipping mission in 1945 to represent the color painting for the 63rd Squadron. Does anyone have any suggestions for a painting of the most outstanding or dramatic night mission during that period? One source has suggested August 10, 1945 off Tsu Shima Island. Any other recommendations?

23. We need good photos of B-17 KA-PUCIO-WELA aka DOUBLE TROUBLE for use as an artist guide for a color profile. Anyone know the history of this aircraft, its crew chief's name, the meaning of the Hawaiian nickname and the color of the lettering? It was the B-17 lost during the Bismarck Sea Battle.

24. We need nicknames and photos of 63rd B-24s not mentioned above.

#### 64TH SQUADRON

25. Can anyone provide tail numbers, nickname, color details or crew chief's name for 64th B-17s named LISTEN HERE TOJO, TOKYO JINX, or SALISBURY'S SILLY SAPS? Need photos of above.

26. We need full info (artwork, color details, crew chief's names and tail numbers) on the following B-24s reported in 64th: HIP PARADE (two tail #s given, 428 and 403, Moody and De Haven crew chiefs), NOBODY'S BABY, THE RECORD BREAKERS, IT AIN'T SO FUNNY (possible # 853), LAST HORIZON, SHAWNEE RAIDER (Chepulis crew chief), LOVELY ANNETTE (808?, Haas crew chief), GALLANT LADY (later LADY LYNN).

27. When was diagonal white band first applied to stabilizers of 64th B-24s? Were white cowlings painted on some planes at the same time? When were red & white tail stripes first applied to the SQ's uncamoouflaged B-24 tails?

28. Can anyone confirm the correct full serial number of B-24 BOB'S HOPE (44-40395 or 41-29395). Did this aircraft carry mission markers or a scoreboard on the pilot's side of the nose.
29. By whom, when and where was the 64th "Indian Boy with a telescope riding a bomb" insignia first designed?
30. Can anyone provide full nose-to-tail photos of these B-24s: COCKTAIL HOUR, HEAVENLY BODY, IT AIN'T SO FUNNY, LAST HORIZON, MICHIGAN, MABEL'S LABELS, or THE RECORD BREAKERS? Need nose art photo of LOVELY ANNETTE.

#### 65TH SQUADRON

31. Can anyone provide serial #, insignia color detail, crew chief names, or photos of following B-17s: GEORGIA PEACH, RED MOOSE EXPRESS.
32. Need color details, crew chief names and artwork color details for following B-24s: JUNGLE QUEEN, MAD RUSSIAN, KENTUCKY VIRGIN (later SURE POP), TWO BOB TILLIE, MISS MC COOK, GERALDINE, MR. 5 BY 5, THE PREGNANT WHALE (Pilot Miller?); need crew chief's name LUCKY LUCILLE and date and details of crash landing at Milne Bay, N.G.; need color, details, service dates, and tail number of QUEEN OF THE CLOUDS.
33. Need above info plus serial #s of B-24s SHIRLY ANN (may have been 63rd A/C), VIRGIN II, WINDY CITY KITTY, RUM & COKE, PETTY GAL, COME AND GET IT, BIG ASS BIRD (crew chiefs Brown/Govoni).
34. We think 65th SQ dice emblem was designed in September or October 1943 and applied to B-24 tails shortly thereafter. Can anyone provide more information on this? Need all possible photos of use of this on A/C tails.
35. TARGET FOR TONIGHT is believed to be 060 in 65th. Can anyone confirm tail #, squadron assignment, regular pilot and crew chief's name as well as color artwork details and plane history?
36. Need nicknames and info on any other 65th B-24s not listed here.
37. Need photos or nose art for MISSING YOU (399).
38. When and at what base was name "KEN'S MEN" first applied to pilot's side of 65th SQ B-24 noses? What were colors of this lettering?
39. When and at what base was the tail B-24 rudder stripping first applied on 65th B-24s?

#### 403RD SQUADRON

40. We have virtually no identification of nicknames or nose art on 403rd SQ B-17s. Can anyone supply some?
41. Early 403rd SQ B-24s used a white front tip on top of the stabilizers. When and at what base was this first applied?
42. The following 403rd SQ B-24 nicknames are known: ACE O' SPADES, FLAMIN' MAMIE, FLYING FANNIE\*, THE FLYING WOLF\*, GENTLEMAN JIM\*, JOLTIN JANIE, THE MIRAGE\*, PRIDE OF THE CORNHUSKERS\*, RIO RITA, SACK BOUND\*, SATAN'S SISTER, STUGOTTS 1ST\*, TAILSKID TOLLIE, MILLION \$ BABY (1 & 2), VIRGINIA GIRL, MAREEBA BUTCHER'S, KEN'S MEN (with MAREEBA BUTCHER'S insignia). Need crew chief's names, artwork color details, and dates of loss (for planes with \* also need serial number).
43. Was MAREEBA BUTCHER'S Sqdn insignia painted on noses of all 403rd B-24s late in the war? When was this done? (Two examples known from photos).
44. By whom and when was MAREEBA BUTCHER'S SQ insignia designed?

#### LATE BULLETIN

Delta airlines has called with their offer on fares. Their offer is 40% off unrestricted fares or, 5% off lowest applicable fares, including first class. They are also offering 10% off age 62 and older on any fare. Call 1-800-221-1212 and ask for the special meetings' desk. Our account number is #H11338.

Lloyd