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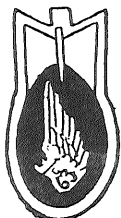
"KEN'S MEN"



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63rd Sqdn.



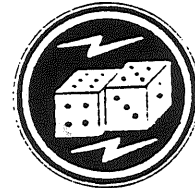
64th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



43rd BOMBARDMENT GROUP NEWSLETTER
40th EDITION, August 1991. LLOYD BOREN, editor

FROM BILL WILSON

Here it is the 1st of August hot, and I'm thinking of Fall and the Norfolk Reunion. Each of you get a little dearer as time goes by. Make a special effort to make a roll call at the reunion this year.

I'll start off with a question. Some one tell me what outfit was Horace Carswell in? He is the fellow Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth was named for. MARY LOIS went to T.C.U. with him. A B-24 pilot, he was K.I.A. 26 October 1944. Mission: Shipping, South China Sea. Received the Medal of Honor.

I received some information on the Lone Star Flight Museum, Galveston, Texas. For one thing, they are the custodian of the 303rd Bomb Group (H) memorabilia. They have several restored air craft. The museum is located at 2002 Terminal Drive, Galveston, Texas 77554. They are open from 10:00 am to 5:00 p.m. You might want to check them out.

MAX & MARGARET AXELSEN, 403rd, report their friend and neighbor, SID LEE, 403rd, is having a bad go. SID, in mid July was getting chemo at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. His address in Rochester is Silver Lake Courts, 1409 Broadway, Rochester, MN 55904. A prayer or card will be helpful. Some of you fellows in the area stop by and see SID.

JACK FAERBER, 65th, sent a guide map of Okinawa. They have sure made a pretty place out of that island. Also as of 20th of July, JACK'S address is Apt 601, 19 Chapel Street, Newport, RI 02840. I'm not sure what I reported his address as in the last newsletter. JACK is hard to keep up with.

RALPH DE LOACH, 63rd, reports a scuba diving friend reports that the BLACK JACK find was one of the top cuba dives of the 80's. I'll bet of ALL times. Really a great find.

Had a very nice surprise on the 2nd of July. P.D. "PERCY" ALEXANDER, 403rd, stopped by the old Ford house in Snyder on his way to Midland. PERCY lost his sister not long back, and his brother in law is pretty much lost. PERCY wants to bring him to Norfolk and I told PERCY we would love to have him. Thanks for taking time to stop by.

AUGUSTINE "GUS" RAPISARDI, 65th, had planned to pick up J.T. BRITTON, 65th, and come see MARY LOIS and me in Ruidoso, NM. Well, RAP lives in Colorado Springs, and has so much summer company he is not going to get to Ruidoso this summer, maybe next year. It has been almost 50 years since we slept in the same tent.

ROGER & AUDREY KETTLESON, 64th, are all signed up for Norfolk, then they report several nice visits. O.K. & BECKY COULTER, 64th flight engineer, and current flight engineer of SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY, C.A.F. B-17G. The only one of us still on active duty, stopped by. O.K. had been to a flight engineer refresher course on B-17's.

CARL & WILMA NELSON, 64th, were in town for a golf tournament. I guess WILMA is still carrying CARL. Oh well, that's what wives are for.

CHICK OLSON'S (64th) daughter is trying to find out more about her dad's time in the 19th and 43rd. Her name is JANICE OLSON, 857 W. Inpalia Circle, Mesa, Arizona 85210. Needs pictures of her dad with his crew, or whatever you might have. I'm sure you remember CHICK passed away a couple or three years ago. Janice has received some of BILL EATON'S 403rd flight records.

Note from LLOYD to BILL EATON: Prior to the last newsletter, I contacted the rental car agency you were kind enough to send me, and they were to send me rates, etc. for the newsletter. I did not receive anything, so I called them just prior to starting this newsletter, and they have closed up shop. That's why you will note, later on, rates, etc. from another agency.

RALPH G. SCOTT, 65th, sent some pictures of the Valiant Air Command's Air Show in Titusville, Florida, march 1991. RALPH put on his WWII uniform along with Col. Paul B. Jackson. Added much color to the show. RALPH is going to paint a picture of one of the B-17E's I flew. Thanks RALPH.

STEVE BIRDSALL, Assoc. member from Australia, is trying to find out what happened to the 1st 300 B-17's built by Boeing in Seattle. STEVE wrote "Flying Buccaneers", a great book about the 5th AF in WWII. STEVE is after GEORGE WHITE for information. Somehow GEORGE seems to recall more about the New Jersey Air Force here of late. STEVE, the lone bail out of GEORGIA PEACH, 41-24454, over Rabaul harbor, 23 February, 1943, was ARTHUR MIRARCHI, PFC. He was from 1102 Avery Ave., New York City. I have heard he ended up a POW. I'm sure JOEL GRIFFIN, 403rd tail gunner or JOSE HOLGUIN, 65th navigator, would know. Both were POW's at Rabaul.

LARRY HICKEY gives us reports on how our book is coming along. GEORGE WHITE, 63rd, our book C.O., along with JIM PETTUS, Hdqrs., are trying to work with LARRY to speed things up. Our book will be number one item before the Directors at our meeting in Norfolk.

JOSEPH P. NODGE, JR., 403rd flight engineer, wants some help. Anyone who was at Ie Shima late August or early September, 1945. JOE needs a copy of orders transferring him to the 375th Troop Carriers. He thinks the orders were dated either 5th, 6th, or 7th September 1945. Take a look at your old orders. If you have it, make a copy and send it to JOE, 546 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201.

Duncan B. Fergeson, 2A School Lane, Swavesey, Cambridge, England, CB4-5RL, comes up with a hard one, but as the saying goes, "Give her a go, Yank". Duncan came up with an old A2 jacket in excellent repair. Has great art work. The front had the 25th Bombardment Squadron (VH). The back of the jacket has Kagu Tsuchi Artwork, The Scourge of the Fire God, then 19 bombs (missions?), 3 aircraft, and 2 ships. He wants to know who might have worn the jacket, what crew, etc. This fine Englishman bought the jacket for the art work. Now thinks it needs to be returned to the 25th for their keep sakes. Any help?

Brian J. Koskey, 5282 Old Smith, Valley Road, Greenwood, Indiana 46143, tel 317-889-1685. Brian's thing is art work on air craft. He is wanting to know who was the artist on "THE DRAGON AND HIS TAIL". Then it seems that a "MR"? Bartgan did most of the art work on the 64th aircraft in 1945. He has another photo of "COCKTAIL HOUR", and that painting says Sgt. Barnes, crew chief. He thinks Sgt. Barnes might know who did the art work. I have no record of Sgt. Barnes. If he met up with the girl in the painting, he went to his reward happy, VERY HAPPY.

Galaxy Tours is putting together a trip to Townsville for the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. Good hotel space will be hard to come by, so if you are thinking of this one, you might want to call Hal F. Rycler, 1-800-523-7287. He will send you all the information you want.

One more note on the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. American Express is doing this one. If interested, Leanne Jones, American Express DSM, Australia, 222 Kearney Street, San Francisco, CA. is the one to call toll free 1-800-234-2394.

Turner Publishing Co., P.O.Box 3101, Paducah, KY 42002 has a new book "B-24 LIBERATOR LEGEND". If interested, drop them a note and they will send you all the information.

JOHN "BLACK JACK" EDKINS, 43rd navigator. Lloyd has been trying to locate the six RAAF navigators that flew with us. Finally a letter from BLACK JACK. He reports that 4 were KIA. One lost his sight from anti-aircraft burst. His name was Glen Davenport, lived in West Australia, and recently passed away. All were right out of school. One other was Stan Esler. BLACK JACK joined us when we were still in Mareeba and before we became 65th. BLACK JACK is now 76, and his hand writing has not improved, but here goes on his address: 9 Palmerston Road, Unley 2042, South Australia.

BOB ROTH, 403rd, sends information on the Aerospace Audio Visual Service move from Norton AFB to March AFB. This is part of the program to close Norton AFB by 1994.

Tom Fitzgerald, 166 Beaumont Street, Hamilton NSW 2303 Australia, is secretary of the 24th Squadron Association, New South Wales. They were checked out in B-24's by the 65th Squadron at Nadzab. Flew missions with the 43rd, and he wants to trade Lloyd a 24th Patch for a 43rd Patch. Fair dinkum Breezy, give it a go. (note from Lloyd: it's a beautiful patch, and I will bring it to Norfolk).

MAXON L. "MAX" WOTRING, 403rd, sends in a report on the battle of the 90th Bomb Group sign. 43rd troupes, with maybe a little help from a B-25 outfit, were very hard on the 90th's signs. At long last, a sign telling of the two best bomb groups in the world.

BILL & BETTY ETTER, 64th, send in a check for a life membership. BILL says it's too hard to remember each year to pay dues. He also needs help in finding five of his crew: FRANCIS J. ZEBRIS, navigator, Boston, Mass.; GERALD M. RYAN, gunner, Green Bay, Wisc.; CLYDE T. TAYLOR, gunner, Wichita Falls, Tex.; WILLIAM BROWN, engr/top turret, Odessa, Tex.; HERMAN RHODEN, tail gun, S. Dakota. Any help would be appreciated.

JOHN & CAROL CROSBY, 403rd, hope to make the Norfolk reunion. Looking forward to seeing everyone, but for sure, MAX AXELSEN and NEIL FAIRBANKS, both 403rd.

The 90th Bomb Group Association sent a copy of their newsletter, nice but I know of a better one. Enough said.

ROMEO & MILDRED FURIO, 65th, can't make the reunion this fall. They will be tied up in Lexington, Kentucky. A real neat place to get tied up in. They send a big hello to ED TROCCIA, DR. "BUD" GUSACK, and AL PEPE, all 65th. ROMEO says to tell the fellows it's from the "Wine Man".

FRANK & BETTY ZIMMERER, 65th sent a clipping from a San Jose paper on the B-24 the "ALL AMERICAN". Good write up! FRANK didn't remember that there were 18,479 B-24's built. That's a bunch of em. FRANK is already making plans for the QUEEN MARY.

LLOYD has received several notices and clipping about the "ALL AMERICAN". San Antonio was one of the stops the plane made, and was there for 2 days on display (inside and out). Several of our fellows have their names printed on the outer skin of the plane, and LLOYD BOREN, 65th, and DAYTON BLANCHARD, 65th, got pictures and, hopefully will have them at the reunion. Our donors show up very plainly.

WALDO SCHAUWEKER, 64th, sent in clippings from the Salt Lake City paper. For WALDO, and others, it clears up what happened to his co-pilots, ERNEST A. NAUMANN & WINSLOW G. GARDNER. WALDO went to Group, and ERNEST & WINSLOW made up a new crew. They were shot down 1 June 1943 on a recon mission. Lt. WINSLOW G. GARDNER'S remains were found not long ago and returned to his family for burial 48 years later. WALDO says he will see us in Norfolk.

Judge MICHAEL J. & MARY ALICE O'MALLEY, 63rd, want to thank LLOYD & HELEN BOREN on the great job they did on the roster. Judge, I think we all should add our thanks. The Judge is also pleased to see the pictures of the working force.

RALPH SCOTT, Bad 2 Association newsletter editor, was also an early member of the 43rd. His time in 43rd, August 1941 to February 1942. Started with cots in the hanger at Langley and on to Bangor. RALPH was in radio school at Scott Field when the 43rd left Bangor. Recalls T/Sgt. BILLY was in charge of the radio section of the 65th. Good to hear from you RALPH.

BURT & LORRAINE ADEN, 403rd, also Life Members of the 43rd, spent several months

this past winter in Destin, Florida. This is close to Elgin AFB. While there, they learned of a unique retirement village for Air Force enlisted men's widows. It's called "Bob Hope Village". He is not connected with it other than in name. They went by, had lunch, and checked it out. Very pleased with what they saw. Some of you might want to check it out. 30 Holly Ave., Shalimar, Florida 32579, or phone 652-2635 or 651-5770, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. BURT & LORRAINE are all signed up for Norfolk. Say they can't wait to see us but I'll bet a Grand Daughter at Georgetown University had more to do with it. See you there.

DUTCH BENEDETTI, 65th, says he doesn't have a lot of time on his hands between teaching at the University and completing four marathons. Winners were at St. George, Los Angeles, and Longbeach. Honolulu was only a second place. DUTCH contributes a portion of his winnings to the Group. DUTCH, you remind me of the Mighty Mississippi River, you just keep rolling along. God bless you, see you in Norfolk.

R.J. "BOB" MULVEY, 403rd, sends in his report from his home town, South Yarmouth, Mass. Caught a cold from TOM CASEY, 63rd, they live close by on Cape Cod. Plan a get together. BOB is trying to talk wife ROSE into going to Norfolk. Do it ROSE, you will love it!!! If anyone knows, let BOB know what happened to all the B-24's at Ie Shima.

JAMES REMBISZ, Assoc. member and kin to SARNOSKI, has his Perkiomen Valley High School students doing research on Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. As a result, they were guests of Freedom Foundations dedication of the Utah Memorial at Valley Forge. Nice to hear from you JIM.

VERN & RITA KINZLER, 403rd, have made the last five reunions, but up jumped the devil. They can't make roll call in Norfolk, they are both in good health, just have something else to do. Will be thinking of us but should be on the Queen Mary in '92. Take care.

BILL & MARIE COULTER, 64th, are going to visit his tail gunner, CHARLES O. PORT, 1763 Route 143, Cedarsburg, Wisconsin 53012. We have sent CHARLES a request to join, thanks for his address. Some of you fellows that remember CHARLES, drop him a line.

PHIL & BILLIE WELCH, Hdqrs., sent a note telling of the B-24 "ALL AMERICAN" coming to Scottsdale. The Collins Foundation is doing a good job getting the aircraft around the Country.

A new Associate member, ARTHUR & GENEVIEVE JOHNSON, reports that his brother was S/Sgt. HARRY JOHNSON, 63rd deceased. HARRY was Bangor, Queen Mary, Sidney, Mareeba, and Port Moresby, then transferred to 5th Bomber Command, 28 February 1943. Played baseball as a catcher, etc. Anyone remembering HARRY JOHNSON should drop ARTHUR a line. His address is listed later on in the New Members section.

CHARLES & PATRICIA STENGLEIN, 65th, got a special treat out of "BUD" FLETCHER'S recall of the JIM EASTER mission 3 March 1943. You see, CHARLES was on the aircraft, his first mission. CHARLES & PATRICIA are headed for Norfolk.

DON BAKER, 65th, and one of our hardest workers at the reunions, reports the passing of GEORGE FINGERS, 65th, on 11 April 1991. GEORGE was ROLLY FINGERS father, and had been sick for a long time. May he rest in peace. He will be missed by all.

Robert C. White is with Aviation Cadet Alumni Association. He and Harry Bradshaw, retired officers, have collected 19,000 names of Aviation Cadets. Find an old class mate or your whole class. There are no dues, etc. Information requires postage only. If you are not a member, they would like to have you. Robert C. White, 54 Seton Trail, Ormond Beach, Florida 32176.

TOM O'MALLEY, 64th, sends in picture and writes of a conventional (I wonder what that is) bombing run over Nagasaki 6 August 1945. The crew saw the mushroom cloud of the Hiroshima explosion. CAL MERCER, A.B. ROTH, O'MALLEY, ARTHUR GOLDBERG, LEO THALER, JOE GAVIN, WAYNE SPITLER, BOB BARRETT, CHUCK OLDHAM, and BILL BALLARD, made up the crew that day. NOTE FROM LLOYD TO LEO THALER: This will probably answer some of your questions.

The Liberator Club was nice enough to post our reunion dates, place, etc. Thanks very much.

Our book on the 43rd is going very slow. Four years and still counting. This will be the big thing when your Board of Directors meet in Norfolk. Well let you know in the next newsletter.

Another successful mission for the old 43rd. WENDELL JONES, 64, a new recruit, reports on BOB COOPER'S request for help in finding lost crew members. Results; WENDELL JONES, top/gun, 4901 Glen Forest Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612, WARREN DITZLER, armor/gunner, 363 N. 4th St., Lebanon, PA 17042; DANNY TARRANGELO, nose/gun, 2 Virginia St. Calley Cottage, NY 10989, and radio operator EDDIE "FLAK" FALK. FALK died of a heart attack at the age of 41. Info from EDDIE'S sister in law. A great report. Thanks to all.

This about wraps it up for now. MARY LOIS & I are looking forward to seeing a lot of you in Norfolk. This reunion has to be something special. 50 years of 43rd Bomb Group History and each of you were part of it. We can only say GOD BLESS

LATE NEWS FROM LLOYD

NOTICE!! At the St. Louis reunion it was suggested and approved that we notify all the Associate members who do not pay dues, that we need a letter or card from them stating that they are interested in receiving future newsletters. We felt this was necessary since we have always placed the widows on the rolls as complimentary Associate members. We have no other way to know whether they want to continue to receive the newsletters, and assume some are not interested. In order to cut expences, we are asking all Associate members who have "COMP" after their name on this newsletter address label, to take the time to drop us a card if you are interested in receiving future newsletters. If you are, you will be left on the roster, and will continue to receive the newsletters. Please help us by sending us a card. Those who have not answered by November, we will assume are not interested.

WARREN DITZLER, 64th, writes of a coincidence. Seems in 1953, he married a girl whose brother, JOSEPH P. MURRAY, was lost while flying in the Pacific Theater. In checking further, he learned that JOE was in the 43rd BG, and a member of the 64th Squadron. They were flying (B-17) low level over Rabaul and shot down 6/43. He was at Jefferson Barracks, Mc Guire, Bangor, and Boston for the Queen Mary trip. WARREN came later to the 64th, and was ball/gun on BOB COOPER'S crew.

Another reminder, get your reservations in early for Norfolk. It's beginning to shape up as a large reunion. It is not only a place that has great historical sites, but is very important in the history of the 43rd. The 43rd was formed at Langley Field in 1941, and went on to become one of the most famous Groups in History, continuing the tradition until their retirement on Guam last year. Truly a Group you can take pride in being a member of.

Received a long letter from JOHN MITCHELL, author of "ON WINGS WE CONQUOR", the 19th Bomb Group Book. He was at the 19th regional reunion in San Antonio in June. I was there, but was busy being bartender, so, missed him.

For those of you who are interested, the book is \$18.95 and can be ordered from G.E.M. Publishers, 1902 Old Orchard, Springfield, MO 65805. Although the book relates the history of the 7th and 19th groups up until the time they came back to the States, any of you there during that period would probably be interested. There is only one of us getting a chapter in the book, and that is ED TROCCIA. He is noted for being bumped off the truck carrying him to HARLE PEASE'S plane by the regular crew member who got out of the hospital to fly with his regular crew. I can go ED one better, I was bumped off the PEASE crew after I was already on the plane by his bombardier who also decided to leave the hospital and fly with his regular crew. HARLE PEASE received the Medal of Honor, and up until the book came out, I, along with most of us at the time assumed that all aboard, including PEASE were killed when their plane was shot down. According to the book, it is believed that PEASE survived, was picked up by the Japs, and after digging his grave, was killed by the sword. This from several prisoners who were with him in the POW camp, Rabaul. Disturbing story, I figure ED TROCCIA and I are pretty lucky.

JOHN MITCHELL also says he has information which may help Roger Marks, the Australian who was seeking information on the B-17 landing near Coen in the last newsletter. I will write Roger and have him contact JOHN.

JOHN, who is a friend of STEVE BIRDSALL, says that STEVE wants to know if the

P.I. WILLIAMS referred to in 19th Operations is the PAUL I. WILLIAMS, 65th - 43rd, February 43, and MIA at Rabaul in A/C 41-9244, 21 May 43. PAUL I. WILLIAMS was a Major, ser# 0-148154.

Incidentally, those of you who order the book, be sure and indicate that you are 43rd. JOHN is donating \$2.00 per book to the 43rd for each one purchased by a 43rd member.

ED TROCCIA writes that he is finally getting well enough to make a reunion, and he will be with us in Norfolk. ED sent along a clipping about the PEASE mission, and the terrible aftermath.

JOHN S. EDMISTON JR., Assoc. member, who had asked for first hand information concerning the rescue of the 403rd Sqdn. B-24 which crashed and burned on 3 April 1944 at Nadzab, writes; The following were killed, 1st Lt. Walter H. Cole Jr., pilot, S/Sgt. Wayne A. Laco, gunner, S/Sgt. Harry M. Rouse Jr., gunner, S/Sgt. Richard V. Fowlkes, Jr., gunner.

The survivors were; 1st Lt. John (Cowboy) Taylor, co-pilot, 1st Lt. Raphael Bentchner, navigator, 1st Lt. Charles R. Orlando, bombardier, S/Sgt. Wayne C. Stout, engineer, Sgt. Ivan F. Farnsworth, engineer, T/Sgt. Clarence J.L. Raub, radio operator.

JOHN sent a copy of a very detailed discription of the crash and rescue by PAUL COBER who was a Capt. at the time. PAUL COBER and CAPT. MARTIN, (operations officer), picked up JOHN TAYLOR after he escaped from the plane, and the other 5 were picked up by a rescue squad. Incidentally, our newsletter listed the 92nd Airdrome Squadron and being 'R.A.A.F.', this is NOT correct. The 92nd Airdrome Squadron was U.S. Army Air Force, and was attached to the 5th Bomber Command.

An interesting note, the 92nd worked with "PAPPY" GUNN. On one occasion, GUNN had JOHN, along with several others welding clusters of frag bombs together, also loading ammo when he was checking package guns on A-20s and loading para-frags when he was checking a new bomb rack. The 92nd fed the early morning weather flights, and manned the crash crews, etc.

RALPH BENTCHNER sent JOHN a very descriptive tape of his remembrances of the incident. JOHN, is having someone in Alabama travel to Maxwell and make copies of the 403rd's records concerning the crash.

Dr. CHET KENNEDY, 65th, has published his diary covering his time in the 93rd Sqdn., 19th BG, and the 65th Sqdn., 43rd BG. It is entitled "THE WAY IT WAS. I THINK! 1922-1945". It is a book over 300 pages in length, hardbound and 8 1/2" by 11". CHET does not want to make money on this, so the price is what it costs him. \$35.00 per copy. You may order direct from him: Chester Kennedy, 96 Grandview Hgths. Dr., Conway, Arkansas 73032. BILL WILSON has a copy, and likes it very much.

LEO H. THALER, new member from the 403rd, writes that he didn't recognize any names from the roster. He figured it might be wise to list the members of his crew and see if he could get any results in locating them. They were:

CURTIS C. MERCER, pilot from Washington
ARLO B. ROTH, co-pilot remained in service.
ARTHUR GOLDBERG, navigator from Chicago, Ill.
THOMAS O'MALLEY, bombardier from Philadelphia, PA
JOSEPH "ARCHIE" GALVIN, rad/oper from Jersey City, NJ
CHARLES OLDHAM, top/gun from St. Louis, MO
WAYNE SPITLES, nose/gun from Luray, VA
ROBERT E. LEE BARRETT, belly/gun from Virginia
WILLIAM BALLARD, tail/gun from Jane Lev, W. Virginia
LEO was flight engineer.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of any of these men, let LEO know at 87-30 204 st. # A-28, Hollis, NY 11423.

Another new member from the 63rd Squadron, RICHARD M. SALLEY, says, in answer to one of the questions about the planes: In regards the B-24 names "QUEEN OF HEARTS", this was the plane that his crew flew, and he has a photograph of all the ground radar mechanics taken in front of the plane. In answer to one of the questions, it was a green camouflage paint job, not black. He remembers that it had a point-down white solid triangle on the tail. RICHARD has a picture of the

crew of the "QUEEN OF HEARTS" taken at Langley Field shortly before they left for the Pacific (Scott Project). The regular crew of the "QUEEN OF HEARTS", were lost on their fourth or fifth mission.

RICHARD, has a rather unique claim to fame. While on Leyte, he made a refrigerated lister bag (to cool beer) out of a hydraulic turret motor, some copper tubing, a few bug bombs and an old motorcycle engine. Now thats wanting a beer real bad.

REG TATRO, 65th, writes of the passing of JAMES LANDRY, 65th. JAMES was a ground radio operator and airborne radio maintenance. He joined the 43rd at Langley, and shipped out on the Queen Mary. He was well known in the 65th, and noted for his trumpet playing. REG finally located him, and made contact with his wife only to learn he had died a week before.

BOB WHITEHEAD, 63rd, sent me a roster of the 63rd from Bangor Air Base dated 11/20/41. I will try to bring it to the reunion. Really interesting to see so many names of current members of the 43rd.

Received a copy of a letter written by ARTHUR "BUD" FLETCHER, former 65th CO to GEORGE WEICHLIN, 65th. BUD had received a letter from GEORGE detailing the mission on which the cockpit windshield blew out and smashed into BUD'S face. They very narrowly escaped with their lives. They were attacking shipping at the time.

BUD FLETCHER had quite a bit of time over there, he started out in the Jave campaign with the 7th and later with the 19th BG, then stayed on with the 43rd BG, and probably had more combat time than any of us. BUD will make his first reunion at Norfolk.

Please add the following new members to your roster:

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

ARTHUR JOHNSON

P.O. BOX 66

HOPEWELL JUNCTION, NY 12533

JOHN H. MITCHELL

1902 N. OLD ORCHARD

SPRINGFIELD, MO 65805

JOHN S. EDMISTEN JR.

RT 6 BOX 700

LIVE OAK, FL 32060

63RD SQUADRON

ERNIE VANDAL

5430 W. 120 ST.

HAWTHORNE, CA 90250

RICHARD M. SALLEY

2491 VILLAGE PARK DR.

MELBOURNE, FL 32934

LEE E. HOWLETT

766 HWY 44 WEST

SHEPPARDSVILLE, KY 40165

64TH SQUADRON

CHARLES O. PORT

1763 RT. 143

CEDARSBURG, WI 53012

WENDELL W. JONES

4901 GLEN FOREST DR RT. 2

RALEIGH, NC 27612

ROBERT T. SNIDER

RT. 2

CLEBURNE, TX 76031

WARREN A. DITZLER

363 N 4TH ST.

LEBANON, PA 17042

65TH SQUADRON

SAMUEL F. COMMONS

2003 GRACE LANE

FLOURTOWN, PA 19031

WARREN H. BENDER

BOX 37 RT# 2

MANHEIM, PA 17545

403RD SQUADRON

LEO H. THALER

87-30 204TH ST #A-30

HOLLIS, NY 11423

A couple months ago, the American Legion Magazine started a new program for announcing reunions and other meetings or items of interest. It's called VETNET. Each organization is assigned a VETNET code number, and the person to contact for information about the Group. This service is furnished free of charge to the organization. We are allowed to call toll free and leave a message, receive messages, and change messages. Individuals may call a 900 number and, by giving our code number, receive information about the group, and reunions. The individuals will be charged \$1.00 per minute, which is about as long as it takes to get the message. I have had a voice message on the service for over a month now, advertising the reunion, advising them of the Group Address to join the group, etc. So far we have gained 3 new members via this service. Listed below is the card giving our VETNET number, and instructions for using it. You do not have to belong to the American Legion to use the service. All VETNET numbers are printed in the American Legion Magazine, and you can use the service to check on other Veteran Groups. American Legion has come up with a very good idea that will save them, and our group time and effort, and will reach many

more people in a much more simple way than having to spend time looking for reunion announcements. The American Legion has even provided us with the following card which we may send members, or in our case, print it.

We are proud to announce our Outfit :

43rd Bomb Group Recon.

has been enrolled in The American Legion's new
Veterans' Electronic Telecommunications Network - VetNet™
and assigned the following special VetNet number:

11003

You can use VetNet™ to keep in touch throughout the year,
and to hear up-to-date reunion news. Use VetNet's MailCall to hear messages
from others and to leave messages for others to hear...the good news and sad...
to find old friends...and make new ones.

To use VetNet™ call 1-900-773-VETS and when asked, enter our
outfit number shown in the box above. Calls cost \$1/minute.

You can also find other outfit numbers. Call VetNet Directory Assistance 1-800-348-VETS.

Something that will be of interest to the guys in the 64th Squadron: Several months ago while visiting the company that makes our caps and patches, they showed me a advertising pamphlet from the company in Taiwan that makes the patches. On the front cover they had a patch in full color to illustrate their work, and guess whose patch it was. Yep, the 64th Indian riding the bomb with the spyglass. You are famous (at least the patch is). I sure wish someone would send me the names of the fellows who designed all the patches listed at the top of all the newsletters. Their names should be published. How about some help.

HUGH & DOT JONES, 63rd, have been doing a great job lining up the Golf Course, RV centers, tennis courts, and keeping in touch with the Hotel, etc. MAX AXELSEN, 403rd, will be in charge of the Golfers, J.T. BRITTON, 65th, in charge of the bridge, and hopefully, JACK CAPERTON, 65th, will handle the tennis. BOB & IRENE WATSON, 65th, have volunteered to help at the registration desk, so everything is going smoothly. I keep getting letters saying they are going to be there as individuals and also as crews. I know of at least 4 crews who are trying to get everyone to meet there, and every day it looks more and more like we are going to have a huge crowd in Norfolk. We have a large percentage of our members who were stationed at Langley, and this, coupled with the many Historical sites and the many States on the East coast that are within driving distance, should make for a terrific turn-out.

ARTHUR "BUD" FLETCHER, 65th, will be especially looking for his old tentmate, JAY ZEAMER, 65th. JAY will be there BUD.

For those of you flying to the reunion, please note the following if you intend to rent a car: ALAMO RENT A CAR has joined the Forty Third to offer you special low car rental rates which are available one week before and one week after the reunion. All ALAMO rentals include air conditioning, automatic transmissions and UNLIMITED FREE MILAGE. Rates also include \$3000.00 maximum personal responsibility should CDW be declined.

SPECIAL RATES			
ECONOMY	Geo Metro	\$26/day	\$99/week
COMPACT	Geo Prism	\$28/day	\$119/week
MIDSIZE	Buick Skylark	\$31/day	\$139/week
STANDARD	Buick Century	\$34/day	\$159/week
PREMIUM	Chevrolet Caprice	\$35/day	\$179/week
LUXURY	Buick Park Avenue	\$46/day	\$199/week

Similar models may bae substituted. Two or Four door models may be requested at *time of reservation. Rates may be reserved for use one week prior to and after the reunion. Reunion rates may be limited and twenty-four hour advance reservations are required. Five day minimum stay required for weekly rates. Some locations have an additional airport-imposed fee for those renters utilizing the courtesy shuttle service. Call ALAMO at 1-800-732-3232, provide our group ID number 77811 and request Rate Code G3. NOTE: ALAMO has a shuttle bus that meets the incoming planes and takes you to the ALAMO lot. When you depart, their shuttle bus will take you to the airport. There is a charge for this.

For all those driving to the reunion, parking is free at the Omni. You park it.

We have had very good registration response this far in advance, but for those of you who wait till the last minute, please don't. We need to know how many dinners, buses, tickets, etc. to order, and remember, those who send in their registration dated no later than October 5th, will have a ticket in the drawing for free room rent for the reunion. Please do not mail registrations after October 5th. This is to ensure all the mail getting to HUGH & DOT JONES in time for the reunion. You may pay at the reunion, but only those dated or or before October 5th will have a ticket in the drawing.

Another reminder: Those of you who were in St. Louis should still have your permanent badges. DO NOT forget to bring them as the price is still the same \$2.00 if you don't have them (I know, I had mine, and forgot to bring them to St. Louis, and it cost me another \$4.00 for Helen and I). Those of you who pay for the badges with your mail-in registration, will find them waiting for you at the registration desk. All the badges will have a special sticker to designate Norfolk. Those who already have their badges will get a sticker for the badge. Badges will be necessary for all the events. If you do not want a permanent badge, one of the old type will be given you free with a sticker at the registration desk.

This newsletter is going out to all dues paying members, life members, and associate members (Widows) only. All those who have not paid from 89 back will be dropped next month. Anyone sending in dues will be sent the newsletter and a roster and will be placed on the roster again.

We have St. Louis caps left, and will close them out at \$5.00 including postage. We have a few caps left from several reunions, Bossier City, Dayton, and Colorado Springs. Those of you who are collecting caps can get them at the same price while supplies last. They are limited.

This years caps will be special, silver golf caps with the Flag crest of the 43rd, 50th Anniversary across the top, 1941-1991 at the bottom, and under that, LANGLEY FIELD-AFB. Cost will be the same, \$8.00 at the reunion. For those who collect caps and are not coming to the reunion, the cost is \$9.00 including postage. The caps will be available at the end of September.

August 9th: SHAD SHADDOX, 64th, called this morning, and reported that the search is ended for the 10th member of his crew. After a 2 year search for VINCENT J. LA MORGE, flight engineer on the crew in the 64th, word was just received of his passing away on February 4th, 1988. This information came from the Wichita Falls, Texas Public Library. The library informed SHAD that the passing of VINCENT was traced by the Mormon Church through their Genealogical Data Base. All of SHAD'S crew are now accounted for with seven survivors. VINCENT'S widow lives in Vacaville, California.

BILL WILSON tells of my receiving a patch from the Secretary of the 24 Squadron Association in Australia. I received a letter and copy of their newsletter today from TOM FITZGERALD, secretary of the Association, and it reads as follows: "Many thanks for the Squadron and Group badges which also explained the two 65th badges. You have given me an item of interest for my next newsletter, and likewise you are on my mailing list. Noted your Group motto "Willing, Able, Ready". Ours were all in Latin, "Sic Aggrederere ut Defendas", "Attack so that you may defend". To us it was "We attack to defend". Your annual roster is very impressive and so is your number of members. We have our 24 Squadron Association established in three States, New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. Our numbers are so small in the other States they have to combine with other Squadrons or join the R.A.A.F. Association which is Australian wide. There is also a B-24 Liberator Squadrons of Australia Association with H.Q. in Canberra A.C.T., but no matter which Association our boys join, their Squadron loyalty comes first. I'll write and thank FRED BLAIR (63rd) for giving me your address and ask if he is now resident in Australia. Best regards, TOM".

Thanks for the letter and your newsletter TOM, and, in the future, I will try to keep you posted on anything you and your mates may consider of interest in your newsletter. Incidentally, FRED & MARGARET BLAIR are definately residents of Australia, and have been all these years. They frequently make the reunions as do several others who live in Australia.

JOE LAWHN, 403rd, got a large front page write-up in the Victoria Advocate

(Texas) paper. JOE has a barber shop in Port Lavaca, Texas. The shop is filled with all kinds of WWII memorabilia, including every book he could find on WWII. JOE was on one of the last missions out of Ie Shima, flying on a Lt. YEAGER'S plane as a gunner. If any of you guys in the 403rd know the whereabouts of Lt. YEAGER, or any of his crew, JOE would like to hear from you. Write him at; 110 Travis St., Port Lavaca, Texas 77979.

ART MILLARD, 63rd, called the other night and asked that we mail his son, JEFF MELLARD, a newsletter so he would know what will be going on at the reunion. His son lives in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and ART wants him to come to the reunion. This will be ART'S first reunion. We warn you ART, they are habit forming.

Received notice from both PAUL COBER & LUCIAN KONOPA, 403rd, of the death of STAN TULIG, 403rd. Our condolences to his wife LILLIAN. STAN passed away Aug. 5th, 1991.

Just returned from Norfolk yesterday. Met with LKHUGH & DOT JONES, 63rd, and they have the reunion in good shape. We toured the base at Langley with the Wing Chief of Protocol, 1st Lt. Christie Dragen. We have a spot picked out for the Plaque, and should have a wonderful dedication for our 50th Anniversary.

Talked to BOB BUTLER, 63rd, last night. BOB & DORIS had just returned from up North on a visit. He reports news that LUCKY STEVENS, 64th, and crew/chief on Sentimental Journey, the CAF B-17, is in poor health. LUCKY would love to hear from some of you guys, I'm sure. He has always been one of our strongest supporters, and a mighty nice fellow. He's made every reunion I can remember.

Visited with PAUL & CAROLYN COBER at Wilford Hall Hospital today. PAUL had some eye surgery, and is in good shape. They are leaving in a day or so to visit a daughter in Sacramento. Will see us at Norfolk.

One last note: HAROLD A. JACOBS, L/Col. Ret., at 17545 Drayton Hall Way, San Diego, California 92128, telephone 619-485-5041, is seeking contact with any 43-K Cadets who started at SAACC, San Antonio, Texas. He is building a roster with the aim of a big reunion in the future. Anyone interested can contact him direct.

REUNION NEWS
FROM HUGH & DOT JONES

Several of you are flying into Norfolk. Ask for Airline Taxi run by Norman Hope. The fare is \$11.50 per person, one way. However, if you get together, the fares are as follows:

1 person	\$11.50	
2 persons	15.25	one person paying for all
3 persons	17.25	
4 persons	19.25	

So, if you run into anyone going to the Omni in downtown Norfolk, get together and take advantage of the above fares.

The nearest RV hook-up available is in Virginia Beach at the Holiday Travel or KOA, about 15 or 20 miles from the Omni. The manager of the campground will direct you to the four lane highway that goes directly from the ocean front to the Omni Hotel.

We're really looking forward to seeing you in October when all these names will have faces!

The following is a run-down on your reunion activities. All meals, buses, music, entertainment, and the terrific Spirit of Norfolk ship ride that are mentioned below, are included in your registration fee.

MONDAY 21ST through NOON SATURDAY 26TH - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Registration, Memorabilia and Hospitality room. Coffee.

TUESDAY 22ND - Optional Jamestown/Yorktown tour. This area of Virginia is abounding in Historical Revolutionary sites and buildings. The Waterside Mall, right next door, is good for a whole day. Plenty of eating places nearby. You will be supplied with nearby restaurants in your reunion packet.

WEDNESDAY 23RD Bridge and Tennis tournaments. Optional Colonial Williamsburg tour. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cost \$30.00 per person with a minimum of 30 persons. This includes transportation, admission, all day tour guide, tax and tips.

THURSDAY 24TH - 7:30 am - 9:00 am. Full breakfast
9:00 am - 12:30 pm. Optional Norfolk tour.
9:30 am - 11:00 am. Board of Directors Meeting
11:00 am - Golf Tournament. Two to a cart. \$19.32 each.
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm. Optional Virginia Beach tour.
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Cocktail hour, music, cash bar.
8:00 pm. Women's program, entertainment, door prizes.
8:00 pm. Squadron Meetings.

FRIDAY 25TH 11:00 am. Board buses for Langley AFB.
12:00 Lunch at the Langley Officer's Club.
1:00 pm 50th Anniversary of the 43rd. Dedication of Plaque.
2:00 pm Tour of Langley.
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Cocktail hour, music, cash bar.
6:00 pm. Virginia Theme Dinner, music, dancing, awards and drawing.

SATURDAY 26TH 7:30 am. Continental Breakfast.
10:00 am. Group Business meeting.
12:00 pm - 4:30 pm. Optional Naval Base tour.
6:30 pm. Board the Spirit of Norfolk for a 3 hour cruise with music, dancing, a terrific buffet, a Broadway Type Show, and sight seeing around the harbor and river.

SUNDAY 27TH 9:00 am - 10:00 am. Memorial Service
10:00 am - 12:00 am. Champagne Brunch

Make your reservations with the Omni Hotel via phone 1-804-622-6664 or write to 777 Waterside Dr., Norfolk, VA 23510.

Send your registration money, along with the form below, to HUGH & DOT JONES.

Name _____ Spouse and/or Guest _____

Address _____ Squadron _____

City, State, Zip _____

Number attending @ \$95.00 pp () total \$ _____

I will need () permanent reunion badges @ \$2.00 pp \$ _____

total enclosed \$ _____

	Yes	No
I will be playing Bridge	()	()
I will be playing Tennis	()	()
I will be playing Golf	()	()

I will arrive _____ Leaving _____

Driving	()	()		
Flying	()	()	yes	no
Need RV space	()	()	need hook-up	() ()

Send this form along with your remittance to the above address. Remember it must be received by October 5th to qualify for the FREE ROOM DRAWING.

This is all the news to now. We are looking forward to seeing many of you in Norfolk. The reunion will be lots of fun, and a wonderful place to have it. See you there.

<u>BILL & MARY LOIS WILSON</u> President Drawer M Snyder, TX 79549 (915) 573-6784	<u>LLOYD & HELEN BOREN</u> Secty - Treas 102 Beechwood Universal City, TX 78148 (512) 658-5978	<u>HUGH & DOT JONES</u> Reunion Chairpersons 100 E. Ocean View AV #307 Norfolk, VA 23503 (804) 588-0623
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