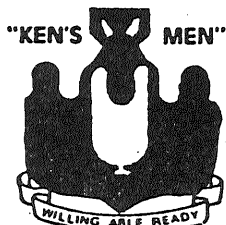


FORTY THIRD BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC.

OFFICERS

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Dale Barr, Pres. | 403rd |
| Max Osborn, Vice-Pres. | 65th |
| Lloyd Boren, Secty-Treas. | 65th |
| PAST PRESIDENTS | |
| Bob Butler | 63rd |
| George White | 63rd |
| Bill Wilson | 65th |



Hdqs & Hdqs Sqdn

DIRECTORS

| | | | |
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| Paul Cober | 403rd | Dick Wood | 63rd |
| Art Durbeck | 403rd | Bob Watson | 65th |
| Jim Harecrow | 65th | Nick Arabinko | 64th |
| Jim Pettus | Hdqs | Russ Burnett | 64th |
| Jim Diefenderfer | | | 63rd |



63rd Sqdn.



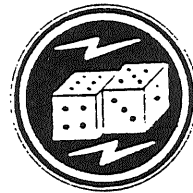
64th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



43rd BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION INC.
45th EDITION, DECEMBER 92, LLOYD BOREN, EDITOR.

SPECIAL NOTICE ON DUES

We are enclosing a self addressed envelope with this newsletter to remit your dues for 1993, they are still \$10.00 yearly due the 1st of January. If you are in doubt as to whether your dues are paid up, look at the name label on this newsletter and it will show the last year we show you paid for. We are showing around 300 who have not paid for several years, and those in this category will be dropped from the roster in the coming year if we haven't heard from them. Please remember, if paying dues is a hardship on anyone, you have simply to notify LLOYD and you will be marked Comp. We feel that when you take into consideration the 4 newsletters you receive, and the time and effort it takes to put out such a news filled letter, along with the cost, you will realize you are getting a bargain.

FROM DALE BARR

Now that the smog has lifted and I'm back home, I want to thank all the members for extending my term another year....I appreciate it very much.

I owe so much to so many, that if I tried to thank each and every one separately, I'm afraid I'll miss someone, so I'm taking the easy way out and thanking everyone thru this newsletter for their support.

As President, I do want to officially thank JOSE & REBECCA HOLGUIN, chairpersons for the Disneyland reunion. They did a tremendous job under very adverse conditions, and only those who were there will know how great a job they really did...Thanks again, JOSE & REBECCA...I'll see you both in Omaha in September, ok?

There is another group of men who get no publicity, but have controlled the destiny of the 43rd Group with little or no thanks, and that is our Board of Directors...To these men I offer my thanks and the thanks of all our members for their devotion and time they have spent in guiding our group association for the past 12 years.

At the Disneyland squadron meetings, the following new board members were elected; DICK WOOD from the 63rd Squadron, BOB WATSON from the 65th Squadron, and SHAD SHADDOX from the 64th Squadron. Incidentally, if you men are wondering about the pay, FORGET IT! Ha Ha...

I would be remiss if I didn't take time right here and now to publicly thank another group of men, affectionately known as the "Over the Hill Gang"....These men are your Past Presidents of the Association and along with the current officers, make up our Executive Committee. It is their guidance and counsel that the President and the Board of Directors rely on to keep us down that straight and narrow path of success. My special thanks and the membership's thanks go to BOB BUTLER, Founder and first President of the group...GEORGE WHITE, our second President, and BILL WILSON, our third President....and after next year, I will be joining this illustrious gang thus it will be two officers and two enlisted men who have been elected President...pretty even, huh? No favorites, right?

For those members who did not make the trip to Disneyland, I'll try and give you a thumb nail sketch of what went on at the membership meeting....

First time attending members were asked to stand and give their names, squadron and home town. There were about 12, I think.

The Board approved a \$1,000.00 donation to the 5th Air Force Wall so the 43rd will be remembered.

The Board re-approved the SAC Museum as our official depository for each members memorabilia if they so desire....more about this in later newsletters.

JIM PETTUS, our last WWII Commanding Officer of the 43rd Group, gave us a report on our book, and LARRY HICKEY, the Author, told us he thought he would have it ready for our Omaha reunion Sept. 27 - Oct 3rd, 1993... ANOTHER REASON WHY EVERYONE SHOULD MAKE IT TO OMAHA IN 1993...

A special thanks was given to DON BAKER, 65th, our super salesman who handles all the sales of the many items we have for sale at each reunion...He hasn't missed a one that I know of ...

A special thanks was given to HARRY DALZIEL, 63rd, for painting the big banners we have at every reunion...another 100 percenter..

The executive committee nominated the Present officers for another term and BOB WATSON, 65th, was nominated from the floor. BOB asked that his name be withdrawn and that the Group give unanimous approval to the Present Officers. A very humble and noble gesture....Thank you BOB from all of the Officers.

The meeting was then adjourned and everyone was asked to meet next year in Omaha.

Oh yes, I almost forgot (I have "sometimers disease"....sometimes I remember and sometimes I don't) to mention that JOSE HOLGUIN had JEANNE MONTGOMERY, our travel consultant, stand and take a bow for all the help she had given him and our members with their transportation problems.

Needless to say, over all it was a very successful reunion. Even tho I didn't go across on the Queen Mary, it was exciting to roam all thru her and to see how big she really is...She took a record number of servicemen to Europe and to Australia...16,000 men on one trip...Wow...hope they had a lot of deodorant, ha ha...It was a three foot blister trip for me and this old diabetic is seeing a foot doctor next week...no big deal, just being careful so I'll be around for the Omaha reunion.

I thought I was done writing when the PostPerson (Gosh PostPerson!, I remember when we called them Postman, what happens if I say "MailPerson???") Anyway, he dropped off a big package from LLOYD BOREN, Secty-Treasurer, with over 50 letters to answer....Wow! Better get started so we can get the newsletter out on time. note! Not exactly on time this time, the reunion being held so late in the year threw us off course this once, but we will be back on schedule in 1993.

My apologies to ROLAND FISHER, 63rd. I had every intent to look him up at the Disneyland reunion and it completely left my mind....I wanted to thank him for answering some of our needs in writing our book....ROLAND sent me a copy of what he had written about the death of HUGH NOONAN, 63rd, and the swimming death of MIKE SCHREIRER, 63rd. Thanks for sending this report and the pictures to LARRY HICKEY, our author. It will help him fill in a void in our history of the 43rd.

Thanks a lot to HERB ANDRESS, 403rd, for sending me the article on treasure relics in the South Pacific. I gave it to the curator of SAC Museum...he's trying to get a liberator to add to his fine collection of war planes, and in this article, it named names of men selling these relics...Go get them, SAC Museum.

JACK FAERBER, 65th. Did you ever find out what "T43-43" on your dog tags stood for? If not, someone wrote in and said it stood for Tetanus shot in 43 and renewed in 43....I think that's right, don't you?

Received a letter from ROBERT E. LEY, President of the 19th Bomb Group Assn. announcing their 1993 reunion to be held at the Warner-Robbins AFB, Georgia. It will be held April 1-3 and the person to contact is JAMES A. KIRACOFE, listed in

the 43rd's directory as an Associate Member. Some of you members might remember that the 43rd absorbed most of the 19th that didn't get to go home in the early part of 1942.

NEED HELP DEPARTMENT....Associate member BOB ROCKER, Historian, wants to know if any member of the 43rd remembers a B-24 crashing on the east side of Cape Gilo at Morotai in about 2 to 3 feet of water...He is also looking for a photo of the Gasmata airfield showing North Direction...If anyone can fill this request, please write to BOB at 1201 NE 2nd St., Pompano Beach, Florida 33060....Thanks to those who write.

A second letter from BOB ROCKER, wants to know if the 43rd bombed Wadke Island and Sarme Village which contained approximately 25,000 Japanese troops...Sir! I'll have you know that if there was a target in the South Pacific to bomb, the 43rd bombed it plus many Coral Reefs and many fish in the sea....AHEM!!

A special note to ART HANE, 403rd, with his camper...Just heard from JAMES "MAC" MC CLURE, 65th. Seems CLARIE, his wife, stepped out of their camper, fell and broke her leg in seven places...So MAXINE HANE, watch that first step, it's a lu lu....Bottom line is that CLARIE is getting along fine and the skin grafts were 80% successful...Keep improving CLARIE, and bring that camper to Omaha in September. Oh yes, bring "MAC" also...Ha Ha!

43rd B.G. ---Feb. '51 to Dec. '52.....New member, JACK W. WALSTROM sent in his dues for the first time. He was a "left blister gunner" on Lt. Col. ROBERT C. BROWN'S B-50 Lead Select Crew (A-Bomb). They were TDY to Guam in the fall of 1951 from Davis Monthan AFB. He also gave us another name to contact to join our group, ROBERT SCHMITZ, Kaysville, Utah...What I really enjoyed reading was his last paragraph which I quote verbatim (verbatim! ? Wow, what a word, I'm surprised!!)...."I AM ENJOYING THE NEWSLETTERS WHICH I RECEIVED AND LOOK FORWARD TO MANY MORE. I NEVER REALIZED WHAT AN ILLUSTRIOUS HISTORY THE 43RD HAD BEFORE I CAME ON BOARD". Thanks JACK, I couldn't have put it any better. Incidentally, did I mention that JACK lives in Salina, Kansas and we expect to see him at the Omaha reunion in Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 1993.

Received a flyer from the International B-24 Liberator Club of San Diego, California looking for members plus they have quite a library on the B-24 if anyone is interested..Drop me a line, OK?

Anyone who knows anything about an aircrewman of the 63rd Squadron by the name of CARL HUFF, please contact direct, Dale E. Biever, 54 Douglas St., Boyertown, PA 19512.

RALPH D. GRUBB, 64th, wrote that he was happy that crew member WENDELL JONES straightened out the mess as to who was their pilot on the last few missions out of Ie Shima. He often wondered about some of those bumpy landings. He has a new telephone number if anyone wants to talk to this old tail-gunner....1-703-980-4647...He couldn't make it to Disneyland, but what about Omaha, it's half the distance and less expensive...So there too!

ROBERT S. CUTLER, Hdqrs., sent his regrets on missing the QM, but ordered one of the caps for old memory sake anyway. He also informed us that GEORGE (VENETIAN FORMULA) CARTER, Hdqrs., do I want to ask about his middle nick name??? Nawwww, maybe best left alone, ha ha!. Anyway, he is doing fine after battling pneumonia that set in after his heart operation. Good wife, HELEN will get him well soon so they can come to Omaha (sorry, another plug). Incidentally, he mentioned to say "Hello" to one of the "over the hill" gang....Gen. GEORGE WHITE, 403rd-63rd.

Any of our members who can and wish to join the MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART, or want to find out more about it, write to JACK NORWINE, Rt 3 Box 40, Calvert City, KY 42029. He was a gunner, 20th Sqdn. 2nd BG, 15th AF, flying B-17's in Italy. You can also contact LLOYD BOREN, he has been a life member for years.

Does anyone know where we can get some of those pictures taken of our plaque adjacent to "Lucky Lady II" at the Planes of Fame Museum??? Several members have asked me about these photographs....I hope to hear from someone, OK? (Note from Lloyd, Bob Roth had those pictures printed up.)

Received quite a "pitch" on the Air Force Enlisted Widows Home Foundation, Inc. at Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Before I go out on a limb and have someone saw it off behind me...I'd like to hear from any of our members who live in that area and

can get me the "bottom line" on this organization. They are supposed to have sent a video cassette to LLOYD BOREN...so when he has finished looking at it, he can give us some more information as to it's creditability.

LEO H. THALER, 403rd, sent in a nice letter inquiring where he can buy some crewman's wings (regular size) also info on the 13th Recon-403rd Mini-Reunion that is held each year in Aurora, Nebraska. LEO, I'll send you the inf you need on both inquiries, but I can't help you find the pictures you took at Taklobin, Clarke Field, and Ie Shima....maybe one of our members can shed some light here. (Note from Lloyd: All Military medals, wings, Medal frames, boxes, ribbons, both regular and miniature are available from Medals of America, 1929 Fairview Road, Fountain Inn, SC 29644. You may write them and ask for a catalog of all their inventory. The catalog runs \$2.00. They are a reputable firm and carry a large line of medals etc. from the United States and practically all Foreign Nations).

Just received information on a new book just published in Australia by author James D. Rorrison (\$39.00 plus shipping). The name of the book is "NOR THE YEARS CONTEMN?" (Air War on the Australian Front 1941-1942). Anyone interested let me know....

HEY! Another one of those "young" guys just joined our outfit. HAROLD D. GORE, 63rd was found by one of our board of directors, JIM DIEFENDERFER, 63rd, at a high school reunion in Logan, WV. HAROLD joined the 43rd Bomb Group early in 1947 while it was based at Davis-Monthan AFB and left it in November 1949 when he was transferred to Lowry AFB, Colo. The 43rd Group had B-29's in 1947, but switched to B-50's in 1948....They lost two B-50's during this tour. Anyone recall how many planes we messed up when we transferred from B-17's to B-24's???

I want to thank JOHN PONTILLO, 64th, for sending in his dues to join the 43rd Bomb Group Assn., even tho his physical condition will not allow him to attend any of our reunions....Too Bad! That's why our newsletters are so important because it keeps everyone informed of what is going on, whether they can come to the reunions or not. JOHN, send us a little more about yourself, term of duty, where and what was your MO, etc....If your bed has wheels come on to Omaha, we'll take care of you ...Ahem! another plug.

Special thanks to ELEUTERIO NAVA, 65th, for sending in the zerox's of B-24 nose art that our author LARRY HICKEY is looking for..."PATCHED", "WANGO WANGO", "TARGET FOR TONIGHT", "PAPPYS PASSION", "MODEST MAIDEN", "RUPTURED FALCON". If any of our members recall flying on any of these planes, write to me giving me the info to the best of your knowledge, we'd love to hear from you. TERIO, I'm sorry, but I didn't get the name of your crew.... could you write to me and let us know what crew you were on? Thanks!....

Now that our visit to the Queen Mary is over and everyone is home safe and sound except one, MICHAEL BACHI, 63rd, who underwent an emergency operation while we were at Disneyland, I now want to thank WILLIAM O'BRIEN, 63rd, for sending in the clippings telling us the Queen Mary was rusting out and she was going to sink....That's the only way they'll be able to put the "Old Lady" out of commission. Along with this clipping, BILL sent some clippings on the NEW GUINEA natives, seems that some of the natives saw a "wheel" for the first time on the bottom of an airplane. I recall that I read somewhere that NEW GUINEA went from the "STONE AGE" to the "MODERN AGE" practically overnight....Thanks, BILL for taking the time to send the clippings. I was happy to see them repairing and painting the water-line while we were there....Did any of the members notice that the QM was tipped to one side about a foot or two so they could get to the water-line????

Received a nice letter from HUGH & DOT JONES, 63rd, Chairpersons for last year's reunion at Norfolk, VA. They again wanted to thank everyone who helped them to make the Norfolk, VA a successful endeavor. They offered their apologies for not making the Disneyland reunion, but HUGH was diagnosed with cancer and has been taking those nasty radiation treatments. Hopefully, he's done with them now, and that they were a success and both HUGH & DOT will be able to attend the reunion in Omaha, 1993...HUGH, if you can handle this bunch like you did in Norfolk, I'm sure you'll be on top of this setback in no time and we'll put a light out for you in September, 1993, OK?..

NEW MEMBER JOINS, a roll of drums, please. LYLE P. HEINEKE, 64th, 128 Reiter, Benson, Ill. 61516, and his wife BETTY, stand up and be counted... We want to know where you have been all these years? LYLE joined the 43rd in Nov. '44 to Oct. '45, flew 43 missions in B-24's. GEORGE A. STARK, 64th, was the Navigator

on this crew. (GEORGE is already a member of our Association). Maybe you two guys can team up and find your ball turret operator GORDEN WICKSTROM who's last address was just across the Wisconsin line into Michigan. You'll understand why we push all the time for new members when you read the sad news at the end of this newsletter. LYLE & BETTY come on to Omaha in 1993, I guarantee you'll be surprised at who you will meet at this reunion in 1993.

Very nice letter from a non-member telling us about the reprint of GEN. GEORGE C. KENNEY'S book "GENERAL KENNEY REPORTS", 1987. He states that the 43rd Group is mentioned many times in the book.....Ah well, why shouldn't it, he ought to know who won the war in the South Pacific, right men??..Ha Ha! Anyway WALTER W. SCHWIDER, Naperville, Ill. we all thank you for being so nice in writing us the info.

Comes now a letter arriving after I got back from California and too late for me to handle at the Disneyland reunion. It's not really all my fault, I did see and speak to ROGER & AUDREY KETTLESON, 64th at the Disneyland reunion and neither of them mentioned their 50th Wedding Anniversary....Shame! I would have considered it a honor to ask that you stand and be recognized. I know how proud I was last month when GEN and I celebrated our 45th Wedding Anniversary...To make it to the 50th one, that's something...Seems like the young kids today are sweating out their 2nd or 3rd Anniversaries, let alone their 50th. It must have been great to have all 5 of your children there plus the 10 grandchildren. Don't forget your two old friends from the 43rd who were there to help you celebrate.....FALCNOR & GOLDIE GIFFORD & CHARLES & MARY LANE GIDDINGS, both from the 64th Squadron. I tell you what, ROGER, why don't you chair a reunion in Las Vegas and we'll celebrate in grand style and maybe I can go home with some money....I had to hitch-hike back home to Omaha from Disneyland. (I can dream, can't I ...ha ha). A belated congratulation to you both from the 43rd Bomb Group.

Ring the bell again, another "lost" is found.....Does anyone remember WILLIAM SONDEY, 65th, who was attached temporarily to the 65th from the 360th Service Squadron Gunnery School? He flew about 100 hours in the latter part of 1944 starting with the bombing of Davao, Mindanio, and the oil fields in Borneo. He saw our reunion announcement in the September issue of the DAV magazine. It pays to advertise, don't it.

MEMORY ALERT FOR ALL MEMBERS!!!!

HAROLD KAHLER, 65th, is looking for a flight engineer who saved his life on a mission to Rabaul one night. Seems he was spread-eagled in the bomb-bay trying to undo a bomb that was hung up. He lost his grip and the engineer grabbed hold of his flight suit and kept him from becoming a free fall missile at 3 o'clock in the morning. It was on his first mission with "CRUNCHY" ADAMS as his pilot. HAROLD, I think, mind you, I said I think, that I read somewhere that ADAM'S crew went down with all hands on board....I hope I'm wrong, maybe someone out there can help us out on this....Please write, Thanks. To identify HAROLD further, he was a replacement bombardier joining the 43rd at Charter Towers and Port Moresby about the last of February or the first part of March 1943. HAROLD wants to know if anyone remembers the all night bridge game in his tent at Nadzab where he dealt one player 13 hearts and ended up with his partner bidding 7 spades and making it...Boy!. Someone ought to remember that....He'll make the Omaha reunion hoping to meet anyone who can help him out. See ya in Omaha, HAROLD (another plug). If I remember correctly, weren't you the bombardier that got credit for hitting the "bridge"....I think I'm right. But I could be wrong. Please let me know, OK? Pres.

PATRICK S. ROSS, 21 Via Di Roma, Long Beach, Calif. 90803 wants to buy a copy of "DOWN UNDER". If anyone has an extra copy to sell, contact him. He also mentioned that there is a specialty shop dealing only in used aviation books. It is located on the Pacific Coast Highway between Crenshaw and Western (City of Lomita). If any of you Californians get a chance to stop and see William Byrd Aviation Book Store...write and let me know if it's worth a trip....I've got to be kidding!!!!

"Being a member of other associations, 5th, 11th and 19th Bomb Groups, I am able to compare the 43rd with them and the 43rd wins hands down. Hang Tough"...quoted word for word from a letter written by WILLIAM R. EATON, 403rd. In the same letter he mentions Capt. HARL PEASE and some of the particulars surrounding his death. BILL also mentioned that you can read more about the 19th Bomb Group and it's absorption into the 43rd Group in a book written by John H. Mitchell for G.E.M. Publishers called "On Wings We Conquer". Editors note: (This

is on the 19th Bomb Group Shield "IN ALIS VINCIMUS"). Incidentally, we will see a beautiful plaque of Capt. PEASE when we tour our memorabilia depository at SAC Museum in Omaha September 27-October 3, 1993. (Another plug)

A note to Michael J. Constandy of the Westmoreland Research, thank you for offering to help us in our writing of the 43rd history. I have forwarded your letter to LARRY HICKEY for action.

Got a note from WALTER E. BILL & MELISSA, 403rd. (Hey, is that sqdn. correct??) WALTER, check me out on this, I thought you were in the 65th Sqdn, but the directory says 403rd...How did you get messed up with WARREN "DOC" BRYANT of the 65th? Help! I'm confused! Anyway, I hope you are settled in your new home in Florida by now...LLOYD will drop you a note on CHARLIE, OK?

HOT DOG!!....Another new member joining the 43rd Blomb Group Assn. JAMES O. BAKER, 63rd, was in the group from March '45 to Oct. '45 flying as nose gunner on NORMAN SEAMAN'S crew known then as "Seamon's Jungle Fighters". He still has the cloth jacket patch of the 63rd issued July '45 at Clarke Field. JAMES would like to hear anyone who reme4mbers his crew and anyone who remembers flying to Atsugi, Japan from Ie Shima in Aug. '45. Hey gang, let's show him what this Association is all about and give him what he's looking for, OK? Thanks you all....no, I mean "fair dinkum, mates".

Since I'm in an "Aussie" mood, I might as well answer an inquiry from an Australian aviation journalist and photographer, Robert W. Livingstone, PO Box 4, Gynea, NSW 2227, Australia...He is researching a book on the B-24 operations in Australia, concentrating on the early period before the Australian Air Force (RAAF) began it's own Liberator operations from Australian soil. One of the aspects he intends to cover is that of RAAF aircrew training (both pilot and gunner) on the B-24, a srole which the 43rd featured while in New Guinea. He would particularly like to hear from anyone of the 7th Bomb Group on LB-30's in Java or the 19th Bomb Group in Australia...Robert, if you will send \$10.00 to our Secty/Treas. at the Universal City address you have, you will receive our newsletter periodically. I am sending your letter on to our author, LARRY HICKEY for further action.

OH GOSH! I just thought of something I should have mentioned before now....at our last board meeting in Disneyland, it was voted not to put out our directory every year...the cost being around \$2,000.00 each time we put it our..it was agreed that the Secty/Treas...would keep the members abreast of all changes of addresses, phone numbers, additions and deaths of any of our members thru the newsletter, it will be the members resposibility to keep his directory up to date. LLOYD BOREN will give you more info on this new wrinkle in the newsletters to come. Note from Lloyd: A new directory will be put our every three years, these going to dues paying members only.

One of our newsletters came back marked "Undeliverable as addressed".. "no forwarding order on file"....Has anyone heard anything about TRUMAN C. LEARY, 64th, Please let me or LLOYD know, so we can change our records accordingly.

An artist, Michael Wooten, Alcoster, Alabama 35007...phone 205-663-2319, is looking for the pilot of "The Dragon and his Tail"...I have no idea what about, so be careful...nuff said. Note from Lloyd: Wooten wants to do a painting of the plane, but from what I hear, just about everyone flew in the Dragon at some time or another. He really wants to hear from a pilot who had a particularly hairy mission in the plane, and wants to do a painting of that mission.

Mrs FERN BELL, widow of ED "TEX" BELL, 64th, wrote she was sending a poem we asked about in a past newsletter, to LLOYD BOREN, it was "Somewhere in Australasia"...Lloyd, when you get this poem would you put it int the newsletter so all of us can have a copy of it. Thanks.

AIR FORCE MAGAZINE AUGHTS 92.....

"Seeking contact with anyone familiar with the B-24J known as "COCKTAIL HOUR", assigned to the 43rd Bomb Group stationed on IE Shima during WWII....contact Tom Isbrand, 7239 W. Sunnyslope Ln., Peoria, AZ 85345"....Our former CO, JIM PETTUS who we all owe so much for writing the history of the B-24 era of our group, saw this ad in the Air Force Magazine and sent it along for publication. JIM mentioned that he had received a call from Lt. General EUGENE TIGHE JR., Hdqrs., inquiring whether or not he was going to Disneyland. JIM, someone mentioned to me at Disneyland that General TIGHE was there, got ill and went home....Can you give us any more particulars??? I sure hope the both of you can make Omaha.

Just an acknowledgement to Aussie TOM FITZGERALD, Secty. 24 Squadron Association, New South Wales....I have your four letter in tow and have read your newsletter completely and will answer you personally, as it would take too much time and space to answer you here in our newsletter. I can say this however, they have a complete history of the first 5 crews trained in B-24's by the 43rd Group up to and including the time they left the 43rd and became part of the RAAF stationed at Darwin along with the 380th Bomb Group. Anyone wanting more information on this era of the 43rd can contact TOM FITZGERALD personally at the following address: 166 Beaumont Street, Hamilton NSW 2303, Australia, (049) 616396.

JOHN E. OLSON wants information on the transition of the 19th BG into the 43rd BG...the only catch is, we don't have any record of John in our directory and we don't have his address....got the zip code tho...78209. Note from Lloyd: Actually, there was no transition of the 19th as a group into the 43rd, only those left in Australia when the 19th went home.

Thanks to the person who sent in the copy of the "TS-The Voice of the G.I."-- volume 1, No.5, 43rd Bomb Group (H) APO 74, 25 April 1945....very interesting reading. If anyone wants a copy, write to me, OK?

WHEW!!! That's the last of 54 letters and I'm running out of paper, however, I now have the saddest part of my job to do.....To inform the membership of our members who have passed away recently...

Lt. Col. KENNETH A MEAD, 63rd
DELBERT C. "SMITTY" SMITH. 63rd

Just found one more letter to answer in this newsletter. It was sent in by VINCENT STOPCZYNSKI, Hdqrs., and I hope we can help this lady out. VINCENT sent this ad he found in the August issue of the "VFW" magazine.....

"64th Bomb Sqdn (H), 43rd Bomb Gp (H), 1944--Seeking anyone who served with my husband and recalls him being wounded and his health condition after he was wounded....Mrs. RICHARD FARIA, 5398 Belleville Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33417".. Wouldn't it be great if someone from our group could help this lady out....that's what it's all about, isn't it, helping each other, especially those in need.

1993 REUNION REPORT....

Just got back from signing a contract with the Red Lion Hotel, the plushiest hotel in Omaha...\$60.00 per night plus tax..Gave them a tentative itinerary so they could block off the necessary rooms we will need...They have a limited number of non-smoking rooms, so make it known if that is your wish. Attached and adjacent to the Red Lion Hotel are two enclosed and lighted garages providing easy access from your automobile to the hotel..Free parking for all 43rd members staying at the hotel. They also offer free transportation from Eppler Airfield to the hotel.

I'll have more to tell you in the next newsletter after LLOYD & HELEN BOREN drive to Omaha to negotiate the food contracts which are one of the biggest items we have to take care of at every reunion. There is no better man to do this than "Breezy"...I am looking forward to seeing LLOYD & HELEN in the near future. LLOYD will probably clue you in on the trip in the next newsletter.

Just talked to Jim Bert, Museum Director, SAC Museum, 2510 Clay Street, Bellevue3, NE 68005, Phone (402) 292-2006, and he is ready to accept our memorabilia anytime the members are ready to send it to him. The sooner the better, as he is planning a big 43rd display in the museum for our benefit during our visit to the museum at our September reunion.. he would like to have as much time as he can to finish the display. So make sure each packet and each item is identified with your name, squadron, date and place pertaining to each item. Incidentally, he would appreciate any ideas or drawings for the display that our members can come up with...There's a challenge....let's go 43rd! DO It!

FROM JOSE AND REBECCA HOLGUIN

Rebecca and I felt honored and privileged to be the Reunion Chairpersons for the 1992, 50th Anniversary of the 43rd's crossing to Australia. We enjoyed getting together with many of our old combat mates and meeting those that joined the Group after I was shot down (26 June 1943). I had not seen HARRIS LIEN nor ART FLETCHER since 1943, but would have recognized them anywhere.

LLOYD ANDERSON & MICHAEL BACHI, who both became ill during the reunion, are both doing well. BACHI was getting ready to leave the hospital on Monday, 11/23, and ANDERSON was out of the hospital on Friday, 11/20, headed for San Jose with his son.

If anyone would like to buy the special Queen Mary Crossing Commerative watch that was designed especially for the occasion, please have the interested party send me a note with a check for \$43.00 per watch and specify whether they want a lady's or man's watch.

FROM LLOYD

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE ONES SIGNING IN AT THE REUNION.

HEADQUARTERS

Hoover & Kathryn Cott, Fred & Maurine Mc Alister, Jim & Margaret Pettus, Gene Tighe

403RD

George & Jean Anderson, Paul & Jackie Bauer, Dale & Mary Barr, Bob & Mary Byrne, Harry & Esther Bradley, Odis & Barbara Cleere, Paul & Carolyn Cober, Art & Ginny Durbeck, Chuck & Midge Downer, Neil & Marlys Fairbanks, Ken Gissonne, Joe & Clara Gosseaux, (Joe Gosseaux won the free room for his stay at the hotel), Harold & Phyllis Johnson, Wade Kehr, Fred & Janet Lloyd, Everett & Dorothy Lind, George & Polly Morgan, Richard Mrowinski, George Pascoe, George Putnam, Bob & Arlene Roth, Sal & Eleanor Ramirez, Bill & Nancy Solomon, Joe & Sally Snyder, Gladys Steadman, John & Mary Sedlander, Al & Reny Sylvia, Jerry & Vell Snyder & Nancy Snyder Ross, Richard Williams, Ernie & Peggy Wells.

65TH

Don Baker, Lloyd & Helen Boren, Fred Baker, Glenn Bales, Jack & Celeste Caperton, Ben Damron, Lewis Daws, James Eide, Cleve Eno, Bud Fletcher, Jack Gooshert, Jose & Rebecca Holguin, Bob Hewitt, Arnold & Evelyn Huskins & Ed & Elie Jones, Marjorie Hisey, Tom Jamison, Hank Lewis, Eldon "Bud" Lawson, Harris Lien, James Mc Clure, Tommy Mote, Lou Newport, Max & Fran Osborn, Jules & Margaret Powell & Son, John Robertson, Gus Rapisardi, Cletus Sweigard, Edwin Stueland, Bob & Irene Watson, Donald Watkins, Bill & Mary Lois Wilson, John Whipple, Chalky & Rosemary White.

63RD

LLOYD & JO ANNE ANDERSON, JOHN & HILDA ALBERS, WARREN & DOROTHY ADAMS, FRED & MARGARET BLAIR, KEN BECKSTROM & D. FRANCIS, BOB & DORIS BUTLER, HOWARD T. BLANDING, CLARENCE & JEANNIE BROKKE, CLEO CHURCH, RAY & DOROTHY CRAWFORD, MIKE BACHI, JIM & AUDREY DIEFENDERFER, HARRY DALZIEL, FRANK & PAULINE DENAULT, FRED & HELEN EPPLEN, S.L. & THELMA FLINNER, NEAL & RUDI FUGATE, ROLAND FISHER, EDWARD GAMMILL, JIM & FAYE HAMPSHIRE, JOHN HARMON, WILBERT & JEAN HOUSEHOLDER, CARL & GINNY HUSTAD, ARNE HALVORSON, E. HENRY JAMES, PAUL & MARY LEDGER & SON BILL & A. JENKINS, LEONARD & DOT LAWSON, JOHN LOMBARD, GEORGE LEAHEY, JOHN MACPHERSON, JIM MURPHY, LOU & HELEN MIKLOS, MIKE & MARY ALICE O'MALLEY, BILL & HELEN O'BRIEN, ROY & JIMMIE PERRY, CHUCK & BILLIE QUINETTE, CHUCK & PAT RAUCH, FRANK & MARGIE REMANIAK, FOLMER & FLORENCE SOGAARD, JOE & FLORENCE SOSNOWSKI, ALEX SEDILKO, ROGER & OLGA VARGAS, ERNEST VANDAL, GEORGE & AILEEN WHITE, RICHARD & CLEO WOOD, CHARLES R. WOODS, CHUNKEY & CLARA MARIE WILFERT.

64TH

C.A. "ANDY" & HELEN ANDRUS, HAWARD & ANNE ANDERSON, NICK & SHIRLEY ARABINKO, CLETUS ANGERMEIER, PAUL & HELENE BARBUS, TED BURDA, ROY & LOUISE BAILEY, BOB COOPER & NADEANE FULCOMER, GEORGE CRITSIMILIOS, JOE "SHEP" CHEPULAS, ART CURREN, CLARENCE & VIDA CREAMER, JOE & DOLORES COX, GUS DRUMM, MICHAEL EDSALL, JESSE FULTON, FALCONER & GOLDIE GIFFORD, "ACE" HASTINGS, C. RAY & JERI HARPER, LYLE HEINEKE, JOE HOWARD & CHARLOTTE DANIELS, JAMES HAUSER, ALVIN HAAS, JOE JANCOSKO, ROGER & AUDREY KETTLESON, FLOYD KNAPP, JOSEPH MANTIGLIA, ART MULLIGAN, HARVEY & CLARA MOODY, CHARLES & MILDRED MC CLENNY, MARSHALL & BILLIE NELSON, JANICE OLSON, JOHN & JEANNE PFEIFFER, JOHN & HARRIET PICKERING, VERNON REEVES, HARRY STEVENSON, JOE & CORAL STRONG, ROBERT SCHULTZ, SHAD & NAOMI SHADDOX, FRANK & YVONNE SHELTON, GEORGE & ANITA TUCHOLSKI, SAM WELBORN, EDWIN WOJDAK, JACKSON YOUNG.

Please make the following change in your roster:

HAROLD T. NEWTON, 63rd, & wife PATRICIA, have moved. New address: 103 Colonial Court, Easley, SC 29642, telephone 803-855-5638.

HAROLD writes that they were unable to attend the bash in Anaheim due to an injury to his knee. It was their first miss in 7 years. He sent dues and their hopes to attend in the future.

BILL COULTER, 64th, sent a letter along with a picture out of the 7/29/92 Albany, NY Times Union. The picture is of a B-17 followed by a B-24 flying over Green Mountain in Berlin, Vermont. They were to remain two days for display. The B-24, from the description, was apparently the "All American". BILL wants to know if anyone has photos of the Jap peace team that flew to Ie Shima on their way to meet Mac Arthur to arrange peace ceremony in Tokyo. They arrived in Ie Shima in "white" Bettys' with green crosses painted on them. They were then loaded on C-52's to fly on to Manilla. BILL says that in his travels he somehow misplaced his photos, and he will be glad to reimburse anyone for copies of these photos. BILL'S address is 175 W. Swan IG, Albany, NY 12210.

Another letter from one of ours who couldn't make the reunion. GARY & RUTH HAZEN, 64th, had reservations and all plans made when he was informed he had a growth on his pancreas which proved to be cancerous. The reunion was history, and he is still recovering and in hopes of making Omaha. Wishes everyone a Great Holiday Season. Thanks GARY and take care of yourself. See you in Omaha.

I would like to blow DALE' horn again for the OMAHA REUNION. We are going to try our best to make this the largest and best 43rd reunion EVER. DALE is giving his old bombardier HARRY URBAN, 403rd, fair warning he is out to beat that 575 attendance marks that HARRY set with the Colorado Springs reunion. DALE and I are both expecting 600+, and DALE has some real goodies in store for us. Along that line, HARRY, you and RACHEL get your health in order and show up in Omaha, we miss you both.

A big thank you to all you people who sent Seasons Greetings to Helen & I your thoughts are appreciated.

It was nice to see JANICE OLSON at the reunion after a period of correspondence. She is the daughter of "CHICK" OLSON, 64th, who passed away some time ago. JANICE seems to have made a full time job of researching the 43rd in her ambition to write a book about those times. She has done a lot of work in the last several years, and finally met quite a few members of the 43rd at the Disneyland reunion, and came away with quite a few more friends. A fine young lady, and a real pleasure to have you with us. JANICE has been an associate member for some time now. I need to give you an idea of how dedicated JANICE is, some time ago, she decided she wanted all the issues of the newsletter that have been put out. She contacted me, and I just happened to have almost all of the issues which had been loaned to me. These included all the issues prior to my keeping them on disk. I loaned these to her along with printing out copies of the issues she did not have. She had them all photocopied and made me an extra copy also, returning the originals. That was quite a job.

HANK PORTER, 63rd, writes that he and BETTY are sorry they couldn't make the reunion in Anaheim, but sends their best for Christmas and the coming year. He enclosed a clipping which will be of interest to all of you who were at Randwick Race Track in Sydney. It reads; "Queen Elizabeth II bestowed a royal prefix on a popular racetrack Saturday. The track, called Randwick, was nicknamed "Royal Randwick" after the queen dedicated a grandstand in 1954. She made the moniker official as nearly 26000 people looked on. The queen and Prince Phillip are on a seven-day Australian visit that ends Monday. She presented a trophy to horse trainer T.J. Smith after the Smith-trained Aquidity won the Queen's Cup."

Another letter from RUSS SEDERBERG, Hdqrs. He received a sad letter from Margaret West, She informed him of the passing of her brother, JOE WEST, Hdqrs. JOE will be remembered by his many buddies as "DEACON WEST". When he wasn't on duty, he was Headquarters barber, and when he wasn't doing that, he was reading the Bible. That is where he acquired the nickname "Deacon". He will be missed by many of his buddies. RUSS & CLYTIE were unable to make the Anaheim reunion because, as he puts it, when you reach his age, its all maintenance. Well put RUSS, most of us know what you mean. He hopes to see us at the next reunion in Omaha.

Received a letter from BILL EATON, 403rd. He heard from BRUCE HOY, and quoted some of his letter, and a copy of an answer he sent to HOY. Seems BRUCE is badly in need of someone knowledgeable from each Squadron to provide him with answers on the B-17 era, and although I am from that time frame, I did not keep a diary or log, but could probably answer a few questions if they were put in the newsletters. I wish that BRUCE would do the same thing LARRY HICKEY does, and send me the questions he needs to get answered, or send them to LARRY, and I am sure LARRY would include them in the questions he sends me for the newsletters. That is the easiest way to reach the greatest number of members, and the quickest way to get answers. BILL EATON had acted as my backup on his computer for quite a while, but after changing the program to an execute program that couldn't be changed, it would no longer run on BILL'S computer. I have been sending backup disks (3 1/2") to DICK WOOD for some time now. He has a fully compatible computer (IBM). BILL, if you have a fully compatible computer, let me know. BILL, incidentally, has helped BRUCE HOY for some time now, and will continue to do so. Thanks BILL.

PLEASE ENTER THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS IN YOUR ROSTER

HEADQUARTERS

SOD UNKNOWN

CAESAR PAGNOTTA
176 BACHE AVE.
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10306

JAMES R. SMITH
1919 COVENTRY DR.
MEMPHIS, TN 38127

ORLANDO POELS
60 S. FISK ST.#23
GREEN BAY, WI 54303

63RD

ARNE HALVERSON
2809 JOPPA AVE. S.
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 554K16

L. C. KRATZ
7742 WYNN AVE.
RESEDA, CA 91335

MIKE FRAYCHAK
2274 CARNATION AV.
HAMET, CA 92545

JAMES Q. BAKER
310 E. 1900 SOUTH
BOUNTIFUL, UT 84014

N.H. O'BRIEN
28733 E. RIVER RD.
PERRYSBURG, OH 43551

64TH

JOHN PONTILLO
176 N. DELAWARE AV
MASSAPEQUA, NY 11758

PAUL BRISCOE
P.O. BOX 31
FINCHVILLE, KY 40022

RALPH MILLIGAN
18 WOOLNOUGH ST.
BATTLE CREEK, MI 49017

HAROLD ROYSTON
42 PINWOOD
IRVINE, CA 92714

65TH

VINCENT MUNIGA
1866 SANTA MARGARITA
FALLBROOK, CA 92024

WILLIAM SONDEY
17 VINYARD PLACE
PASSIAC, NJ 07055

JACK WALSTROM
2092 EDWARD ST.
SALINA, KS 67401

IRVING POLIN
424 BAYCREST DR.
VENICE, FL 34285

ROBERT SCHMITZ
248 N. 750 E.
KAYSVILLE, UT 84037

JOHN D. BEHRNS
1090 3RD ST.
DAVID CITY, NE 68632

RICHARD P. REALE
23767 CANZONET ST.
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367

403RD

KENT MILTON
215 LOCUST AVE.
CLAIRTON, PA 15025

CLYDE MUSE
RT 5 BOX 879
BIG PINE KEY, FL 33043

WILLIAM R. SNYDER JR.
RT 35 BOX 2380 DOLLY
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32310

DAVID CURRAN
RT 1 BOX 526
MILSAP, TX 76066

FRANK WALDEN
702 GLEN ARBOR DR.
DALLAS, TX 75241

For those of you who have inquired about what we have left for sale, we have a limited supply of the following articles, and the price includes postage.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Lapel pins - round 5th AF, 43rd Bomb Group pins | \$ 5.00 |
| propeller 43rd Bomb Group pins | 6.00 |
| Caps - Queen Mary, St.Louis, Norfolk, others | 5.00 |
| Bumper stickers -----5th AF, 43rd Bomb Group | 1.50 |
| Golf/Tennis Shirts - XXL, XL, L while they last | 22.00 |

I received a note from NICK ARABINKO, 64th. He had a call from KATHLEEN SHERMAN who passed on the sad news that her husband (NICK'S navigator), PHILLIP E. SHERMAN died December 5th. Our condolences to KATHLEEN.

Another note from ED GAMMILL, 63rd. He heard from RUBY NEWMEN that her husband GERALD "JERRY" NEWMAN, also of the 63rd, had passed away November 11th. Those who knew "JERRY" will share her grief.

More about the Anaheim reunion: Friday night during the cocktail hour, we were visited by Mae West and W.C. Fields provided by the Walt Disney Organization. Plenty of our bunch had their pictures taken with them, and they were real look-a-likes.

Saturday night for the cocktail hour, I had requested Marilyn Monroe and Clark Gable, but when I walked in we had Marilyn Monroe and Humphrey Bogart, and you talk about look-a-likes, they were it. They were so popular I asked them to stay an extra half hour. They went over big.

While there at the reunion, we had a very impressive memorial service commemorating the 50th Anniversary of our crossing on the Queen. The speakers included a representative from the British Government, a representative from the Los Angeles City Council, and a Flight Leader from Australia who read a condensed history of the war in the Southwest Pacific and the part the Americans played in that theatre.

One of our plaques was dedicated at the Planes of Fame Museum while we were there. The plaque rests on a base next to the nose and part of the fuselage of "LUCKY LADY II". For those not familiar with the name, this was the plane that made the first round the world, non stop flight, refueling in air. The 43rd pioneered refueling in air, and on the nose of the plane is the 43rd Logo, a bomb overseas with the wording WILLING ABLE READY, and the words KENS MEN.

We need to thank DICK WOOD, 64th, for a very nice Sunday Memorial Service aided by JIM MURPHY, 63rd, who has a book coming out shortly, and we will have more about this in later newsletters.

NEIL FAIRBANKS, 403rd, visited with me at the Disneyland Hotel, and brought along a video tape he had taken when he visited Australia during the celebration of the Coral Sea Victory this year. He was in Townsville when he met up with TOM FITZGERALD, Secty. of the 24 Squadron Association. TOM sent me a verbal hello by way of the tape, very thoughtful. I'm sure most of you are aware that the 24 Squadron is made up of Australian flyers who were given B-24 training and flew for a while with the 43rd. They have a rather close bond with us, and have several 24 Squadron Associations in various cities in Australia. They are a close knit group who are very active. Through TOM FITZGERALD, their Secretary, they have their own newsletter, and it is very interesting. I receive their newsletter, and TOM gets ours. A fine group of men with plenty of memories.

Speaking of NEIL FAIRBANKS, you may remember that NEIL had the round 5th AF-43 BG lapel pins made some time ago, and at the time, had another lapel or cap pin in mind, which was a little better pin, consisting of a propeller with our name above it. It was a little expensive so it was put on hold. He has now gotten us a supply of these pins, and they went real well at the reunion. I have plenty of them on hand, and they are \$6.00 each (the round ones are \$5.00), and this will include postage.

Received a long letter from RAY SNYDER, who I put in the 403rd Squadron because he was assigned to the 43rd on TDY, and he says he flew with the odd numbered Squadron. He flew as a replacement gunner on several crews when they had a vacancy in a position. He would like to get the names of one crew in particular that he flew with on a mission to the Celebies(spelling) after Jap shipping - they lost an engine, turned back and rather than waste bombs, unloaded them on Biak, coming in low and slow. The Japs had a gun there still in operation, and had time to track them and shot the plane up rather badly. They just barely made it to Wadke(spelling) island where the South end was in U.S. hands and the North in Jap hands. Marines told them the sight of that 24 sliding towards them scared them right off the runway end and into the jungle.

MAY GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS BE WITH YOU THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR.

DALE & GEN BARR
President
2622 S. 87th Ave.
Omaha, NE 68124
402-397-7948

LLOYD & HELEN BOREN
Secty-Treasurer
102 Beechwood
Universal City, TX 78148
210-658-5978

JOSE & REBECCA HOLGUIN
Reunion Chairman, Anaheim
3660 Amesbury Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
213-663-6184

43rd BOMB GROUP HISTORY UPDATE AND QUESTIONNAIRE 12/92

It was great to see many of you at the reunion; thanks to all of you who brought materials for the book project, and to all of you who have sent in answers or materials from my last questionnaire. Many questions have been cleared up and we are making steady progress in drafting the text. We're making every effort to have the book available by sometime next fall. Send all responses to : LARRY HICKEY, INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING CORP., P.O. BOX 3334 HIGH MAR STATION, BOULDER, COLORADO 80307; (303) 499-0530. If your material relates to the B-17 era, I will forward it to Bruce Hoy, in Australia, who is hard at work on that section. Please review the following questions and see if you can help. We need to hear from you now!

NUMBER 1 PROBLEM!!!!

ATTENTION ALL 63RD PERSONNEL WHO SERVED DURING THE FALL OF 1944 THROUGH THE SPRING OF 1945. WE NEED PHOTOGRAPHY OF TWO 63RD SQ. B-24S: ONE OF WHICH SERVED DURING OCT-DEC, 1944; AND A SECOND ONE FROM JAN. TO MARCH, 1945. THESE ARE NEEDED AS REFERENCES FOR COLOR ARTWORK. WE HAVE 46 OF 48 COLOR PROFILE PACKAGES READY TO GO TO THE ARTIST, BUT CAN'T GET THE ARTWORK PANELS GOING WITHOUT THESE TWO SLOTS BEING FILLED. IF YOU HAVE PICTURES OF PLANES TAKEN DURING THIS PERIOD FROM ANY ANGLE, OR EVEN IF JUST A NOSE OR A TAIL, PLEASE SUBMIT THEM NOW. IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT HAVE THIS MATERIAL, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. WE WON'T HAVE THE HISTORY ON TIME, IF I DON'T OBTAIN THESE SOON. IT TAKES MONTHS TO DO THE ARTWORK, AND THE ARTIST MUST GET STARTED NOW!

A) QUESTIONS ON CASUALTIES

- 1) Need full name of a Sgt. Gleason or Cleason, who was a personnel clerk in 64th, who died of cerebral malaria at an unknown location on June 12, 1943.
- 2) Need loss details of 64th's Lt. Hammond's B-24 at 17 Mile Drome, 7/11/43.
- 3) Crew positions of Evans, Kesler, Marsh, Kiford, Kuhn, Marczak and Franklin, killed when Cox's 403rd B-24 crashed shortly after T.O. on 8/31/43. Need nickname of plane.
- 4) We now know that Lt. Heyer, who was killed in the crash of a Piper Cub on Sept. 2, 1943, while searching for a B-24 that crashed a few days earlier, was the original co-pilot on Bond's crew in the 403rd. We need photos of the incident, and details of its location and the circumstances of the crash.
- 5) Need photos, details and crewmen aboard B-24 which crashed into Oyster Bay near 7 Mile Drome on Sept. 9, 1943. Either Josh Barnes or Paulsen pilot. T/Sgt. Tom Skorezewski died in incident and need circumstances of his death.
- 6) We now know details of crash and rescue of 403rd crew of B-24 #800 which ditched short of Kiriwina Island after attack by Jap fighters during raid on Rabaul 10/25/43. Carlson and Williams killed. Need crew positions, or current whereabouts of any member of crew who was rescued by PBY Catalina.
- 7) Name and location of hospital where Cpl. Van Bloom died of TB on 3/1/44.
- 8) Now have details of 403rd's Lt. Ervin N. Miskin whose B-24 fatally crashed on 3/28/44 near Townsville. Plane was one needing repair which was left at Dobodura after move to Nadzab. Can anyone provide nickname for plane?
- 9) Need full name of Lt. Papworth, whose B-24, FRISKY, caught fire on TO at Nadzab on April 2, 1944, and plane burned up with one fatality.
- 10) Need circumstances of death of 63rd's Sgt. Merle Rice during June, 1944. Possibly hit by Jap AA over convoy off Manokwari on night of 4/5 June 1944.
- 11) Circumstances of death of armorer T/Sgt. Roy L. Erwin sometime during Sept., 1944. Non-battle casualty. Squadron unknown.
- 12) Details of death (non-battle casualty) of Sgt. L.L. Weisepape, a radio operator, at unknown date and location in Sept. 1944. Sq. unknown.
- 13) A 64th crew led by Lt. Charles Ford, was lost on TO on mission to Wicole A/D about Oct. 4 or 5, 1944. Need date, location and details of accident.
- 14) We now know that pilot Lt. Roger Daube and bombardier K.W. Saber of 65th died when u/i type of plane hit mountain in Owen Stanley's short of Finschhafen, while returning from leave in Australia on 3/27/45. Need Saber's first name and specific location and circumstances of crash.
- 15) 403rd navigator Lt. Thomas O. Galey disappeared on admin flight in a transport plane between Townsville and Finschhafen, New Guinea on April 5, 1945. Need type of plane, location of crash and any details.
- 16) We have a reference to a James McMillan, sq. unknown, who "died in service of his country" on or about May 8, 1945. Memorial service was held at Clark Field for him. Need rank, squadron, duty, and what happened.
- 17) On June 3, 1945, a 65th crew crashed into side of mountain near Clark Field on raid to Formosa. Lt. Chisman, pilot, and all aboard killed. Unit history indicates this happened returning from mission in bad weather, but other sources say it was right after take off. Need to clear up which it was.
- 18) I have vague info about a 65th crew led by a Capt. Pickens, who was killed bringing a replacement aircraft from Biak to the P.I. They hit a mt. on Mindoro and all killed. Sometime about May-June, 1945. Need date & details.
- 19) The 64th history for August, 1945, indicates a fatality in the unit during the month. Have no details. Need info on who and what happened.
- 20) Capt. John C. Hallock, 403rd Eng. Officer, died in the P.I. shortly after war was over, possibly in crash during an aerial spraying mission. Does anyone know if he was part of the 43rd at the time, and any details of what happened?

) B-17 INFO FOR BRUCE HOY

- 1) B-17 #207, had with what looks like a TV antenna sticking out of the nose. Need to know Squadron, purpose? when and where was a/c modified like this?
- 2) In mid-Dec. 1942 B/Gen. Kenneth Walker flew a night mission with 43rd in search of Japanese barges. Need story, date, crew, squadron, tail #?
- 3) A 65th B-17 on recon in Kavieng area was interceptd on 4/11/43. A gunner, Carl LaRoche, was credited with the destruction of 2 and possibly three Zeros. Any idea of rest of crew: need ID of their B-17 or copy of orders giving credit for kills.

C) B-24 INFOR FOR LARRY HICKEY & JIM PETTUS

- 1) 8/6/43 -- 403rd crew found a Jap cruiser during a recco mission. It launched float planes against them and one made a pass. Need ID of any crewmen, story, photos.
- 2) 8/16/43 -- Lt. Shankel 64/43 made a run on a Jap transport during a recce mission. Missed, then shaddowed convoy for two hours. Need story, photos.
- 3) 8/17/43 -- Photos of Parran's B-24 (64/43) down along NG coast; nickname of this plane, #670.
- 4) 8/18/43 -- 403/43 strike on Wewak. Passes by Jap fighters on B-24 WIA waist gunner; one Zeke damaged. Need story, name of WIA, name of pilot of plane.
- 5) 8/18/43 -- 403/43 B-24 on armed recco turned into flight of Jap bombers and fighters. Zeroes made passes. Need ID of pilot, story, photos?
- 7) 8/24/43 -- 403/43 B-24 crash-landed at Bulolo or Wau after damage by Jap fighters over Wewak. Five bailed out. Need of crew, details, & photos of plane.
- 8) 8/29/43 -- 403/43 B-24 took bullet through windshield which killed co-pilot on mission to Wewak. Need ID of pilot; story from crewmen on plane, photos.
- 9) 8/31/43 -- 64/43 B-24 piloted by Franz on recco attacked by 14 Zekes while attacking 2 ships in convoy. Nav. and nose gunner WIA by bullets and flying glass. Ship escaped into clouds. Need plane #, story from crewmen, photos of crew or damage.

D) COLOR PROFILE PAINTINGS:

- 1) 65th B-24 nicknamed MAYFLOWER, tail number 853, will represent that squadron for Oct.-Dec., 1943. Need to know crew chief of this plane and why it disappeared from the unit records. Was it shot down, damaged, transferred out or what? When was plane assigned to 64th? (about 7/43 ?).
- 2) Need clear photos of the mission scoreboards for 403rd B-24 MODEST MAIDEN as it appeared early in 1945, & THE WOLF PACK in June, 1945, when it reached 1000 hours.
- 4) Need crew chiefs and ground crew members were for following 63rd Sq. B-24 profile aircraft: LADY LUCK (cracked up 12/3/43); ART'S CART, QUEEN OF HEARTS, MISS LIBERTY, OUT OF THE NIGHT II.
- 5) Same for 64th B-24 profile aircraft: FRISKY, THE MAYFLOWER, MARIE, SHINING EXAMPLE, HIP PARADE, LAST HORIZON, MICHIGAN.
- 6) Same for 65th B-24 profile aircraft: GERALDINE, Silver B-24 #403, MAD RUSSIAN, PETTY GAL and RUM AND COKE.
- 7) Same for 403rd B-24 profile aircraft: TAILSKID TOLLY, SATAN'S SISTER, GENTLEMAN JIM, MILLION \$ BABY and FLAMIN MAMIE.

E) PLANE IDENTIFICATIONS:

- 1) I now believe that 403rd B-24 nicknamed STUGOTT's 1st was probably #42-41171. Can anyone confirm this? Used as backdrop for crew photos in 2/44.
- 4) Still need date near end of war when 65th B-24 RUM AND COKE cracked up when mainwheel folded at Ie Shima in August, 1945. Tall, thin, dark-haired pilot.
- 5) Still looking for info and names of crew for 65th B-24 that cracked up JOE DOPE, probably in late 44 or sometime in 1945.
- 6) Still need tail numbers and crew chief names for following 403rd B-24s (list is getting shorter): THE CHAMP (boxing glove), JUNE BRIDE, THE FLYING WOLF and THE MIRAGE. ID of B-24 called "The Goon."
- 7) Need tail numbers and/or fates & crew chiefs for 64th B-24s MAG THE HAG and ZOMBIE; early 65th B-24 THE PETER HEATER and later silver plane QUEEN OF THE CLOUDS.

F) LOGBOOKS AND MISSION LISTS:

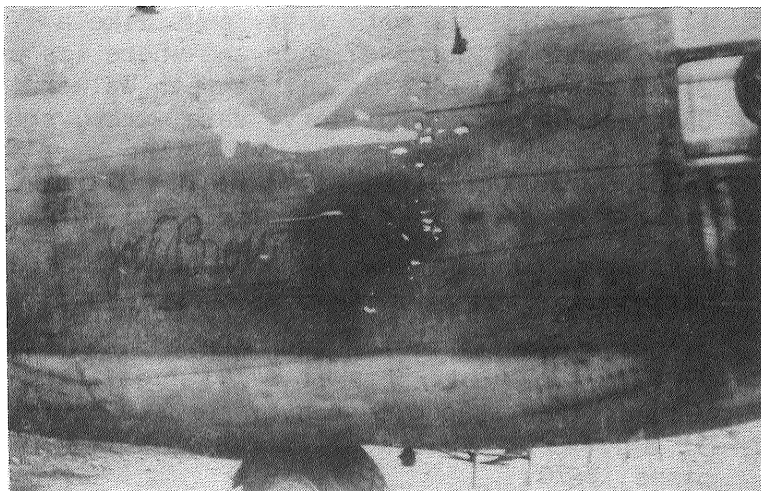
Since we have very little tail number/pilot data from 43rd mission reports and historical records, we badly need anyone who has a logbook, diary or kept a list of mission dates AND plane tail numbers to send in a photocopy. I'm especially hurting for the B-24 period anytime in 1943 to about March of 1944. Also B-17 missions for 64th and 65th Squadrons. Please photocopy and send it. Need anything from 65th 43-44.

G) SQUADRON AND GROUP MISSION LEADERS:

Unit records do not indicate who led the various missions for either group or squadrons. If you know who were your group or squadron leaders for any of the missions below, please write in and tell us: any major raid on the Wewak area; any raids on Rabaul Oct-Nov. 1943, including weather aborts; any major raid on Hollandia; the first Philippine raid of 9/1/44; Balikpapan raids of 10/10 or 10/14/44; any major raids on Formosa or the China Coast, including Hong Kong, Canton, Shanghai, etc.

H) PLANE ARTWORK:

One or more artists painted a number of dramatic works on the noses of late-war B-24s of the 64th & 65th Sq. Need to know who this/these were and info on their assigned duty position, and/or where they might be today. I'd like to get in touch with them.



(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 1 - B-17 "TEX." Possible 63rd Sq. plane circa 4/43. Need info on antenna, when and where installed, purpose, crew, crew chief, plane tail #, and fate of aircraft. (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 2 - Early greenhouse nose B-24, probably 403rd, signed by Joe E. Brown. Need tail # of plane, nickname, crew chief, when and where photo taken, fate of aircraft.



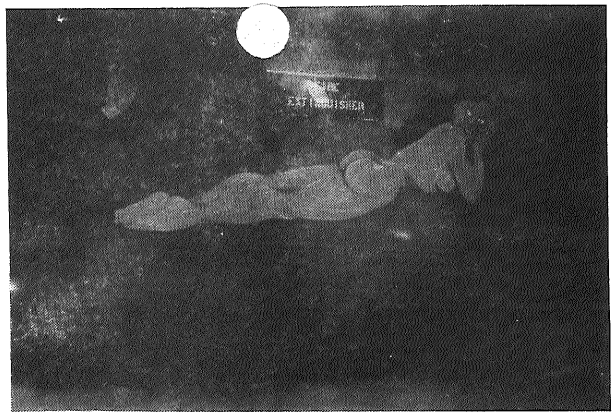
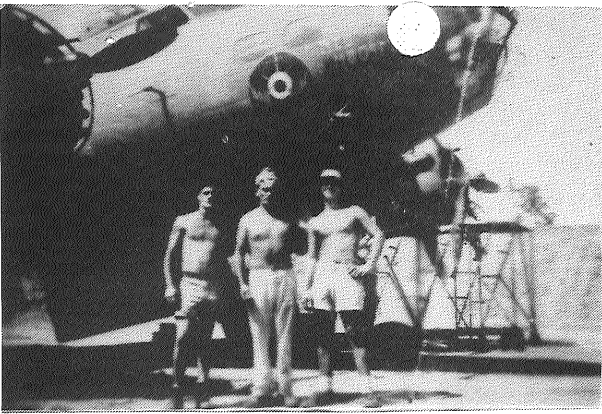
(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 3 - Early 403rd B-24 "JUNE BRIDE," Hennington in photo; need plane tail #, who brought overseas, crew chief and fate of plane. (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 4 - Early 403rd B-24 "FLYING WOLF." Need same info as #3 above.



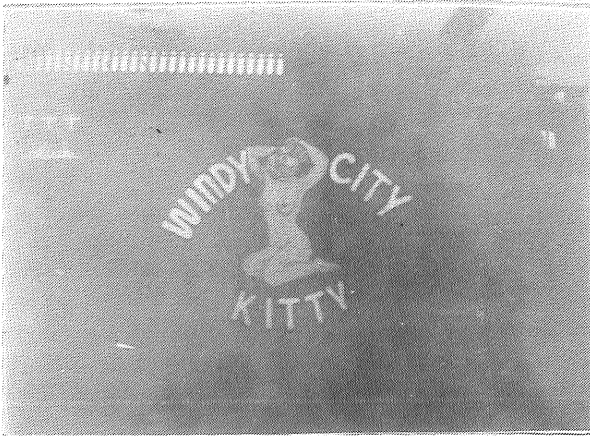
(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 5 - Early 64th B-24 "ZOMBIE." Need ID of people, story behind photo and same info as photo #3. (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 6 - Early 64th B-24 "THE DOROTHY ANNE." Need same info as #3 above.



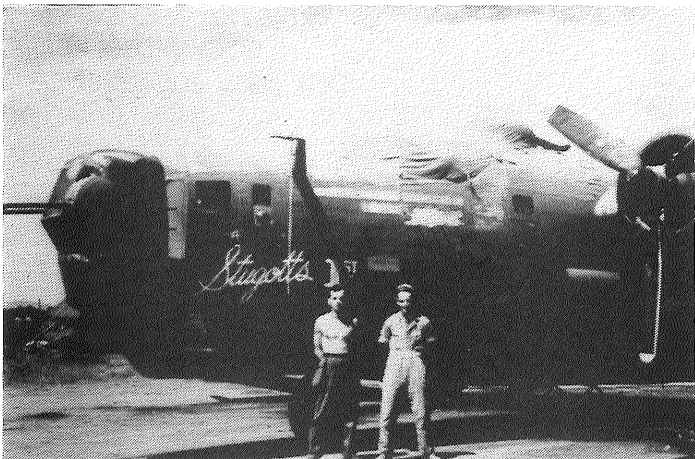
(ABOVE LEFT AND RIGHT) PHOTOS 7 and 8 - B-24s "MANILA CALLING" (44-408??) and "LADY FROM LEYTE" (44-40807) appear in several 43rd photo collections. May be 65th Sq. aircraft. Need info as in photo #3, and confirmation that these aircraft were assigned to the 43rd Bomb Group.



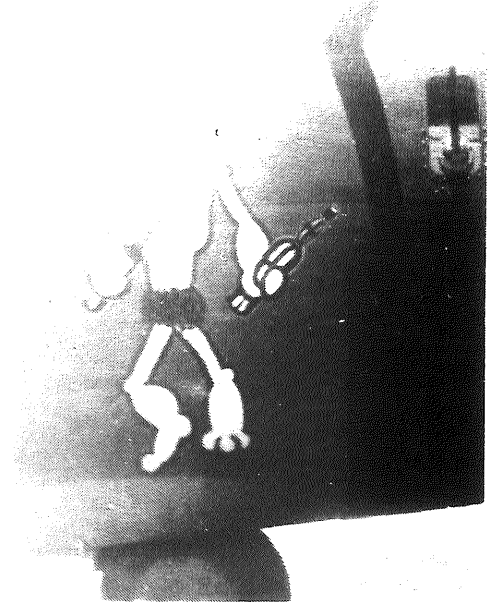
(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 9 - 65th B-17 "RED MOOSE EXPRESS." Need tail #, who brought overseas and when; crew chief and fate of plane. (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 10 - Early 64th B-24 "MAG THE HAG." Need info as for #9.



(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 11 - Unidentified B-24 "WINDY CITY KITTY." Uncertain if 43rd aircraft. Need any info as per Photo 9 above. (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 12 - Late war 65th B-24 "WINDY CITY KITTY." Need info as in photo #9 above, plus name of artist, when and where artwork was done.



(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 12 - Early 403rd B-24 "STUGOTT'S 1ST." Need ID of people, plus info as per Photo 9 above. (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 13 - "THE PETER HEATER" (PETER was later painted out). Early 64th Sq. Same info needed as above.



(ABOVE LEFT) PHOTO 14 - Early B-24 "FRIVILIOUS SAL." Probably 403rd; same info needed as above. (CENTER ABOVE).PHOTO 15 - crashed B-24 with fuselage split open. Need info on this crack up: squadron, date, pilot, location, etc. (Name "Rayson is on back of photo. May be name of pilot). (ABOVE RIGHT) PHOTO 16 - Early B-24 believed to be 403rd. May have been nicknamed "THE GOON," although not written on the aircraft. Need info as in photo 9 above.