

FORTY THIRD BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC.

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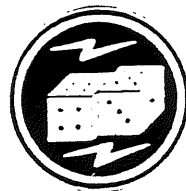
64th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



43RD BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION INC.
50TH EDITION, FEB. 1994, Lloyd Boren, Editor

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES ABOVE. YOUR NEW PRESIDENT IS MAX OSBORN, AND NEW VICE PRESIDENT IS JIM MURPHY.

FROM MAX OSBORN

Welcome to all members and comrades from your new fearless leader as of January 1, 1994. I guarantee you good times in reunions ahead which I know is backed up by our new VP, JIM MURPHY. Incidentally, don't forget to get and read JIM'S new book on Skip Bombing. He even autographed my copy in Omaha.

In Omaha, BUD FLETCHER conveyed words from DOC GUSACK from the floor at the convention. I wrote and requested he put them in writing for this newsletter, as follows: From DR. MILTON GUSACK, FLT. SURG. EMERITUS.

Please tell everyone at the reunion that I had fully planned to attend, but the healing process in my hip joint replacement has been slower than we had hoped, so I'm not yet able to travel.

I want them to know that they mean more to me than words can express. We endured many hardships an difficult times together, but we overcame it all with the victories we finally achieved, and I consider the 43d Bomb Gp the bravest, most dedicated, confident, capable and inspirational group of young men I have ever known. They did their work willingly for the love of country, without complaint or self-pity.

I served with them from the time I arrived in early 1943 till war's end--from Port Moresby, New Guinea and all the stops in between as we moved steadily toward the enemy homeland.

Since then, I've completed a full medical career; I've practiced at Johns Hopkins and elsewhere; I'm a professor emeritus at George Washington University Medical School--all of which has been rewarding and fulfilling; but nothing has had an influence on my life comparable to my association with the 43d Bomb Gp. It changed my life forever--more than any other experience or achievement.

Tell them I love them all, and am proud to have been one of them, an honor which I prize above anything else. My heartfelt best wishes to all of them and their wives and families. DR. MILTON (BUD) GUSACK

Heard from JIM WARREN, 65th, regarding the delay in the history publication and a follow-up from former board member NICK ARABINKO. NICK favored us with a copy of his answer to JIM and the net result is that all are disturbed by the publication delay. CLAIR WRIGHT, 63rd, has also informed us of his problems on getting a painting from LARRY HICKEY. I have tried to contact LARRY by phone concerning these problems since I have been in office and no response to date. I was present at the meeting in Omaha concerning the book publication discussion and am confident that JIM PETTUS is doing all that can be done in bringing the problem to a solution.

Bombardiers, Inc of 500 Jackson St., #1407, Daphne, AL 36526 has notified us they have a history book for sale. You don't have to be a bombardier to buy one.

FRANK SCHIRIPA, 64th, writes with sadness of medical problems in his family preventing his attendance at Omaha. FRANK is in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and hopes to attend our next in San Antonio as does my pilot crew member PAT FREEMAN, 65th, from Eagle River, Wisconsin. PAT called me Christmas day, 1993 and inquired as to if I remembered what I was doing 50 years ago that day. He and I (navigator) dropped bombs from 5000 feet on a NW to SE heading on beachhead at Cape Gloucester as the Marines were heading for invasion off to our left about a mile off shore. When I visited there in 1982, the landing craft were still at the beachhead, well overgrown with vines and trees. One of the marines was Capt. Russ Turner who now lives 26 miles south of me in Nunn, Colorado.

JIMMIE HALE, 63rd, writes he was the freckled faced co-pilot JIM MURPHY referred to in his book during the Bismarck Sea Battle, and that he loves San Antonio and will be there this fall at the reunion.

JOE ABBAS, 64th, sends a picture of his finish at the 1992 New York City Marathon. JOE, it looks dark in the picture but a finish is a finish, congratulations. EDITORS NOTE: JOE, along with DUTCH BENEDETTI, 65th, are both marathon runners, and they are both well up in age. SUPER HUMANS!

HUGH HIMES, Hdqrs., informs us a death in the family prevented his Omaha attendance. HUGH is from my city of Cheyenne, and assures me he will be in San Antonio.

FRANK WAYSSE, 64th, from Lake Worth, FL, missed Omaha due to a move, but will be at the next one.

LON WEYLAND, 64th, of Hot Springs, AR, writes he has never been to a reunion. LON, San Antonio is just a chip shot from your town. Go to one reunion and you won't miss the next ones.

JIM THOMPSON, JR., 63rd, mailed a copy of a huge article in the Arizona Daily Star at Tucson, April 1993, concerning the arrival of the Collins Foundation B-24 and B-17. JIM, I can testify that B-17 has the same drift-meter as I used at Port Moresby in the B-17s when I first arrived as a navigator in July 1943.

ELWYN HANSEN, 403rd, North Platte, NE, reports he fell off a ladder, broke his shoulder and ribs, and bruised his hip. Lets all take a lesson from Elwyn and don't get on ladders. ELWYN, the next reunion is 1994 in San Antonio, and the 1995 reunion is in Cheyenne. North Platte is just a short drive to the latter.

ED GAMMILL, 63rd, from Phoenix, Arizona, requests patches, and allows he will attend the next reunion. Be sure to bring some Jack Daniels, ED. ED also reports the demise of BILL ELROD, 63rd, as well sending a newspaper article on a Rabaul raid by BILL.

FRED BLAIR, 63rd, one of our Down Under buddies from Sydney, reports he and MARGARET celebrated their 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary on December 31, 1993. FREDDIE & MARGARET, hopefully, will make San Antonio.

LUCIAN KONOPA, 403rd, from Buffalo Grove IL, reports ROBERT CLAIRWOOD, 64th passed away last April.

NORMAN FRIEDBERG, reports from St. Louis he had heard from JAY ZEAMER, 65th, who we hope will make San Antonio. NORM is on the kidney machine. Keep the faith, NORM/

J.A. HOLT'S, wife FAYE, reports that he is in a health care center, and has memory problems. HOLT, Hdqrs, is our oldest member. FAYE is hoping to make San Antonio, they live in Lawton, Oklahoma now. I recall a bombardier named MOONEY, from the 65th. He was from Lawton.

FRANK REMANIAK, 63rd, from Lakewood, NJ, appreciates the newsletter. Also a report from a neighboring State, Lockport, NY, STUART BROWN, 403rd, says his 43BG license plate enabled him to be contacted by AL PEPE, 65th. STU, AL was in my Squadron, and I think he was Communications Officer, is that right AL? Also, from Brantingham, NY, FORREST SIEGEL, 65th, reports he will be at the next reunion in San Antonio with wife SUE.

ALICE HENNINGSSEN reports the passing of her husband CARL HENNINGSSEN, 403rd, August, 1993 in Omaha. She will continue the membership.

SARA GILLESPIE also reports the passing of her husband THOMAS GILLESPIE, 64th, on November 6, 1993.

RAY HARPER, 64th, from Magalia, California, states he will be watching spring training baseball games in Gilbert, Arizona, but will be at the San Antonio reunion.

From Portland, Oregon, AUSTIN MATTESON reports it would be nice to have a reunion in New Guinea. AUSTIN, old buddy from the 65th, I was in New Guinea in 1982, and it just wouldn't work. Come to San Antonio with your buddy and mine PAT FREEMAN.

MANUEL ALEXOPOULOS, 63rd, of Lynn, MA, had successful cataract surgery, so hopefully, he can see his way to attend San Antonio.

SAM WELBORN, 64th, reports the death of TED JACINA, 64th, who was radio operator on HARRY STEVENSON'S crew.

BILL GALIDA, 403rd, from Campbell, Ohio submits the following which may be pertinent to all of us:

A LITTLE MIXED UP

Just a line to say I'm living. That I'm not among the dead.
Though I'm getting more forgetful. And "mixed up" in the head.
For sometimes I can't remember. When I stand at the foot of the stairs.
If I must go up for something. Or, I've just come down from there.
And before the refrigerator so often. My poor mind is filled with doubt.
Have I just put food away, or. Have I come to take some out.
And there's times when it is dark. With my nightcap on my head.
I don't know if I'm retiring. Or just getting out of bed.
So if it's my turn to write you. There's no need to getting sore.
I may think that I have written. And don't want to be a bore.
So remember I do love you. And I wish that you were near.
But now it's nearly mail time. So I must say "Goodbye Dear".
There I stood beside the mailbox. With a face so very red.
Instead of mailing you my letter. I had opened it instead. AUTHOR UNKNOWN.

BILL WILSON, 65th, mentioned to me when I ran into him in Ruidoso, NM last year that we're all getting so we can't hear unless our mouth is open and that we drive through town with the turn lights blinking. At least, he's right about me.

Newsletter was received from the 24 Squadron Association, New South Wales, secretary TOM FITZGERALD. In the newsletter they refer to RAAF/USAAF diaries concerning the Bismarck Sea Battle and the inference that those reports may differ from JIM MURPHY'S reports in his book. I go along with pal JIM. Anyone who has been through a debriefing will recall the amazingly different stories received by the intelligence officer from the crew that flew alongside your aircraft over the target. I used to wonder if we had bombed the same place.

After the first of the year I called JOE NIECE, 65th, as I knew he was ailing and hadn't been to the last two reunions. His wife informed me he had passed away the end of December. I sincerely regretted I hadn't called sooner. MADGE, JOE was a good friend.

April 23, 1994 is the 19th annual reunion date for the Santa Ana Army Air Base. This will be at Costa Mesa, CA. There were 28,000 aviation cadets at Santa Ana when I was in pre-flight from August to December 1942.

BOB ROCKER, Director of the Cactus Air Force Art Project, requests info on any 64th crew that flew a mission to Hollandia on March 31, 1944. He enclosed a strike photo showing 110 planes on the runway by his count. His address is 1201 NE 2nd St., Pompano Beach, FL 33060.

Have a news release from the Greensboro Historical Museum, 130 Summit Ave., Greensboro, NC 27401. They Opened on Nov. 11, 1993. It is a WWII museum containing all sorts of memorabilia from that era and should appeal to any of you who went through Greensboro during the war. Knew lots of guys who went

through Greensboro, and sounds great. Go see it and report.

Have received requests from Atlanta, Albuquerque, and Colorado Springs to hold our 1996 reunion in one of those fine cities. I gave them encouragement for future reunions and requested they contact the board of directors. As you know, 1994 will be San Antonio, and 1995 will be Cheyenne. Florida is being considered for 1996.

All stops are pulled to have our 43rd History published this year. LARRY HICKEY is close to me in Boulder, CO, and I plan to monitor the progress of the final stages of the publication.

LLOYD has our reunion listed in the Feb. Air Force Magazine. Aug 29-Sept 4, 1994 at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio. Our first reunion was held by Pres. BOB BUTLER, 63rd, in San Antonio in 1981, almost Christmas time. I think about 60 attended. We had another reunion in San Antonio with a guy named GEORGE WHITE, 63rd, from somewhere in New Jersey as president. The next Pres. BILL WILSON, 65th, wanted a reunion in Snyder, Texas, but nobody knew where that was so they settled on Colorado Springs.

Make your plans now for San Antonio and I hope to shake hands with each of you at the reunion. My goal as president will be to get that book out. MAX OSBORN

FROM LARRY HICKEY - HISTORY UPDATE - 2/94

I have been overwhelmed by the tremendous response for information, photos, etc., from the last questionnaire. Thanks to the many of you who responded. I've got several areas on which I still need your help. Please respond immediately if you can be of assistance. Larry Hickey, International Research & Publishing Corporation, P.O. Box 3334 High Mar Station, Boulder, CO 80307.

[1] Have recently discovered a 65/43 B-24 plane loss about which I need information to completely finish all B-24 material for 1993. On October 28, 1943, a 65th plane (#217) and crew went down 30 miles from Milne Bay after bombing Gasmata Airdrome. 7 W/A, 3 OK, all rescued by PBY. Have no info whatsoever on crew and circumstances of loss. Need anyone with info on this incident or names of men involved to contact me immediately. Strangely, there is no mention of this incident in either squadron or group records.

[2] We are attempting to include photos of all Group and Squadron C.O.'s in book. We need photos of the following GP C.O.'s: HAROLD E. SMITH, FRANCIS B. VALENTINE, CONRAD H. DIEHL, JR., & EDWARD W. SCOTT. The first three were before unit entered combat. Regarding SQ C.O.'s, we need photos of any who served before 43rd entered combat. Also: 63rd Majors BENN, SCOTT, VAN TRIGT, COLEMAN, DERR, PARKS & BRONNFIELD; 64th BLEASDALE, LINDBERGH, BRECHT, PARKER, and anyone in late 44 through end of war; 65th: HAYES, Capt. WILLIAM A. SMITH, WHITE, PETTY & WILLIAMS; 403rd: CHARLES (killed 11/29/42), GREEN, BRAGG, and anyone C/O during last half 44 through end of war, including CLARK & BOND.

[3] I need the full name, rank and duty position of the man named BARTIGAN who painted the elaborate nose art on many of the 43rd's B-24s late in the war. Who was he? Anyone know anything about him? Ed. He painted the "Dragon and His Tail".

[4] Got much good info on planes from last questionnaire. Still need the following: 64th photos of the following nose art/nicknames - camouflaged B-24J #864 SMITTY, JR., silver B-24's #256 CHERRY & #262 OKLAHOMA OUTLAW (we thought this was SHAWNEE RAIDER, but this must be in error), #028 MICKIE'S MENACE. Still need confirmation of tail numbers of early camouflaged B-24D's ZOMBIE (poss #913) & HELEN'S REVENGE (poss #916); 65th: need tail numbers of B-17 RED MOOSE EXPRESS, silver B-24 KANSAS CITY KITTY (late war). We have two mystery silver B-24's for which we have never been able to confirm squadron; LADY FROM LEYTE (#807) and MANILA CALLING (# unknown). They have been reported in both the 64th & 65th, but I've never been able to confirm #807 as a B-24 tail number in either squadron. Anyone got this tail # in their logbooks, or a photo or logbook reference to MANILA CALLING?

[5] Finally, I'm getting ready to finalize my 43rd Planes, Pilots and Crew Chief's appendix. If you have any logbooks or mission lists that contain mission dates, with plane tail numbers, or plane nicknames, please make a copy and send them to me immediately.

FROM LLOYD

For you fellows in the 65th, I have sad news. JOE NIECE passed away December 26th. MADGE, his wife, wrote me saying he died after a long illness. I also received notification from ANN LEE WARNER in Australia, and DOC GUSACK in Washington. JOE will be missed by all of us, he was a good pilot and friend. I think I am correct in saying that, at one time, JOE was the youngest Captain in the Air Force. Our sympathy to MADGE and his family.

ANN LEE WARNER also said she might make Cheyenne, but was not sure about San Antonio. ANN, if you have never been to San Antonio, you are going to be sorry you missed it. You've never seen anything like it. There's always something to do, and never enough time. The best part about it, from where we will be, you can walk to all of it.

DOC GUSACK, 65th Flight Surgeon, is still having hip trouble, but swears he will make San Antonio if he has to crawl down here. Don't worry DOC, there's enough guys that owe you who will be more than glad to carry you.

HAL WINFREY, 65th, called. He is under the weather again but also says he will be in San Antonio. Hang in there HAL.

The Confederate Air Force will host AIRSHO 94 at Midland International Airport between Midland and Odessa, Texas. AIRSHO 94 will feature the CAF World War II Airpower Demonstration starring World War II warbirds. The dates October 8-9, 1994.

MAURICE J. MAGORIAN, 63rd, is looking for a T/Sgt. Crew Chief and an electric mechanic Sgt. probably named Davis. They arrived in the Squadron at the same time as he. Date of arrival April 45 - served till October 45. MAURICE was an AC/Mech and Crew Chief.

We have a missing Life member whose mail was returned as moved, unable to forward. JOHN S. "JACK" FAERBER was one of our most supportive members and the Post Office also says no forwarding address was supplied. If any of you guys know what happened to JACK, let me know. I know he had some friends in the Group who visited him in Newport, RI at times.

24 Squadron in Australia, please note: FORREST SIEGEL, 65th, would like to contact any of the following Australian B-24 men who were on a plane that cracked up on takeoff 3/7/44. They are -- Rayson, pilot, Graves, co-pilot, J.W. Jamison, navigator, J. Copper, bombardier, R. Geekie, radio, R. Foy, radio, J. Cook, gunner, B.W.F. Brown, gunner, J. Mc Garth, gunner, and FORREST SIEGEL was flight/engineer. His address is, Box 150, Brantingham, New York 13312, USA.

BOB ROCKER, research director of the Cactus Air Force Art Project needs information. He wants to know if the 43rd staged any missions out of Hollandia, New Guinea in May of 1944. If so, which targets were hit, and did any of the 43rd Squadrons bomb Galela in the Halmahera's. If so, what was the date, and which direction did the B-24s go across the target, and at what altitude. Also, which airstrip did the 43rd Bomb Group use at Nadzab. If you have answers to any of these questions, write to BOB ROCKER % Cactus Air Force Art Project, 1201 N.E. 2nd St., Pompano Beach, FL 33060. BOB is Research Director for the Project, and JACK FELLOWS is the Artist. These guys are doing the paintings for our book.

EMILY BUCHANAN, wife of WALTER BUCHANAN, 403rd, writes that WALTER has quite a few health problems, and they have been unable to make a reunion, but hope to sometime. EMILY, San Antonio is about as close as we are liable to come to El Paso. You fellows who know WALTER, drop him a line, I know he would like to hear from you.

The Yankee Air Force, which runs the Yankee Air Museum in Belleville, Michigan, has a question which some of you can probably help with. The Yankee Air Force annually presents the "Liberator" award to a second year USAF ROTC cadet at the University of Michigan. For that purpose they use a framed photo of the B-24J, Serial # 44-40429, which had a picture of the Michigan Stadium painted on the nose. It was assigned to the 64th Squadron of the 43rd Bomb Group. They would like to try to find out who was responsible for picking the nose art. They presume he had some connection to the U of M. If any one can help them with this, they would greatly appreciate the information. Their address is Yankee Air Force Library, P.O. Box 590, Belleville, MI 48112-0590, telephone, (313)483-4030. Attn: Harold W. Sherman, Library Chairman.

Attn: Harold W. Sherman, Library Chairman.

Received a letter from H. Williams, 1305 Denise, Deer Park, TX 77536. He is doing research on a book he is writing about B-17 Flying Fortress Pilots, and he would appreciate any help he can get on the following: Any information about where B-17 Pilots received their training from basic to advanced. Also, if any of you have any stories about training or combat missions that you can pass on.

LEE MC GOWN, 65th, passed away January 20th according to PAUL MEYERS JR., 65th. PAUL writes that he and LEE were on AL TURNER'S crew. They joined the 65th in September of 1943 at Port Moresby and came home from Owi December of 1944. LEE lived in Kearney, Nebraska. PAUL says that CLIFFORD "LUD" MILLER, JOHN BARTELL, LEE MC GOWN, AL TURNER, FRANCIS L. WALKER, AND FRED TAYLOR and himself have kept in touch through the years. AL TURNER, FRED TAYLOR & LEE MC GOWN have passed away now, but PAUL says all the above have visited him in Bradenton, Florida at one time or another. We have several crews that have maintained real close contact through the years. A couple I can recall who had their entire crew present at reunions were KENT ZIMMERMAN, 63rd, and the crew that HOWARD "ANDY" ANDERSON, 64th was on. Both crews have had the most men from the crew present at one time or the other.

Received a nice letter from JOHN COOP, 403rd, from Australia. JOHN always sends dues plus a little extra to cover postage. I send the out of country mail first class air, and it costs extra, but it would be months before they got it otherwise. JOHN, sends best wishes to all the Association members, and regrets that he has never made a reunion due to the distance involved, but he likes to read about the reunions and keep informed this way. JOHN mentioned the roster, and along this line, let me remind all of you that starting last year, since the roster is to come out every 3 years, I have been putting a list of all new members, and all the members who have passed away since the last newsletter, at the end of each newsletter so you can cut it off and add it to your last roster. This will keep you current on the membership.

This would be a good time for me to thank you for the good response to the call for dues. They are still \$10.00 per year, and really needed this year due to the small income from the Omaha reunion. The only income we have towards running the Association comes from, dues, sales, donations, and reunion income. I would like to thank those who consistently send in dues +, it really helps.

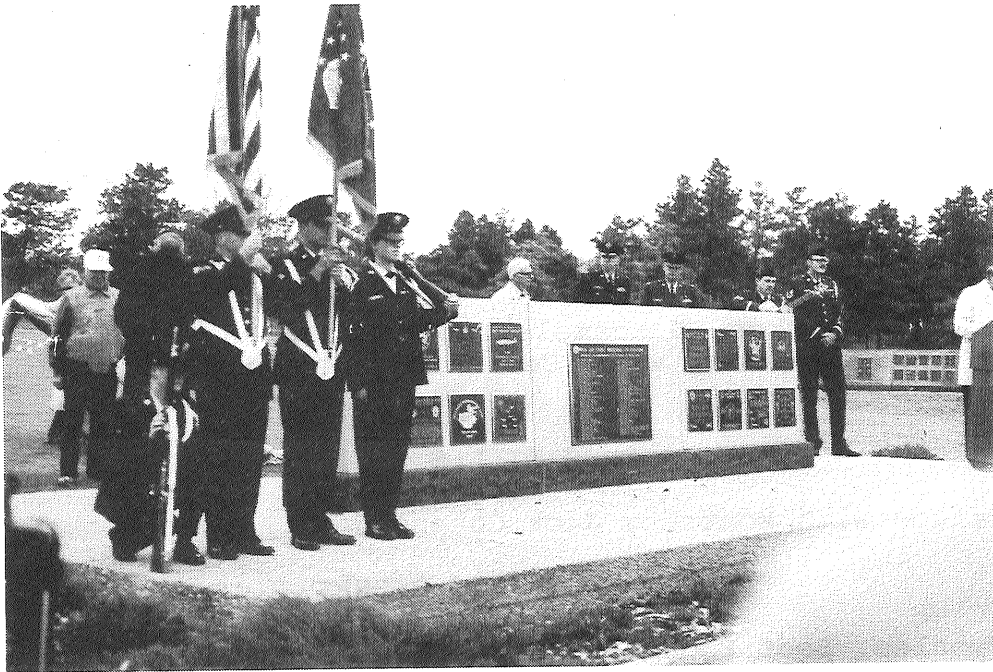
TED ROMANOWSKI, 403rd, Whiting, NJ, says he is shoveling snow, and could use some of that hot air from New Guinea. TED, GEORGE WHITE, 63rd, also lives in New Jersey, and maybe you should contact him, he also has snow problems, but he doesn't shovel, he just blows on it. Seriously, TED needs to locate several fellows. He wonders if anyone in Headquarters knows what happened to his first pilot, L.A. YOUNG, who flew the courier plane for Hqs? Also, his original co-pilot was Flight Officer Bearskin, a native Indian, he thinks he eventually had his own crew as a Lt. in either the 63rd, 64th, or 65th. TED is also looking for a bombardier in the 403rd, Thomas A. Winrow. TED'S address is 33 Augusta Rd., Whiting, NJ 08759-2237. He also sent a news clipping showing him as part of the Honor Guard in front of the B-24 "Diamond Lil" which was part of the CAF display at Ocean County Airport, Berkley Township, NJ.

Received a copy of a letter sent to LARRY HICKEY by ART BYRNE, 65th, which asks LARRY if he would like to have the following: 43rd BG roster of Commanding Officers (including squadrons) to May 1944. History of 43rd to January 1944. Several 8x10's of baseball teams at Sydney, with typed sheets of names. 403rd Squadron history to January 1944. 65th Squadron history to January 1944. A combat narrative for this period, photos of men included. List of 43rd bases to 29 September 1945. 8x10 photos of award ceremonies. 8x10 photos of Staff, S-1 to S-4 with names, in all about 1 1/4 thick. A one inch thick stack of photos of sea and land targets bombed by the 43rd. Reprint of article in 15 January 1944 Liberty about "Fortress over Bougainville". Is the Pope Catholic?

Received a long communication from the 5th AFMF. They just finished dedicating the 5th AF Memorial Wall where our Plaque was relocated. (Picture below). I believe you will agree that it is in a favored spot. I was one who was not in favor of moving the Plaque, but after seeing where it sits on the wall, I'm quite happy about the whole thing. I think it is definitely in a better spot, and most of all, it's where it belongs. The decision to move it was not ours to make, and we did not agree, however, the Plaque belonged to the Academy since we donated it to them, and they had a perfect right to place it where they thought it belonged. After seeing where they placed it, I think we will all have to

agree they did a good job.

43rd



The 5th AFMF is contemplating several more Memorials, a Sundial at Hill AFB in Ogden, Utah, something at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, two plaques going to Australia, and a possibility of something at Dulles along with the Air Space Museum. The sundial at Hill AFB in Utah will be dedicated at a reunion May 12-14 this year. There may be some of you who would like to attend.

JOE PECORARO, 403rd, writes: "Each year I plan to attend the reunion --- and fail---- I hope nothing happens to me this year!!!! Regards to all". JOE, we hope it doesn't either. None of us are getting any younger. Make San Antonio, it will be the best, I promise you, I'm putting it on.

Just received a phone call here at the office from Cecil Dodds who was a crew chief and flight engineer in the 2nd Bomb Group at Davis Monthan 48-49 at the same time as the 43rd was there. He would like to contact anyone who was in the 2nd, as there was some transferring between the Groups. He was going through the yellow pages looking through Associations and came across the 43rd. Write him: Cecil Dodds, 7334 Karankawa Dr., San Antonio, TX 78223.

We have another new member who saw our reunion notice in the Feb 94 issue of "Military". William F. Herre was at Davis-Monthan from July 47 to June 1950 in the 63rd Squadron. This was during the transition from B-29s to B-50s. He refueled "Lucky Lady II" over the Azores on the World non-stop flight. He was Squadron Chief Flight Engineer and Mission Pilot at the time Col. Stanley was the Squadron Commander.

in the various publications. I have, on computer, about 20 publications which I mail to each year in plenty of time for the notice of reunion to appear. In addition to these, I use a local service which places the notice in over 2200 newspapers nationwide. This may give you an idea where we get new members.

REUNION 94 - SAN ANTONIO - LATEST NEWS

Encluded in this mailing is a reservation form for the HYATT REGENCY RIVERSIDE, the best hotel in San Antonio in the best spot on the river, as a matter of fact, the river runs through it, and the hotel provides the only "in hotel" elevator which takes you directly to the river. You can throw a rock and hit the Alamo, the Rivercenter Mall is only a block away either by the riverwalk or on the street. There are dozens of every conceivable kind of restaurant, and ALL accessible by the Riverwalk and outside your front door. LA VILLITA (the little village), a replica of the old Spanish village (O'Henry's house is across the street), is only a block away either by the river or on the street. Incidentally, we have La Villita reserved for our Friday night get-together, come to this one dressed comfortably even though we will have tables in rounds of 10. This will be a different evening than any we have had. You will be able to choose from many different stations for your food. The stations:

SALAD BAR

Tossed Spinach Salad with Bacon, Cherry Tomatoes, Alfalfa Sprouts, Mushrooms, Croutons, Julienne of Carrots, Zucchini, Jicama, Watercress, Sliced Onions, Jalapenos, Guacamole. CHOICE OF DRESSING: Vinaigrette, Ranchero and House Dressing.

COMPOUND SALADS

Black Bean Salad with Peppers and Epazote, Three Color Bell Pepper Salad with Garbanzo Beans, Cucumber Salad with Dill, Marinated Fiesta Salad.

HOT DISHES

FAJITA STATION

Choice of Sirloin and Chicken, Guacamole, Sour Cream and Pico de Gallo (Chopped Onions, Tomatoes and Jalapenos with Celantro), Freshly made Flour Tortillas, (Chef in attendance).

QUESADILLAS

Corn Tortillas filled with Monterey Jack Cheese and Chicken Cooked to Order.

FROM THE CHAFING DISHES

Carne Guisada, Tamales, Beef Enchiladas, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice.

MAKE YOUR OWN TACO STATION

Picadillo, Shredded Lettuce, Salsa Picante, Shredded Cheddar Cheese and Sour Cream, Chili Con Queso with Tortilla Chips.

DESSERT STATION

Mexican Caramel Flan, Margarita Cheesecake, Chocolate Chip Kahlua Cheesecake, Candied Fruit, Assorted Tortes and Pastries.

BEVERAGE STATION

Coffee, Tea, Brewed Decaffeinated Coffee and Ice Tea. Oh yes, we will have several pay bars.

And while all this is going on, we will have a one man orchestra straight from Las Vegas, the fabulous ROB CARTER, and incidentally, we also have him for Saturday Night at the Hyatt along with the Beautiful and Talented CONE SISTERS (Johnny Carson Show, etc.). These gals are the Andrews Sisters and Mc Guire Sisters all in one bundle.

We are planning a good evening for the ladies with several events due for Thursday night.

We are offering only one tour on an optional basis due to the many sights so close to the Hotel. This will be a \$19.25 bus tour by the Alamo, with stops at

our 2nd most popular Mission (the Alamo is first), Mission San Jose (the famous Rose Window was removed and featured at the Chicago World's Fair), then the Lone Star Brewery Buckhorn Saloon and Hall of Horns. This Saloon was at the corner of Houston and Flores street, right down town, when I was in High School, and was moved to the Brewery intact. The bar was supposed to be the longest in the West. After that, a tour of the Institute of Texan Cultures, which was a big hit at Hemisphere in 1968. Then the bus will take you by the Spanish Governors Palace on the way to El Mercado where you may get off and have lunch and take the Trolley back to the Hotel or, if you like, they will drop you at the Hotel. This is a very interesting trip, and will leave the Hotel at 8:30 am Friday, and will end about 1:00 pm. If there are less than 35 going, it will not be held, but there is little doubt that it will be very popular.

The form for your registration for the usual food, entertainment, etc., is located at the end of the newsletter. The cost \$95.00 per person. Use this form to send in your registration and check, and use the inserted Hotel reservation card for your Hotel reservation. If you phone, be sure you specify that you are with the 43rd Bomb Group Reunion, and you must have either one nights deposit or a credit card. Pay extra attention to the cutoff date on the reservation card, the Hotel is going to be strict on this, and anyone applying later may have to settle on either a higher price or another hotel. The Hyatt price for us is \$85.00 single or double. Parking is extra, but right across the street.

The little Trolleys which those who were at the last reunion will remember, are still here, and a cheap way to get around town, they run in front of all the Riverwalk Hotels, and you can see all the downtown attractions this way.

Had a call from the curator of the ADMIRAL NIMITZ MUSEUM in Fredericksburg, Texas, about 60 miles from San Antonio, and they are putting together a collection of nose art from the Pacific. They want photos of B-17 and B-24 nose art from the 43rd. They will return, so be sure your name and address are on the back of the pictures. When they receive them, they will copy them, and return the originals. Address all pictures to PAULA USSERY, CURATOR, ADMIRAL NIMITZ MUSEUM, FREDERICKSBURG, TX 78624. Incidentally, I believe they also have a ZERO there.

I have had a letter from LAURA BENTZ, her husband WILLIAM BENTZ, 63rd, passed away December 24, 1991.

BYRON "DUTCH" HEICHEL, former prisoner of war, writes that he would like to hear from some old buddies who might remember him or some of the crew. His address is 26510 Old Hwy 99 No., Stanwood, WA 98292.

We have the following items in the PX, prices include postage:
Caps: Omaha, Queen Mary 50th, Norfolk 50th and Colorado Springs. \$5.00 each.
5th AF-43rd Prop Lapel Pins. \$5.00
5th AF-43rd Bumper Stickers. \$1.50
Pres. Bush's letter to 43rd at Norfolk Reunion. \$1.00
Gold Bullion 43rd Blazer Crests. \$35.00
43rd Coffee Mugs. \$7.00
Bombardier Video. \$22.00
43rd Golf Shirts & Sweat Shirts. State size. \$19.00
Ie Shima, Philippines and New Guinea shoulder patches. \$3.50 each

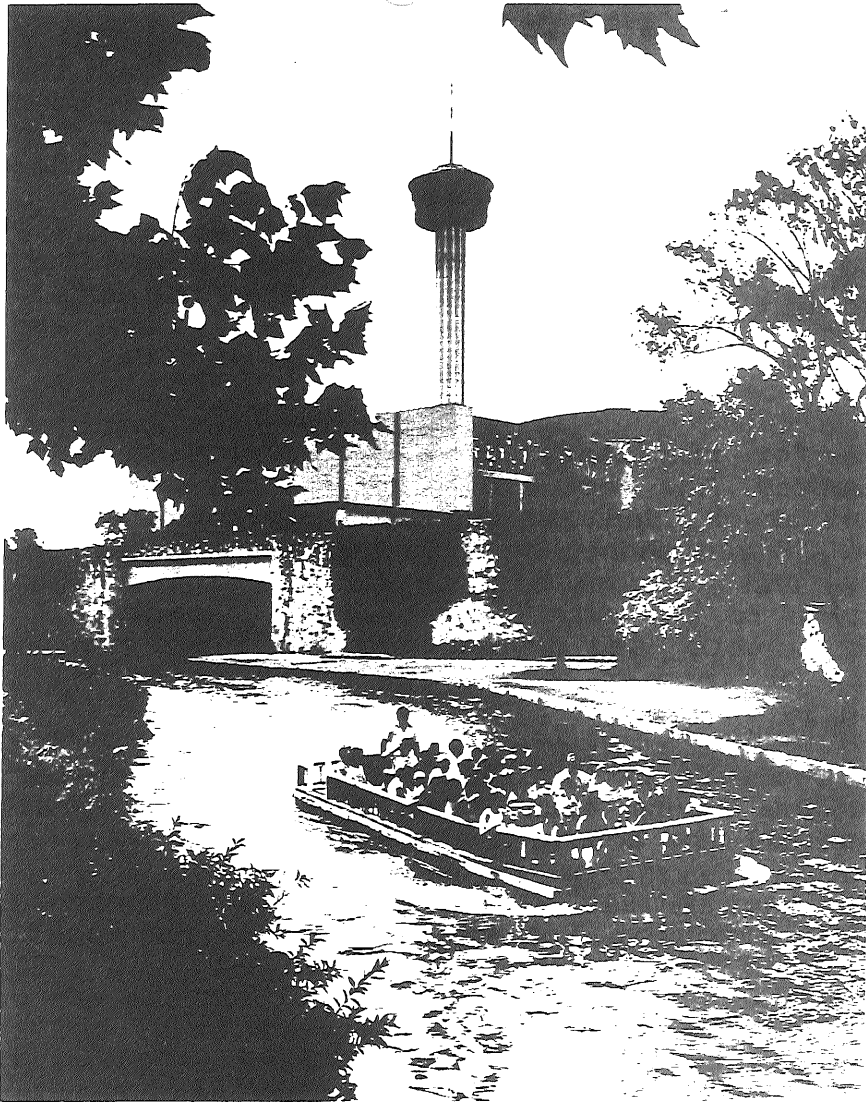
JIM PETTUS has the frame size prints of the painting depicting the four squadron B-24s flying over Ie Shima. \$20.00. Note!!! Request this item from direct from JIM PETTUS, 292 Wailupe Circle, Honolulu, HI 96821, with Check to JIM.

We hope you can come to San Antonio. Within a two block radius of the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk, there is so much to see and do, you can never get it all done during the reunion, but it's going to be fun trying.

The best of health to all of you,

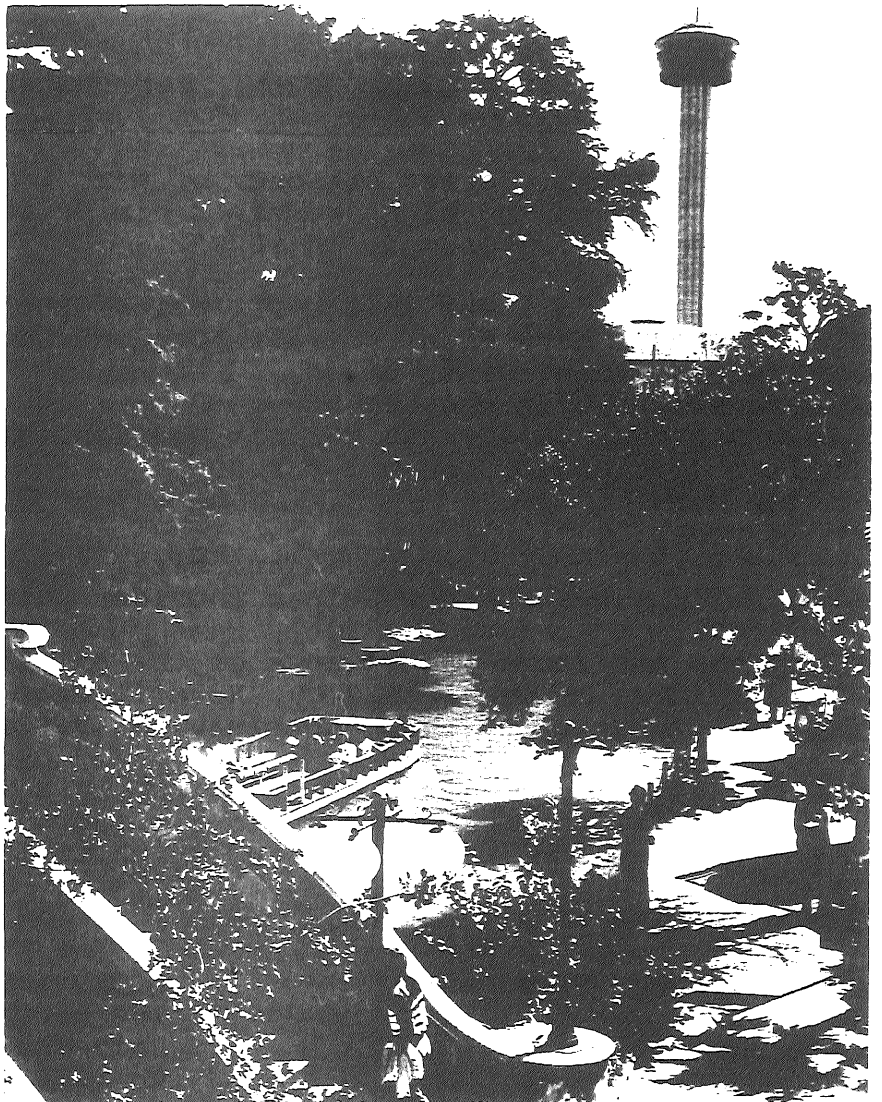
MAX & FRAN OSBORN, President
P.O. Box 1025
Cheyenne, WY 82001
Ph (307) 632-0536

LLOYD & HELEN BOREN, Secty-Treas.
102 Beechwood
Universal City, TX 78148
Ph (210) 658-5978 Off (210) 225-5717



River Walk, Sightseeing Barge and Tower of the Americas. You can also have an evening meal on one of these barges as you tour the river.

The River Walk and Tower of the Americas from Rosita's Bridge.



Photos courtesy San Antonio Convention and Visitors Bureau

ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO YOUR ROSTER

403rd

JOHN WADDEL
4820 N.W. 31ST ST.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

BERNIE SCHWARTZ
6857 ANGLEBLUFF CIR.
DALLAS, TX 75248

63rd

WILLIAM F. HERRE
10007 KETCHUM DR.
SACRAMENTO, CA 95827

65th

ROBERT E. THOMPSON
5861 CAMPO BELLO
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85254

TAPS

JOE NIECE, 65TH
LEE MC GOWN, 65TH
BILL ELROD, 63RD
ROBERT CLAIRWOOD, 64TH
CARL HENINGSEN, 403RD
THOMAS GILLESPIE, 64TH
TED JASINA, 64TH