

# FORTY THIRD BOMB GROUP ASSN. INC.

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Hdqs & Hdqs Sqdn



63rd Sqdn.



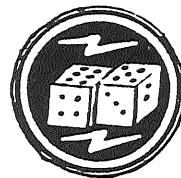
64th Sqdn.



403rd Sqdn.



65th Sqdn.



43RD BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION, INC.  
51ST EDITION, MAY 1994, LLOYD BOREN, EDITOR

## IMPORTANT EDITOR'S NOTICE

I really goofed on the last newsletter. I am sorry to report that we ARE NOT exempt from the Motel-Hotel tax at the reunion. As those of you who were at the San Antonio reunion will remember, we were exempt from this tax, but I have just learned that in the 8 years since, that portion of the tax law has been changed. We are still tax exempt from sales tax, corporation tax and income tax, but we will have to pay the hotel tax at the reunion. Again, I am sorry for the error.

## IMPORTANT REUNION NOTICE

IF YOU PLAN ON MAKING THE REUNION, DO NOT PUT OFF GETTING YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION IN. THE CUTOFF DATE AT THE \$85.00 PRICE IS JULY 29TH. AFTER THAT DATE IT WILL GO UP TO WELL OVER \$100.00. IF YOU HAVE LOST YOUR RESERVATION FORM, YOU MAY CALL THE HOTEL AT (210) 222-1234 AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATION, HAVE CREDIT CARD HANDY FOR FIRST NIGHTS RENT. BE SURE TO TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE 43RD BG REUNION. TO GET THE RATE.

## FROM MAX OSBORN

Newsletter time again and many of you have done a fine job of keeping those cards and letters coming in.

TED THORNHILL, Hdqs., sends the obit of JOSE HOLGUIN, 65th. JOSE was well known to many of us and I last visited with him at our Anaheim reunion. At the 1983 Queen Mary reunion and the Anaheim reunion, he gave a slide show of his return to new Britain in his efforts to find his lost crew. HAL WINFREY, 65th, told me in Norfolk he had been JOSE'S pilot but had not been on that fatal mission.

BREEZY BOREN, 65th, was called by BOB ROTH, 403rd, the day after JOSE passed away, and BREEZY called and talked with JOSE'S son who is an Attorney whom many of you will remember taking the pictures with Marilyn Monroe and Humphry Bogart look-a-likes. BREEZY had enough notice to send flowers from the Group.

Incidentally, if they show the two-part Frank Sinatra television biography again, watch for the guy playing Humphry Bogart. He is the guy you had your picture taken with at the Anaheim reunion which was put on by JOSE HOLGUIN.

Our friend from Sydney, Australia, ANNE WARNER, writes she will try for San Antonio, and will definitely make the Cheyenne reunion. Her cousin is married to Martin Clemens of Coastwatcher fame whose picture adorns the wall of my office.

LEWIS DAWS, 65th, along with many others sent in obits of JOSE HOLGUIN as well as a note on the closing of Norton AFB.

WILLIAM HERRE, 63rd, writes from Sacramento he was associated with the 43rd BG during and after WWII and helped with the Lucky Lady B-50 flight around the world non-stop.

Received a notice from the American Airpower Heritage Museum, Inc., of a symposium to be held in Midland, Texas, March 2-4, 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of WWII. Contact William G. Morris, Midland College, 3600 North Garfield, Midland, Texas 79705.

Friend and Associate Member, JANICE OLSON of Mesa, Arizona writes she will be in attendance at San Antonio. Many will remember her stirring report of her efforts on the recovery of crew remains of the B-17 in New Guinea. I know it will be thoroughly reported in our Group History. Thanks again JANICE, and I will buy in San Antonio.

BILL BROWNE, 64th, reports on his hairy raid from Clark Field to Hong Kong with JIM PETTUS, Hdqrs., and MATT HOLOHAN, 64th. JIM had to force land at Lingayen Gulf. JIM never told me about that raid although we had a drink in my room on the Queen Mary in 1983 but I know he's thinking about it while he is resting on his patio in Hawaii eating a papaya.

TOM FITZGERALD, cobbler from 24 Squadron Assn., New South Wales, Australia, sent the Squadron newsletter which is full of activity reports from down under. Along with restoring a B-24, Anzac Day, and reporting brush fires, he mentions the Fifth AF Memorial Foundation will hold a Dedication Service adding two plaques to the Townsville Monument on May 8, 1944. He further informs that more RAAF personnel served on B-24s than any other aircraft. They have a wing from B-24 42-41091 of the 403rd which force landed on Dec. 12, 1943. Any of you guys from the 403rd remember participating in that landing?

A 36 page newsletter from the Air Force Gunners Association of 453 Plaza Circle, Bossier City, Louisiana 71111. I sure didn't know they were there when we held our reunion there. They, very courteously carried notice of our reunion on page 22. The gunners creed is as follows:

This is my ship. I have faith in the Pilot who flies it.  
I know the Navigator will direct a true course.  
I trust the Bombardier to destroy our objective.  
I believe in the abilities of the crew.  
Yet the success of our mission depends on me and my guns.  
I vow solemnly to perform my duty.  
I am the Ship's gunner.

JOE ESPOSITO, 65th, reports he is late with his dues since his November newsletter didn't arrive until March 1944. JOE, the second best navigator in the 65th (right after me) was always late to the chowline in Port Moresby. Come to the reunion, JOE, and get caught up!!

Another celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the ending of WWII will be held July 4th, 1995 in Knoxville Tennessee. All veterans invited. Contact Bill Housley, Knoxville Convention and Visitors Bureau.

ED WOJDAK, 64th, is responsible for straightening out the hotel tax confusion. I also get credit since I was smart enough to turn the problem over to BREEZY.

DAVID HAHN, son of the late HAROLD HAHN, 63rd, reports his father flew on B-17 "Old Baldy" and has his father's receipt for payment of our Group History book. Hold on Dave, we're going to get that book published soon.

GILBERT SENA, 403rd, of Santa Fe regrets no plans for San Antonio. PANCHO, Cheyenne in 1995 will be a short jump for you, so plan on that.

Turner Publishing Co. of Box 3101, Paducah, KY 42002 is publishing a 90th BG History for delivery this summer for \$53.00 including mailing. I've already ordered my copy in order to keep Wiley Wood straight. He is the 90th historian.

WALT BILL, 403rd navigator, reports from Florida the chances for San Antonio are how healthy, wealthy, etc. things may be at the time. Better make it WALT, and you'll feel better. Better still, call DOC BRYANT and get him to come, a few buddies would like to see him.

FRED EPPLEN, 63rd, of nearby Aurora, CO, favored us with a copy of his correspondence with LARRY HICKEY concerning 63rd Commander HARRY PARK. FRED, We all have sent a lot of pictures to LARRY and I know he will return them when we get the history published. If all the pictures I sent LARRY are in the book,

then I probably wouldn't need the pictures back.

BREEZY & I both responded to a note in the Air Force Magazine inquiring about the 43rd from CLINT HAYES, Author, of Lucas, Texas. CLINT seems to be a historian-type, and was surprised to learn the 43rd's HQ was in his State. See, BILL WILSON, Texas is a small state. You will meet CLINT at the reunion. NOTE FROM LLOYD: Since this was received from MAX, both CLINT and his father, DEL HAYES have paid a visit to LLOYD in Universal City. They are very interested in writing a motion picture script based on the SW Pacific war and specifically JAY ZEAMER'S mission, 65th. Wouldn't that be nice publicity?

BOB BAHL, 403rd, won't be able to make San Antonio, But Cheyenne is just a hop from Sunset, Utah, so we'll see you. Hear BOB!

CLAIR & JULIA WRIGHT, 63rd, thanked BILL WILSON & ME for some help on a problem. I was the most help because I had BILL WILSON do it, and BILL has never failed on anything. See you in San Antonio, CLAIR & JULIA.

BILL O'BRIEN, 63rd. Another to send JOSE'S obit, as well as reporting the passing of FRED CHRISTMAS, 63rd. BILL has an oxygen problem in attending San Antonio, which he had solved at Omaha. BILL, I'm sure they have the proper equipment in San Antonio, so please meet with us.

BOB ROTH, 403rd, also sent the obit of DON WILBER, Hdqrs. Among other accomplishments, DON was a graduate of Michigan State. Take note BUD LAWSON. DON'S wife PAT will be in San Antonio says BOB ROTH.

NOW HEAR THIS: PAUL BLASEWITZ, 63rd, sends a clipping from Clearwater, Florida reporting on the sale of Coca-Cola bottles from WWII by natives on the island of Emireu, New Guinea. They have recovered 100,000 bottles, shipped them to Sydney, and under the guidance of the Rotary Club there, packaged them for sale with a certificate of authenticity, and hope to raise over \$1,000,000, that's a million!!! Who said those natives were dumb?

Alexander D. Ciurezak, USAF, Ret. DFC, is organizing a Distinguished Flying Cross Society. His address is 34552 Camino Capistrano, Capistrano Beach, CA 92624.

TOM CASEY, 63rd, reports recovery from by-pass operation and spending two months in Massachusetts General Hospital.

Fellow Attorney DAVID GUINN, 64th, reports he has the print of the B-24s over IE SHIMA framed and hanging with the 43rd Bomb Group display in his office. DAVE, it's nice to know there is 43rd BG stuff hanging in another law office than mine. I even have a B-24 model hanging from my ceiling and B-17 and B-24 belt buckles for paper weights, among other things. I wonder what happened to the ball turret LUCKY STEVENS, 64th, had in his house? By the way, any of you fellows who haven't gotten one of the B-24s over IE SHIMA, it's a fine print for framing, and you can get one by sending \$20.00 to JIM PETTUS, our last WWII C/O at 292 Wailupe Circle, Honolulu, HI 96821. I'm sure JIM will also have some available at the reunion. The painting depicts all four Squadron's B-24s in formation over IE SHIMA.

STAN LEBAR, 403rd, requests some items from DON BAKER'S, 65th, PX. He also wanted a 403rd Squadron patch, but BREEZY is all out of patches. He will settle for a good color picture of one. Anyone help STAN?

JACK NUNNELLEE, 64th, inquires if we're letting old geezers join our organization. Sorry JACK, I've never seen an old geezer at any of our reunions. You might try the 90th.

MONTY & DELEDA MONTGOMERY, 63rd, of Colorado Springs report three knee replacements. Come on to San Antonio/ BREEZY reports you can get the elevator clear down to the riverwalk and on to the boat. He ought to know, he has a new knee also.

HENRY "HANK" DAY, 64th, writes his tailgunner, WILLIAM WILSON answered the last roll call several months ago. HENRY has to go to his 55th High School reunion during San Antonio. HENRY, my 55th is in May. Your class didn't graduate in August did it?

We are favored with the 19th BG Assn. newsletter. Some of our members including

BREEZY, were in the 19th. The B-17s I started with in Port Moresby were old 19th aircraft. The newsletter reports the demise of Frank Bostrom, the pilot who flew MacArthur out of the Philippines. BUD FLETCHER, 65th, is mentioned in the newsletter as a friend of Bostrom. ARTHUR "BUD" FLETCHER was with the 19th in the Philippines, and volunteered to stay over with the 43rd when the 19th came home. BUD probably has more combat time than anyone in the 43rd or 19th, probably more than any two put together.

President Bob Ley of the 19th writes that they are having a reunion at Wichita, Kansas Sept. 21-25 of this year. He is at 3574 Wellston Ct. Sima Valley, CA 93063.

The 20th AF Assn. newsletter announces its next reunion will be right here in Cheyenne June 10-12 1994 at the Holiday Inn. I'll check on them and report.

90th BG newsletter announces its annual reunion Sept 1-5, 1994 at Little America hotel in Salt Lake City. Long time friend Tom Fetter of Marion Ohio is Secretary-forever of that organization.

FRED MC ALISTER, Hdqrs., ole buddy, reports from Turtle Creek Blvd in Dallas with the clippings on remembering the Lucky Lady flight around the world in 1949. Be sure to check out FRED & MAURINE'S RV, the "Hotel Mc Alister" in San Antonio. FRED & MAURINE stopped by Cheyenne before the Omaha reunion. I've never been in an RV like it.

Another fellow lawyer, ASA LEWELLING, 64th, sends dues after attending the Salem, Oregon ceremony awarding the bracelet to the widow of HOWARD EBERLY, 65th. The JANICE OLSON story. NICK ARABINKO & ASA, 64th, flew together.

Speaking of NICK, JIM PETTUS, BREEZY BOREN & I all contacted BRUCE HOY to get the last of the B-17 data to LARRY HICKEY. We have to have that history done by the end of this year, 1994. I noticed the similarity in our newsletter and the 90th is the list of names making the last roll-call. Listed below are the names of our comrades who made their last mission since the last newsletter.

JAMES R. DALY, 64TH  
KARL LONQUIST, 63RD  
WALTER LOONEY, 403RD  
JOSE HOLGUIN, 65TH  
DON WILBER, HDQRS.  
ALBERT BEYERLEIN, UNKN  
BILL GREGG, 64TH  
WILLIAM CROFT, 63RD  
HUGH CASSIDY, 64TH  
LT. GEN EUGENE TIGHE JR., HDQRS.  
WILLIAM WILSON, 64TH

I believe this is the first time in a long time that we have lost more members than we have gained. Sadly time is taking it's toll. All the more reason to try to make at least one reunion and visit with old comrades.

Looking forward to San Antonio, the Southwestern Tex-Mex food and the brunches with French cooking in the cafes along the Riverwalk, not to mention Dirty Nelly's where you throw the peanut shells on the floor, and the music of the world famous Happy Jazz Band, both on the river at the Hotel next door. There are at least 50-75 restaurants and clubs in a 5 block section of the Riverwalk, and the Hyatt is right in the middle, there is even one of San Antonio's largest Malls just one block away via the Riverwalk. It really doesn't matter what kind of food you like, the Riverwalk has it. Let's have a good one!!!!!!

#### FROM LLOYD

JOHN L. FRISBEE, Author and Asst. Editor of "AIR FORCE MAGAZINE", in the May issue, has a long piece titled "STEALTH 1942", with the heading, "Skip bombing was a major air power in the Pacific air war. The article on page 108 lists 2nd Lt. JAMES MURPHY, 65th as one of the principal architects, and a lot of JIM'S book "SKIP BOMBING" is included. JIM MURPHY is our new Vice President, and the book is well worth getting as it covers a large part of the early days of the 43rd in action when they were the only HEAVY bomb group in the SW Pacific, and air superiority was held by the Japanese. To get a copy, contact JIM at 4003 Nunn Rd., Huntsville, Alabama 35802, or I am sure JIM will have some copies at the San Antonio reunion.

SHAD SHADDOX, one of our Directors from the 64th Squadron, called the other night, and has been doing more than his share of spreading the news of the 43rd. SHAD was contacted by a local High School in Friendswood, Texas and asked to address five History classes and kinda bring them up to date on WWII in the Southwest Pacific. He says the young people really enjoyed it, and were really eager to learn more about our History. SHAD figures this sort of information will filter down to about 115 families in the vicinity. He also contacted a local Houston high-quality FM station and they agreed to run a reasonable length announcement about our up-coming reunion for a week at no cost. SHAD has also had some letter size posters made up in color and black & white advertising the 43rd and our up-coming reunion. These have been placed on several bulletin boards including the AIRPLANE SHOP across from Ellington Field which is a popular hangout for airline pilots and navigators. Thanks SHAD, this should give quite a few of our members some ideas on public relations in their own communities. Too few people know about the real conditions in the Pacific during our time, they have been brought up on 8th AF movies and documentaries, and don't realize that most of us never lived in anything but a tent, and the nearest town was a place you had to fly to, mosquito nets were not used to catch mosquitoes, fly paper was not a newspaper you swatted a fly with, the natives were not fair skinned, but more multicolored and had no problems with over population, due, no doubt, to their eating habits, however, they were not a wasteful people, even utilizing the bones which were clearly visible in their lips, nose and ears. They even used the high grass which grew in their lawns as clothing.

I owe FRANCES DALY, widow of JAMES R. DALY, 64th, an apology for omitting his name from the last newsletter. JIM & FRANCES were close friends of NICK ARABINKO, 64th and often corresponded. JIM passed away last November 9th. Our condolences to the family. JIM had been through a lengthy illness.

A few days ago I received notice that J.C. "CHUNKY" WILFERT was in the hospital with by-pass surgery. I have since heard from WILLY WILSON that he had talked to "CHUNKY", and that he is doing fine now. CLARA MARIE, get him up for San Antonio.

NICK ARABINKO & ART MULLIGAN, 64th, will both be in San Antonio in July for a reunion of their Pilot class. I hope to see both of them sometime during their stay. NICK'S calendar says "Nothing wrong with sex on TV, just don't fall off.

Received a letter from Robert Chapman, 43B Bethel Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN133VE, England. Robert has Squadron patches from the 90th, and wants to purchase ours. Unfortunately, we have no more in the PX, and unless we have enough wanting to purchase them, they have gone up in price almost double what we last got them for, and we are required to purchase in lots of 100 each. This is the reason I have gone no further with the patches. I would be willing to look into it if enough interest is shown. If you have an extra patch, get in touch with Robert.

BOB BUTLER, 63rd, writes with news that DENNIS LOMBARDI, 403rd, has had serious heart surgery, and I also received a letter from DENNIS saying he would be unable to attend San Antonio and would really miss it. Will miss seeing you again. Take care of yourself.

BOB BUTLER also notified us of BILL ELROD'S death, he was a gunner on BOB'S crew, and passed away December 24th, 93. BOB also notified us of the death of Lt. General EUGENE TIGHE JR., who started out as a enlisted man in the 43rd in the 43rd, was commissioned in Australia, and rose quickly through the ranks in OSI and later CIA. He was a leader in efforts for MIA's, and was in attendance at our reunions in Bossier City and Anaheim. He died of Cancer in California. He was a paid up Life Member of the 43rd.

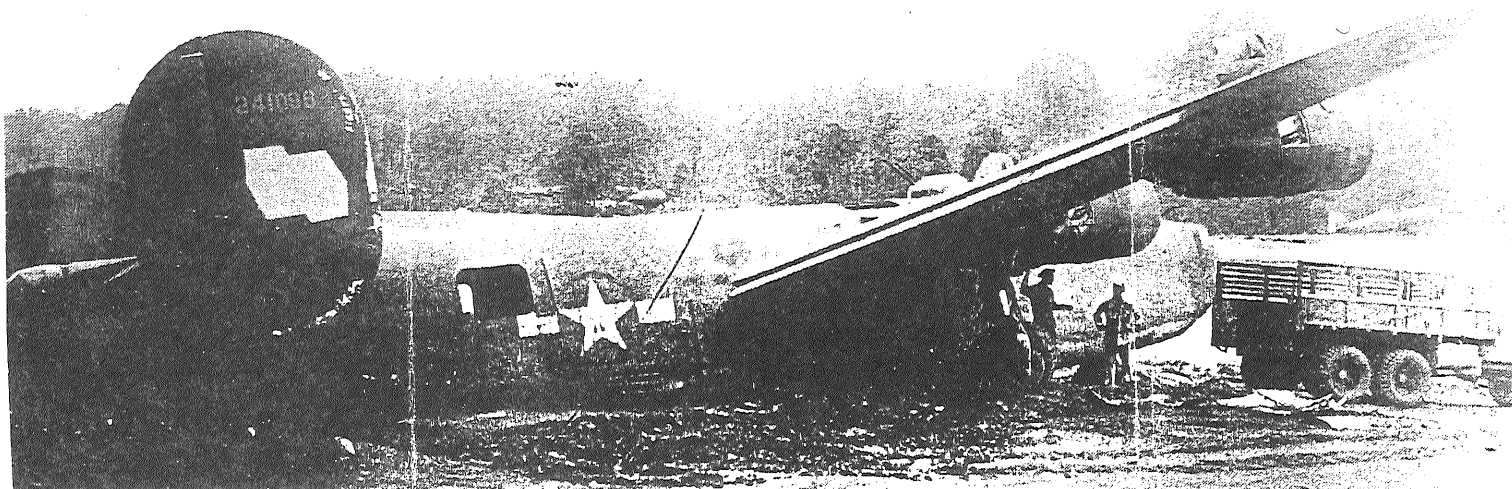
BOB & DORIS will make San Antonio and it will be nice to see them after some time although we talk by phone quite often.

BOB BUTLER included a letter he received from ED GAMMILL, 63rd. ED has been having interesting telecoms with JANICE OLSON, and as a result, they are swapping data and information and thoroughly enjoying stirring up old memories. He says JANICE claims the 43rd has the most interesting history, and best reunions. ED goes on to say that he saw the news of BILL ELROD'S death in the newspapers, and realized that BILL lived only 15 miles from him and he never knew. He thinks it's really unfortunate that we cannot reach all of these men before they pass away. ED is definitely going to try to make San Antonio.



ROY PERRY, 63rd, notified us of the passing of his Pilot, WILLIAM F. CROFT, February 94 in Montrose, Colorado.

I have received two letters from BOB ROCKER, Research Director of the Cactus Air Force Art Project, asking for help on two pieces of 43rd history he is researching. One: He would like to contact any personnel who were on a B-17 mission with another B-17 that went down, and when then returned to base, filed a report with intelligence on the location where the B-17 went down. Two: Referring to the picture below, this is a 65th Squadron B-24, tail #241098. BOB wants to know if anyone knows what happened to this B-24, who was the crew, what was the date, and at which airfield did it take place at. There are some 348th Fighter P-47s in the background. He thinks it is Dobodura but there is an outside possibility that it could be Finschhaven as a B-24 did crash land there. If you have any knowledge of either of these subjects, contact BOB ROCKER, 1201 NE 2nd St., Pompano Beach, FL33060, phone (305) 942-9687.



WALLACE W. MUNSON, 64th, writes to give us a new phone number 1-602-378-3379. He also states that the last Roster he has is dated 1992. This is the last roster we have gotten out since it was decided that the Roster would only be put out every three years. (Next one in 1995). This was decided on to cut down costs, but the Board might be willing to put it up to the membership to see if they would rather get one each year and pay for it. I figure the cost per would be about \$5.00. I will put this up to the Board and let them decide at the next reunion.

WILLIAM F. HERRE, 63rd Squadron from July 1947 to June 1950, Chief Flight Engineer & Pilot, who served during Korea on B-29 - B-50s, is trying to locate one of his Flight engineers, VIRGIL YOUNG, who was a Capt. or Major, 1947-50 with him. Anyone having any information, write him: 10007 Ketcham Dr., Sacramento, CA 95827, phone (916) 363-9719.

I have a correction to make. In the last newsletter I referred to WALTER BUCHANAN'S ill health, I also referred to his wife as EMILY and his Squadron as the 403rd. I rerun the article below as it should have read. We have two Walter Buchanans.

VIOLET BUCHANAN wife of WALTER BUCHANAN, 65th, writes that WALTER has quite a few health problems, and they have been unable to make a reunion, but hope to sometime. You fellows who know WALTER, drop him a line, I know he would like to hear from you.

VIOLET also writes that JANICE OLSON has been in contact with them, and WALTER is looking for any material that might help her. WALTER is still hanging tough.

The HISTORY AND TRADITIONS MUSEUM located at Lackland AFB has been in existence since 1956. The Museum began as a classroom to help basic trainees develop a knowledge and appreciation for the traditions of the Armed Services. The Museum is a part of the 37th Training Wing at Lackland.

The Museum has a static display of seventy-eight aircraft and missiles on Lackland ranging from a Curtiss JN-4D Jenny through an SR-71 Blackbird, an F-15, and an A-10. Various engines are also on display along with military uniforms dating back to WWI and personal mementos of aviators such as diaries and medals.

In addition to a research library consisting of books, magazines, pictures of Air Force History, many videos on aircraft, and a 35 seat auditorium with a wide screen for visitors, students and basics to view the videos.

The History and Traditions Museum Foundation, Inc. was organized in March 1990 to help the museum carry out its mission more effectively. In addition to providing support for the museum's needs in its present building, a major focus of the foundation will be to raise funds to construct a new museum. A site just north of the Parade Ground has been designated for the new building. This Museum might be a spot you would want to visit. Lackland is still the "GATEWAY TO THE AIR FORCE".

### SAN ANTONIO REUNION SCHEDULE

**NOTE:** Meals listed in the schedule below are included in your registration fee. For those of you who want to visit Sea World and/or Fiesta Texas, the Via Bus Co. runs buses every hour and you can board and get off in front of the Alamo. The .10 cent trolley covering downtown still operates every 15 minutes, and you can take it to the Mexican Market Place "El Mercado", the old homes in the King William District, the Spanish Governor's Palace, San Fernando Cathedral where the remains of the Alamo defenders are buried, and all around the downtown section, getting off when you like and reboarding another when you are ready to leave. Via the Riverwalk, you can visit lots of shops, restaurants and boutiques, and the Rivercenter Mall, one of the largest, is about 1/2 block away. The Alamo is less than that. In short, you can walk to more places than you will have time for. If you really want to see San Antonio, come early.

**NOTE:** Any registration cancellations after the 25th of August will have \$10.00 per person deducted from the refunds. This was voted during the St. Louis reunion, and is necessary to cover registration costs.

**NOTE:** Dress is very casual in San Antonio. The La Villita party Friday night will be definitely casual, the brighter the colors the more it will look like a Mexican Fiesta, nobody, but nobody, wears a coat & tie Friday. The Saturday night dinner dance will probably be the only time you will see a coat & tie. Come comfortable.

#### MONDAY AUGUST 29TH:

Registration and memorabilia room open 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Day open for sightseeing and visiting. Coffee & Tea in Memorabilia room each day.

#### TUESDAY AUGUST 30TH:

Registration and memorabilia room open 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Day open for sightseeing and visiting.

#### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 31ST:

Registration and memorabilia room open 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Day open for sightseeing and visiting.  
8:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting

#### THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST:

Registration and memorabilia room open 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
9:00 AM Golf  
10:00 AM Tennis  
8:00 PM Women's Program (a special treat)  
8:00 PM Squadron Meetings

#### FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND:

Registration and memorabilia room open 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM Buffet Breakfast  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Optional tour  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cocktail hour (cash bar) - La Villita = Mariachis  
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Mexican Fiesta Dinner - La Villita  
8:00 PM - 12:00 Music by Rob Carter - La Villita

#### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD:

Registration and memorabilia room open 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
7:00 AM - 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast  
9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Group Meeting  
Rest of day free  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Cocktail hour (cash bar) - Hyatt Regency  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Banquet - Hyatt Regency  
8:00 PM - 12:00 Music by Rob Carter with the Cone Sisters - Hyatt

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH:

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Memorial Service - Hyatt Regency

9:30 AM - 12:00 Farewell Brunch - Hyatt Regency

See you in Cheyenne  
Have a safe trip home

43RD BOMB GROUP HISTORY UPDATE AND QUESTIONNAIRE 5/94

From responses to the last questionnaire, we cleared up four key questions which had been stumping the authors for years, plus we received five photos of squadron C.O.s we badly needed. The major news is that due to personal circumstances it has not been possible for Bruce Hoy, the projected co-author of the B-17 section of the book, to complete his part of the manuscript by the necessary deadline. So the other co-authors, with the assistance of several other members, have undertaken to complete the B-17 part of the book. This leaves a number of questions to still be cleared up, as we do not yet have full access to the materials previously sent by Association members to Bruce Hoy. It is expected that we will eventually get this material, but information is only beginning to come in from Australia in small batches. So, if you have previously sent materials or information DIRECTLY to Bruce Hoy, and you kept a copy, it will speed things up a lot if you will make another copy and send it to the address below so that it can be passed to the person handling that part of the materials for the book. If we all cooperate, this situation will not result in a major setback to the publishing schedule for the book. Send all material and responses to this questionnaire directly to: LARRY HICKEY, INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING CORP., P.O. BOX 3334 HIGH MAR STATION, BOULDER, COLORADO 80307: (303) 499-0530.

A) FATAL CASUALTIES:

We have an extensive request pending with the Army Casualty Affairs Office in Washington which we hope will clear up most remaining details needed for a complete accounting of all 750+ men who died from any cause while serving with the 43rd during WWII. In the meantime, we need two pieces of information. A new member has provided the long-sought name of the 64th enlisted man who died in an accident at the squadron camp at Ie Shima in August, 1943. We now know the man's name was Cpl. Robert Brooks. Can anyone provide this man's middle initial, his duty position, and the date of his death? Next, an unidentified navigator in the 64th went missing aboard a B-25 on a flight between Leyte and Biak on either December 23rd or 24, 1944. This is the only remaining 43rd fatality for which we can't provide a name. Does anyone know who this man was?

B) AIRCRAFT:

We now have matched over 125 aircraft nicknames with their proper squadrons and their aircraft serial numbers. We lack proper IDs on only a few aircraft. Every time we ask this question we clear up a few more mysteries, so here goes what I hope will be our final request on this. Please check your flight logbooks, diaries and/or the memories of crew chiefs and ground crewmen for any clues which might allow us to match a tail number with the following nicknamed aircraft: 63RD: Camouflaged B-24 SITTING PRETTY, unnamed B-24 artwork of tiger's head with ship in its jaws (early camouflaged J model in 1944, B-24 with several swastikas and Nazi submarine silhouettes on scoreboard. YANK magazine article says pilot from Atlantic anti-submarine unit brought B-24 to Pacific when assigned to 43rd. Need any info on this one. Have pictures of two B-24s with this info, both different: 64TH: Early camouflaged B-24 ZOMBIE which was serving at least by 8/43 and flew a large number of missions; two silver B-24s in the Philippines MANILA CALLING and LADY FROM LEYTE (have had letters saying these planes were in 63rd, 64th and 65th). We know LFL was probably assigned at Owi and was salvaged in January, 1945. 65TH: B-17s RED MOOSE EXPRESS and STUD DUCK, camouflaged B-24 with a nude female nicknamed THE PETER HEATER (possibly aircraft assigned to Frank White's crew?); late war silver B-24 WINDY CITY KITTY--IT'S UP TO YOU, photographed on Ie Shima. 403RD: early camouflaged B-24s FRIVOLOUS SAL, june bride; Squadron Unknown: B-17s MISS MAVIS, TOKYO JINX, SALISBURY'S SILLY SAPS, and STRIP STRAFER. In addition, we know that on 12/12/44, one or more 63rd B-24s were destroyed by fire at Tacloban, killing the 63rd Engineering Officer. Need ID and/or photos of these planes. Also, a P-38 accidentally dropped a bomb on the 481st Service Sq. at Clark Field on 4/18/45, killing several SS personnel and destroying three 43rd B-24s undergoing repair. Need ID of these planes and/or photos of incident.

C) LEADERSHIP:



We still need photos of any pre-war Group or Squadron C.O. The USAF historical records have not been able to provide first name and MI of 13th Recco C.O. Maj. Goldenberg (8/41-1/42). Someone must have some orders with his full name on it. We still need a good photo of Lt. Co. Ed Scott, while GP CO 11/43-2.44. In addition, we need photos of the following wartime SQ. C.O.s: 63rd: Bill Benn, John Van Trigt, Harry Park, and Albert Brownfield: 64th: Eugene Halliwill, Jack Bleasdale, Allen Lindbergh (all killed), plus Lin Parker and Carl Cramer: 65th: James Hayes, William Smith, Frank White, Paul Hansen, Max Williams: 403rd: Thomas Charles (MIA), Russell Bragg and Willis Bond. Help! Help!

D) PHOTOS:

Need photos of 43rd activities at Langley Field during formation, and any training aircraft used at either Langley or Bangor (especially 13th Recco's short lived B-23), B-18s, LB-30s or B-17s known to have been assigned to 43rd Stateside. Also need photos of any overseas crashed or crash-landed B-17 or B-24 not previously sent.

E) ARTISTS:

Someone must know something about the man Bartigan who painted most of the outrageous nose art for late-war 64th aircraft (DRAGON AND HIS TAIL, IT AIN'T SO FUNNY, MABEL'S LABELS, ETC). Someone has suggested he was in motor pool. Who was he? (full name, rank, duty position, etc.). Also, who was Squadron painter in 65th Squadron who did many outstanding B-24 artworks, including MAD RUSSIAN, OUTA THIS WORLD, CAROLYN MAE, QUEEN OF THE CLOUDS and RUM AND COKE?

F) MARKINGS:

We believe that a 65th Ass't Ops Officer, 1/Lt. Don C. Eby, instituted the colorful markings on 65th noses and tails sometime during summer of 1944. Can anyone confirm that he was person responsible for this and month and base where this started?

G) CREW CHIEFS:

For histories accompanying the 48 full color aircraft paintings in the book, need names of crew chiefs who supervised ground maintenance crews of following aircraft: 63RD: B-17s #356 DOUBLE TROUBLE/KA-PUHIO-WELA (shot down Bismarck Sea Battle 3-3-43), #537 TALISMAN (poss. Nygard?), B-24s #058 LADY LUCK (cracked up Dobodura 12/3/43), #042 I'LL BE AROUND, #479 MISS LIBERTY (collided with night-fighter 9/44), #904 QUEEN OF HEARTS, #425 (no name) (crashed with Sq CO at Owi killing many 1/9/45); 64TH: B-17 #664 THE JERSEY SKEETER, B-24s #922 MARIE, #865 LAST HORIZON; 65TH: B-17s #430 NAUGHTY BUT NICE (Holguin POW), #472 GUINEA PIG (212 missions flown), B-24s PETTY GAL (one of first silver B-24s, written off 5/18/45 w/combat damage), #257 OUTA THIS WORLD, #827 RUM AND COKE (cracked up Ie Shima 9/45); 403RD B-17 #551 FIRE BALL MAIL (Wilson's plane, destroyed in bombing at Milne Bay 1/17/43), B-24s #127 RIO RITA (one of 1st B-24s Gp/cracked up 8/29/43 after shot up over Wewak), #335 MILLION \$ BABY (one of 1st silver B-24s in SQ).

H) ARTWORK:

We badly need photos for color profile completion of 403rd B-17 #551 (Dorwin Wilson's plane), with nickname FIRE BALL MAIL. It was burned out at Milne Bay on 1/17/43 in Jap bombing attack. Also need clear photo of nose art on B-17 #420 SUPER SNOOPER transferred to 403rd 2/43 from 65th.

I) 65TH:

1) MAJOR MYSTERY!! There is one B-17 loss in the 43rd BG that remains unexplained. The 65th Squadron lost #015, sometime in the latter part of 2/43. We have a photo of the plane just prior to ditching (we think), with turret down. There are two possible explanations: a) Lt. John Gibbs was "forced down" low on gas in a 65th B-17 at Hood Point on NG Coast on 2/22-23/43, returning from a mission to Rabaul. We don't know plane \$, or if landed in water, on beach or inland. This could be our mystery aircraft; b) the record card in their Force Archives indicates plane was lost 2/19/43, and may have gone down in Solomons in 13th AF area. The dates on these cards are often wrong, however, it could still be 2/22-23/43 incident. Does anyone know circumstances of loss of #015, and/or have any info on 2/22-23/43 "force down" of Lt. Gibb's aircraft? Need details of that incident regardless of whether in #015 or not.

2) On 1/7/43 a 64TH B-17 piloted by Lt. Christopher went down in the Gulf of Papua out of gas while returning from a recco mission. Three crewmen eventually rescued by flying boat after 13 hours in life raft. Need details on location of ditching and experiences of three men who were rescued.

3) 1/8/43 a 65TH B-17 with Lt. Dau piloting belly landed a few miles from Wau, NG after being shot up by Zeros. Does anyone know details of this incident.

Anyone know where Ray Dau is today? Also need details of B-17 he ditched 5/24/43 on coast of NG.

4) 12/23/43 64TH B-24 #112 cracked up on landing at Dobodura. Need photos and name of pilot or any crewmen aboard. Details of incident.

5) 2/29/44 65TH B-24 #096 cracked up on landing at Dobodura cutting tail off P-47 and hitting vehicle. Was returning from recco mission. Need name of pilot and/or crewmen aboard.

6) 9/18/44 65TH B-24 #478, BIG ASS BIRD, was crash landed on reef at Morotai by unknown pilot (possible name 1/Lt. Harris Routy--can't read microfilm). One of crewmen who bailed out, Joe G. Aviello, landed in tree and survived, even though chute didn't open. Was in RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT. Need correct spelling for pilot's name, and rank and crew position for Aviello.

7) 9/28/44 65TH B-24 #403 is believed to have cracked up at Owi while landing. need photos and name of pilot.

8) Late 8/45 or early 9/45 at Ie Shima 65TH B-24 RUM AND COKE had gear collapse on landing. Need date of incident (someone's diary??) and name of pilot and/or crew.

ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO YOUR ROSTER

<u>ASSOCIATES</u>		<u>63RD</u>	<u>64TH</u>
CLINT HAYES	DEL HAYES	DALE G. HOLT	RAYMOND PLANK
1690 ESTATES PKWY.	1690 ESTATES PKWY.	1615 SPRUCE CT.	1700 LINCOLN, SUITE
LUCAS, TX 75002	LUCAS, TX 75002	AUBURN, CA 95603	2000,DENVER, CO 80203C

65TH

JOSEPH HANNA  
2607 LEECHBURG ROAD  
LOWER BURRELL, PA 15068

We will see you guys and gals in San Antonio and in the meantime stay healthy.

<u>MAX &amp; FRAN OSBORN</u> , President P.O. Box 1025 Cheyenne, WY 82001 PH 307-632-0536	<u>LLOYD &amp; HELEN BOREN</u> , Secty-Treas. 102 Beechwood Universal City, TX 78148 Home after 4:00 210-658-5978 43rd Office 11:00 - 3:00 210-225-5717
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THE SAN ANTONIO REUNION - AUGUST 29 - SEPT. 4 - HYATT REGENCY RIVERWALK

MAIL IN REGISTRATION FOR REUNION ACTIVITIES

(THIS IS COST OF REUNION, SCHEDULED MEALS, ENTERTAINMENT, ETC. MAIL TO 43RD REUNION, P.O. BOX 15036, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78212) - USE ENCLOSED CARD FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS.

NUMBER OF PERSONS --- @ \$95.00 PER PERSON - TOTAL \$

# OF PERMANANT BADGES NEEDED @ \$2.00 PER BADGE TOTAL \$

GOLF THURSDAY - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

FRIDAY MORNING OPTIONAL - # OF PERSONS @ \$19.25 TOTAL \$

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED WITH THIS FORM - REGIST., BADGES, TOUR \$

ARRIVING BY CAR, PLANE, OTHER DATE DEPART

Remember, use this form for Reunion Activities, and enclosed card for Hotel reservations.

THE HYATT REGENCY SAN ANTONIO IS PLEASED TO WELCOME...

43RD BOMB GROUP REUNION

August 29 - September 4, 1994

CUT OFF DATE: July 29, 1994

Convention Rates	Single \$85.00	Double \$85.00
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RESERVATIONS RECEIVED AFTER CUT-OFF DATE WILL BE ACCEPTED AT PREVAILING RACK RATES ON SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS.

CHECK-IN TIME 3:00P.M. — CHECK-OUT TIME 12 NOON

**HYATT**  
REGENCY  
SAN ANTONIO  
ON THE RIVERWALK  
123 LOSOYA STREET  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205  
(210) 222-1234  
(800) 233-1234



Special Requests:

- ☐ Wheelchair accessible room  
☐ Hearing impaired equipped room  
☐ Visually impaired equipped room  
☐ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation:

Number of Rooms	Single	Double	Triple	Quad

Special Requests \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type of Accommodation is based on availability)

Method of Arrival: Fly \_\_\_\_\_ Drive \_\_\_\_\_

I will arrive on: \_\_\_\_\_ I will depart on: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time

Date/Time

GOLD PASSPORT #: \_\_\_\_\_

**GUARANTEE:**

Reservations not guaranteed by an Advanced Deposit or Major Credit Card will be cancelled at 4:00 PM on day of arrival. Reservations arriving on a Friday or Saturday must be guaranteed. It is highly recommended that all Reservations be guaranteed as follows:

**ADVANCED DEPOSIT** – Please enclose one night's room rate and tax (15%) as the deposit. Deposits are refundable if cancelled within 48 hours of arrival date.

**GUARANTEED BY CREDIT CARD** – Please fill in American Express, Carte Blanche, Diner's Club, MasterCard, Visa, JCB, Discover Card number, name of cardholder and expiration date in the space provided:

Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/Year)

Reservations not guaranteed will be released at 4:00 PM. In the event you are unable to cancel this reservation within 48 hours of the arrival date, a charge equal to one night's room rate will be assessed on the credit card above, or the advance deposit forfeited.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOSPITALITIES:** To comply with Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Law, all Hospitality arrangements involving alcoholic beverage **must** be arranged in advance through our Room Service Department. Our Room Service Manager will be happy to coordinate all Food and Beverage functions in your suite. Simply call 210/222-1234 and ask for Room Service.