



NEWSLETTER

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Time is fast approaching for the flight to England for the Dedication Ceremonies of the American Room in the Norwich Library and with it a lot of last minute details to take care of and I'm sure that you will help me along this line.

I would like to quote excerpts from a letter which I received from Percy Young our President.

Percy received a letter from General Kepner which in part read:

"This is the most important mission for 2 A.D. since our combat days. No matter what - or with how many - we must do justice to this dedication of the American Memorial. Tho it is going to take many people valuable time, I feel we owe it now to our dead comrades to marshall the 2 A.D. on this our last mission and to make a great and solemn success."

I know that you all concur with General Kepner's thinking along this line plus the fact that the expense to make this trip is so inexpensive. How often could you get a round-trip ticket from Chicago, Illinois, leaving on the evening of 10 June 1963 with a pick-up in New York and landing in Sculthorpe Air Base on 11 June 1963 with transportation arranged to Norwich by the Base Commander with a number of functions which have been planned in Norwich for 11, 12 and 13 June 1963 and returning from London on 24 June with a drop-off in New York and terminating in Chicago for \$275.00. Forgot to mention that this flight will be aboard a Britannia jet-prop, which makes for a nice smooth flight and nothing like the aircraft we used to fly in during World War II. If money is the drawback, why not check with your local bank and see if they won't loan you the money to take this trip and then pay it back at your leisure. The expenses which the member incurs while making this trip is also deductible from your income tax. OK! now let's put forth the supreme effort to make this trip a 100% successful. The British have gone to a lot of trouble to make plans to make our trip a most pleasant and memorable occasion and are eagerly awaiting our arrival. They are as eager to see our long awaited dream a reality as much as we are to have it come true.

It looks as though I digressed a bit from my original intent to quote excerpts from Percy's letter but I felt that I must enlarge a little bit more on the comment that General Kepner made. So get out your pencils, sharpen them up and do a little bit of figuring and may the final outcome be that I receive your Charter flight application by return mail since the deadline is 10 March 1963. We have tried to make this flight as inexpensive and as convenient for you that we knew how. Now to get on with the excerpts which I'm sure you will enjoy:

"The new Central Library building was dedicated - with Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, the principal dignitary - on Saturday, 19 January 1963. I think you will be interested in several excerpts from Norwich newspapers on that occasion:

"It is right, therefore, that though the building has been in use for over two months the formal opening should be a great occasion in the life of the city. The presence of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, who has so often shared these occasions with the citizens in the past, will be another very welcome mark of the Royal Family's interest in the capital of their "home county". It remains for the citizens to ensure that she has a warm welcome despite the frigidity of the weather."

Editorial in the Evening News, January 18, 1963.

"The primary memorial was to be the entrance hall to the library, showing commemorative sculpture, works of art, and the names of the fallen. On one side was to be a small American reference library, and on the other a small American reading room, both to be endowed for generations to come."

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"As the new library drew nearer, the trust aided by its American members, provided the illuminated roll of honour which the then Ambassador placed in the custody of the city in 1958.

"The governors at the same time began to perform their permanent function of making annual grants for the purchase of American books. Over £ 4,000 has already been voted for this purpose, each book bearing a memorial book-plate.

"The design and building of the American Room and Memorial Fountain is a story in itself and one which can best be told nearer the day in June when the present American Ambassador will perform the opening ceremonies.

"He will do so in the presence of relatives of the fallen and of the Second Air Division Association Convention itself which, in special planes chartered from Chicago and New York, will make history by flying to Norfolk for its first annual meeting outside the United States."

Mr. Tom D. Copeman, Chairman of the Memorial Trust

"The project was further stimulated by the offer of a grant by the 2nd Air Division of the U.S.A.F.; who wished to incorporate a memorial in the new library to the 6000 American airmen killed during the war and who were stationed around Norwich at that time.

"In 1955, this memorial committee offered £ 5000 towards the new library if the building was started within four years. With this further encouragement, events now moved to a conclusion and the following year plans for the new library building were presented by the City Architect, Mr. David Percival."

Mr. Geoffrey Goreham

"The large courtyard, a necessary adjunct of the unique American Memorial room, to be opened in June, confers spaciousness and

quietness most unusual in a centrally-sited municipal building of any kind."

Mr. Philip Hepworth, City Librarian

"The city is most grateful to the American Memorial Trust for their supplementary fund, now around £ 30,000 to be used towards the endowment of an American Room. This will be an adornment to the library and a fitting memorial to those whom it commemorates."

Mr. Andrew Ryrie, the Lord Mayor.

I am sure that you agree with us that this Dedication Ceremony deserves your serious and unselfish consideration in joining us in keeping the ties of friendship cemented and honoring our dead that we might live.

Now to answer some of the questions that have arisen pertaining to the flight itself.

Time of Departure from Chicago: Has not been set as yet but will be set in plenty of time for you to make arrangements and you will be personally notified.

Time of Departure from New York: Same as above.

Baggage Weight: 44 lbs per person.

Eligibility: Only dues paying members of 2nd Air Division Association and members of their immediate household. (i.e. parents living in the same household as member; spouses or dependent children). I'm sorry that we cannot include friends.

Flight Insurance: I was unable to obtain blanket insurance other than that normally carried by the Charter Airline; however, you can obtain extra flight coverage at the Air Terminal prior to take-off in amounts of your own choosing.

Life Insurance: If you desire extra life insurance coverage you can contact your life insurance representative for this. This would also be the case if you want extra coverage from what you already have for Health and Accident Insurance.

Electric Shavers: It has been suggested that if you plan to take an electric shaver with you to purchase an Overseas Adapter Kit prior to your departure.

Purchase of automobiles: If any of you are planning on purchasing an English made automobile while you are over there, Percy has obtained the following information. Shipping freight would be about \$140.00 and the duty would be 7½% on the wholesale price.

BALANCE OF CHARTER FLIGHT RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 10 MARCH 1963

Please make checks payable to SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION and mail to:

Hathy Veynar
Charter Flight Chairman
6018 Hemingway Road
Dayton 24, Ohio

Passports: Make plans now to get your passport. The applications can be obtained at your nearest Federal Court.

I believe that I have covered all the information that I have at this time regarding the Charter Flight to Norwich for the Dedication Ceremonies.

We will get back to our original format for the Newsletter as soon as the Charter Flight has been successfully launched.

Now that you have finished reading this Newsletter, how about filling out the Charter Flight Reservation and mailing it to me by return mail if it is your desire to join in this memorable Dedication Ceremony. I am working on a 10 March 1963 deadline so you can see that it is imperative that I know your desires immediately.

See y'all in Norwich!!

Hathy Veynar
Hathy Veynar