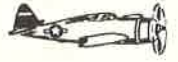




# NEWSLETTER



VOL I

JAN 1967

Dear Troops,

You'll never know how much I wish this were someone else writing this Newsletter. I'm almost ashamed to sign my name at the end because I know that you have been wondering why you haven't heard what happened at the Reunion and what's going on with the Second Air Division Association. I could think of lots of excuses to save my neck but I don't think you would enjoy reading them. The entire blame is mine and I do hope that you will accept my apologies.

Of necessity, I am going to have to refuse any nominations for Publicity Vice President this next year. I have enjoyed bringing you the news of happenings of the 2nd Air Division Association since around 1958 but the last three years have worked a hardship on me since my daughter was born with the inability to manufacture cortisone and it has been a constant source of worry even though we have the best medical attention in the world for her. Actually, I should not have been accepting the nomination for this job, but the fact that the 2nd Air Division Association is very close to my heart made it hard to refuse. My daughter is not seriously ill but invariably when it is time to get another Newsletter out she will have some sort of upset and there goes my trend of thought. So I shall have to do my part for the Association where I am not held down to a definite schedule.

The reason why I have told you this is so that you will be seriously thinking about whom you would like to nominate for the Publicity Vice President for the year 1968 and either let me know before the Reunion in June or Col. Charles Merrill our new president. If any one of you, or several of you would like to do this please let me know and it will relieve my mind no end to know that someone is willing to do this for the Association.

Now that I have taken care of the unpleasant part, I shall go on to much pleasanter subjects such as a report on the past Reunion in Dayton, Ohio and the upcoming one to be held in Washington, D.C. this June.

Paul Trissel, the Reunion Chairman in Dayton, Ohio last year couldn't have done a better job if he had tried. It was Paul's first attendance at a reunion coupled with the chairmanship. Everything was so beautifully planned and went off like clockwork. We were very definitely expected in Dayton with newspaper, radio and TV coverage. Buses (Air Force) took us from the hotel out to Wright-Patterson AFB to visit the Air Force Museum. Paul had arranged special permission for the B-24 to be opened and we were allowed to go through. I'm sure it brought back

both pleasant and unpleasant memories as the boys climbed aboard the B-24. The TV cameras were grinding away and we saw ourselves again that evening on the late news.

Our banquet speaker was Maj. Gen. ROLLEN H. ANTHIS Commander of the U. S. Air Force Headquarters Command, Bolling AFB, D.C. Maj. Gen. Anthis gave a very informative talk on the 2nd Air Division in Vietnam which he commanded from 1961 to 1964. It was like comparing the old and the new. He also showed films of Vietnam where the 2nd Air Division was active.

Those who attended the Reunion were as follows: Warren & Steve Alberts, Hq. 2AD; Mr & Mrs Glen Alexander, 466th BG; Frederick H. Beard, 44th BG; Mr & Mrs Raymond Betcher, 467th BG; Mr & Mrs Melvin L. Bland, 467th BG; Lt. Col. John H. Blumenstock (Ret) 466th BG; Mr & Mrs Vernon Bundrock, 467th BG; Mr & Mrs Joseph Campbell, 466 & 389th BG; Evelyn Cohen, Hq. 2AD; Mr & Mrs Ken Darney, 467th BG; Mr & Mrs Robert DeKerf, 467th BG; Mr & Mrs Elmer Fischer, 445th BG; Mr & Mrs Walter Gibson, 93rd & 389th BG; Mr & Mrs Paul Halecki, 446th BG; Mr & Mrs Lloyd Haug, 467th BG; Dr & Mrs John Jacobowitz, 466th BG; John P. Karoly & son, Hq. 2AD; Mr & Mrs Julius Klinkbeil, 466th BG; Mr & Mrs Paul J. Kuchinski, 467th BG; John M. McCaslin, Jr. 44th BG; Nicholas Meslonik, 445th BG; Col. & Mrs Charles T. Merrill, 93rd BG; Charles Mintzloff, 467th BG; John Oder, 467th BG; Mr & Mrs J. A. Risley, 446th BG; Mr & Mrs Ronald Robson, 466th BG; Anthony J. Schlonski, 445th BG; Mrs. Kenneth Smith, Associate 56th FG; Lt Col & Mrs Richard B. Smith (Ret) 389th BG; Mr & Mrs Adam Soccio, 467th BG; David F. Sweeney, 446th BG; Dr & Mrs Thomas J. Thomas, 446th BG; Mr & Mrs Paul Trissel, 389th BG; Jordan R. Uttal, Hq. 2AD; Lt. Gen. Charles B. Westover, Hq. 2AD & 448th BG; Joseph B. Whittaker, Hq. 2AD & 392nd BG; Percy C. Young, Hq. 2AD; Mr & Mrs Henry P. Lemmon, 467th BG; John A. Jakob, 466th BG; William Beam, 467th BG; Mr & Mrs Dean Moyer, Hq. 2AD; George J. Weaver, 389th BG; "Fritzie" Snyder, Hq. 2AD; Robert E. Chapin, 389th BG; James T. Wakley, 491st BG; Raymond Warner, 93rd BG; Charles Steinacker, 446th BG and Lt Col & Mrs Milton Y. Veynar (Ret), Hq. 2AD.

The Minutes of the Meeting will be published in the next Newsletter which will be coming out in February along with the Treasurer's Report.

The following officers were elected for the year 1967:

Colonel Charles T. Merrill - President  
7529 Windsor Drive, Washington, D. C.

Raymond A. Hess - Executive V-P & Treasurer  
Kingsley, Iowa

Raymond E. Strong - Executive Secretary  
102 Bradley Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Evelyn Cohen - Membership Vice President  
5448 Euclid Ave.  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Hathy Veynar - Publicity Vice President  
4915 Bristow Drive  
Annandale, Virginia

It was voted at the meeting that the Reunion for 1967 would be held in Washington, D. C. on 23, 24 and 25 June 1967.

Plans are already underway for the 1967 Reunion and tentative plans are to have it at the Sheraton-Park. Final details will be forthcoming. The "Air Force Singing Sergeants" have already agreed to entertain at the Banquet. Those of you who heard them at one of our Banquets will be looking forward to hearing them again and those of you who haven't have a treat in store.

One of the highlights of our Reunion in Dayton was the attendance of six members of the crew of the "Witchcraft". To my knowledge, this is the first time that we have had so many from one crew at the same time.

The "Witchcraft" was with the 790th Sq. of the 467th BG and those attending the reunion were:

John Oder - Co-Pilot  
Charles Mitzlaff - Navigator  
Robert DeKerf - Engineer & Waist Gunner  
Mel Bland - Radioman & Waist Gunner  
Vernon Bundrock - Top Turret Gunner  
Raymond Betcher - Ground Crew

Unfortunately the picture that was taken by the B-24 at the Reunion could not be reproduced for this Newsletter because it was not clear enough. However, the original picture of the crew can be.



Back Row - L to R - Lt Jack Kraemer; Lt Charles Mitzlaff; Lt John Oder and Lt. George Reed  
Bottom Row - L to R - S/Sgt Bob DeKerf; Sgt Mel Bland; Sgt Vernon Bundrock; Sgt Kubacek; Sgt McLean and Sgt McEwen



Left to Right

M/Sgt Joe Ramirez  
Cpl Joe Vetter  
Sgt Ray Betcher  
S/Sgt George Dong

## Bits AND Chips

### Hq, 2 Air Div

BILL COBURN sent me a couple of clippings from the newspapers with publicity about NORWOOD C. MIDDLETON being named Salem, Virginia "Dad of the Year" and another one stating that he had been elected President of the Virginia Press Association. I quite agree with you that we should try to get him to join us and give our Association a little of that publicity. RAY FOOTE writes that he seems to have missed too many gatherings - especially Norwich and that life goes on busily since he retired with three sons, six grandchildren and more to come. He has done some traveling which included a trip to Hawaii and Far East last winter. HAL HOERNER is just a "little bit" pleased with "PEACHES" and her recent winning at the Art Show. "Congratulations and may you win many more. How about sending us some pictures for inclusion in the Newsletter? CHESTER SCHMIDT sent "Greetings" to the troops from his new home in Arcadia, California. He included a clipping from the Wall Street Journal on the Ecumenical Council Changes - - - "Monsignor EDWARD J. SEWARD, financial secretary of Cleveland's Catholic Diocese, thinks costs will run even higher. "Once pastors decide to make liturgical remodeling changes they'll be inclined to do a lot of other things," he says." Lt. Gen. CHARLES B. WESTOVER has been busy signing up new members for the Second Air Division Association whenever he can.

### 93 BOMB GP

Major JOSEPH D. ROURE by a strange coincidence is now assigned to the same organization (now the 93rd Bombardment Wing, Heavy (SAC)), as a B-52 electronic warfare officer. In February 1945, Cpl Joseph D. Roure joined the 93rd Bombardment Group at Hardwick. Assigned to the 328th Squadron, flew 14 missions, as a B-24 waist gunner. Remained with the 93rd for retraining as B-29 scanner at Pratt until discharged in February 1946. Received Reserve commission as a wartime first-three-grader and recalled in May 1951. Completed Electronic Countermeasures school at Keesler and flew 38 combat missions over North Korea in RB-26's. July 1965, then stationed at Wurtsmith AFB, Michigan received orders for assignment to the 328th Bomb. Squadron, 93rd Bombardment Wing at Castle AFB, California but was actually assigned to the 329th after his arrival. The 329th had been the "Lead Squadron" at Hardwick. He has since been transferred to Wing Headquarters as Chief of the Penetration Aids Branch, and is now awaiting orders for the Reconnaissance Center at Headquarters, SAC, Omaha. The "new" 93rd is presently comprised of the 328th and 329th Bomb Squadrons; the 330th is now at March AFB, Calif., where they moved from Castle three or four years ago. The fourth squadron (409th?) was apparently never reactivated after the 93rd left Pratt. The 93rd is SAC's "Training Command" for B-52 crews and simultaneously upholds an Emergency War Order commitment, as do all other SAC units, and he will gladly supply any other unclassified information is any desires it.

### 389 BOMB GP

EDWARD C. GRIFFIN has been ill since the spring of 1962 and has just recently gotten out of the VA Hospital and is able to work again. He is hoping that one day he may be able to visit the Memorial in Norwich and also visit the Hethel area. DAL HOWARD writes that he has lost all contact with his old crew except FRANCIS "Pop" WILLIAMS and that he visited him back in 1951. He wrote ahead telling "Pop" that he would be arriving by bus at such and such a time. As soon as he stepped off the bus he was arrested on some sort of a trumped up charge and he asked to call "Pop" - No dice. Half an hour later the Mayor came down and unlocked the cell. Who? "Pop" WILLIAMS. After 9 years in the Air Force Dal resigned and has been sorry since, but he did get back to "Hethel Airdrome" while on B-29 TDY at Lakenheath. Bought a motor-bike while there and rode it "home". Mendenhal didn't look the same, nor did the Base. The woods were gone, hangers full of grain and the Q huts housed civilians. The runways were still there and he rode up and down once thru the grass that had grown up. Couldn't find the fence at one end. Guess

they didn't replace it after we dragged it out on take-off one heavy laden flight. I am now a letter carrier, still working for the government and will retire in 9 yrs 9 months and 21 days. I thought I'd never want to fly again after leaving the AF but three years ago I got my private pilots license and 1/6 owner in a 4-place Cessna. So here I am. Once Air Force, always a lover of the air. LOWELL MINCH was unable to attend the Reunion in Dayton as he had planned because just a week before the Reunion his seven year old son was injured in a hay-wagon accident breaking a rib and fracturing his vertebrae. He sent his greetings to everyone and hopes that he may be able to be with us this year.

## 392 Bomb Gr

Lt. Col. C. P. BURTNER, JR has been assigned to Hq. Air Procurement Region, Far East (APRFE) as Officer-In-Charge, Tokyo Contract Management Office. He and his wife and two of their three children are living adjacent to Tachikawa Air Base (near Tokyo). His oldest son (now 22) graduated February 1966 from Air Force OTS, Lackland AFB as Distinguished Military Graduate and was OTS Wing Commander. He is now in pilot training at Laughlin AFB, Del Rio, Texas learning to be a jet-jockey. 2AD was, of course, recently changed to 7th Air Force, but I still feel we are supporting 2AD - Nostalgia!! Sorry I couldn't be at Dayton. But maybe that's where we will retire in 1969 when we must separate from active duty! As of April 1965 am one of those hip-pocket colonels - but on active duty a Lt. Col.

## 446 Bomb Gr

JOHN E. BARRY and his wife Esther live at 1625 Barry Road, Chattanooga, Tenn. with their children David (19), Benny (17) and Douglas (12). John was a pilot with the 446th and is now a civil engineer.

## 467 Bomb Gr

JOSEPH W. HANSON sent his greetings to every one. In one of the Newsletters he noticed where ALLEN WELTER was inquiring about some of the 467th BG and 789th Sqdn and one was a Major HARRY A. CALDWELL who was Executive Officer of the 789th. Major Caldwell was reassigned to some outfit on the continent in the spring of 1945. I have not heard from him since that time, and am interested in any information concerning the Major and if an address is available, I would appreciate very much if I could get it. I was 1st Sgt of the 789th under Major Caldwell. PAUL KUCHINSKY was able to get the following item in the Bryantville, Mass. paper: "Air Force Reunion" Mr & Mrs Paul Kuchinsky of Old Rd., Bryantville, have returned from Dayton, Ohio, where they attended the 20th Annual Reunion of the 8th Air Force B-24 Second Air Division of World War II. While there they toured the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Air Force Museum, boarded a B-24, and also enjoyed many other activities that were included in the reunion. Mr. Kuchinsky is interested in locating other members of the 8th Air Force who live in this area for future get-togethers or possibly information regarding members of this division, and would appreciate being contacted by writing to him at Box 413, Bryantville. Mr. Kuchinsky was in the 791st Squadron. The reunion next year will be in Washington, D. C. CHARLES H. MINTZLAFF would like to pass on the following information: A complete history of the 467th Bomb Group was done by the following: ALLAN HEALY, 1104 Greenwood Street, Evanston, Illinois and published by E. L. Hildreth & Co., Inc., Brattleboro, Vermont". He will be looking forward to our reunion in Washington, D. C. ADAM SOCCIO who has spent a tremendous amount of time and money contacting former members of the 467th Bomb Group sends his personal greetings to everyone. Colonel ION S. WALKER and Mrs. Walker visited the Memorial in the Norwich Library during his recent trip to England. We enjoyed seeing Mr & Mrs F. R. D. Walter, he is the Clerk to the Governors, Mr. R.Q. Gurney Chairman of the Memorial Trust Committee, and Mr & Mrs Cecil Gowing, who is a member of the Board of Governors. Mr. Gowing owns a good portion of Rackheath, the home of the 467th Bomb Group, and he was tearing up a water line that was in use in the 790th squadron area. We had lunch with the Gowings and toured the airdrome, which is rapidly becoming a farm again. It was a real treat to see

Jack Bunkel, Clerk of the Rackheath council, and his family - he was a great help to us during WW II. The library needs books - may I suggest that anyone of our members who is so disposed would help the situation greatly by sending a copy of local history or any other good book telling about the good old U.S.A. I plan to send one about Mobile right away. Incidentally the name of the donor will be noted in the copy donated and recorded as a gift in the general ledger kept for that purpose. I highly recommend anyone going to England make a side trip to Norwich to see the Memorial - it is an enriching experience.

CECIL GOWING, one of the English Trustees of the 2nd Air Division Memorial at Norwich, wrote extend-and invitation to any of our old friends of the 467th Group who find themselves in Norfolk that we would be delighted to see them. They were planning a short time with Thomas Goodyear, Springfield Center, New York and were pleased to have seen Col. Ion Walker while he was over there. Cecil Gowing's address is Rackheath Park, Norwich, Norfolk, England.

## 489 Bomb Gr

HENRY G. BETHKE has been having more than his share of illness and operations in his family during the past year and we hope that 1967 will treat him more kindly.

## ASSOCIATE

Mrs. ROSE LERNER wrote that she had a most interesting and much looked forward to a trip to Norwich, Cambridge and many countries in Europe. She arrived in Norwich and found the people most friendly and pleasant. I particularly want you to know that Mr. Walters who I had communicated with on several occasions was kind to take time off to show me around the Memorial and many of the interesting Historical places. The Memorial Library was most interesting and I spent some time browsing through the books and noting many people doing the same. I also had the good fortune to call and meet a fine family in Norwich whose ancestors settled there in the 1840's, Mr. Henry Levine and family who made my stay most pleasant for which I am most grateful. Mr. Walters invited me to the American Lecture, Comparing the Incomparable - English and American Education by Prof. V. Rogers, which regrettably I could not attend because of the sudden Seaman's Strike which prompted me to leave sooner than expected. I must admit that this trip will hold pleasant memories with me forever. If in the future the 2nd Air Division will return for another reunion, I would hope to be among the first to join since I was one of the group who did not make it. I should like to see more of Norwich, Cambridge and other parts of England.

## NEW MEMBERS

Anthis, Maj. Gen. Rollen H., Commander HDQ Command Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C. Honorary Member

Barry, John E., 1625 Barry Road, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37412 446th BG

Chapin, Robert F., Route 2, Norwalk, Ohio 389th BG

Frye, William K. M.D., P.O. Box F, Etowah, Tennessee 467th BG

Goldsmith, Edward, 4853 Enfield Street, Skokie, Ill. 60076 467th BG 445th BG 492nd BG

Haenn, Joseph W., 14 E. Hellberg Ave, Chalfont, Pa. 18914 467th BG

Jakab, Lt. Col. John A., 6848 Highfield Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45415 466th BG

Kuchinski, Paul, Box 413, Bryantville, Mass. 467th BG

Lehmen, Henry P., 1006 Ellendale St, Kalamazoo, Mich. 467th BG

Longnecker, James R., 309 S. High St., Covington, Ohio  
392nd BG

Maslonik, Nicholas, 440 Pardee Place, Dayton, Ohio  
45431 445th BG

Mintzloff, Charles, 3387 S. Princeton Ave., Milwaukee,  
Wisconsin 53215 467th BG

McLaughlin, Robert, 15 Cline Road, Victor, New York  
467th BG

Nixon, Lt. Col. Robert O., 6216 Falkland Drive, Dayton,  
Ohio 45424 458th BG

Oder, John, 222 N. Hillcrest Drive, Minden, Nebraska  
68959 467th BG

Roure, Major Joseph D., 3334 El Capitan Court, Merced,  
California 95340 93rd BG

Thomas, Dr. Thomas J., 294 Hathaway Road, Dayton, Ohio  
446th BG

Walton, Col. Alfred V., Quarters 606-A, Gunter AFB,  
Alabama Hq 2AD

Warner, Raymond, 513 McIntire Drive, Fairborn, Ohio  
93rd BG

Weaver, George J., 4319 Woodbine Drive, Dayton, Ohio  
389th BG

Williams, Francis, Box 126, Inverness, Florida  
389th BG

Fosler, John, Route 1 - 876 Blackfoot Trail, Jamestown,  
Ohio 466th BG

Terenje, Walter J., P.O. Box 125, Orange, Texas  
446th BG

We were sorry to hear of the passing of one of our Associate Members Harold L. Newell, Sr. of Paul Smith's, New York whose son was honored by our Living Memorial in the American Room of the Norwich Library.

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Would you please check the roster to be sure that your name, address and group are listed correctly. Some of you belonged to several different groups and if we have listed you in a group not of your preference please let Evelyn Cohen, 5448 Euclid Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. know so that we may correct it on the next roster.

Now that the roster has been compiled by the Groups, it should make it easier for you to see who is missing from your Group and see if you can't help build up the membership.

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I don't know how I could have forgotten one of the most important parts of our Reunion in Dayton aside from the fact that every seemed to have a good time as usual and that is for the second year in a row we came out in the black with approximately \$10.69. This in itself is an accomplishment since we try our best to keep the costs low yet with quality thus making it possible for everyone to attend the Reunions. With prices as high as they are, I think we do very well.

Thanks again, Paul, for all the hard work that you put into the Reunion and it was a most successful one. We'll do our best to return the hospitality here in Washington, D. C. in June. Hope to see you and Reta then.

*Change of Address*



Bilby, Lt Col. B. B., 678th Radar Sqdn, Tyndall AFB,  
Florida

Brogger, J. J., Brogger Associates, Inc., 815 Conn.  
Ave, NW, Washington, D. C. 20006

Culin, M/Sgt William M., 244 Sell Street, Johnstown,  
Pa. 15905

Hamilton, John T., II, Wolver Hollow Road, Rt Ripley  
Lane, Glen Head, Long Island, N. Y. 11545

Hinckley, Cyril J., Rt 1 - Box 13, Montgomery, La.  
71454

Roche, Col. John R., 9238 Chapel Terrace, Fairfax, Va.  
22030

Rosenbaum, Mrs. Bertha E., 1111 Second St. - Apt 701  
Santa Monica, California

Young, Dr. John D., 330 Ransom Lane, Memphis, Tenn.  
38117

PLAN

NOW

FOR

WASHINGTON, D.C.

23

24

25

JUNE

1967

**ADDITIONS +**

Borland, David D., 13110 Glen Brae Drive, Saratoga,  
California 95070 389th BG

Griffin, Edward C., 1514 4th Ave, East, Bradenton,  
Florida 389th BG

Johnson, Raymond D., 5192 N. Bryn Mawr Ave., Fresno 5,  
California 389th BG

Moore, Kenneth J., Box 206, Porterville, California,  
93259 44th BG

*Hathy Veynar*  
Hathy Veynar  
Publicity Vice President