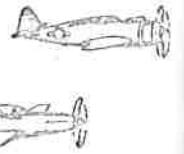


NEWSLETTER



Volume 9, Number 4

SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

June, 1971

Williamsburg Set To Welcome Two Hundred At Twenty-Fourth Reunion

British Hoping For Association Reunion Next Year

Mr. Alfred A. Jenner, Director and Group Editor-in-Chief, Eastern Counties Newspapers Limited, Norwich England has advised the Newsletter that Norwich would greatly look forward to a renewed association with the American Veterans whom they knew so well and admired so much.

On May 4, 1971 British newspapers carried an article noting that the American Second Air Division Association is to ballot their members on whether to hold the 1972 reunion in Norwich. This article cited the recent visit made by Jordan Uttal to the Memorial Library, and that Jordan had returned to the states reporting that our Association would be most welcomed. A report by Jordan of his visit is anticipated for publication in the Newsletter in the near future.

Memorial Room

Mr. Jenner said the following concerning the Memorial Room: "Of one thing you can be certain - your Memorial Room in the Norwich library is greatly valued and enjoyed by the local people. I often visit it myself and have never been there alone. Always there are a fair number of people enjoying the unusual atmosphere of international friendship that the room induces, enjoying the tremendous range of American

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Air Museum Medallions Honor Liberators

On sale at the Air Force Museum Gift Shop, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio is a series of medallions commemorating highlights of Air Force history. Among these is a handsome medallion having on its face the profiles of General Arnold and General Spaatz. The reverse portrays a B-24 Liberator on a mission raid.



Spaatz, Arnold, and the European Air War

Commerative of the European Air War, this is one of the distinguished set in which Second Air Division Association will be particularly interested.

A complete list of the war medallions available at the Museum can be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Air Force Museum Gift Shop, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433.

The World War II medallions will be shipped postpaid and with tax for \$5.53 each, and the Apollo medals sell for \$7.74 postpaid with tax included.

The Second Air Division Association Assembly Ship will begin its orbit over Williamsburg, Virginia at 1400 on July 16. Rendezvous point for the Association's 24th Annual Reunion is the Hospitality Room of the Hilton Inn, 1600 Richmond Road. Reunion Chairman Hathy Venar advises our hospitality room has been assigned to the Association from 1400, July 16 until 1200, July 18. This will permit twenty-four hour a day hangar flying by the heartier members, and a focal point for all attendees.

44th Banquet on 16th

Headed by Bill Robertie, a 44th Bomb Group Committee has arranged a magnificent Cocktail Party - Banquet starting at 1830 on July 16th for their Group. A special 44th Hospitality Room has been set up for these festivities. Retired General Leon W. Johnson has been scheduled as the guest of honor and speaker.

This will be the first time within recent memory when one group has been able to arrange a gathering of its own members in such strength. Individual crew and organizational reunions within the general Association reunion plans are an encouraging incentive to increasing membership of the entire organization.

Board Meets Saturday

The Association Executive Board headed by President Ken Darney will meet from 0900 to 1000 on Saturday, July 17. Following this

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Second Air Division Association Eighth Air Force

OFFICERS

President KENNETH A. DARNEY
4510 Ridge Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21236

Vice President -
Membership EVELYN COHEN
Apartment 404, 2555 Welsh Road
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144

Vice President -
Newsletter C. PAUL BURTNER, JR.
10900 Gainsborough Road, Potomac, Maryland 20854

Vice President - Executive
Committee Coordination GLENN TESSMER
66 Colonial Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776

Secretary RAYMOND E. STRONG
320 Burlage Circle, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

Treasurer DEAN E. MOYER
549 East Main Street, Evans City, Pennsylvania 16033

The President's Corner

Dear 2nd Air Division Members:

As my term as President draws to a close I realize I haven't lived up to one of my campaign promises, namely 2AD pins. I am still trying to find the name and address of the company that made them for us several years ago. If anyone has this information I would appreciate them dropping me a line, so I can order more pins.

I am happy to announce that 209 new members have been added to our ranks in the past year. In 24 years we have grown from the 10 original founders to better than 700 members. The thing that makes me even happier is the number who will be attending our reunion this year. At last count we have 150 members and their families who have made reservations for our get together in Williamsburg. I am looking forward to seeing all my old friends and meeting many new members at our reunion. Thanks to all those who have worked so hard at increasing our membership.

To date I haven't received any comments from anyone on the by-laws and amendments so I will assume that everyone is in agreement with them. At our business meeting in July we will be voting on the amendments so if they are passed we will incorporate them and have new copies of the by-laws sent to all members. This is probably a dull subject to some of us but all good organizations must have rules to govern them.

Frank Manza reports that to date he has received approximately 200 cards from members concerning the '72 reunion. The odds are about 8 to

1 in favor of a reunion with our English friends in Norwich. Our 25th Anniversary Reunion will most certainly be the best in the history of our association.

Since this will be my last Newsletter I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who have helped make my term in office a very pleasant one. Things always go smoothly when you have a good group to work with.

Sincerely,
Kenneth A. Darney
President 2 AD.

Reunion. . .

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will be the general meeting for all members at 1030 hours, in the general hospitality room. Key business scheduled will be voting on the site for the 1972 reunion, discussion of association by-laws, reports by officers of the past year's accomplishments and future Association plans.

Big Banquet Wing-Ding

A general cocktail hour starting at 1830 Saturday evening will signal the start of what promises to be the largest Association banquet in many years.

A 15-man element of the USAF band from Langley Air Force Base will herald the commencement of banquet festivities planned to begin at 1930. This outstanding group is arranging a special program of music for the occasion.

Brigadier General Thomas P. Coleman (USAF) Deputy Director, Secretary of the Air Force Office of Information, will be the guest speaker for this twenty-fourth reunion banquet.

Advance information reaching the Newsletter at press time is that several significant and surprising announcements may be made from the head table regarding association affairs. It is also anticipated new officers for the coming year will be introduced. Following the banquet, dancing until midnight is scheduled.

Sunday Disbursement

The Hospitality Room is expected to provide a rally point until noon Sunday, July 18 after which disbursement of the troops will begin. Hilton Inn accommodations were virtually sold-out over a month ago

indicating there may be a problem for those hoping to attend the weekend but who have not reserved room. In any event, it is hoped that the names of each of the more than 700 association members will be on the register of attendees.

Norwich. . .

(Continued from Page 1)

literature now assembled there, and invariably someone is reverently inspecting the days page in the Roll of Honour. When strangers come to Norwich I always tell them not to miss the American Room and they always comment most favourably on it."

Seventy More Join Formation

The continued phenomenal growth of the Association has surprised even the most enthusiastic optimists. Seventy members have been added to the roster since the last Newsletter and more continue to arrive daily. Most importantly, almost without exception each new member has expressed his great pleasure in the renewal of old acquaintances. This is a major objective of the Association, and one which has had an increasing resurgence.

A typical remark came from Bob Stone, bombardier-navigator with the 492nd and 467th, now a Civil Engineer with the Air Force overseas. Said Bob, "Great! haven't heard from anyone in 25 years!" Bob's crew took "Witchcraft" on its 100th Mission. Of the total new members advised to the Newsletter, the 44th, 93rd, 389th, 453rd, 446th, 453rd, 458th, 466th, 467th, 492nd, and Headquarters were all represented.

Identifying potential new members and interesting them in membership is only the start of the job. Joined by other officers of the association, President Ken Darney recently said: "Evelyn Cohen, our membership chairman, certainly deserves the accolades of the entire Association for her tireless work in making this Association growth possible."

The Newsletter Added: "AMEN!"

Look Who's Here!!

The Association proudly welcomes the following seventy crew members back into the formation. We are looking forward to seeing all at the July reunion at Williamsburg, Virginia.

Headquarters

MIDDLETON, Norwood C., 1149 Forest Lawn Drive, Salem, Va. 24153

44th Bomb Group

ALBERT, Major William W., USAF, (Ret.), 18 Heard Dr., Greenville, S.C. 29605
 BARNETT, Thomas J., 4739 Dunrobin Ave., Lakewood, Calif. 90713
 BLAIR, R.O., 26900 Nugent St., Boron, Calif. 93516
 BRENNAN, Francis W., 4 Winding Way, No. Caldwell, N.J. 07006
 BROWN, Charles J., RD 1, Rexford, N.Y. 12148
 BYERS, John F., 3022 Sherman Ave., North Bend, Oregon 97459
 CHASE, Donald V., 1067 Woodward Ave., South Bend, Ind. 46616
 CHRISTOPHER, Edward P., 505 Main St., Watertown, Mass. 02172
 CUNNINGHAM, Charles E., Jr., 4925 Ferro St., Long Beach, Calif. 90808
 DERR, LTC. Merritt E., Box 417A - RD 1, Barto, Pa. 19504
 DIPIERO, Ivo F., 617 W. Warrior Dr., Round Lake, Ill. 60073
 FAIETTI, Albert, 21 Webster St., Middleboro, Mass. 02346
 GIBSON, Brig. Gen. John H. (Ret.), 7008 Gateridge Drive, Dallas, Texas 75240
 GUEBARD, Virgil R., 3646 Spruce Drive, Fort Wayne, Ind. 46809
 HALBERT, Charles J., The Equitable Life Assoc. Society of the U.S., 1285 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10018
 HAND, Arthur A., 517 Elm St., Paris, Ill. 61944
 HARVILLE, Oscar Burl, 6842 State Line Rd., Germantown, Tenn. 38038
 HAWKINS, William F., 9420 S. Budlong Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90044
 HILL, O.K. (Kady), Jr., Box 115, Garrison, Iowa 52229
 JAY, Alfred W., 116 Marvella Drive, N.E., Canton, Ohio 44714

KIEFER, Norman C., 14848 Greenbriar Court, Plymouth, Mich. 48170
 LOFTUS, Charles R., Jr., Logan-Milton Hershey School, Hershey, Pa. 17033
 LOWENTHAL, Gerald, 97 E. Huron St., Maywood, Ill., 60153
 McCASH, David E., 3612 Valleybrink Rd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90039
 PARSHALL, Raymond H., 1011 El Sur Way, Sacramento, Calif. 95825
 PATTERSON, Col. James F., USAF (Ret.), 19 Cummings Court, Metuchen, N.J. 08840
 POWELL, Norman Albert, Box 182, Townshend, Vt. 05353
 SAND, Chris, Jr., 701 N. Harrington Dr., Fullerton, Calif. 92631
 SCARLETT, Theodore B., 509 Virginia Ave., Erie, Pa. 16505
 SEIG, Stanley E., 100 Holbrook St., Harrisburg, Pa. 17109
 STANFORD, Henry T., RT 1, Guntown, Miss. 38849
 UNDERWOOD, Dan W., 2535 S. State, Springfield, Ill. 62701
 STAPLES, C.W., 2729 S. 51st Terr., Kansas City, Kansas 66106

WHISENAND, Norman R., 300 N. Jackson, Odessa, Texas 79760
 WICKHAM, William G., 221 E. Lakeview Blvd., Erie Pa. 16504
 ZITSMAN, E.J., Jr., 539 Davis Ave., Rochester, Pa. 15074

93rd Bomb Group

ALBA, Col. A.V., USAF (Ret.), 8412 Blakiston La., Alexandria, Va. 22308
 BROD, I. Jack, Twin Lakes Lane, Riverside, Conn. 06878
 COLVIN, Kirkwood G., 4817 Lennox Ave., Sherman Oaks, Calif. 91403
 THEOS, James, 63 Elm St., Goffstown, N.H. 03045

389th Bomb Group

BLAKEMAN, Paul W., 2303 Montgomery St., Louisville, Ky. 40212
 BLOCK, Herbert, 2506 S. Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402
 DOYLE, Francis Patrick, Box 181, Pesotum, Ill. 61863
 EBERS, Harry W., 1108 Allen Pl., Chester, Ill. 62233
 FRANKINBURGER, James H., 1537 S. Benton St., Palatine, Ill. 60067
 JACOBI, Norman H., 129 East Ward St., Versailles, Ohio 45380

KOPP, Albert A., 914 Joy Ave., Rapid City, S. Dak. 57701
 LYONS, Mr. Howard A., 860 86th St., S., Birmingham, La. 35206
 RUGGIERO, Domenick R., 1249 S. Raritan St., Denver, Colo. 80223

445th Bomb Group

DAVIS, William T., 2463 Niagara Ave., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14305
 LONG, Eldon, 167 Highland Ave., Galesburg, Ill. 61401
 OELIRTMAN, Russell, 410 E. Wood St., Versailles, Ohio 45380
 QUEENAN, John E., Jr., 307 W. Broad St., Burlington, N.J. 08016

446th Bomb Group

ELKS, Shelton T., 328 Vandenberg St., Washington, D.C. 20332
 GAJAN, Stephen A., LCL. USAF (Ret.), 3647 Tolenas Ct., Sacramento, Calif., 95825
 MATERKA, Stanley, 11943 Rossiter, Detroit, Mich. 48224

453rd Bomb Group

THOMALE, Albert L., 4804 Troth St., Mira Loma, Calif. 91752
 WIGFIELD, George E., 9427 Mauck Court, Fairfax, Va. 22030

458th Bomb Group

COOK, Warren G., Box 336, Oscoda, Mich. 48750
 FREIBERG, Louis, 20155 Van Aken Blvd., Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122
 HILL, Howard R., 33 Alan Rd., S. Hamilton, Mass. 01936
 VALENTINE, Carl John, 2421 Lincoln Ave., Parma, Ohio 44134

466th Bomb Group

FLOWERS, James H., 712 Magnolia St., New Smyrna Beach, Fla. 30269

467th Bomb Group

FLAGG, Robert C., 276 Deborah Lane, Bedford, Ohio 44146
 McKAY, Roderick J., P.O. Box 1491, Auburn, Calif. 95603
 MINCH, Ray, 7520 Valley Villas Drive, Parma, Ohio 44130
 NEWHOUSE, James Keith, 1211 E. Ridgeway Dr., Fayetteville, Ark. 72701

492nd Bomb Group

STONE, Robert M., Jr., JUSMAG-K (AF Sec.) Box 144, APO San Francisco, Calif. 96276

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448th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Harrigan Thinks Thirteen Was Lucky— Newsletter Agrees

The October 1970 Association Roster lists thirteen members who served with the 448th Bombardment Group. While not claiming superstition for walking under ladders, black cats or in inexplicable omens, the Newsletter editor feels this an appropriate time to reprint excerpts from a column written by association member Herb Harrigan for the Philadelphia Inquirer in April 1970. Mr. Harrigan has given his approval for this reprint.

Viewpoint

13 Was Lucky

In 1945, Too;

A War Ended

By Herb Harrigan

Of the Editorial Page Staff

Unofficial notes from the 713th Squadron, 448th Bomb Group (Heavy), 8th U.S.A.A.F., Seething, Norfolk, England, covering activities of the month of April — 25 years ago:

April 4 Parchim, Germany airfield went over it without dropping. HAD to be visual and wasn't. Forty-five of our planes up today, five full squadrons, the most we've had in months. . . Bombed another airfield on the way home; excellent results. Jets attacked us for over half an hour. Two of our Liberators knocked down; one blew up, one smoked down in slow spiral (eight chutes counted).

April 5 — Bayreuth asinine mission all the way. Three-quarters of the time we were in 10/10 clouds which extended up to 28,000 feet. Many groups scrubbed, others had the sense to abort. Not us. Finally hit H2X (radar) target, marshaling yard. No flak or fighters on us, but "bandits in the area" again. Sweaty couple of hours. . . Tried coming back under clouds, lost the formation, just missed barrage balloons in Belgium (credit nose-gunner on that). Uncomfortable trip and long almost to Czechoslovakia, 30 or 40 miles in front of Patton. As

usual, we saw where he was by the towns burnings.

April 7 — Luneburg Munitions factory, Ordnance Depot and Storage Area. ME-262s through more than half the penetration. Attack after attack. Tailgunner and top turret (Michaels, Brumbaugh) got one. Only a miracle nobody in our group took a bad hit. Target properly hit, though concussion hoisted us a few feet at 18,500. .

April 11 — Regensburg — the airfield, visual. Long run, very little flak at town, none at the field. "Ban-

witz, Belsen and Dachau. And official VE Day on May 8.

By that time, Crew B-13, even luckier than Apollo 13 a world and a quarter-century later, was out on flak leave at last. The Eighth Air Force having run out of targets, the word to crews due was: "Wait for a dubious opening at a flak-rest center or take a pass and get outa here." They took.

Some of the crew went to Aberdeen, Scotland, returning with exclamations over the percentage of redheads there.

CAPSULE FACTS

CONSTITUTED: 448TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY), April 6, 1943

ACTIVATED: May 1, 1943

ENTERED COMBAT: December 22, 1943

LAST COMBAT MISSION: April 25, 1945. Marshalling Yard at Salzburg.

STATIONED IN ENGLAND: Seething

COMMANDERS: Colonels James M. Thompson, Gerry L. Mason, Charles B. Westover, Lester F. Miller, John G. Ericksen.

TAIL MARKINGS: Blue Diagonal Stripe on Yellow Background.

bandits in the area" but we didn't see them. Bombs hit effectively. Longish, but a milk run.

April 18 — Passau — on German-Austrian border, just south of Czechoslovakia on the Danube. Very long haul but no flak, no fighters.

April 21 Salzburg — abandoned mission (by order of division lead) when we were almost on the bomb run. Rotten weather throughout; lost our instruments (again) and came back at 200 feet across Germany and France. Landed for gas at Merville, France. Buzzed the Thames coming in. No flak, no fighters.

End of report, slightly delayed in transmission.

Subsequent events in the European Theater of Operations included the link-up of American and Russian troops at Torgau on the Elbe, splitting what was left of Germany on April 25; Hitler's "marriage" and suicide April 30 in the Chancellery in Berlin; the discoveries of Ausch-

The nose-gunner went off to see relatives in Northern Ireland, was invited to go the hell home by a drunken civilian in Belfast.

Back at the base, it was learned the local English would pay nothing for all the painfully accumulated bicycles. These were then put in big piles and run over by halftracks.

Battered old B24s were washed down with 100-octane gasoline in hopes they would make it back across the Atlantic with 20 men (double crews) and baggage. Most did, but Windsor Locks, Conn., was another long haul.

This, of course, was back in the days when wars ended. Thank God.

New Members. . .

(Continued from Page 3)

Unit Unknown

SHEARD, Alvin J., Col. USAF, (Ret.), 6245 Maxwell Dr., Washington, D.C. 20023