



SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION JOURNAL



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SECOND AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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L-O-V-E is A Wonderful Four Letter Word!!

The 2nd Air Division Association 36th Annual Convention

There is no "by-line" to this report of a truly outstanding Convention, because it is the result of input from several people, as well as bits of overheard conversation, and comments from mail received by the contributors.

That first evening, Thursday 26 May, tired as most of our nearly 600 were, we enjoyed a gala opening buffet dinner party at the Norwood Rooms, which many of us knew during our stay in Norwich as the Lido dance hall. There were scads of happy, jovial, and even tearful reunions of old friends, and we were once again impressed with the warmth of the greetings that were exchanged, not only between members of one's own group, but also with all the other friends we have made over the years.

Press coverage was excellent. In Friday's paper there were tales about crew members meeting for the first time, WACs coming together for the first time and various other human interest bits. Thru all these stories there was the common thread of what has drawn and kept us together, namely the 2nd Air Division Memorial Room which serves as a unique demonstration for all to see of our love — for those who perished — for each other, and for our country. Included in the coverage was the first mention of the possibility that Jimmy and Gloria Stewart might join us. Purposely this had been kept from the press to avoid as much as possible, a lot of intrusion on their privacy.

On Friday the 27th, in the very beautiful Church of St. Peter Mancroft, the scene, 20 years earlier of the original dedication of our Memorial, we witnessed and participated in a most moving service of Thanksgiving. It was to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Memorial and to dedicate new American and Eighth Air Force flags — replacements for those in the Memorial Room which had suffered from wear and tear.

The church was packed to overflowing with all of our party, local dignitaries, some of our personal friends, and many local citizens who came to pay their respects. Here again this was evidence, as we have had at all of our Norwich Con-

ventions, of the warm feeling that exists between the people of Norfolk and the 2nd Air Division Association. It was demonstrative of what proved to be the theme of the Convention, originated by Andy Low and slightly amended by David Hastings, "We came as friends, we stayed as friends, we left as friends and we have

remained friends." The ceremony was started by a dignified procession down the center aisle of the Church, led by the Lord Mayor, Mr. Leonard Stevenson, resplendent in his chains of office, accompanied by the Vicar, Rev. David Sharp. They were followed by Jordan Uttal and Tom Eaton, Andy Low and Mr. Timothy Colman and the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, Bill Robertie and Evelyn Cohen led the remainder of the Association Executive Committee. After the singing of the first hymn, the two new flags were carried to the altar with fitting dignity by Pete Henry and Dave Patterson.

Following the service, the procession moved to the Library, some 400 yards across from the Church. It was led by the standard bearers, Pete and Dave, and the entire party proceeded into the Memorial Room for the Bishop's prayer of presentation of the flags, and brief acceptance remarks by our president, Andy Low.

It was then that most of us had our first look at the bright, colorful, and to some, eye misting and throat choking, Individual Group Memorial addition to the room. The west wall is dominated by a huge photo mural of a B-24 group performing its mission. In each of 14 separate book shelf bays, we now have the colorful tail fins of the group, 4 mini tail fin shaped Squadron identifications, the Group number, and station name. Directly below this, in each bay there is a niche which holds the still uncompleted Group Roll of Honor, clearly marked with Group number and Station name,

with enough room in each for additional, appropriate Group historical data. Two other bays are identified respectively, as Headquarters, 2nd Air Division, and 65th Fighter Wing. The latter identifies the five Fighter groups by nose markings, Group numbers, and Station names.

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Dave Patterson and Pete Henry carry standards from church to Memorial room.

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Presidents Corner

In the few short weeks that I've been the 2nd Air Division Association's President, I've learned a great deal about the organization and the people in it. Especially about the people who make it go.

While you and I have been spending our time wondering whatever happened to old so-and-so, or why more of our old mess kit buddies don't show up on the Group rosters, the *Journal* has been showing up regularly each quarter; the annual reunions fall into place; the accounts are kept and the bills paid; and the Memorial Room continues to widen the scope of its services in East Anglia. Also in Norwich, the British Board of Governors works without fanfare to insure that the funds it receives are used to maximum advantage.

The reason that all these things go on, and that there are also Second Air Division Association lunches and dinners, and that 2ADA posters are distributed and mini-reunions held, is that there are people be-

hind the scenes, giving freely of their time and skills. You might call them the movers and shakers, and without them, the Association would soon die on the vine.

Of course, we cannot all be editors, or accountants, or planners. Some must lead so others will follow. But we can all contribute. We can all make more of an effort to find those people we miss — those potential members. We can put items in local newspapers, or contact veterans organizations; even check out the old Christmas card lists. We can all get our personal stories on the record through the cassette program, so that in future years the real history will be available, as only you and I can tell it. We can all take part.

I ask for your help, your ideas, your thoughts. Where is our Association headed? What are, or should be, our goals, our aims? Should we have goals? What are we doing that we shouldn't be, and vice versa? Get in touch with your Group Vice President. Get in the act. You'll find that you'll learn a lot, and enjoy it too. We need you!

CHARLIE FREUDENTHAL

Reunion (continued)

Lunch was a gala affair at the hotels. The Executive committee, and the Group Vice Presidents were privileged to attend a small luncheon given in their honor by the Lord Mayor at the City Hall. Both the Lord Mayor and Andy Low spoke briefly expressing our mutual pleasure in each others presence, and our mutual regard.

It was a rainy Saturday morning when the coaches (on time as almost always) deposited us at St. Andrews hall for our annual business meeting. The crowd was huge, and interested in all the proceedings which Andy, in his typical efficient manner kept moving speedily. Dean Moyer was unable to make the trip and his Treasurer's report will appear elsewhere in this *Journal*. Evelyn reported briefly on the growth of our membership to close to 4800. Bill Robertie was even more brief, but he was eloquent in his appeal for material from the troops for the *Journal*. While there is a limit to the number of pages, there is no limit to his desire to receive interesting stories from all members, regardless of what your job was.

Jordan reported on the very healthy state of Memorial Trust assets, expressed appreciation for the support of all units to the Individual Group Memorial Project, and for the generosity of the members in their annual contributions to the Trust Capital Fund. He asked and received the members indulgence in permitting him to keep as a surprise for the banquet, the exact amount of the gift to the Trust which he and Dean had figured out with the Exec. Committee. And what a surprise it

proved to be!!!

Before introducing Tom Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Krause, 458th Bomb Group were invited to the podium to make their presentation of a most striking and valuable Gorham Porcelain Bald Eagle to the Memorial Trust for display in the Memorial Room. The gift was accepted by Tom Eaton, and appreciation was expressed eloquently not only for this attractive symbol of the United States but also for the support of the Association, and for the splendid efforts of his colleagues, Paul King and David Hastings in working with Evelyn on the Convention arrangements which were working out so very well.

The meeting was finished before schedule and we soon boarded the coaches for the visit to R.A.F. Coltishall, a visit that took place at RAF insistence in spite of the tragedy which took the lives of 5 members of 41 Squadron, and injuries to many more, a week earlier in Germany. We were greeted warmly by Wing Commander Malloy on behalf of the station Commander and treated to an excellent buffet at the Officers Mess. The afternoon was given over to visit static displays in several hangars featuring many different training aircraft, including one painted in Russian colors, and of course, the formidable Jaguar.

With great appreciation to group Captain G.R. Profit, the station Commander, and his staff (including the caterers) we made our way back to our hotels with just enough time to freshen up, change (at least most of us did) and board our punctual coaches for the trip back to St. Andrews Hall. There we were the guests at a Civic

(continued on next page)

Reunion *(continued)*

Reception given by the Lord Mayor and the Chairman of the Norfolk County Council, Mr. Raymond Frostick, and their wives.

This was an experience for those who were attending their first Norwich Convention, being announced by name at the entrance by a Master of Ceremonies, and then proceeding to be greeted by name by these cordial Civic officials (again wearing their chains and badges of office) and their wives. Our British friends have this down to a fine, pleasing, and impressive art. As we say over here, "the joint was jumping" — practically every one of our party, plus a host of British guests, including the Mayors of most of the larger cities in Norfolk. There was great conversation, more affectionate greetings — wine and a groaning buffet table. A great time was had by all. Strangers soon were chatting animatedly, and with great good spirits.

As the daily 2AD Norwich News said, Sunday the 29th was the Touring Day. Two tours were available — one to the American cemetery at Cambridge where there was a special ceremony of Remembrance. The other went to the Norfolk Broads, (come on guys, you know the Broads are a very unique stretch of rivers and lakes) including a most enjoyable boat ride, followed by a visit to Blickling Hall, a most impressive British National Treasure.

Monday the 30th was another emotion-charged day with the visits to each base. We offer sincere thanks to the great people of the Friends of the Eighth who not only served this day as tour directors, but who always were in attendance, available to answer questions, refresh our memories, and help us relive our younger days when we were serving our country.

Special dedications were made by the 453rd at Old Buckenham in the form of a special room at the Civic center, by the 489th, and the 446th at Halesworth and Bungay respectively, in the form of plaques, and we have heard how touched the 467th members were with the new village sign unveiled at Rackheath — a sign that included a B-24. (If we have overlooked any other special dedications, we apologize.) All of these events received good coverage from the press.



Jordan and Joyce Uttal who were everywhere.



St. Peter Mancroft Church during Memorial services.

Our banquet that evening was once again a high point for many of us who have been regular attendees. Our M.C., Jordan Uttal suggested as a theme for the evening, that it be one of Celebration, Thanksgiving, and Giving Thanks . . . Celebration of our 20th anniversary of the Memorial, and our 36th Reunion/Convention, Thanksgiving for our ability to come together again, and Giving Thanks to those who had worked so hard to make the Convention so memorable.

The evening started with the playing of the American and British anthems, followed by our always moving Candle lighting ceremony, honoring those who fell during the Divisions operations, and remembering other absent friends and dear ones. Once again each group was represented in this ceremony, and as one "first timer" was overheard to say, "Nowhere have I ever felt such love on an occasion such as this." And so it was! Bishop Wood favored us with a most appreciated Invocation, and then we enjoyed a delicious dinner accompanied by memory evoking music from the Ray Shields orchestra, "In the Glen Miller manner."

After dinner we were introduced to those at the head table, and other distinguished guests in the relaxed and appreciative gathering of close to 700 people. We heard brief, but very appropriate, remarks from the Lord Mayor, Andy Low, Charley Freudenthal, and Jordan persuaded Jimmy

Stewart to add his thoughts. (He had previously been persuaded to lead the orchestra for a number which brought the house down.) Apart from cussing out wartime powdered eggs, Jimmy drew applause to his statement that he regretted that this was his first Convention, "but it certainly will not be the last." More seriously however, he found ready agreement from the Anglo American audience that it is our obligation to remain strong to preserve our peace.

As to the giving of thanks, presentations were made to Mrs. Tom Eaton, Mrs. Paul King, and Mrs. David Hastings, by Helen Low, Helen Freudenthal, and Elva Thomas, as a small but sincere gesture of appreciation for the efforts of their husbands. In appreciation of the hospitality extended so often by Mrs. Anne Barne, one of our two original Trust Governors, Joan Patterson presented her with a suitably inscribed silver bowl. Also, Mike Benarcik, 453rd, presented a painting, "Welcome Home, Yank" to Group Captain Profit in appreciation of R.A.F. friendship.

For one of the highlights of the evening, Joan and Joanne Affronte teamed up to make a special presentation of a beautiful Clock, bearing the WAC insignia to our beloved Mother figure, our able Membership Vice President, the arranger of so many joyous get togethers, and a wonderful human being, (you guessed it) Evelyn Cohen!! Additional thanks were expressed to the past presidents in attendance, the Friends of the Eighth, the Architect who worked so hard on the new look of the Memorial room, to Rev. David Sharp, and Bishop Maurice Wood.

Jordan told us later that after the banquet David Sharp presented him with a gift — a colored brochure of St. Peter Mancroft — which he took to mean that all was forgiven for that part of his repertoire of stories that may have approached a P.G. rating. However, the biggest charge for many of us — on an already pleasure-filled evening was the presentation to the Chairman of the Trust of a check from the association in the amount of \$20,000. Tom Eaton's acceptance was truly eloquent and we are assured of continued and diligent efforts from the Trust Governors.

Dancing went on until around 1:00 A.M. and on Tuesday morning at breakfast we did not see too many casualties. The exodus started that morning to all directions from Norwich, and many reluctant farewells were said.

One thing is certain in our minds — we who were fortunate enough to attend, shared a most memorable experience. It is impossible to go further into superlatives, but we simply want to say . . . LOVE is a wonderful four letter word!!!

SEE YOU IN PALM SPRINGS IN OCTOBER 1984 . . .

Americans In Norwich Fire Drama (Courtesy Eastern Evening News)

Painters were busy redecorating a smoke-damaged corridor at the Hotel Nelson today following Sunday's blaze in which several American guests had to be rescued.

One man in the American party of members of the 2nd Air Division Association knotted sheets together and dangled them from his window as thick smoke made the top-floor corridor impassable.

But no one was hurt in the fire and the only significant damage was confined to a nearby service room.

"We are back to normal and all the bedrooms in the corridor are in use," said hotel general manager, Mr. Peter Mackness.

The hotel's smoke detectors and fire regulations had worked "superbly," he said. In fact, because of the fire resistant

doors in the corridor, guests could have stayed safely in their rooms.

Several members of the 2nd Air Division Association, who are in the city for their 36th annual convention, were staying at the hotel.

One member of the American party, Mr. Clay Giambrumo, of San Jose, California, was in bed unwell in his top floor room when the alarm was raised.

"I was in bed because I wasn't feeling too good, when the desk called me and told me to vacate the building because there was a fire.

"I jumped into my clothes, but when I went into the hall there was smoke. I called the desk again and the lady told me to go to the fire exit.

'There was a lot of smoke and then I

saw flames so I went back to my room," Mr. Giambrumo said.

Window

He went to the window and called to a man in the hotel courtyard. "The firemen brought a ladder and I threw my bag out before climbing out," he said.

Mr. Arthur Cullen, of Boston, Massachusetts, was also in his room when the fire broke out.

He knotted sheets together and dangled them from his top floor window before firemen reached his room and led him to safety.

"At first I couldn't get out of my room because of the smoke, then the firemen arrived and told me to get low and out we went. We just stooped down to stay out of the smoke," he said.

PLAQUES, LAST OFFERING OF THE YEAR

Within 2 weeks after the June issue of the *Journal* "hit the streets", 23 of the available 30 plaques were spoken for. I fully expect that the remaining 7 will be gone before the end of July. The great response has made my decision to offer the plaque one more time. It still makes a great Christmas present to yourself or to your grown up and married children. More than a dozen 2 ADA members have done just that.

Again, the plaque size is 6 1/2 x 10 inches, solid walnut with black enameled or brass plate (5 5/8 x 3 1/4 inches), 4 rounds of .50 cal. shells and their con-

necting links and up to 9 lines of engraving, counting spacing. Your choice of Airmen's wings (I have all of the types in stock), pewter B-24 with your Bomb Group tail colors or 8th Air Force emblem. Combinations of any three are available as per the photos. Just give me the following: your name as you want it engraved, rank, if desired, duty (pilot, gunner aircraft mechanic, etc.). Also, Bomb Group, Squadron, location, dates, etc. Missions, aircraft name or number, decorations, etc. I will try to sort it all out for the best possible arrangement. Your absolute satisfaction is guaranteed or your money back.

I have sent Dean Moyer a check for \$165.00 which brings the total now to \$877.00 since the beginning of this project. Hoping to make it an even \$1,000.00 before the end of the year, with your participation. Plaque costs are still \$39.00 with any ONE of the 3 choices. Add \$5.00 for each additional item. Please don't forget to add at least \$2.00 if you live east of Chicago, \$3.00 if west of the Windy City, for postage.

Rick Rokicki
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SURPRISE VISIT

(Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

Legendary Hollywood actor James Stewart was an unexpected visitor to the RAF Coltishall families day on Saturday.

He joined members of the 2nd Air Division Association who made the trip to the station as part of their 36th annual convention.



The new meets the old. Jimmy Stewart — Lt. Steve Garmstead — Pres. Andy Low.

Mr. Stewart was commanding officer of the 703rd Bombardment Squadron at Tihbenham during the second World War.

Mr. Stewart, who recently celebrated his 75th birthday, said he was delighted to be back with all his old friends.

He told an "EDP" reporter: "We have a lot to talk about. It does not seem so long ago when you all get together and have stories.

"It does not make you feel so old," he added.

Mrs. Stewart, who married Mr. Stewart after the war, said she had found all the war stories flying about "very funny".

The visit had been super and the weather

Not even gloomy weather of cloudy winter-like skies could dampen their spirits.

Plane enthusiasts enjoyed a Jaguar airfield attack, a Wallis autogyro, Wessex SAR display and demonstrations by the Harrier, Chinook, F111, A10 and F16 planes.

One hangar boasted a variety of static displays depicting the work of RAF Coltishall and exhibitions by the RNLI, HM Coastguard, War Games Club, model railways and many others.

To add to the flavor of the occasion, Glenn Miller's music was provided by the Radio Norfolk Big Band.

In another hangar, a Jaguar, Gazelle and Hawk were among the static aircraft in the show.

What with pleasure flights in a Dakota, beer tents, hamburgers and fish and chip vans, the Families' Day had something for everyone.

RAF Coltishall's Press Officer, Flt. Lt. Mike Ricketts, said the station was thrilled about the visit by James Stewart.

He said: "We are tremendous fans of his. Most people will be sorry they did not get a chance to meet him."

The deaths of five Coltishall airmen in a coach crash in Germany last week had clouded the day, Flt. Lt. Ricketts said.

"There was the initial problem of whether we should go ahead with the event, but because so many people would be disappointed, we decided to go ahead with it."



At our age it takes two to plant a sapling. Andy Low and Jimmy Stewart at Old Buck.

Roger Freeman is still looking for a map of the following 2nd Division airfields which identify the hardstand numbers:- Shipdham, Hardwick, Wendling, Tihbenham, Bungay, Horsham St Faith and Metfield. If you can help write him at May's Barn, Dedham, Colchester, Essex, England CO7 6EW. Roger is also searching for other way-out data for inclusion in his third volume of the Mighty Eighth trilogy. He is interested in learning the radio call-signs used by B-24 squadrons together with the approximate date of use. Some squadrons used the same call-signs throughout hostilities while others had three or four changes. Yet another request is for illustrations of any unofficial Group or Squadron insignia (badges, motifs) designed for the following units during WW2: 66BS, 68BS, 506BS, 564BS, 565BS, 567BS, 576BS, 577BS, 578BS, 579BS, 445BS, 701BS, 453BS, 732BS, 733BS, 734BS, 735BS, 458BS, 844BS, 845BS, 846BS, 847BS, 492BG, 856BS, 857BS & 858BS. Anyone who thinks they can help please write to the above address.

392nd BG REPORT

by J. Fred Thomas (392nd)

There is no way we can write this report without taking half the *Journal*, and I guess Bill Robertie will object to that. So, we will attempt to be brief, yet address as many subjects as possible. With your consent, we write both as your V.P. and as the Ass'n Exec. V.P. Some of the things we report will probably be reported elsewhere, but we want to be sure.

Speaking in general, the biggest event in the last quarter for the Association as a whole has to be our annual reunion at Norwich. What a pity every member couldn't enjoy the occasion as we did. To be sure, we weren't as fortunate with the weather as we were in 1979, but one has to take the weather as one finds it. Otherwise, our program went smoothly and on schedule. From the warmup party and buffet on the 26th of May through the final banquet on the 30th, all went well, and we believe each day's activities were enjoyed by all. We were greatly pleased when it was announced that more members attended from California than any other state, and we thank those who stopped by to speak with us.

We can't say enough in appreciation for the hospitality and friendship extended us by our British friends. A great many members know how gracious Tom Eaton, Paul King, and David Hastings can be, but through the good offices of Dave Patterson, Evelyn Cohen, et al, we were able to meet a number of other truly delightful people. For instance, before our convention, on May 24th we were invited to a meeting and dinner with the Norfolk Vintage Pilots and their wives. There we met Jim and Vickie Campbell, Group Capt. and Mrs. Courtney, Wing Commander and Mrs. Jack Webb, as well as being with David and Jean Hastings, Paul and Hester King, and Dave and Joan Patterson. After dinner we had a premier showing of a well produced film by David Hastings which showed our Second Air Division bases as they were in WWII and how they are today; a film, by the way, which we hope can be copied so we may have it to show our many members who can't get back to Britain. The evening was one of the highlights of our entire trip over there. In fact, we are now members of the Vintage Pilots. At other luncheons and dinners we had the pleasure of visiting with Vicar and

Mrs. David Sharp of St. Peter Mancroft, RAF Wing Commander and Mrs. Martin Molloy from Coltishall, and the ever friendly and vivacious Lady Mayhew. I'm sure I have overlooked naming others as I always do, but they and those above made us feel welcome indeed. Too, we must express our appreciation to the hotel personnel who took care of us during our stay. They went way beyond the usual to see that we were happy.

Another thing, we can't write this report without expressing our great appreciation for the long hours and hard work put in by David and Jean Hastings, Paul and Hester King, and their cast of helpers. Hardly any of us can truly realize all they did, but we were in a position to observe them at work during our stay there, and I can assure you that it was due to their endless efforts we were able to have the successful convention with the punctual schedules that we did.

Now for the events pertaining to the 392nd. We had about 30 or 32 people in our party. Happily, about half were attending their first reunion and more were back in Britain for the first time since the war. We have spoken with a number, and from all reports, they came away happy they made the trip. Due to other committee meetings and other assignments, we weren't able to visit with our 392nd members as we would have liked. It was no big loss for them, but we felt the loser by the inability to do so. We did have a highly enjoyable day with all hands the day we had our own private bus to visit our old base at Wendling. Not only did we have a good driver and guide, but J.D. and Emily Long were with us. The guide knew the base well, but J.D. was able to provide us with greater information and details since he spent quite a number of months there during the war. It was J.D.'s and Emily's interest and allegiance to the 392nd that prompted them to be with us; they had already been there with their family, plus other things scheduled. They made the day more enjoyable for us, and we appreciate it. We had lunch at the Ploughshare Pub in Beeston. I'm sure many of our members were there during their tour with the 392nd. Due to Mrs. Grace Kimble, one of our benefactors and associate members from Essex, who had been by earlier and alerted the pub keeper that we were coming, we were able to be well fed and our thirsts quenched. It was a real occasion and added a lot to our day. Again, we must speak of the British hospitality. The families living on the farms and around the old base came out to greet us and welcome us back. Some made us presents of things they had found around the old base over the years. They visited us and allowed us to visit our old Nissen huts and the bomb shelter. By the way, the bomb shelter still has standing water.

That evening, as ever, our final banquet was a joy; good food, good company, good Glenn Miller music, and the candle lighting ceremony was as always, impressive to say the least. The 392nd was represented in the ceremony by Harold Prouse, one of our many members knocked down at Bernberg.

Last but by no means least, the 392nd wishes to thank Gen. "Jim" Stewart and Mrs. Stewart for joining us at Norwich. As will be reported elsewhere, Jim took part in several of our ceremonies, and was the hit of the show at our final banquet. I know the 445th and the 453rd think Jim is theirs, but we claim him too. There isn't a crew in the Division who doesn't say they went on a mission with Jim. We do, regardless of what the records show. We certainly hope they enjoyed being with us and we will look forward to their being with us at our future reunions.

Now a few words about the folks who stayed home. The 392nd colony around the Sacramento area held their annual picnic June 6th; we regret we had to miss that. They are a fun group, and we hope to be invited next year. Ed and Lee Holmes sent a picture of the members attending the event which is attached. We have all hopes Bill has space to print it as it is a



Top row, L to R: Bill Long, Milt Henderson, Harry White, Alan Clarke, Myron Keilman, Charles Neundorf, Ed Holmes. Bottom Row, L to R: Miriam Henderson, Dolly Clarke, Nancy White, Vi Long, Blanche Keilman, Helen Neundorf, Lee Holmes.

good example of what the Association is all about, and we applaud such activities.

Businesswise, we netted 10 new members from those 50 letters we told you about in April. We plan to mail another 50 as soon as our schedule allows. What have you out there done for us lately? Let us hear you! We have a number of other things to discuss with you, but that will have to wait until our December report.

What happened to Don' Whitford, you ask? Evidently he is fine. He and Emily attended the Norwich do; each with a 50 pound suitcase. I'd say he is ok. Hernia maybe, but heart great. — Bye.

ATTENTION

The Association film library is now being handled by Pete Henry. Should you desire a film for showing at a small gathering or mini reunion write to Pete at 164B Portland Lane, Jamesburg, N.J. 08831. Telephone is 609-655-0982.

BUNGAY BULL

446th BOMB GROUP
by
Vere A. McCarty



From all reports I have received, the 1983 reunion was a grand success. For the 446th BG contingency, the visitation to Bungay and the reception by its townspeople was the highlight of the reunion. I received half a dozen letters commending Bill Davenport for his participation as acting Group Vice President and chairman of the Presentation Committee. As one person put it, "He did us proud." Here is the text of Bill's remarks:

"Ladies and Gentlemen of Bungay, fellow Americans: This is a solemn event in our lives. As we gather here, almost 40 years after our first meeting to commemorate that period of time when the 446th Bombardment Group of the United States Army Air Forces was your neighbor at Flixton.

"We return today especially to present you with a bronze plaque so that our presence, our appreciation, and our thanks to you will be documented and witnessed throughout the future.

"We cannot speak of the future without looking to the past. Our bombers flying from your Flixton Field flew a total of 273 missions, resulting in 7,259 sorties and dropping a total of 16,819 tons of bombs.

"A number of our comrades aboard the 76 lost and other aircraft gave their lives in accomplishing what we came here to do. Your young men, in a like manner, gave themselves in other lands to help preserve our British-American standards of freedom and liberty.

"We must today pay homage to those who did not return to their homes as well as to those comrades who have since joined them. I am sure all who are and were a part of the 446th join with us here today in saying, "Thanks" for being here forty years ago and accepting us as a part of your community."

Accepting the plaque on behalf of the people of the town was Mr. Ivor Baldwin, Bungay Town Council Chairman. He remarked that the words on the plaque brought a feeling of pride and pleasure. He also remarked that the American bronze on a base of British oak was in itself symbolic. The plaque was then dedicated by the Rev. John Simpson.

The 41 Americans then were guests at a reception in the Community Center, following that, a nostalgic visit to Flixton airfield, including a visit to see Flixton Church, whose gates and a plaque was furnished by airmen of the 446th when

they left in 1945. (The gates had received two new coats of clear varnish especially for the occasion, provided by John Archer.) Before they left, each of the visitors was given a memento featuring the Bungay crest and a town guide.

The 446th BG mini-reunion was held at the Hotel Norwich. The annual business meeting was called to order by Bill Davenport at 7:30 pm on May 27th. Several items that had been brought up in the Division Executive Board session were discussed. More group communications and better participation were considered, spreading around some of the duties among the Group's membership. This resulted in a full slate of officers for the ensuing year: Vere McCarty, Group Vice President; William F. Davenport, Deputy Group Vice President; Herb Gordon, Treasurer; Reba Gordon, Secretary; Robert Moore, Social Director; with Gordon Bishop, Audley Risley and Carl Gjelhaug assigned to committee projects. McCarty also served as Group Historian. It was also decided to encourage all members to make a concerted effort to get crews together at the Palm Springs reunion in 1984. John and Lorna Archer were recognized by the delegates for their "fabulous" assistance to the Group and a token of appreciation was presented to them.

It seems appropriate to honor the men of the 446th Bomb Group and their wives who were married in the Post Chapel at Lowry Field while the Group stayed there for overseas assignment. After a concerted search, I was able to locate but two of those 18 couples who will celebrate their 40th anniversary this month.

Oliver W. Henderson and Sappho Ward were married September 16, 1943 (Marie and I were there). "Jack" to many, but "Pappy" to most, Henderson was B-Flight leader, 706th Squadron. Both were natives of Floydada, Texas, but have now lived in San Diego, Calif. for many years. They are parents of two children. Ned is in business for himself while their lovely daughter, Katie, has recently become Mrs. Jason Groode. "Pappy" mines precious metals, including the space age varieties, from Nevada mountainsides with highly sophisticated equipment that I could not begin to describe. . . . is Secretary-Treasurer of Vulcan Smelting and Refining Company. Sappho is a dispensing optician. Congratulations, Sappho and "Pappy".

John S. Lindley and Louise F. Grafton were married September 25, 1943. Louise had traveled to Denver from Bakersfield with her mother for a short visit with John before he was to go overseas with the Group, little knowing that she would return to Bakersfield as Mrs. Lindley. John was a pilot in the 705th Squadron. He was in the grocery business for twenty years and for the last seven years has been in real estate, associated with Century 21. Louise is an administrator in special education, with 21 classes under her supervision. John is a golfer and an avid sports fan. Also, fishing. They have two sons living, one deceased. . . . two grandsons and one granddaughter. Congratulations, Lou and John!

The two couples were married by Chaplain John E. Gannon. Rev. and Mrs. Gannon now reside at Penney Farms, Florida. (Box 364).

Warren Welbourn reported a highly successful reunion of his crew in Lincoln, Nebraska, in March. The seven crew members present for the nostalgic meeting were: Welbourn, pilot; Sam McClung, co-pilot; Ted Micek, ball gunner; Lou Deutsch, navigator; William Tatters, bombardier; John Williams, engineer; and Barney Thompson, gunner. During their 3-day reunion, they visited the Strategic Air Force Museum at Bellevue.

Another crew reunion was reported by Floyd Griesinger, pilot of "Henry's Pride". Eight of his crew, plus their crew chief, met at the Cape Coral, Florida home of their waist gunner, William McMahan. Besides the two named, those present were: Howard Ammerman, co-pilot; Ben Kislin, bombardier; Walter Snedden, navigator; Lawrence Schwander, radio operator; Walter Brautigan, gunner; Stephen Petruzzi, engineer; and Thomas McMahan, crew chief.

Thank you all for your many letters. I must apologize for not keeping up with my correspondence. This has been a very busy spring and summer for me and I hope by fall I will be caught up again and back to some heavy recruiting for the 446th. In the meanwhile. . . . Cheerio!

Folded Wings

Joanne Affronte	Hdq.
Stanley Z. Dreyer	458th
Del R. Brumagin	44th
Albert A. Kopp	389th
John Majewski	458th
Harold L. Johnson	453rd
Lawrence Sheppard	Hdq.
White A. Jacob	44th
Joseph DeMay	453rd
Stanley Kelly	453rd

POOP FROM GROUP — THE 467th

by Phillip G. Day (467th)

Bits and Pieces — We discussed group newsletters at the Executive Meeting in Norwich and from it came the conclusion, by me, that group newsletters were not favored for 2ADA groups, let them read it in the *Journal*. But also I got the impression that the consensus was that *Journal* readers read only their Group's feature in the *Journal*. I hope this impression was wrong. I read the *Journal* from cover to cover in one sitting as soon as received, then keep it handy on or in my bedside night stand for rereading, in fact, all the *Journals* I have received are in my night stand.

Ted McGuire of the 93rd died in Shreveport the other day. I first met Ted at Hardwick in November, 1944. I had a cousin, Capt. Frank Wernlein, with the 93rd, then Group? Squadron? Gunnery Officer to finish out six months overseas after completing his missions in a short time. Frank flew in to Rackheath one Thursday in a 24 with only a crew chief aboard (Were you allowed to do that?), I was very impressed. I was on watch prior to a three day pass and we made arrangements to meet in Norwich, then to Hardwick for a day so that I could see some old classmates and RTU buddies, Carlos "Charley" Vasques, Earl (None) Gattin, Joe Clawson, Bland, Bertinni, Joe Nickols. While at Hardwick, Frank said "let's go see your other cousin" which was a complete shocker as my only other cousin in the Air Force, Ralph Day, had been machine gunned to death in his parachute after bailing out of his fighter plane over France in early 44. Frank was speaking of Ted, married to Mary Evelyn Bell of Shreveport, closest friend of my oldest sister, they were (are) like sisters. We talked, visited, ate and drank together that evening. Ted told me how he made short runway stops, putting all four engines in idle cut off and pushing four wind milling propellers down the runway, restarting them before they windmilled too far down to be caught by putting the mixture back in auto rich. I told Bill Johnston, my pilot, of this on return to Rackheath and we used the method. It was like throwing out four anchors, we could turn off at the runway intersection every landing if we wished, it saved lots of wear and tear on brakes and we had our nose wheel on the runway, not hauled up and back trying to let the wings and flaps slow us down be-

fore braking. Not SOP, but it worked. I never told anyone else about the idea, maybe a lot of crews did it.

Ted moved to Shreveport after the war, went into the commercial roofing business. Later into the rural real estate business, farms, large acreage blocks. We saw each other through the years, accidentally mostly, sometimes at my sister's home, until about a year ago when an operation determined Ted to be terminally ill, then more often, I would go by to visit him, sit with him. Ted went about his business, effectively and efficiently, as long as he could, wrote his military memoirs for his family, passed his last days calmly and as he lived, died quietly in his sleep. R.I.P.

Looking through some memorabilia the other day I came across my meal seating card on the Ile de France coming home from England. I had finished my tour on March 21, 1945 and was on the ship, I think, on April 21, 1945, maybe earlier. I know we were in New York on April 26, 1945, maybe 5 days is too short a time, even for the Ile de France traveling alone. Anyway I was first sitting, Table 7, Officer's Dining Room, "C" Deck Aft, two meals a day, breakfast at 7 AM, dinner at 5 PM. (That seems like an awful long time between meals.) There were only 1500 ambulatory aboard, I don't know how many not ambulatory. Although crewed by the English, the dining facilities were still French and I can remember white tablecloths, much silver, china and crystal and ordering from a menu both at breakfast and supper. There were four of us in a stateroom which was set up to hold twelve and only seven at our table. What a contrast to going over in the previous July, on the SS Uruguay, a South American cruise ship converted to troop carrier, crammed to the ceilings (overheads) with all branches of troops. Two meals a day, eat standing at long tables, I think we had metal food trays but used our carried aboard canteen cup and utensils.

The only troop train I was ever on was from San Francisco to Boston. We had finished RTU, gone to Hamilton Field, been assigned a B-24 to fly away to ?, but after having taken all manner of shots (South Pacific type) and drawing over water and summer flying clothing, we boarded the troop train with twenty-eight other crews (I do not have any orders but for 29 crews, seems so few for a troop train) on June 19, 1944. From San Francisco to cross Nevada, across the Great Salt Lake, to Granger and Cheyenne, Wyoming, across Nebraska to Grand Island and to Omaha, to Des Moines, Chicago, Toledo, Cleveland, Albany and to Boston, nearly 3300 miles, coast to coast. I'm not

sure that some of the men on the shipment didn't leave the train and catch up with it later, at least there were rumors to that effect. Our crew's navigator remembers a layover or long wait somewhere and says we went to a hotel, checked in, bathed and checked out. Also that we ate a big steak and drank quite a lot. Guess the last must have been true as I don't remember the first part. I recall stopping in a small town in Iowa or Nebraska and two hundred and ninety air crewmen descended in mass on the merchants and virtually bought them out, especially anything alcoholic.

Our crew had some sort of kitchen guard detail which wasn't too bad as it allowed us to have additional food and also access to the shower in the kitchen car which was much better than trying to bath in those small slopping sinks in the car toilet facilities.

We got to Camp Miles Standish on June 26, I guess seven days wasn't too bad for a cross country run of 3300 miles. I remember spending four days flying from Tonopah to Albuquerque to Denver to Tonopah. It made me three days late for my wedding day, but that's another story.

Dear Bill,

You may recall at the March executive committee meeting that I agreed to do whatever I could to bring about some publicity for the Association.

Prior to the departure of many for the reunion in Norwich I was able to place a few stories about members returning to their wartime bases in England. I was also able to get some local TV coverage of the group leaving from Philadelphia. I did see it on the local NBC channel and have had some inquiries about the association from local viewers.

At a little get together in Evelyn Cohen's apt. yesterday I heard many marvelous stories about what took place and will now make an effort to get the local papers that service those members to do a feature type story on those who returned to England.

I understand that the BBC did a little broadcast about the reunion and I appreciate their effort but what I need is some better coverage here in the States in our effort to find more members and to tell the story of our Living Memorial in Norwich.

I would appreciate it if you would run a small piece in the next *Journal* asking those who are interested to send me their names, address, group served with and the local newspaper that services their hometown and the local TV outlet. Also the name of the editor and his address if they know it as well as the local anchor persons' name or the station, call letters and address. In this manner I may be able to tip them, that is the local news outlets, to interesting features about members of the association who live in their immediate area. I would hope in this manner to get our story across to those who know nothing of the association.

Fred Meyer
1317 Cedar Road
Ambler, PA. 19002
Telephone - (215) 646-8841

NOTICE

If anybody wants a window decal of the 2nd Air Division please send a self addressed stamped envelope to Evelyn Cohen, Apt. 06410 Delair Landing, Philadelphia, PA. 19114. No charge.

8 BALL-Y-HOO

by Pete Henry (44th B.G.)

Throughout this *Journal*, you will read much about the Second Air Division Association Convention in Norwich May 26-31, 1983 and it was far and away the best ever. If the 44th did not have the largest contingent (my count was 54 including spouses), we were right near the top. This is rather remarkable when you consider that the 44th SMW reunion was held the same week in Rapid City, SD. In 1975, 380 people showed up for the Norwich reunion; in 1979 we had 470 and in 1983, there were about 560. Every time we think this will be the last one to Norwich, we get a larger group going. Anyone want to bet we won't go again in 1987 or 1988?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

At the Executive Committee meeting May 27, we were advised that almost all monies have been collected for the Memorial Plaques in the American Room of the Norwich Library. The 44th B.G. was one of three Groups that exceeded their \$750 by \$1000. At the suggestion of the Committee and with the approval of those members present at the mini-reunions, our \$1000 will become an endowment to the 2ADA Memorial Room in the name of the 44th B.G. to honor fallen comrades from our Group. The annual interest from this endowment will be used to purchase books, supplies, etc. for the Memorial Room. As promised, I photographed the project and it is shown below. The 44th tail fin is third from the left.



Since our return to the States, I've received a letter from the American Representative, Board of Governors, Memorial Trust, Jordan Uttal and I would like to share it with all of the 44th people who contributed to this Group Memorial.

"Dear Pete:

This will confirm your instructions to me subsequent to your Group meeting to set up a \$1000.00 endowment in the name of the 44th Bomb Group, within the Trust, for the purpose of buying books each year with the interest arising from this amount. Such books purchased will contain a book-plate indicating that the books were donated by the Group in memory of 44th B.G. casualties.

I have asked Dean Moyer to send me two checks, one in the amount of \$12.70 and the other in the amount of \$1000.00. The former will go toward a purchase of a book now, (with any balance being picked up by the library), and the latter to establish the fund.

The Association and the Trust are indebted to the 44th Bomb Group for its outstanding support of the Individual Group Memorial Project, and for being among the first to participate in this endowment scheme with the excess funds.

Our very best wishes to you all.

Jordan R. Uttal

Also at the Executive Committee meeting, Evelyn Cohen mentioned that some members from each Group had to be dropped for non-payment of dues. We have had a long standing policy that no member will be dropped if they cannot afford the dues. If this applies to you, please write to Evelyn and tell her that you are no longer able to pay the annual dues and the Second Air Division Assn. will make you a life member. We do not want to lose you.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

We held our 44th B.G. Mini-reunion at the Hotel Norwich Sunday evening, May 29 and yours truly was re-elected Group V.P. for the next fourteen months or so. (1984 convention will be in Palm Springs, Calif. in early October.) My thanks go to those present at the meeting but I still wish there was some way we could make it more democratic and get at last 50% of the group members involved.

Some of the items covered at the Mini-reunion were the aforementioned \$1000 Endowment; the 1984 Convention in Palm Springs; the 2ADA membership which now stands at 4523 and the 44th remains number 1 with 424 members. We also agreed that, even though many of us have said that we're not going to go, we cannot stay on this planet forever. Please consider adding a codicil to your will arranging to bequest and bequeath your WWII memorabilia to the 2ADA Memorial Library. Arrange to have the Executor contact someone on the 2ADA Executive Committee for instructions.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Monday, May 30, was the day for each Group to visit their respective bases and several of our members remembered to wear their 8-Ball T-shirts to Shipdham. (Yours truly left his at home in the States.) If anyone is interested in obtaining one of these T-shirts, send \$7.00 with adult size or \$6.00 with child's size, for each, to Richard Bottomley, 4509 Morrice Rd., Owosso, MI 48867.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I seem to recall that we had 44 people on the 44th bus, including John Page, our Friend of the Eighth, and we visited Shipdham before and after lunch at the Golden

Dog pub in town. I would like to thank John once again for his invaluable assistance in squiring us around the base, the 14th Combat Wing site and one or two other sites. It was during the visit to site 2(?) that Will Lundy and Ardith Butler, Dick Butler's wife, discovered that they are first cousins.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

One of our (Mary and I) greatest thrills on this trip was to see and spend the five days with Norman Tillner. The last time I saw him was in the hospital in August 1944. Norm was a waist gunner on 'Henry's' crew and was injured seriously on our tenth mission, my only serious casualty in 32 missions. He finished his tour after recovering completely, but the powers that be, decided that he should be with the 15th AF in Italy and we had not seen each other for almost 39 years.



Norm Tillner sees Pete Henry — of the Henry crew, for the first time since 1944 at Norwich '83.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Joe Warth sent me a letter providing details of the 44th BG/BW/SMW reunion in Rapid City, S.D. May 26-30, 1983. Our own General Johnson was there and Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Christopher S. Adams, Jr., former Chief of Staff, Strategic Air Command was the main speaker. Approval was voted for activation of a formal organization to be known as: 44th BG/BW/SMW Heritage Memorial. This organization is part of the official US Air Force operation "Heritage Program" and "Project Warrior" programs. Joe said that the (May) 1984 reunion will be held in the Eastern section of the U.S.A. and then back in R.C. in 1985.

Barbara and Mike Curtin from the 2ADA/44th B.G. were also there and Mike said that he was very pleased to see our former 67th Sqdn. Commander, Bill Cameron, in attendance and found "Hap" Westbrook was there. "Hap" was a prisoner of war for two years and Mike had long since given him up for dead.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

And, finally, although it may be too late by now to make reservations, let me remind you that the 68th Squadron Assn. will hold a reunion in Bellmawr, N.J. Oct. 20, 21, 23, 1983. Write to Bob Krueger, 7302 Beechwood Rd., Derby, N.Y. 14047 for details.

City Flypast Salute Airmen

(Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

A flypast by aircraft including a Lancaster bomber and a Spitfire brought back wartime memories for a party of former US airmen visiting Norwich yesterday.

They and their families gathered outside the city's Central Library to watch the planes pass in a spectacular salute to the 36th annual convention of the 2nd Air Division Association.

The Lancaster and Spitfire — from the Lincolnshire-based Battle of Britain flight — were joined by four Jaguar jets from RAF Coltishall and two USAF A-10 Thunderbolts from Bentwaters.

Packed

The flypast came after a packed thanksgiving service at the Church of St. Peter Mancroft.

Among those at the service — at which the 550 American visitors were welcomed by the vicar, the Rev. David Sharp, were the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, Mr. Timothy Colman, the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Mr. Len Stevenson, and the vice-chairman of Norfolk County Council, Mrs. Frances Roualle.

The address was given by the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt. Rev. Maurice Wood, who told the congregation: "In the second world war, Britain and the United States and our other Allies were united in a great cause to overcome tyranny, to fight for freedom and justice and to restore peace to the world. Our unity in a great cause led us to a great comradeship in the Armed Forces . . ."

"As a nation, we in Britain are grateful to your sons and daughters for responding to our invitation once again to share our RAF bases within the Nato Alliance."

He went on to speak of Soviet aggression, most starkly seen, he said, in the invasion of Afghanistan.

Standards

He continued: "We value immensely the comradeship between our two great nations today."

The bishop dedicated two new standards, which were than carried in procession to the library's American Memorial Room, the association's official war memorial to the 6072 members of the 2nd Air Division killed flying from bases in East Anglia during the war.

The convention coincides with the 20th anniversary of the dedication of the memorial room — and the American visitors took the opportunity to inspect the results of a major improvement project which has substantially added to its attractions.

After the flypast members of the association's executive committee left for a civic lunch at City Hall.

Thirty-Sixth Annual Business Meeting

Second Air Division Association
St. Andrews Hall, Norwich, England
28 May, 1983

The meeting was called to order by President Andrew Low at 9:07 a.m., approximately 300 members were present at this time. President Low extended a welcome to all members and guests present.

President Low appointed H.C. (Pete) Henry parliamentarian and instructed the secretary that the minutes were to reflect all members present who were delegates to the Second Air Division Associations 36th Annual Business Meeting.

President Low introduced himself and members of the Board of Directors seated on the dais. They were: David Patterson, Pete Henry, Charles Fruedenthal, Frank Thomas, Evelyn Cohen, Jordan Uttal, Phil Day and Bill Clarey.

The President asked that reading of the minutes of the 35th Annual Meeting held in Nashville, Tenn., and the treasurers report be accepted as printed. It was moved by Bud Koorndyk seconded and passed to accept the secretaries and treasurers reports as printed.

Bill Robertie, V.P. *Journal* was called to give a report on the status of the *Journal*. He reported that stories were needed from members in order that the *Journal* would continue to contain material of interest to all members. Bill emphasized the need for stories pertaining to barracks life and stories from non flight personnel as well as flight crew stories.

Jordan Uttal, Second Air Division's representative on the Board of Governors, Memorial Trust Fund was called on to report on the condition of the trust funds. Jordan reported the trust fund has increased to £91,700, from the original £20,000 donated in 1945. There has been a 30% appreciation since last year and a corresponding 16% growth in income. The status of the Memorial Trust Fund speaks well for the stewardship of the Board of Governors.

The individual group memorial project resulted in a very desirable appearance in the library Jordan stated. Excess donations from the groups will be used to purchase additional needs for the library, subject to agreement of the groups through their V.P. The group V.P.'s will be provided with a list of objects needed for the library. Objects purchased will be credited to the group responsible.

Jordan reported Hathy has received 40 cassettes to date — we are expecting 500 more — members should cut their tapes and send to Hathy as soon as possible after returning home. Dave Patterson, Charles Cooper and J.D. Long appeared before two groups of English students prior to the 26 of May — presenting the purpose and objectives of the Second Air Division

Associations. Another new concept has surfaced, the establishment of endowments — two checks have been received.

Tom Eaton was asked to come forward to receive a gift for the library from Jack and Gail Kraus, 458th B.G.. The Krauses presented Tom with a Gorham porcelain American Bald Eagle. Mr. Eaton accepted the gift for the Board of Governors and assured the Krauses it would be displayed in a suitable location in the library.

Hathy Veynar reported on the need for additional cassettes, suggesting members review the instructions for making their tapes that appeared in the December, 1982 *Journal*. If members do not have a tape recorder they may send a written report to Hathy and she will get a tape cut for them. (INCLUDE ONE DOLLAR \$1.00) WITH THE REPORT TO COVER THE COST OF THE TAPE.

Evelyn Cohen, V.P. Membership reported on the remaining activities planned for the 1983 Annual Meeting. The 1984 Annual Meeting will be held in Palm Springs, Calif. early in October, details will be presented in the December *Journal*.

President Low asked if there was any old business.

Dave Patterson gave the report of the nomination committee. The following Vice Presidents were chosen to serve on the Executive Board on a rotating basis.

H.C. (Pete) Henry 44th. B.G.
E.A. Rokicki 458th. B.G.
Leroy Engendahl 448th. B.G.

The immediate three past presidents to serve on the Executive Board are:

Andrew Low 453rd. B.G.
Vince LaRussa 466th. B.G.
Dave Patterson 445th. B.G.

The nominating committee have selected the following officers for the new year.

President Charles Fruedenthal
Executive V.P. J. Fred Thomas
Treasurer Dean Moyer
V.P. Membership Evelyn Cohen
V.P. *Journal* Bill Robertie
Secretary Frank Thomas

Nominations from the floor were called for. There being none it was moved by Charles Deering seconded and carried to elect the slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee.

Jim Kotapish asked the number of members to date in the Second Air Division Association. Evelyn Cohen answered there were 4591 current members on May 25, 1983.

It was moved by John Roth seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned.

Frank Thomas, Secretary
Second Air Division Association

FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE 30, 1983

Savings Fund Account - Citizen's National Bank			
Balance June 30, 1982	1722.35		
Receipts: Interest	106.27	1828.62	
Transfer to Citizen's Bank Insured Money Fund		1828.62	closed
Memorial Library Fund Account			
Balance June 30, 1982	18321.19		
Receipts to June 30, 1982 - Donations	15996.00		
- Interest Earned	1106.60		
Receipts and Balance	35423.79		
Disbursements to Memorial Library Board 7/4/82	14100.00		
Balance June 30, 1982			21323.79
General Fund Account			
Balance June 30, 1982		32370.50	
Receipts: Membership Dues	44471.97		
Interest Earned	4367.02		
Sale, Decals, Posters, etc.	37.00		
Donations	500.00		
Closed above Savings Fund Account	1828.62	51204.61	
Receipts and Balance		83575.11	
Disbursements:			
Journal: Monthly Expenses	2275.88		
Extra Help	365.00		
Deliver to Post Office	200.00		
Handling Journal	837.00		
Address Labels	250.00		
Journal Envelopes	1346.90		
Printing Journal	10260.91		
Postage Journal	9970.00		
Rent	3000.00		
Honorarium	1250.00		
Misc. Printing	70.84		
P.O. Box Rent	45.00		
Camera	360.45		
Typewriter Repairs	237.02		
Dehumidifier for Computer	230.99		
Computer Expenses	603.53	31303.52	
Membership: Printing	501.58		
Postage	1200.00		
Help	450.00		
Honorarium	250.00		
Printing/Nashville Conv.	846.95	3248.53	
General: Roster Postage	261.28		
Rick/Plaque Materials	57.00		
Corp Filing Fee/Illinois	5.00		
Treasurer's Bond	46.00		
Exec Bd Mtg/Phila/Mar '83	1363.39		
Memo Books/Gen'l WE Kepner	100.00		
8th AF Cert for Bd of Govs	78.11		
Printing Handbook	172.91		
VP's Postage, Printing	2559.66	4643.35	
Total Disbursements		39195.40	
Balance General Fund Accounts			44379.71
Library Plaque Fund: Donations			
	15139.20		
Disbursements	7996.80		7142.40
Balance Cash on Hand, All Funds, as of June 30, 1983		Bal. 6/30/83	\$72845.90

Dean E. Moyer, Treasurer
2 AD Division

Wartime Reunions

600 in 'Return Mission'

(Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

American ex-gunner Norm "Rett" Tillner met his Liberator pilot Pete Henry for the first time since the second world war last night.

Both were based at Shipdham during the war and flew in B24s in raids against Germany.

Last night they were at the Norwood Rooms, Norwich, for the 2nd Air Division Association's 36th annual convention.

Mr. Tillner was wearing the flying jacket he wore on bombing missions and carried in his pocket shrapnel which had ripped into his leg.

Sadness

He lives in California and his former pilot, Mr. Henry, lives in New Jersey.

The opening of the convention in Norwich was the opportunity for many similar reunions, and the sad memories of some of the 6000 who died in action and those who have died since.

The setting was apt. The Norwood Rooms used to be the "Lido" ballroom and the "Capitol Cinema" and a haunt of American troops during the war years.

With nearly 600 Americans from the division which flew the B24 Liberators from East Anglia, the place was steeped in nostalgia.

Mr. Tillner was 18 when he was running missions from Shipdham with his 24-year-old pilot. Their group, the 44th, got the nickname the "Flying Eight Balls" because it had a reputation for bad luck and suffered severe casualties early in the war.

Mr. Bob Dubowsky was also in the 44th and was shot down over France just inside Allied lines. For him the reunion meant a mixture of joy at meeting old comrades and sadness for those who died.

Stalag

"It is sad to think of those who died and were good friends and for those who died since the war," he said.

He has been back to Shipdham but now he can hardly recognize it as the place where he served.

For Maj. Gen. Andy Low the war involved imprisonment in Stalag Three at Mannheim and it was from the barracks next to his that the "Great Escape" was masterminded.

He was shot down over Germany and after hospital was taken to the Stalag.

The only American among Britons, he was put in charge of a barracks and it was then that he got to know of one of the most daring escapes of the war.

Maj. Gen. Low pointed out that it did not square with the plot of the film but many of the conversations last night were the stuff that films are made of.

389th BOMB GROUP MEMORABILIA

by Bud Koorndyk (389th)

Another milestone in the history of the reunions of the 2nd Air Division Association has been accomplished and like we seem to say every year "This was the greatest of them all." I can only say from a personal viewpoint, this had to be an experience that my wife June and myself will never forget.

The hospitality of our English friends was just superb and leaves us with a remembrance that we'll always cherish. I'm sure that I speak for the entire 389th Bomb Group when I say "hats off" to Paul King, Dave Hasting, Tom Eaton and their staff, for a terrific job of planning and carrying out the details which went into making our reunion such an enjoyable experience.

Upon arriving at the Post Hotel in Norwich, where practically all the members of the 389th were bedded down, I was asked about the possibilities of having a Mini Reunion of our group.

Our schedule of events showed that we had a free evening on Sunday the 29th of May, so with the able assistance of Chuck Dearing and the cooperation of the Post Hotel staff, we hurriedly arranged a dinner for 7:30 of that evening. The hotel staff even went to the trouble of printing up a menu for each member and did everything possible to make our evening a complete success.

We had an attendance of 52 members and at the end of our dinner, we held a business meeting and transacted the following business.

As your group V.P., I reported that we collected a total of \$925.00 from 38 members and surpassed our goal by \$150.00. A motion was made, supported and passed by the body, that we inform the Library Committee that they could use the money to buy other needed items in our American Room at the Library.

Nominations were called for by our Group V.P., Bud Koorndyk for the office of 389th Group V.P. for the year 1983-1984. The body requested that Bud Koorndyk continue in this office and he con-

sented with the following request.

That we establish the office of Asst. Group V.P. and approve the appointment of Earl Zimmerman to this position. This role had been discussed with Earl and he agreed to serve in this position.

In the case of inclemency of our Group V.P., bearing in mind the age brackets of each officer, the Asst. Group V.P. would automatically assume the position of our Group V.P. This coincides with the 2nd Air Div. Association requests that we have backup people available in all levels of our association.

The remainder of our dinner meeting, became a time of sharing wartime experiences with some humorous anecdotes by Frank Rutledge, contributions by Earl Zimmerman pertaining to the background of our Group insignia "The Green Dragon" and then Roy Jonasson relating varied experiences and urging the members to continue adding ground personnel to our membership.

Bill Nicely volunteered to begin putting together a 389th Bomb Gp. pictorial, so get your photos in to Bill and he now has become our Group historian. This will be in album form and I'm sure he'll be taking this collection with him to future reunions.

Incidentally, Earl Zimmerman is having more of the "Green Dragon" insignias made up and thought he could send them out for about \$2.00. It seems as if he has a seamstress friend in Taiwan that turns them out at rock bottom prices.

One interesting story that came out during the evening and was told by Bud, was the meeting of some of us with Zeke Cozart who happened to be in London on vacation and took a train to Norwich, with his wife, to spend the day. Upon arrival he was informed by a Bobby that the 2nd Air Div. Assoc. was having a reunion here, so he rushed down to our meeting, not even knowing that we existed as an organization.

Zeke was the former Intelligence Officer of the 389th and we certainly welcome him and his wife into our fold. I believe it took him about ten seconds to give me

his \$10.00 for membership and never even asked for a receipt or made sure as to whom he gave the dough to. He also attended the Air Show with us and I hope got back to Norwich in time to catch his train back to London. He assured me that he'll see all of us in Palm Springs in '84.

The pictures which I have included are of our Library in Norwich, depicting the tail sections of the B-24 which we had as our project for this year. The second shot was taken of the old tower at Hethel and our gang standing on the runway with the tower in the background.

I would like to take a few lines to thank Roy Jonasson and Earl Zimmerman for helping to put together a story which began in San Diego and went to the 389th and is a living legend to this day. It has to do with a collection of monies and I'll leave it up to Earl Zimmerman, who has consented to put the information gathered into a news item that I'm sure you'll find rewarding. I hope that your appetites have now been wetted for the article to be run in either our Sept. or Dec. issue.

Continue to send me names and addresses of prospective members and let's strive for an additional 50 to 100 members by the next reunion. Upon arriving home and with the help of Roy Jonasson, I was able to locate John Codenhead, an old friend in the 389th, whom I had been attempting to find for 40 years.

Received a letter from Temp Cumiskey and he also retired from the Air Force and slops a few golf balls around with Milt Arnold on occasion. They spend summers in the same lake areas. How about Palm Springs with your crew next year Temp? They had a big delegation in Nashville.

May this report find you all in good health and once again, June and I would like to thank you all for being so supportive during our trip to Norwich. I can only say that I have enjoyed being the Group V.P., for what I declare is the greatest bunch of people I've ever had occasion to serve with.

See you all in Palm Springs in '84. Let's make it our biggest and best.

METFIELD MUSING

by Carl Alexanderson (491st)

The 36th annual convention of the Second Air Division Assn. held in Norwich, England is now history, and my wife and I are happy to have been part of it. I have said it before and I'll say it again. Each succeeding convention I have attended has been better than the previous one. I don't know how much longer this can continue, but I will take my chances. It is wonderful to see again old friends from other get-

together — what is even more exciting, however, is to meet new members of our old organization. It perhaps borders on the metaphysical, but I somehow have the feeling that I've always know them.

Be that as it may — the "Ringmasters" presented themselves in the largest numbers yet, 26 in all. There is not sufficient space to describe our entire sojourn at East Anglia — so let me describe one of the many highlights — our trip by motor coach back to our old base, in this case North Pickenham. Our original field at Metfield has completely reverted to farming — this

from Dave Dougherty who had the good fortune to have been offered a helicopter flight over the area.

Our good friend Steve Gotts ("Friends of the Eighth") squired us around on the entire journey. Having arrived at the gate, we were informed that we who were trained so long ago to soar with "Eagles" were now relegated to flying with "Turkeys". A half million of them!

The center section of the main runway now contains eight huge buildings (coops?) which house the noble birds. Between the
(continued on next page)

Metfield (continued)

rows of bird houses, the center of the runway serves as an alley for vehicles of whatever type are needed to care for this huge flock. The remaining S.W. portion of the runway has long since been torn up. The two cross wind runways are still to be seen in various stages of disrepair. The perimeter track still exists and our coach utilized it for our visit. The rivetments are gone — five nissen huts remain from the bomb dump and two from the ammo dump. The control tower is not to be seen.

We could not agree as to whether a group of buildings we saw was the Base Operations complex. We observed the site of the Base Hospital with several huts still standing — having been used in the past as tool sheds. A short walk through a small wood took us to a group of concrete, low ceilinged buildings. Here again, we could not determine what this ancient ruin was. Although green and verdant, the entire area was hard underfoot. Upon scraping away a layer of moss and soil, roadways and concrete pads that served as foundations could be observed.

One T2 hangar remains to this day — renovated and modernized, used as a distribution point for the Crane Co.

It was really anyone's guess as to where the squadron living areas were, except for the 854th. Perhaps you remember they were actually in the village of North Pickenham. How many of you have jumped the fence to have a go at the "Blue Lion", just a stones throw down the road?

Ah! The Blue Lion — 450 years old — still there — still the same except for a new coat of bright blue paint, a new electronic pool table and the third set of proprietors since we were there. Mr. and Mrs. E. Garrett are the present owners and very gracious people indeed. Upon our arrival — which was arranged by Steve Gotts — we were served a lovely buffet lunch, compliments of the owners. Of course, the food was washed down with copious amounts of Porter, Lager and good old Mild & Bitters. We were informed that the lady who owned the pub during our occupation is still alive and 93 years of age. I don't seem to recall her name!

We met and conversed with a number of local people, among them Tony Wallis — a young man who by the time this report is published, will have begun his enlistment with the R.A.F. Tony has, ever since his early childhood, made an intensive study of Station #143. He knows more about the base at North Pick than anyone of us who flew from its sheltered valley so long ago. He presented me with a large hand rendered chart done in India ink depicting the field much as we knew it. If I could possibly embellish it and have it reproduced it might prove interesting to some of you.

2nd Air Division Memorial Trust U.S.A.A.F. Minutes of Governors' Meeting of 31st May 1983

by Nick Walter

The Annual Governors' Meeting of the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust was held on the last day of the official program of the Convention in Norwich in the palatial surroundings of the Hotel Nelson on the 31st May. In addition to a good turn-out of Governors, the Meeting was honored with the presence of the Association's retiring President, Major-General Andy Low, Colonel Freudenthal the incoming President, Mr. David Patterson the past President, the formidable figure of Miss Evelyn Cohen (Vice-President Membership) and Mrs. Hathy Veynar. Also present were the County Librarian, Sam Mortlock, our long-suffering Librarian, Colin Sleath, with special responsibility for the Memorial Room, Tom Nash the Architect of the Group Memorial Project, and Dr. Roy Baker who is heading the Schools Project for wider dissemination of knowledge of the existence of the Memorial Room and of course, America.

The Chairman, Mr. Tom Eaton, opened the proceedings by welcoming all the Officers of the 2nd Air Division Association and invited them to join freely in any discussion that took place and expressed grateful thanks on behalf of the Governors and the Trust to the Association and its Members for their most generous check of \$20,000 donated to the Trust Fund and presented at the banquet. He also expressed the Governors' gratitude and thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Krause for the fine porcelain model of the Bald Eagle presented for display in the Memorial Room. This was also, he said, an appropriate moment to consult with the involved authorities as to the display of the Eagle and other items in the exhibition case in the Memorial Room so that they can all be displayed to the best advantage.

Finally, Mr. Eaton expressed the grateful thanks of the Governors to the Vice-Chairman, Paul King, and David Hastings and their many helpers for all the work that they had done in respect of the Association's visit to Norwich, he said there would be many letters of thanks to be sent and particular mention should be made of the Manager of the Norwood Rooms and the extremely efficient waitress service, he also mentioned David Hastings' work done on the films that had been shown.

Tom Nash, the Architect of the Group Memorial Project made his report, a decision was reached on which tailfin should be displayed in respect of the 489th Bomb Group, further discussions were to take place with the Imperial War Museum on the Group Memorial Project. Dr. Roy Baker presented his report on progress in

research being carried out by schools, of the filming by the television unit, the archive tapes which had been received, and the educational liaison with the University of Maine.

We were then honored with the as ever momentous report of Jordan Uttal, our American Governor, about money as always, but not surprisingly, he said he was delighted with progress in the Memorial Room but his main concern was the size of the Capital Fund, increasing it, and in conserving expenditure, and his theme was that it was about time there was some fund raising in England to add to the Capital Fund, it was impossible to predict how long funds might continue to come from the United States, and fund raising on our side of the Atlantic should therefore start as soon as possible. The Association had donated about \$100,000 since 1975 to the Trust Fund, there was the proposition now to start an Endowment Program with separate funds within the Capital Fund and how the Bomb Groups had already voted that their excess funds should be used for that purpose. Finally, he mentioned the mechanics of check donation to the 2nd Air Division Association so that tax relief could be obtained.

The annual book allocation was agreed, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were re-appointed unanimously, Colin Sleath was asked to obtain estimates for the costs of preparation of the Group Rolls of Honor and it was agreed that there should be a full Governors' Meeting in September or October. Finally, the Chairman mentioned the regret that all felt that this was the last meeting to be attended by Mr. Christopher Snow as a Governor nominated by his Excellency the United States Ambassador, he expressed the unanimous feeling of appreciation for all his help and contribution to the work of the Trust during his period as Governor.



Andy Low, Jordan Uttal, Jimmy Stewart and Charles Freudenthal (new President) on way to Business Meeting May 28.

MEMORIAL ROOM DEDICATED BY 453rd BG

By Don Olds (453rd)

After three years of tireless effort the members of the 453rd BG were able to dedicate their memorial to those lost by the group during the war. The ceremony was held around noon on Monday, May 30th. Some of the happenings follow in chronological order.

The citizens of Old Buckenham turned out in force to welcome our buses from Norwich. A drum and bugle corps consisting of young CAP type cadets marched ahead of us to the green outside the Town Parish Hall. After both national anthems and posting of the colors, the invocation was given. Milt Stokes, Chairman of the Memorial Committee then delivered a 'lump in the throat' dedication address that caused some eyes to water, mine included. Generals (Ret.) James Stewart and Andy Low thanked the people of Old Buckenham for their welcome in 1943 and again in 1983. After more fanfare the ribbon was cut and we started filing into our Memorial Room.

Inside the vestibule is a glass display case containing a bomb sight, flying glasses, air crew fishing kit, mess kits and spoons, compass, flashlights, flare cases and even a Browning 0-5 machine gun with shells, etc., and lots of pieces of crashed

453rd Libs. One wall is decorated with photos and a bronze plaque reads, "This Memorial Room opened on May 30th, 1983 by members of the 453rd Bomber Group whose generosity helped to provide a lasting memorial". Turning right inside the vestibule takes you through another door into the main room of the memorial.

Your attention is immediately drawn to the large bronze plaque in which is engraved (hopefully) the names of all those who lost their lives serving with the 453rd BG. Under the plaque in the buff colored floor are the large numbers 453 in red. Along one wall lie even more items from the airfield, all tagged. A member of the town council told me that when they asked for items for the display cases, things started coming out of the woodwork. There is a bicycle and baseball bat that once belonged to Ray Gibbons, a crewmember on PAPER DOLL. Flying jackets, boots, helmet, a Nissen Hut stove and a can of Postum is a small part of this collection. A landing light from the airfield runway was used as a doorstop. Passing through another door takes you into the original portion of the Parish Hall.

After moving into this room we all sat down to a nice meal prepared and served by the ladies of Old Buck. After the meal Mike Benarcik presented a painting entitled WELCOME HOME YANK, showing a smoking 453rd Lib being escorted back to England by a Spitfire. An appreciative Parish Council will have it displayed in the Memorial Room.

After browsing about the room and grounds, a tree was planted outside the room facing the old airfield. Lots of pictures being taken . . . extensive news media coverage, etc.

Buses took us over to the airfield where a local flying group gave free flights around the airfield. Several took advantage of these flights and Seymour Cohen's knuckles were still white after he deplaned. From here we were taken to see what little remains of the airfield, which isn't much. Operations is still there with mission board still hanging on the wall and barely readable. The bus tour ended up back at the Memorial Room where the people of Old Buckenham still remained. Final goodbyes were exchanged and as we waved from our bus windows to the lingering crowd I'm sure we all felt good inside and knew this was one day we would always remember.

Space limitation causes me to cut this short and not use any pictures till next time. I took a couple rolls of slides at the reunion and intend to package them up along with a cassette tape and offer them to anyone who wants to see them on a first come basis. Viewer pays postage.

Finally, whatever part you played in causing this wonderful memorial to become a reality you have every right to feel very proud. I know all those present at the dedication walked very tall. Special recognition must go to the executive committee who never once allowed this project to flounder. Congratulations on a job well done.

U.S. Women In Nostalgic Return

(Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

Norfolk gave Lilian Moore two special memories: it was here she danced with Glenn Miller . . . and here she learned to ride a bike.

It holds different memories for Hathy Veynar, Joanne Affronte and Evelyn Cohen — but for all four the county is an irresistible draw.

They are American, four of about 150 women who were based here during the last war. But despite the hard times they saw here what they cherish are "fantastic memories".

Fantastic enough to bring them back with other members of the 2nd Air Division — and in some cases bring them back again and again.

Evelyn Cohen, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, not only comes back, she runs the reunions of the 2nd Air Division Association.

"We love it, it's our second home. This is our sixth trip back and we consider Norwich our second home. In 1979 when I said we weren't coming back anymore they were hysterical."

Evelyn spent two years here, working as a secretary at Ketteringham Hall, the headquarters of the division. Hathy Vey-

nar, who was a sergeant during the war, has clear memories of the living conditions there.



Celebrating together — four American women who were based in Norfolk during the war. They are, from left, Lilian Moore, Joanne Affronte, Evelyn Cohen and Hathy Veynar.

"We lived in Nissen huts, then when more girls came we lived in tents, not for the whole period but that was something.

"We used the inside of bomb crates for sleeping and put our beds on top of them — and hoped it didn't fall down into the mud," said Hathy of Annendale, Virginia.

Joanne Affronte was also stationed at Ketteringham Hall before going to what is now Norwich airport but was then a combat base.

It was something of an experiment:

"They wanted to find out if women would work out on a combat base. I was the first one and it worked out fine. It ended up that they put women onto all the bases," said Joanne, who lives in California.

Like the other women she remembers the great friendship she was shown by the British — and the atmosphere on VE day.

"I went down to London on the train and there were two Australians and an Englishman. He was a champagne salesman and he had a satchel full — we celebrated all the way and we never slept for three days!"

She's brought back by "nostalgia, the camaraderie of all the people and most of all our library. We feel very strongly about it. We feel it's a living memorial."

Joanne was referring to the Memorial Room in Norwich Central Library — this year's convention marked the 20th anniversary of its opening.

Joanne, Hathy and Evelyn have all been back to Norfolk before now. For Lilian, who comes from Florida, it was her first visit since the war years.

She was planning to "see everything" including Ketteringham Hall where she worked as a cryptographer and, doubtless, St. Andrew's and Blackfriar's Hall in Norwich where she danced with Glenn Miller. "He was very nice," she remembered.

YANKS RETURN TO BASE

(Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

The Yanks went back to Old Buckenham yesterday . . . and were given a heroes' welcome by scores of villagers.

A red carpet greeting awaited the visitors as they turned back the clock for an emotional trip to their second world war flying base.

There were reunions, memories, even a few tears — and for the ex-airmen and their families it was a day to cherish forever.

The Americans, in Norfolk for the 36th annual convention of the 2nd Air Division Association, had a chance to view their wartime airfield from above and saw a lasting memorial to lost comrades officially opened.

One of 15 coach trips to Norfolk and North Suffolk air bases of the last war, the Old Buckenham visit more than lived up to its promise of being one of the convention's stand-out events.

From the moment when the coach from Norwich arrived in the village, residents pulled out all the stops to salute the men whose daring exploits played a large part in the USAF's campaign in the skies between 1942 and 1945.

The 231 Nch Squadron Air Training Corps Band offered a musical salute, after which parish council chairman Mr. David

Bate explained how the 453rd Bomber Group, which served at Old Buckenham, had raised £15,000 for an extension to the village hall. This took the form of a memorial room to those members of the group who died in action during the war.

It was dedicated by the leader of the Quidenham group of parishes, the Rev. Philip Nichols. A poem in tribute to the Americans was read by Miss Audrey Hammond, of nearby Stacksford.

The guests toured the memorial room, which features photographs, models and flying equipment illustrating the story of the 453rd group.

Lunch in the village hall was followed by the presentation of a copy of a painting, "Welcome Home Yank," from the Americans to the parish council. It depicts a B-24 Liberator being escorted back to base by a Spitfire.

Villagers were given the chance to voice their memories of wartime life at Old Buckenham — and then it was on to the airfield where five light vintage aircraft, supplied by members of Felthorpe Flying Group, ferried the former airmen over the runways from which they began hundreds of missions.

For some it was a time to re-live the experience of lifting off and touching down

on the deserted airfield, hidden from public view in a vast expanse of countryside.

Others chose to stay on the ground and reflect on the sacrifice of those who lost their lives in the conflict.

For all, it proved to be a highly moving experience.

Capt. Mike Benarcik, of Wilmington, Delaware, summed it all up.

"I feel very nostalgic and very sad," he said. "It reminds me not so much of the flying but the fellows I flew with who are not here today."

"I am touched by the main runway particularly, because on one of our missions, we lost one of our crews on take-off."

"We were taking off at 30-second intervals and we flew into black, billowing smoke. That was very sad. Only two out of 11 men survived."

Of the reception the visitors received from Old Buckenham, he added: "It has been heartwarming and overwhelming. Everyone was so genuine. It was wonderful."

Mr. Milt Stokes, who chaired the memorial room project organizing group, said after a flight over the fields: "I could see the old tower and the imprint of the old runways under the crops. It is hard to describe how I feel."

Today, the six-day convention ends and the Americans will begin returning home. With them they take many new memories — and leave a strengthened legacy to East Anglia.

ABOUT THE MEMORIAL

July 10, 1983

It is my sincere hope that you will be as delighted as those at the banquet in Norwich were with the news that we were able to present a check to the Trust this year in the amount of \$20,000.00!!!

How fitting it was that your continued generosity enabled us to mark the 20th anniversary of the dedication of our Memorial Room with such a sum, the largest ever. It was a pleasant surprise to the audience, and especially to the Chairman of the Board of Governors Tom Eaton, the other Governors present, and to all the British guests.

At a meeting with Dean in Philadelphia in March, it looked as if we could reach that amount at the rate the contributions were coming in from you. With the Executive Committee approval we agreed to that figure if the collections warranted it. And so it proved to be!! Unfortunately Dean could not make the trip, but he entrusted the check into my hot little hands, and the honor fell to me, at the banquet, to indulge in this bit of dramatics. Believe me, it was an honor.

As your representative on the Board of Governors, I convey to you the sincere

appreciation expressed by Tom at the banquet, by all the Governors in a resolution at our annual meeting on Tuesday 31 May, and by letter from various members of the Board since our return. Steps have already been taken in Norwich to approach several charitable Trusts to attempt to secure funds there to insure further accelerated growth in our Capital assets. We recognize that it will take time, but the effort is underway.

Meanwhile, as of the time of the meeting, the annual financial report of the Trust showed a very healthy gain in value of close to 31% over the previous year. Specifically, as of the end of our fiscal year, 5 April 1983, we had net assets, in cash and securities of 85249 pounds as compared to 65216 pounds the previous year. Of that amount 8200 pounds represents our 1982 gift, and the rest is market appreciation of the securities and a 16% increase in income from investments.

So, again, grateful thanks to you, the membership, and at the same time, let us commend the Board of Governors for their successful management of our Trust.

Individual Group Memorial Project

Here again, your generosity enabled us to go over the top of the goal of \$750.00 per Group. At this writing (July 15th) only

two units fell slightly short. May we therefore suggest that no further contributions for this effort are needed. Your contributions to the Capital fund, however are always welcome.

The result of this project, in the opinion of many, is a dynamic new dimension to the Memorial, in which 2AD, B-24 air operations are dramatically depicted, and the contributions of each group, fighter and bomber, in terms of human life and effort are emphasized.

For all time to come, families of those who perished, and of those who survived, can find in one location, the 2AD Memorial Room of the Norwich Central Library, vivid evidence of the tremendous striking force that the 2nd Air Division represented — and its cost!!!

The membership of the 2nd Air Division Association therefore have two more accomplishments of which to be proud — enabling your Association as a whole to contribute an all time record amount to the Capital Fund, and your individual units to add this new, enlarged portrayal of each of the 2nd Air Division U.S.A.A.F. units role in the history of American Air Power. For both, the Association, and the Memorial Trust extend their warmest thanks.

JORDAN R. UTTAL

458th BG News

by Rick Rokicki (458th)

A short time ago, your *Journal* Editor asked all Group Vice-Presidents to limit their Quarterly Group news to "about a page and a half of double spaced" stuff in order to give all an opportunity to get their message to their Group. I shall not use that much, so that others in the 458th can have their comments printed also. We are fortunate that we have several people who submit stories to Bill Robertie to print. Please continue to do so and Bill says he will make every effort to get it in the issue, or the one following.

We had a total of 49 members, wives and a son at our reunion in Norwich last May and June. Every one I talked to was pleased with all events, but I must admit that the weather was a bit on the wet side. A great many comments were heard that it's about the same as it was 40 years ago. In spite of that, we had a very great time of it and those that came back to Norwich for the first time since leaving in the '40's, vowed to return again (and hoping for drier weather, no doubt).

The Group was a bit split up and those

of us who were at the Hotel Nelson, had a little excitement when a fire was detected on the 3rd floor. Stan and Royna Johnson came down a fire rescue ladder, but not before Stan went back for his pipe and camera. He was taking photos of those who were taking pictures of them as they made their 'exit'! No one was hurt and just a little inconvenienced. Both Gloria and Jimmy Stewart were also on the same floor, but not in their room at the time. That evening, we gathered in the lounge just below the fire area and held our Mini Reunion and had an excellent participation. Might add here that I was fortunate to be re-elected for another term as your Group V.P. I shall do my best, I assure you. We shall be looking forward in October of '84 to Palm Springs. If you intend to be there, get your request in early. It promises to be a "top notch" affair.

Jack and Gail Krause presented a magnificent Gorham American Bald Eagle to the Library. Those of you who may be familiar with the Gorham people and their absolute quality work, can appreciate the value of this wonderful porcelain art work. All of us thank Gail and Jack for their thoughtfulness. Getting the "bird" to Norwich was another story in itself, and

very nearly had them both near heart failure.

Continue to send out my "recruiting" letters in the hope that more 458th members will be found. Please let me know of anyone you may still have contact with and I will send my information package to him. Need your help here, even if it's just a name and address on the back of a post card. We stand at just 300 and I know we can do better than that. Many thanks in advance, for your help.

For those who asked about the small B-24 lapel/tie tac pin that Ceil and I wore (with the red-white-red vertical 458th tail colors,) I will make you one on request. The cost is \$5.00 each plus .40¢ postage. Size is 1 1/8 inch long and made of the finest Boston pewter. Any questions, drop me a note at either my home address or my airport box number. Both are listed elsewhere in this issue. Again, looking forward to seeing you all again in Palm Springs, God willin'.

American Flyers Relive Missions

(Courtesy Eastern Daily Press)

For 550 Americans this weekend brought a step back in time to the second world war when they flew from East Anglia's airfields.

The members attending the 2nd Air Division Association Convention, based in Norwich, will find many of their wartime hosts with vivid memories, and some practical souvenirs, of the GIs and the aircraft in which they flew.

At the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum at Flixton, for example a room is devoted to relics of the time when the 446th Bombardment Group was based at Flixton airfield.

Photographs, a uniform, a panorama of the airfield, and relics of the aircraft can be viewed to the background of "piped" music of Glenn Miller.

Four decades rolled back for 41 former Flixton flyers when they arrived at Bungay to present a plaque to the town commemorating the hospitality and friendship shown by local people during the war.

The plaque was unveiled at Bungay Community Centre, and a reception was arranged by the town council whose chairman, Mr. Ivor Baldwin, said at a recent meeting: "We were jolly glad of them when they were here, and I think we owe a lot to them."

Adapting a familiar phrase from a more recent conflict, he added: "After all, we counted them all out, but we never used to count them all back."

After the presentation of the plaque the veterans paid a nostalgic return trip to Flixton; and to the aviation museum.

Lest We Forget



Mr. J.D. Long, left, a former president of the 2nd Air Division Association, who was among the 550 Americans at the 36th annual convention of the 2nd Air Division Association, joins three pupils from George White Middle School, Silver Road, Norwich, at the American Memorial room and fountain at Norwich Central library.

The children, right, Denise Marshall, 10, Susan Liddiment, 10, center, and Nathan Beaumont, 10, were among pupils from the school who had earlier listened to a talk given by members of the association, and Mr. Long, about how they conducted their combat against Nazi Germany.

The talks to schools in the area are part of the Memorial Trust plans to extend the educational facilities provided by them.

Built into the fountain are stones from every state in the Union. Looking with them was Mr. Tom Eaton, chairman of the governors of the Memorial Trust.

THE 448TH SPEAKS

By Leroy J. Engdahl (448th)

Forty three husbands and wives attended the 36th Annual Reunion in England, some for their first reunion ever and several for the first time in England.

George DuPont was able to go over a few days early and went out to Seething and spoke to the elementary grades telling them about our participation in the air war against the Germans and answering numerous questions from a very attentive young group.

Mrs. Rowe, their teacher, along with her husband joined us one evening for awhile and spoke to us about English schools in general and Seething in particular. We are indebted to George for representing us and spreading goodwill to some future adults of England.

An election of a new V.P. resulted in yours truly being elected and Col. Downey Thomas as assistant V.P. I'm glad to have his help as well as any assistance any of you can offer from time to time.

A message of gratitude endorsed by numerous members was sent to Joseph Michalczyk for his several years of most dedicated work and his being instrumental in the growth of the membership in the 448th B.G.

A plaque is being sent to Joe also by the Administration of the 2nd A.D. in commemoration of his outstanding service; We all salute you Joe and invite your suggestions and help any time you wish to do so.

The 448th took up a collection to raise the \$220.00 we were short on the 448th Memorial Library Plaque. We raised \$378.00 and the balance was donated to the Memorial Library Fund.

Bob Harper also donated a beautiful painting to the elementary school at Seething on behalf of the 448th B.G. We are certainly grateful to Bob for this generous gesture.

I am preparing a roster of the 448th Bomb Group. This will make it easy to look up your fellow 448th members without having to locate them in the 2nd A.D. roster.

I will keep the cost to a minimum. I think there will be about 10 pages (printed on both sides). The typing will be about \$10/\$12 and mailing may run 30¢/40¢ but the major cost will be xeroxing. If anyone has access to a copier it sure will save a lot of money as there are about 300 members of the 448th and with each list having 10 pages on both sides represents 6000 copies at 10¢/copy is \$600 just for the copies only. Add stamps, paper etc. this could run close to a final cost near \$300. If a few people would make just 100 copies each this could keep the cost to perhaps less than a dollar. Please let me know if

you wish to help on this and I'll send you an early copy of the 448th new roster.

The 448th is studying the possibility of erecting a memorial at the site of our old air base at Seething. This was discussed at one of our meetings and George DuPont is contacting some of his English friends to ascertain the cost of such a project. We are thinking in terms of a 3 ft. x 4 ft. x 8" thick marker mounted on a substantial concrete pad with wording something like this: "Site of 448th U.S. Air Force (B-24) Liberator Bomber Group — World War II; 2nd Air Division of the 8th Air Force; 712th, 713th, 714th and 715th Sqdns.; Flew 262 missions; Lost 146 aircraft and 350 killed in action — Dedicated to their memory." This is not final but in general what we want to inscribe.

We have about 300 paid members and many of you know people who are not paid members but were members of the 448th during the war and I believe would like to contribute to such a memorial in memory of our comrades who gave up their lives. Please let these people know and tell them we are seeking donations.

Please send your personal checks for your contributions to this project and make it out to "448th Bomb Group, 2nd A.D." and make note on your check "for 448th Memorial Marker".

I will open up a special bank account and deposit all these checks in this account and you will have your cashed check as your receipt.

I plan on being at the 8th A.F. Reunion in Houston in October and I would appreciate all you of the 448th who plan to attend to drop me a line. The 448th has been assigned to the Hyatt-Regency Hotel, 1200 Louisiana St. and we intend to have a 448th get-together. We hope to have a cost estimate from George DuPont who will be there, as well as a report on the 448th roster project and other items of interest.

It's an honor to represent the 448th as V.P. but I need news items from you people that we can put in the 2nd A.D. Newsletter. Please send me your stories and pictures relating to your stories, if you have them. I'll return your pictures.

Please let me have your stories. Hope to see you in Houston.

LEROY J. ENGDALH

COMMENTS FROM HEADQUARTERS

By Jim Reeves (Hdq.)

A good time was had by all . . . that's the story of all who attended the 36th reunion in Norwich . . . 570 in number. The great people of Norwich and East Anglia rolled out the Red Carpet for all the Yanks! The reunion was a well planned, well executed event that will be remembered.

It was indeed an honor and pleasure for me to serve as your VP of Headquarters this past year. I appreciate the plaque given to me by our President, Andy Low. I will display it with pride in my office.

I was asked to serve again this year as your Vice President. It will indeed be an honor to serve with President Charles Freudenthal and all of the Vice Presidents. It was my privilege to attend an executive meeting of all of the Officers of the Association and your leadership wants to make this a banner year for 2AD.

I want to pay tribute to our President of this past year, General Andy Low, for a great year of leadership and devotion. As spokesman for headquarters I want to say "many thanks" to this fine Gentleman.

I also want to say thanks to members of Headquarters personnel who continue to furnish great leadership and service to 2AD . . . Evelyn Cohen, Jordan Uttal, Dean Moyer and Hathy Veynar.

My wife and I made several visits to the American Room at Norwich Library looking and reading. Every member of 2AD

should be justly proud of this fine tribute in honor of our 6057 men of 2AD who gave their lives. The new 14 individual Group Aircraft markings in color along with headquarters and a panel for the fighter groups are all in place and attractively displayed on the walls of the American Room. It is truly a humbling experience to visit this room.

The City Officials, County Officials and the Board of Governors extended a big welcome to all. Our good friends Tom Eaton, Paul King and David Hastings, who came to Nashville last year, were everywhere . . . making everyone happy. They came early and stayed late . . . Paul King was interested in learning "Southern English". Two more days with Paul and I could have given him his diploma.

After leaving Norwich, Edna and I and Charles Merrill had a very interesting experience in London. We were given a tour of Scotland Yard by two of its Chief Officers, who had visited in my home town of Moultrie. We appreciated the hospitality shown us by these gentlemen.

Now it's time to resume productivity and communicate with headquarters personnel and secure additional memberships. I need your assistance in this matter . . . so please send me name, and address of eligible members. I will contact them immediately. Eleanor Storms is going to assist me in securing WAC membership. (Eleanor I appreciate this very much).

LETTERS

Dear Bill:

I have some sad news to relate this time around. Dear old Daisy at the 'Three Nags' passed away yesterday. She had been poorly for the last week, and wasn't expected to last as long as she did.

I have enclosed a clipping from today's newspaper, perhaps later there will be something else on her long career at the 'Nags.' I guess the area has lost a great character — she will be sorely missed by the pub members of the village.

The 93rd B.G. members will be saddened by her passing away as many visited there, particularly in recent years.

John W. Archer

Dear Evelyn:

Enclosed is my dues payment along with a ten dollar donation to our Memorial Library.

I also want to thank you for forwarding my address to Harold McMahon, in Parma, Ohio. Harold was the radio operator on our crew. He picked up something I wrote in the *Journal* and noticed my name and followed up from there. We had not been in contact for 38 years. He wrote me and since then we have been corresponding. I cannot describe in words what a thrill it was to be in touch with him. I imagine this same experience must prevail from time to time with other members of our organization.

Bob Mantel
856th Sqdn. - 492nd B. Grp.

Dear Evelyn:

I do hope that I am not too late in receiving a bit of information on the next reunion in Norwich. Sometime back I did not think that I would be able to attend. Now I plan to retire from my present job, and so I would like to plan on visiting Norwich for the reunion. However it seems to be a bit of a secret as far as costs and exact times of arrivals and departure for this wonderful get together. In the last issue, we were asked to fill in our name and address. This I have done and enclosed with a self addressed envelope. I would certainly appreciate any information that you could send to me as to costs of the airfare and hotel accommodations. Also any additional costs, involved in this fine gathering.

By the way, could I be wrong to think that this association is made up entirely of aircrew personnel? Between the stories and photos we see and read in the *Journal*, and to see those that attended previous reunions; ground crews never did exist. Do any former ground crewmen attend these reunions? I would like to know, as I would feel a bit out of place, being the sole mechanic in attendance.

Thanking you in advance for any consideration given this letter, I remain,

Gratefully yours,
Robert Zeman

(ed note: To answer your question you would be wrong to think that this Association is made up entirely of air crew personnel. Far from it. Why you see so much of air crew personnel is because ground crewmen fail to submit material for the *Journal*. In the past we have had many articles from ground crew personnel, and they have been excellent articles. I certainly agree with you that we need more but I can't write their stories for them. It would be a nice start if you sat down and rattled off a few experiences of your own which would get the ball rolling.)

Dear Evelyn:

I have settled down here in my native Chicago area after many years of working and travelling around the old U.S.A. I guess I have missed all communications from the Second Air Div. and the 389th group.

I believe I wrote to you a couple years ago after seeing old Pappy Harris' name in a write up. It was never published or at least I never saw it and I did not receive any letters from it. So I will write some more.

I was one of the original Cadre of the 389th (BG). Radio operator fresh out of the first class at Souix Falls S.D. I and Al Arndt from Belin, Wis. were the first two radio operators in the group. We were assigned the job of teaching all the crew members code to the speed of at least 8 words a minute.

We were formed at Davis Monthan (Tucson, Ariz.), Went to Biggs Field Tex. (El Paso) then to Lowery #2 where Pres. Roosevelt reviewed us on Easter Sun. 1943, Right???

I was assigned to group Radio under Lt. O'Neil (?) for the trip over on the Queen E. I eventually ended up on the combat crew in place of a Sgt. who was killed on practice mission at Hethel and Sgt. Pappy Harris was a survivor of the crash.

Shortly after I was assigned to the crew, we were sent off to N. Africa to make the 1st Viernerneustadt raid from Tunis. To make a long story short I was knocked down while on mission with the WOLF-WAGON as radio operator. I ended up in Stalag XVIIIB along with Sgts. Edwards and Bill Crowley of Chicago. I heard later that Lt. Ken Matson of Gary Ind. also survived, he was our pilot.

I have never heard from any of them except for Edwards and Crowley in Stalag XVIIIB. I know that Lt. Patterson, Engelhardt, Monroe, Earley, Stasemeier, Driver, were killed.

I was re-patriated in 1944 and left Stalag XVIIIB in July to come home through Sweden. Repatriation due to wounds and disability. My memory has been clouded these many years but I do wish to hear from some of my old friends of the 389th. In fact, I am very much interested in going on the trip to Norwich 1983.

Harold F. Sheahan
1982 Tall Oaks Drive
Aurora, Ill. 60505
Apt. 1A

Dear Bill:

In case you have room, I have a letter from a new member that had parts that might be of some interest. I took out a lot of paragraphs, and here is the meat . . .

Dear Mac:

Thanks for the information about dues and the memorial. Enclosed is a check for each.

Thanks also for the *Journal*. I did not know you had such an association nor about the reunion in Nashville last year. I would have been there as it is only a three hour drive from here. I was in England three years ago so I doubt that I'll get back there for the '83 reunion, but will certainly try to make the '84 in Palm Springs, California.

Our original co-pilot was Lt. Willard A. Hill, Jr., (705th Squadron). I would very much like to contact his widow . . . he was killed on a later flight. Her name was Janet S. Hill. Last known address was Toledo, Ohio. I understand the house is no longer standing. I went to Toledo last fall to try to locate Mrs. Hill but was unable to do so. If you or anyone can help, I would deeply appreciate that.

I wrote a book while in prison camp that contains something of our outfit, our missions, the one we were shot down on (Mulhouse, 25 May 1944) prison life and two death marches. I hope to get it published under the title, "Once a POW, always a POW".

Lawson Corley
8952 Glendale Drive
Birmingham, AL 35206

Hello Mr. Robertie:

Having just received the 2AD *Journal* for Sept. 82 through the kindness of Mr. James E. O'Brien, a former 44th BG Eightballer and also being interested in former 2 AD men and machines I am writing to you to ask a favor and that is would you please insert in a future *Journal* a request to help find somebody who was over in this area during WW2. I have in my possession a pair of Aircrew wings made into a bracelet and also a silver wrist tag with the name DAN inscribed and also the serial No. 37161541. I have been in contact with the Military Personnel Record Center in St. Louis and all they have been able to tell me is that the man's name was DANIEL R. WILLSON, nothing else what so ever. I have a feeling that he was at a base somewhere in this area as the lady who gave them to me has lived in Dereham all her life and she is now 70 years of age, but cannot remember how they came into her possession, but gave them to me as she knows that I am very interested in anything that has connections with the 2 AD from 42-45.

I would like to become an associate member of the 2 AD so could you please tell me what the dues and fees would be for someone from over here. I had an old friend visit me in September 81 with whom I got friendly with when he was here with the 392nd at Wendling the first time we had met for 37 years so you can guess we had a great deal to talk about. He was saying that he was interested in becoming a member so I will give you his name and address: Mr. Louis J. Talerico, 196 Homewood Ave., Fairmont, W. VA 26554. I hope that you all have a great time at your reunion in Norwich in May or June 83 and also the *Journal* is great reading. Thanking you in anticipation of your help.

Denis Duffield

Dear Bill:

Hope you had a great time in Norwich! Sorry I missed this one, but I hope to see you in Calif. next year.

Enclosed is a color print and a 35mm slide of a genuine B-24 — and flyable.



I first saw this B-24 at San Diego — 29 Dec. 79. It was flown in to Lindbergh Field to take part in the 40th anniversary of the first flight of a B-24 from that same Lindbergh Field.

This B-24 is now on loan to the March Field Museum and can be seen there along with other vintage planes.

This plane is owned by Dave Tallichet of Long Beach, Calif.

It may be the only flyable B-24 in the U.S. other than the one the Confederate Air Force has.

I am not sure, but I understand the Confederate B-24 was re-configured back to a bomber version.

Also — and again I am not sure — this Tallichet B-24 may be the one we did not see at Duxford in 1979.

Perhaps you could make use of this information and/or the photos in the *Journal*.

In any case, and when you are through with them, please return the photos in enclosed S.A.S.E.

I might be able to confirm some of the above information I am not sure of — should you wish.

Best regards and thanks for your part in making the *Journal* the fine publication it is.

Walter T. Hebron
576 Sqdn., 392 B.G.

Dear Jordan:

**TV Documentary:
Memorial Room**

The University of Maine, collaborating with a local TV station, is currently filming a project under which Professor Bernard Yvon of the University of Maine brings a party of teachers or student teachers every year to teach in Norfolk schools. This project is run jointly with the University of East Anglia School of Education. One of the faculty, Dr. Roy Baker, has been working with Professor Yvon and the Memorial Trust on the preparation of teaching materials on America and the 2nd Air Division for use in Norfolk schools.

The film crew has recorded the visit of children from a Rackheath school to the Memorial Room, and also an interview with Tom Eaton, Chairman of the Memorial Trust. The film is scheduled for screening in late August or September.

The above might do for a paragraph in the *Journal*. I am wondering if there is any way of alerting 2AD members in New England that this film will be on their screens soon; indeed, the film makers would send a notification of the screening date and station to a mailing list, if we could produce one. Any ideas?

Colin Sleath
Deputy Divisional Librarian

Evelyn:

I know I am not the first, but I want to be early.

You, Jordan, Andy and the others did one helluva job on Norwich '83. I've been to other reunions, but nothing to match this one.

With all the effort expended I am sorry I didn't exert a little myself and send a tape. If it isn't too late, I'm working on one that may be useful.

My only disappointment is that I met no one I had known from the 446th before. However, those I met are now like dear old friends.

Fern and I are looking forward to Palm Springs in '84.

Aud Risley

Dear Evelyn:

John and I want to tell you how much we appreciated all of the work that was done to prepare that great week in Norwich. I'm sure there are many to thank but with no addresses, I hope you'll be able to tell them for us.

We both thought it was the best week ever as far as vacations go.

The English were terrific and we love Jimmy and Gloria.

Betty Greene

Dear Bill:

Enclosed are pictures of some 566th Squadron (389th B.G.) planes that were mentioned in the last *Journal*: Nana and the Green Dragon. You might want to run these pictures in a later issue.

The pictures of Nana must have been taken early in her career since only four bombs are shown under the pilot's window. Please note that Nana was a blonde on the co-pilot's side of the plane and a brunette on the pilot's side. No doubt an attempt to please everyone. Also that the names of some of the crew were painted in appropriate spots; "Sleepy" Casey, "Jack" Middleton, Rogers, McClellan, "Rut" Laurens and "Cluck" Gardner (?). The position just behind the pilot is definitely marked as "Cluck", but I'm not certain of the last name.

As for the picture of the Green Dragon, I'm not positive that it is the Green Dragon. I'm of the opinion that the erstwhile formation ship was of the same vintage as Nana: manual 50's in the nose, instead of a turret. However, my recollections may be slipping since all the pictures I took were of 566th planes. (I think).

Gordon M. Baker

Dear Bill:

Once again, my work schedule prevented me from attending the reunion in Norwich; however, we did make it there from 3 June to 17 June. I made my pilgrimage to the Memorial Room and was pleasantly surprised with the addition of the tail markings identifying each of the Bomb Groups. They make a colorful display.

While browsing through the shelves, I happened upon a book entitled *The Eighth Air Force Story* by Kenn C. Rust published by Historical Aviation Album, P.O. Box 33, Temple City, Calif. 91780. This book contains some very detailed information about all flying units that comprised the 8th Air Force including the total missions flown by each unit. Since I had previously written to you questioning Eric Smith's statement that the 44th B.G. flew the most missions, I thought that this would be an excellent opportunity to put things right. According to Mr. Rust, the 44th B.G. flew 343 missions, 18 of which were from N. Africa. The 93rd B.G. flew 396 missions, 41 from N. Africa. I also took the opportunity to check the total missions of all B-17 and B-24 units in the 8th Air Force very carefully and found that the 93rd B.G. not only topped the 2nd Air Division but also flew more missions than any heavy bomb group in the U.K. The total number of missions listed by Mr. Rust for the 93rd does differ by one from the 395 stated in the pictorial history of that unit. Regardless, it was a significant achievement and all members of the 93rd B.G. should be proud to have shared in any part of it. As an afterthought, most of us can recall, with some distaste, that the B-17 units seemed to receive most of the publicity during WWII. All members of the 2nd Air Division can take pride in the fact that when all the scores were tallied, it was one of our B-24 units that came up with the highest total of missions flown. I hope that this will set the record straight for those of us who were unaware of it.

Robert A. Jacobs

Evelyn:

We want to thank you for your effort in putting together the Norwich Reunion. It was well organized and we enjoyed every day of it. First time back since 1945. Also pass on our thanks to our British friends in Norwich for their part in the Convention. Hope to see you next yr.

Virgil and Kay Fisher (458th)

Dear Bill:

I want to thank you very much for your cooperation. I am as sorry as you that the information cannot be enclosed in your paper until September. However after a wait of years, a couple of months won't be that long.

I think that you have a very good paper. It certainly is very informative to the membership. You can rest assured that I read it.

If there is any way that I can assist you in the future please let me know. I shall be happy to return the favor.

I take this opportunity to wish you a very good summer.

"Cheers, Old Boy."

E.T. "Mo" Moriarty

Dear Bill:

I need a favor. At our mini of the 389th in Norwich we decided to put together a giant photo album of the 389th, with everyone contributing, and get a volunteer to put it together and bring it to each reunion. We got our volunteer: Bob Nicely. We need a small item in the *Journal* to notify the lads.

Attention 389th:

We are putting together a huge photo album of the Sky Scorpions to be on exhibit at all reunions. Bob Nicely, 6219 N. Mitchell, Phoenix, Ariz. 85033 has volunteered for the project. Send him your photos, he will copy them and return them to you or you can contribute them. Let's get with the project and help Bob, get your photos or memorabilia to him right away. Please identify all photos.

Hang in there and don't give up the ship.

Earl Zimmerman

Dear Evelyn:

I saw in the 2nd A.D. *Journal* that decals for vehicle windows were available for the asking.

I have one which I put on my motorhome, but I have a car and pickup which I would like to put one on also. So I would sure appreciate to have two more for these vehicles.

I sure enjoy the A.D. *Journal* and am very happy to be a member of the assoc.

Wilfred Frigge

Dear Bill:

Recently while going through my "201" file that's been in storage for 36 years, I found a "brand new" copy of the Pilot's Handbook for a 241 dated January 1944. Would copies of this be interesting to other B-24 crew members or are these still readily available? I have only been a member of the post 2 years and have missed some 30 years of 2nd Division *Journals*.

Since I have relatives living in Montgomery Ala. who were familiar with the Albert F. Simpson Historical Research Center at Maxwell AFB, I ordered the history of the 93 BG as Charles J. Weiss suggested in the Sept. 1982 *Journal*. The material is to be available in 8-10 weeks. I am not sure I'm capable of writing something worth publishing but I will have it available for other members use. The research center address is: HQ AFSHRC/HD, Maxwell AFB, ALA 36112, ATTN: J.G. Endicott, Chief of Circulation; Phone 1-205-293-5958.

I have been trying to recall and describe my tour of duty with the 93 BG from July 1944 to Feb. 1945. Since I am retired, I have time to indulge in some ancient history that my grandchildren are now interested in. The missions that I was on and aircraft flown are a little hazy after this time, but a few I'll never forget.

Everett E. Johnson
93 BG 328 Sqd.





A restricted view of the new wall decorations containing the tail fin colors of all the Bomb Groups. Squadrons will be listed below.



This plaque adorns one of the walls in the Memorial Room added to the Civic center at Old Buckenham by donations from 453rd members. Observing are Frank Thomas, Jimmy Stewart, Andy Low and Milt Stokel.



Dave Patterson always smiles when in the presence of a beautiful woman. Here he regales Lady Mahew.



Rick & Ceil Rokicki join the party. Rick makes those beautiful plaques.



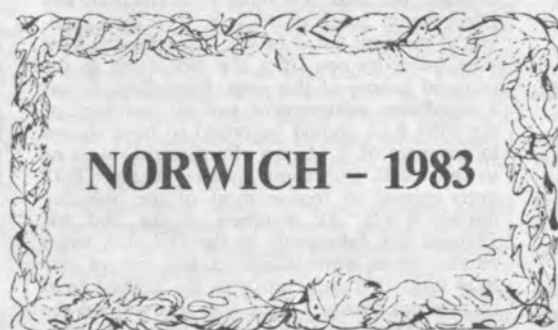
Ted and Fanny Parker stand on site of what was once the hardstand for Ted's plane.



And still they arrived — all 600 plus of them.



The fly past. RAF Lancaster followed by the ever venerable Spitfire.



Jack and Gail Krause present American Eagle to Tom Eaton for the American Room in the Norwich Library. Only 500 of these sculptures are available in the United States.



Norm Tillner, Pete Henry, Roger Freeman and Goodman Griffin outside the Hotel Nelson.



Englands' version of the Glen Miller Band during the night of the banquet. They were truly great.



The candle lighting ceremony — an annual event. Lighting one candle are John Sanders, Elmer Fischer and Bill Clarey.



Nick Walters (he with the hearty laugh), President and Mrs. Andy Low and a smiling Paul King.



Bob Dubowsky, Goodman Griffin, Pete Henry and Bruce Pauly find Flying 8-Ball still in good condition on barracks wall.



Joan Patterson, Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Trafford at the banquet.