



LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER CALLING



NO. 9

DEC 1974

MISSION NO 10: YORK, NEBRASKA

The ol 485th Eagles made a nostalgic flight to York, Nebraska and the home of the 485th Bomb Group, Fairmont Army Air Field as they gathered for their 10th annual reunion during the week end of August 2 - 4, 1974 at the York Ramada Inn. Commissioner Robert and Joan Marland (829th) of Lincoln, Nebraska hosted the excellent affair which will be remembered forever by the graying ol Eagles who attended.

Registration started Friday afternoon and was followed by a poolside barbecue during the evening. As the veterans began registering it soon became apparent that the 10th reunion would exceed past attendance records. Each year attendance at the reunions has increased and the 10th reunion was no exception as the final count showed that eighty-five veterans and their families arrived for the affair where thirty years ago most of the veterans received their combat training at nearby Fairmont AAF.

The classic short business meeting was held Saturday morning. Reoprts indicated that the reunion and newsletter funds were solvent and offers for hosting future reunions were many. It was agreed to change the location of the '75 reunion to Atlanta, Georgia from Denver, Colorado. Thus, in '76 the ol Eagles will gather on the mountain peaks at Denver, guided by Rod Ritchie and most likely in '77, venture to the Land Of Sky Blue Waters as Dan Sjodin invited the veterans to Minnesota. The meeting was concluded with a coffee break and a startling announcement by Bob Marland - the roost of the ol Eagles was going to be attacked. Several minutes later, there they were, a pair of Nebraska ANG Phantom jet fighters, saluting the ol veterans of WWII fame.

For more on the reunion story, lets turn to the article by Tom Allan, Staff Writer for the Omaha World-Herald who covered the reunion and wrote the excellent report which appears on page 2.

THIS IS HOW IT WAS

THE ICE CREAM MISSIONS: "While in Venosa," related Col Roger "Easy" Monroe of the 828th, "You may recall, that the Army produced ice cream at Bari. We were authorized a given amount periodically, if we'd pick it up. Of course, the Liberator was the transportation used. A speedy trip to Bari with a rapid turn-around and a faster return flight was required to get the ice cream to the evening meal on schedule. On one desert run I made, Lightweight tower was out, so I had arranged to "buzz" the 828th mess hall to advise the troops of my return with the hopefully still solid glaze. Apparently, I had the props set at the proper rpm or was a little to low - or both, for the thin white wash used for paint in its flaky state, descended in fine particles covering the tables, food and diners. Along with most everyone else, my meal that evening, consisted primarily of

(Cont page 4)

75 REUNION GOES TO HISTORIC SOUTH
The 485th Bomb Group Tenth Annual Reunion will be held August 1 - 3, 1975 in Atlanta, Georgia. Yu'll come now, for a return to the actual background of Gone With The Wind and see the South as it was 125 years ago. Mr and Mrs Homer Hale, 115 Tara Way, Athens, Georgia 30601 will host the event. Tentatively the '76 reunion will be in Denver, CO.

August 4, 1974

Old Eagles 'Reactivate' Base

By Tom Allan

World-Herald Staff Writer

Fairmont, Neb. — A flock of old, gray and bald eagles came back Saturday after more than 30 years to roost once more in a well-remembered nest just south of town.

There were 90 of them with their wives and kids, some 225 in all. They made the sentimental journey under marshmallow clouds in a "wild blue yonder" to visit the old Fairmont Air Base.

The trek was the highlight of a three-day reunion of the 485th Bomb Group at the Ramada Inn at York.

The old eagles "flew" in from Florida to Alaska to join old buddies and, for most of them, to visit their old base for the first time in more than three decades.

The group had opened the base, completed final phase B24 "flying boxcar" bomber training here and it was from here they took off for World War II combat.

They flew via South America and Africa to become part of the 15th Air Force in scores of bombing missions over Austria and Germany from bases in Italy.

6 Ex-Prisoners

For many, including six former prisoners of war, the reunion was the first time they'd gotten together with some of their comrades since their bombers went down in flames.

But time heals scars and the horrors of war were almost forgotten in the camaraderie known only to men who have fought a war together.

They'll pause today in the final session to salute with a moment of silence the men of the group who flew high never to return.

For some, the sadness was there hidden in their hearts but as their recollections were refreshed with displays of old pictures, news clippings and other squadron memorabilia on meeting room walls.

Some bit their lips and shook their heads at a photo of a direct torpedo hit on a troop ship in the Mediterranean on March 20, 1944.

Reading from his diary, Capt. Hank Dahlberg, former engineering officer of the wing's 831st Squadron and now a Chicago computer consultant, said: "We'd heard rumor but it wasn't a rumor. We lost eight officers and 146 men, half of the 831st and almost all of our ground personnel among the 498 men who lost their lives when German torpedo bombers made direct hits on the ship when we were moving from Africa to Italy. It was gone in 30 seconds."

The displays also included a victory edition of The World-Herald.

There was also a touch of melancholy when the veterans arrived back at the base which once throbbed with roaring engines and some 3,000 men.

Silent Greeting

They were met by silence. Except for a small area used as a state airfield, the base is abandoned. Cornfields crowd close to the old runways, themselves sprouting weeds through cracks in the crumbling concrete.

A tornado destroyed one of the four giant hangars. The others are used for storing wheat and corn. Foundations of the old barracks, mess halls and the recreation building are all that's left buried beneath the fields or hidden by weeds.

"I just can't get oriented," lamented former Corp. Edmond Manning of Springboro, Ohio, after he and his children, Gary, 9, and Melinda, 8, had sought in vain the location of the old mess hall where he cooked.

"It just ain't the same," said another former corporal, Floyd Swanson of Wausau, showing his wife around. "I live only 130 miles away but this is the first time I've been back and it sure has changed. I haven't though. I was a refueler and I told the colonel I still am. I run a gas station."

But merriment prevailed as squadron hijinks, tall tales and jests were recalled.

Chicken Outfit?

"Hey, I found my old office and there was chicken in it," shouted the gleeful Lt. Col. Dan Sjodin, a Minneapolis insurance man and former 831st squadron commander. "But some of my boys said, 'Colonel, it hasn't changed a bit.' They haven't changed."

Earlier, Sjodin had joined arms with others in a rollicking "parade" down one of the old runways.

Led by Major Robert Marland of Lincoln, state public service commissioner and reunion host as well as the group's former operations officer, the group paraded singing old barrack ditties.

Keeping in step were, Sgt. Robert Miller, Lompoc, Cal.; Dahlberg, Lt. Col. Roger Monroe, Newport Beach, Cal.; Col. Ed Nett, Dayton, Ohio; Maj. Carl Gigowski, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Lt. Col. Bob Brown, Birmingham, Mich.

They'd gotten the old preflight adrenaline up from a triple fly-over salute of their motel headquarters earlier by two Nebraska Air Guard jets.

Banquet Guests

Happy memories were kindled passing by Fairmont and through McCool Junction. They and York were the group's "home towns away from home."

Their arrival here had been the catalyst for York to start a USO in its City Auditorium basement for enlisted men and a haven for officers at the country club.

The reunion was also a real homecoming for several who had been entertained during their World War II stay by Yorkites who had opened their homes to them. Several York hosts were hosted by the vets at the reunion banquet Saturday night.

Pates had balded. Several conceded they were "now carrying a bigger load in the bomb bay beneath my belt than we used to in the old crates." One veteran lamented: "Even though we were trained in the military it takes a heckuva long time to get these guys lined up today."

But one thing hadn't changed... friendships.

MISSION NO 10 (Cont)

The 828th veterans attending were: Clarence and Ruby Eden and daughter Brabara, Breckenridge, TX; Bill and Leona Schultz, Newton Falls, OH; Paul and Isabel Beckley, Fairbault, MN; Jim and Marguerite McFadden, Philadelphia, PA; Karl and Grace Anderson and son Lee, Carrollton, OH; Nuby and Susan Serijan, Woodland Hills, CA; George Ick, Lisbon, ND; William and Helen Peters, Denison, IA; John and Mary Waldeyer, Long Island, NY; John and Millie Thull, Ramsey, IL; Robert and Dorothy Deeds, Toledo, OH; Ed and Jo Nett, Centerville, OH; Ed and Norma Manning and youngsters, Gary and Melinda, Springboro, OH; Irving Parker, Minneapolis, MN; Carl Gigowski, Grand Rapids, MI; Walter and Selma Kixmiller, Vincennes, IN; Walter and Mabel Schueuer, Duluth, MN; David and Frances Boyle, Alliance, OH; Roger Monroe, Newport Beach, CA; and Roy Reiten and daughter Pat, Granite Falls, MN.

(Cont page 3)

MISSION NO 10 (Cont)

Hailing from the 829th which had the greatest attendance were: Hugh and Lucille White, Anchorage, AK; Floyd and Opal Swanson, Wausa, NB; Allen Corbin, Los Angeles, CA; Bill Beggs, Whitter, CA; Milton and Frances Fundling, Texas City, TX; John and Marilyn Hawk and daughter Deborah, Garden City, KS; Charlie and Nancy Duecker, Lincoln, NB; Ray and Thersa Carpenter, Fulton, NY; Bill and Joan Ferrell, Tacoma, WA; and Tony Mastrangelo, Rome, NY.

ROSES ARE RED
I wish I were there,
Enjoying the stories of men in the air.
We were the greatest Group in the sky.
The 485th never said die.
We flew and we bombed,
And we laughed and we cried.
May God always love our buddies,
Who died.
Bill Beggs
1974 830th Gunner

Franklin Lambrecht, Seguin, TX; Tom and Ruth Aspinall, Hialeah, FL; Earl and Martha Bundy, Columbus, OH; Hovey and Lee Ball, Mishawaka, IN; David and Lillian Underwood, Topeka, KS; Dr Earl and Helen Pinnell, Burmeda Duenes, CA; Al and Alvera Peschka, Austin, TX; Bernard and Laura Rempe, Oklahoma City, OK; Robert Haugen, Seguin, TX; Wythe Napier, Dallas, TX; Fred and Midge Heaton, Munice, IN; Lloyd and Evelyn Towers, Bon Air, VA; Lloyd and Joyce Johnson and daughter Karen, Portland, OR; Arthur and Mary Karns, Petersburg, MI; Al and Jane O'Brien and daughter Pat, Troy, NY; Homer and Jewell Hale, Athens, GA; Kearny and Eunell Weyand, Round Top, TX; James and Mabel Gillett, Waterloo, IA; Don and Bobbie Wallach, Midwest City, OK; Marvin and Naomi Lindsay, El Dorado, KS; Art Carlson, Brandon, FL; Percy and Ramona Burns, Minneapolis, MN; Merle and Betty Sutterby, Iola, KS; Harvey Ruffman, Omaha, NB; and Joe Nuessle.

From the 830th were: Ralph and Alice Helm, N. Hollywood, CA; Neal and Ruth Schawalter, Pittsburgh, PA; Elliot Seagraves, West Islip, NY; Maurice and Norma Wilcox, Madison, WI; Lyle Talbott, Crooksville, OH; George Tompkins, San Mateo, CA; Les and Ruth DeJong, Grand Rapids, MI; Rod Ritchie, Minturn, CO; Ralph Skinner, Weston Mills, NY; Hollis and Pat Porter, Orlando, FL; Frank and Barbara Gallagher, Laconia, NH; Frank and Matilda Brockel, Hoisington, KS; Delbert and Phyllis Hawkins, Wichita, KS; Willie and Julie Best, Rochester, NY; Vince Sekac, Indian Orchard, MA; Robert Scholtman, Madisonville, KY; and George Crabhill, Melbeta, NB.

The 831st veterans attending were: Dan and Clare Sjodin, Blaine, MN; Bob and Nadine Swift, Florissant, MO; Les and Riva Sutter, St Louis, MO; William Spence, Sayre, OK; Robert and Elizabeth Miller, Lompoc, CA; Howard and Marguerite Woodyard, Lambertville, MI; Walter and Helen Iwanski, Elmwood Park, IL; Vince and Lee Lewis, Hershey, PA; Henry Dahlberg, Glenview, IL; Robert Brown, Birmingham, MI; Victor Bone, Chicago, IL; Harold and Margaret Dundon, New Holland, OH; Robert and Claire Halling, New Brighton, MN; and Burl and Bertha Jackson, Lima, OH.

The reunion was concluded Sunday morning with a quick business meeting, recapping the events and closing our the financial work. As mid-day approached many of the veterans were ready to start the journey home, filled with memories of a truly great sentimental journey to where it all began some 30 years ago.

We all wish to express our gratitude to Robert and Joan Marland for an outstanding gathering of the Eagles. The memories of this event will be cherished forever. And a sincere thank you to the members of the Ramada Inn: Myran Johnston, manager; Pam Wilhelms, office manager; the waitresses- Snookie, Julie M, Julie R, and Susie, all who made our stay at the Inn a very pleasant one. And we thank the ladies who helped with the little

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 485TH
I know that I could not have possibly reached each of you during your stay at the Ramada to say how wonderful it was to have such fine cooperation from your group during the reunion. Your group made the work so much more fun than you can realize until you have been involved with such a project. If you ever visit our area again in your travels, please stop in for a visit.

Pam Wilhelms, Office Mgr
Ramada Inn, York, Nebr.

but very important chores associated with a reunion. And our special guests, State Senator Walter Epke of York, who welcomed the 485th and Fern Rose who was with the USO in York. The staff joins Bob and Joan Marland in saluting you all for making the 10th reunion an outstanding success. We hope all of you and many more will return to the ol South for another great adventure of the 485th veterans.

1974 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

- (1) 485TH FOWs - F, L to R: John Hawk, gunner, 829th crew 22. Hugh White, pilot, 829th crew 22. Both downed June 9, 1944, Munich, Germany. Marvin Lindsay, radio operator, 829th crew 35, downed June 9, 1944, Munich, Germany. Vincent Lewis, pilot, 831st crew 70, downed July 20, 1944, Friedrichshafen, Germany. Robert Miller, gunner, 831st crew 64, downed May 29, 1944, Vienna, Austria. Al O'Brien, gunner, 830th crew 44, Homer Hale, Bombardier, 829th crew 21. Both downed July 19, 1944, Munich, Germany. James Gillett, Flt Eng, 829th crew 22, downed June 9, 1944, Munich, Germany. Art Carlson, navigator, 829th crew 35, downed June 9, 1944, Munich, Germany.
- (2) 828th VETERANS - F, L to R: Clarence Eden, Bill Schoultz, Paul Beckley, Jim McFadden, and Karl Anderson. M, L to R: Nuby Serijan, George Ick, William Peters, John Waldeyer, John Thull, and Bob Deeds. R, L to R: Ed Nett, Ed Manning, Irvin Parker, Carl Gigowski, Walter Kixmiller, and Walter Schneuer.
- (3) 830TH VETERANS - F, L to R: Ralph Helm, Hovey Ball, Al Corbin, Bill Beggs, Al O'Brien, and Neal Schawalder. M, L to R: Elliot Seagraves, Maurice Wilcox, Lyle Talbott, George Tompkins, Les DeJong, and Rod Ritchie. R, L to R: Ralph Skinner, Hollis Porter, Frank Gallagher, Frank Brockel, Delbert Hawkins, Bill Best, and Vince Sekac.
- (4) 831ST VETERANS - F, L to R: Dan Sjodin, Bob Swift, Les Sutter, and William Spence. M, L to R: Robert Miller, Howard Woodyard, Walter Iwinski, and Vincent Lewis. R, L to R: Henry Dahlberg, Robert Brown, Victor Bone, Harold Dundon, and Robert Halling.

THIS IS HOW IT WAS (Cont)

crackers, jam, peanut butter, and ice cream, along with a few hostile stares. Another gourmet meal was enjoyed by all!"

On June 9, 1944, the 485th bombed targets in the area of Munich, Germany and incurred the greatest losses during a single mission. Five bombers and their crews were lost to flak and enemy fighters. Sgt Julian Kokenge, gunner of 830th crew 54, sent in the following notes from his diary. - Ed.

The Group formation flew up the Adriatic Sea, across northern Italy proceeding over the Alps where they begin to encounter flak. Nearing the target area it soon became evident that we were in for plenty of trouble. Bombers from the Groups ahead of us, that were hit or in trouble, had left their formation to return home, were being attacked by enemy fighters. We saw one B-24 go down.

Shortly we sighted several Me109s. Sgt Elliot Atherton, our top turret gunner, said he counted at least 20 in the vicinity of the bomber formation. They circled our formation and attacked from 6 o'clock. All guns in our formation opened fire and I saw two Me 109s emitting smoke. I do not know if they went down. After several attacks on our formation, the Me109s hit home. A bomber in the box behind and to our left was hit and disengranted in one huge explosion. Four red balls could be seen falling which were the engines of the bomber. Sgt Warner called in that only one chute was seen from the bomber. Then another Liberator went down from which we saw four chutes. We counted four Me109s shot down.

During the air battle, we could see the heavy flak over Munich thru which other Groups were flying on their bomb run. Our target was an engine factory some 10 miles from the city. However, finding the target cloud covered, the formation turned for a bomb run on a target in Munich. The sky was filled with flak as we bombed the target.

Returning over the Alps, we ran into more flak at an air field in northern Italy. Although it was light, it was very accurate. Our bomber was hit but suffered little damage. The flight continued south ward over the Adriatic and finally safe at home base.

In the previous newsletter, Felix Rameder, Ebergassing, Austria, related his observations of the air raids in the Vienna area. Here is more of his experiences of the air raids. - Ed.

During 1944, the Germans had a couple of Wurzburggerat radar sets, which had a range of 300 miles, located on the peninsula of Istria, Yugoslavia. This gave the Luftwaffe an early warning of the approaching 15th AF bombers. However, it was difficult to determine their target, due to the bombers changing their course. Often the radio would announce - "Bombers over Bratislava, course north." But, a few minutes later the bombers would be over our area (Vienna - Ed).

Early in the summer of 1944 we begin to experience air raids usually during clear weath-



1974 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

- (1) 829TH VETERANS - F, L to R: Hugh White, Floyd Swanson, Allen Corbin, Bill Beggs, Milton Fundling, John Hawk, Charlie Duecker, Ray Carpenter, William Farrell, Anthony Mastrangelo, and Franklin Lambrecht. M, L to R: Tom Aspinall, Earl Bundy, Hovey Ball, David Underwood, Dr Earl Pinnell, Al Peschka, Bernard Rempe, Robert Hauzen, Wythe Napier, Fred Heaton, and Lloyd Towers. R, L to R: Lloyd Johnson, Arthur Karns, Al O'Brien, Homer Hale, Kearny Weyand, James Gillett, Don Wallach, Marvin Lindsay, Art Carlson, Percy Burns, and Joe Nuessle.
- (2 & 8) Nebraska ANG F-4 Phantoms saluting the 01 485th eagles.
- (3) The sign of the time.
- (4) Strolling down the abandon runway at Fairmont AAF are left to right: Robert Miller, Henry Dahlberg, Dan Sjodin, Roger Monroe, Bob Marland, Ed Nett, Carl Gigowski, and Bob Brown.
- (5 & 6) Hangar and flight line, Fairmont AAF, 1974.
- (7) Ground crew of MISS FITZ, flown by 829th crew 28. Left to Right: Wythe Napier, Tony Mastrangelo, Tom Aspinall, and Merle Sutterby, crew chief.
- (8) 828th Sign makers? Roger Monroe, Nuby Serijan, and Ed Nett.

THIS IS HOW IT WAS (Cont)

er. After the siren announced the approaching bombers I would go to a little barn about 200 feet from my home where I would stand on the flat roof and watch the bombers thru my binoculars, while they were still some distance from our place. If the bombers did not fly over Ebergassing, I would stay on the roof until the flak guns fired. Then I would go into the house because of the flak fragments falling all around. But if the bombers approached Ebergassing, I would go into the cellar of our home. But only for a few minutes as there were so many interesting things to see in the sky. The carpet factory in Ebergassing was a part of the Wiener-Neustadt Me109 factory, producing jigs for the Me109 from December 1943 until May 1944 when the production was moved to Brno, Czech.

Ed Note - At the reunion, Bob Miller showed me a letter received from his friend Hubert Schmidt who served in the Luftwaffe Fleiger Abwehr Kanone (Anti-aircraft). In his letter, he described some of his adventures and how the anti-aircraft section operated. Mr Schmidt came to the United States, served a hitch in the US Air Force and is an Aerospace Engineer on the west coast. Here is his story which will give you some insight to the activity below the flak ridden skies the 485th flew thru.

I joined the Luftwaffe at age 15 on July 15, 1943. After training to operate the optical aiming device of the fire control unit, I was stationed in Berlin. At this time, there was little activity except for occasional night fighters.

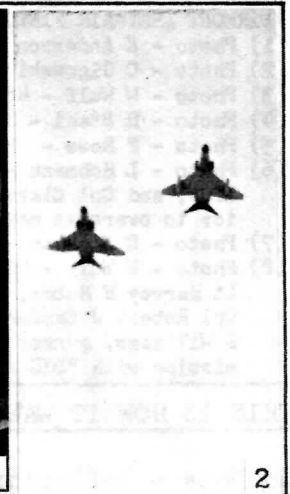
In January 1944 our battery was moved to Maribor, Yugoslavia, just north of Zagreb. The weather was bad and we hurriedly set up our equipment in the middle of a farm completely exposed. The next day we had an alert as a Lightning was observed in the area. Immediately the battery went into action and shot down the intruder which turned out to be a Focke-Wulf 189 (A twin boom design similar to the P-38. - Ed).

Next, we dug in, building a sand wall around the guns and instruments. Everyday there was training exercises. And waiting. Then the bombers came - from the south. Apparently, after the first flight over our area, the bombers knew we were there, for they approached almost to our range, we could almost make out the girls on the bomber sides, then circle the area and return on course.

One day the bombers did not completely circle the area. A 12 plane formation approached from the south and like a hundred times before, started to circle the area. Half way around the area the bombers turned into the flak area. Had the formation proceeded a little further before turning, we would have missed seeing them turn, as we were always anxious to pick up the next formation approaching from the south, hoping that they would forget to circle. As the formation completed its turn they began their bomb run, flying straight and level, a perfect target for us. We saw the bomb bay doors open and as the bombs left the bomb bay, our commander gave the order to fire. Fortunately for us the bombs missed us by 300 feet. We inflicted casualties on the formation and added stripes to our guns. Except for an occasional Mustang or Lightning flying over, our targets were the bomber formations as they continued to bomb the Vienna and Wiener-Neustadt areas.



1



2



3



4



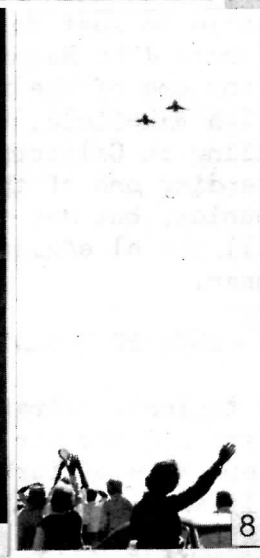
5



6



7



8



9

FAIRMONT ARMY AIR FIELD 1943 - 44 PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

- (1) Photo - K Anderson - Fairmont Army Air Field 1944.
- (2) Photo - C Gigowski - Fairmont Army Air Field 1974.
- (3) Photo - W Wulf - 485th troops on bivouac.
- (4) Photo - D Stahl - TSgt Charles Bush, seated and PFC Donald Stahl on the phone at Group Headquarters.
- (5) Photo - F Rose - Mess Hall.
- (6) Photo - L Hohmann - L to R: Cpl Leonard Blackwell, PFC Samuel Peppard, Sgt Lawrence Hohmann, PFC Luther Rollins, and Cpl Clarence McMasters (kneeling) of the 828th Ordnance Section, visiting York with their wives prior to overseas movement March 1944.
- (7) Photo - C Bartram - L to R: Herb Anderson, Charles Bartram, (unkn), and George McLean of the 830th.
- (8) Photo - W Wulf - 829th crew 24. F, L to R: Lt Robert B Skelton, pilot; Lt William G Furgueson, bombardier; Lt Harvey H Huber, navigator; and Lt Michael I Kopcha, co-pilot. R, L to R: Sgt Raymond Bovino, crew chief; Cpl Robert J Camden, radio operator; SSgt William G Long, gunner; SSgt Gerald E Behunin, gunner; Sgt Wallace E Williams, gunner; and Sgt Jay T Baker, gunner. Not in photo - Sgt K L Carter, gunner. Crew finished 50 mission with "BIG ALICE FROM DALLAS".

THIS IS HOW IT WAS (Cont)

Ed Note - Reflecting back on the missions flown, bombing a target on a clear day the flak was unusually accurate and it appeared that the lead plane was bound to get hit. Using "window" when bombing by radar did have some effect on the accuracy of the radar controlled guns. In response to questions about these items Mr Schmidt made the following notations.

On a clear day which were many at Maribor, and if we had a chance, we would aim our optical instrument at the nose of the lead plane. I believe the reason for this was that we were a three man team, who had to work in complete harmony. This way, we all knew where everyone was aiming, and what to keep in the center of the sight. I stress the point, that we had to work in harmony because it relates to the question of dropping "window". The first time we experienced "window" was late 1943 in Berlin. It was quite a surprise. But it seems that it was anticipated as we had a relative quick fix for it.

Now the signal from the radar unit came visually to our optical instrument and we would have to "cover" the signal, which then went into the computer which gave the signal to the guns, which also had to be "covered". So, extra human operations were involved and any uncoordinated operation of either the radar or optics would cause the indicator on the guns to go "wild". Thus, I believe the overcast was more effective as protection than the foil which we collected and recycled.

MAIL ROOM

485TH BOMB GROUP HQ



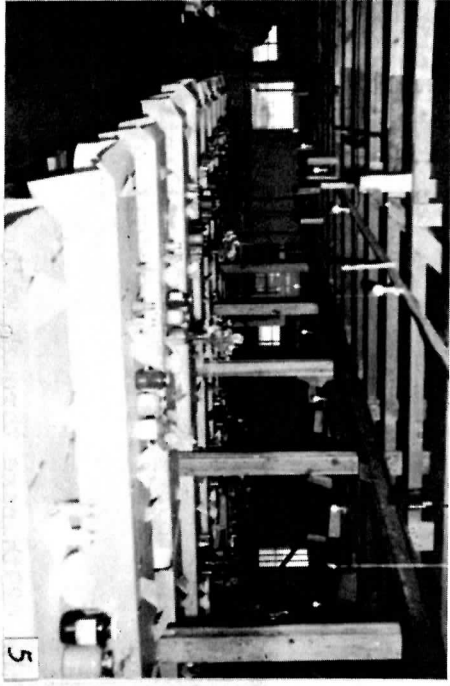
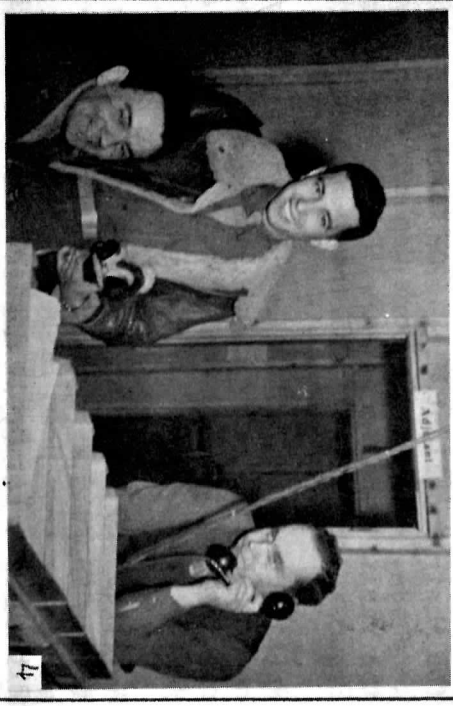
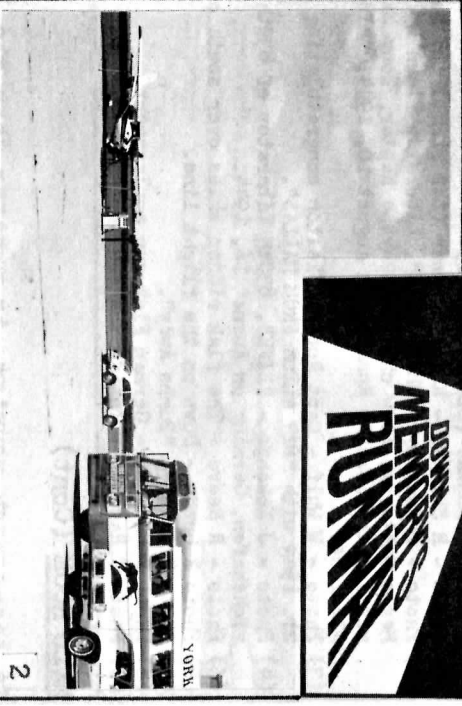
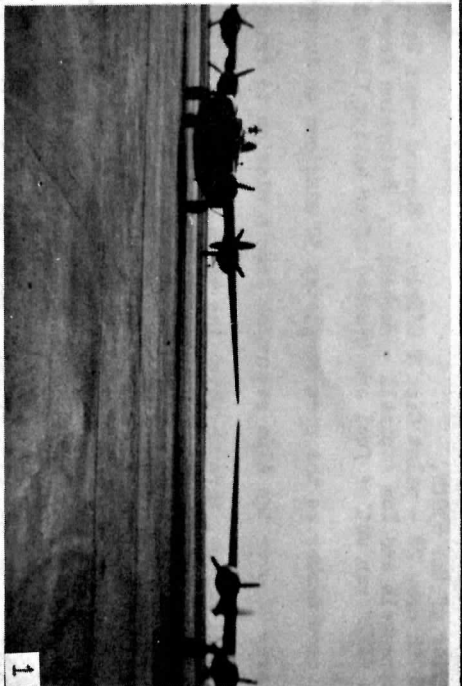
There was a lot of activity in all the mail rooms and it is always good to hear from the ol veterans. Larry Vocino, Clifton, New Jersey, noted that he would be basking in the Italian sunshine again during reunion time and regrets that he was unable to meet Bob Marland, whom he worked with in S-3. From Sacramento, California John Hannan expressed his enjoyment of the newsletter and will be making one of the future reunions. Received notes from Syd Harrison, Boston, Mass. and Ralph Wakefield, West Stockholm, New York. Col William Bradley retired from service, settling in California. George Flack, New Orleans, Louisiana sent word that he will be attending one of the reunions. Squire Bolton, Yupaipa, Calif. had planned to make the reunion, but due to illness in the family, was unable. Squire sends his best regards to all the ol eagles and in particular his ol buddies, Ed Kral, Ralph Wakefield and John Hannan.

*****CARL GIGOWSKI*****

828TH BOMB SQDN



It was great to return to York, Nebraska for our 10th reunion. Arriving on Thursday, we visited York and the air base at Fairmont. At the Ramada Inn we met a fine lady, Fern Rose of York, who was with the York USO way back when we were there. It was interesting talking with Fern as she told many stories about the old air field.



DOWN MEMORY'S RUNWAY (Opposite Page)

- (1) Photo - R Skinner - Ralph Skinner (far right) and buddies of the 830th.
- (2) Photo - M Huckeby - "MISS FITZ", Liberator flown by 829th crew 28 - pilot Capt T O'Brien. Ground crew: Sgt Merle Sutterby, crew chief and Wythe Napier, Tony Mastrangelo and Tom Aspinall - mechanics. Returning from a mission to Plbesti, Rumania on August 10, 1944, "MISS FITZ" ran out of fuel and crashed after having flown 50 missions.
- (3) Photo - W Wulf - Capt Robert Skelton congratulating a crew member as the crew completes 50 missions on August 21, 1944 with "BIG ALICE FROM DALLAS".
- (4) Photo - J Kokenge - "LIFE", 830th Liberator of 830th crew 42 over the Alps returning from a mission to Friedrichshafen, Germany on August 16, 1944.
- (5) Photo - R Reeve - The flak ridden skies over south central Europe, through which the 485th flew.
- (6) Photo R Deeds - Down on the flight line.
- (7) Photo E Swann - "Bombs Away".
- (8) Photo F Rameder - German Flak gun emplacement.
- (9) Photo F Rameder - Inside the gun emplacement.

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

It seems each reunion is greater than the last, and we all thank Bob and Joan Marland for their excellent job. On Saturday, there was a jet fly over, ladies fashion show, luncheon, golf at the York Country Club, and a chicken barbecue at the pool side. And the visit to Fairmont AAF. Friday and Saturday nights, we had a sing-a-long, with Bob Brown at the piano 'till the wee hours of the morning.

Received a nice letter from Larry Hohmann with notes he took on our return trip from Venosa to Naples by truck, and the trip across the big waters aboard the USS West Point, passing the Isle of Capri and disembarking at Newport News, Virginia. Happenings thirty years ago.

A letter from our 1st Sgt, Bailey F Jenkins, who served 23 years in the Air Force, retiring in 1966 as a SMSgt and now works for the University of Alabama. Received letters and notes from Dean Bassett, Charlotte, NC; Joe Coker, Pine Bluff, AR; Milton Grubic, Pittsburgh, PA; Ernie Adrian, Rogers City, MI; Bob Beamish, Wheaton, MD; Bob Kuns, Camden, IN; Dr Earl Pinnell, Bermuda Dunes, CA; Roger Monroe, Newport Beach, CA; Robert Houck, Six Mile Run, PA; George Ick, Lisbon, ND; Ed Nett, Centerville, OH; Ben Christ, Lockport, NY; Nicholas Montulli, Rochester, NY; and Roy Reiten, Granite Falls, MN. And from Jess and Mavis Akin, Houston, TX; Herb Wren, Houston, AR; and Ed Manning, Springboro, OH, I received letters and pictures.

Space prevents me from writing the many things I would like too. I sincerely thank you all for the many letters, cards, telephone calls, and your contributions to the newsletter. Please keep sending any new addresses you may come across. Leona and I are real happy to hear from you all and we look forward to seeing you all in Atlanta, Georgia on August 1-2-3, 1975.

****BILL SCHOULTZ***

829TH BOMB SQDN



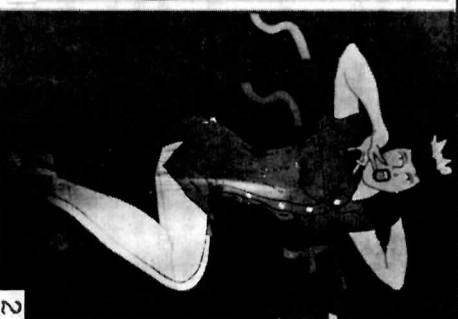
Our ol CO, Robert T Marland, of the 829th came through with flying colors again, in more ways than one. The highlight of our 30th anniversary reunion was the "buzz job" by the F-4 Phantom jets, of our Ramada Inn headquarters. Bob's wife Joan worked very hard and is to be commended for all her assistance in the thoroughly complete arrangements for a most successful reunion.

I am very proud of our 829th attendance this year. I guess my letter in January 1974, calling the 829th "Tail End Charlie" because we had the least members at all previous reunions, must have helped. We were first this year with 35 proud members present. In '75 we've got to come back with more to help Homer Hale, another 829th member, make our Atlanta reunion the best ever.

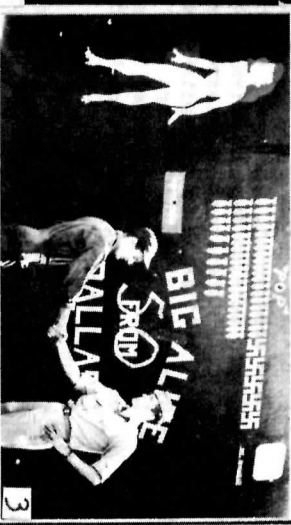
We had a big crowd on Friday evening at the reunion. The barbecue was very good and we enjoyed a long evening together in the meeting room getting acquainted. One veteran flyer, a pianoist, kept the ol upright going most of the night. We sang all the old songs



1



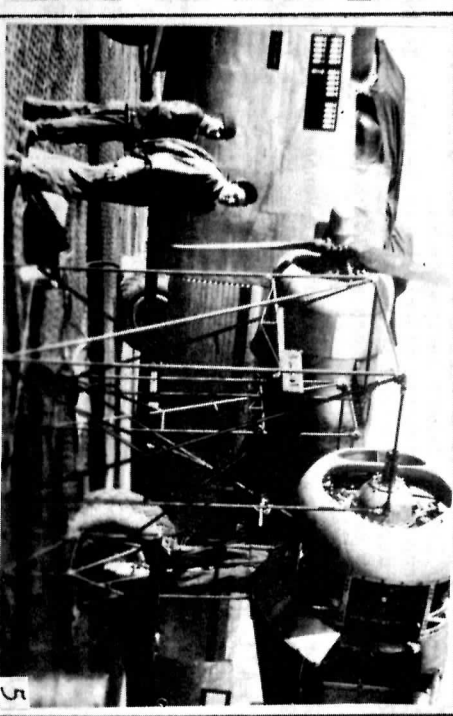
2



3



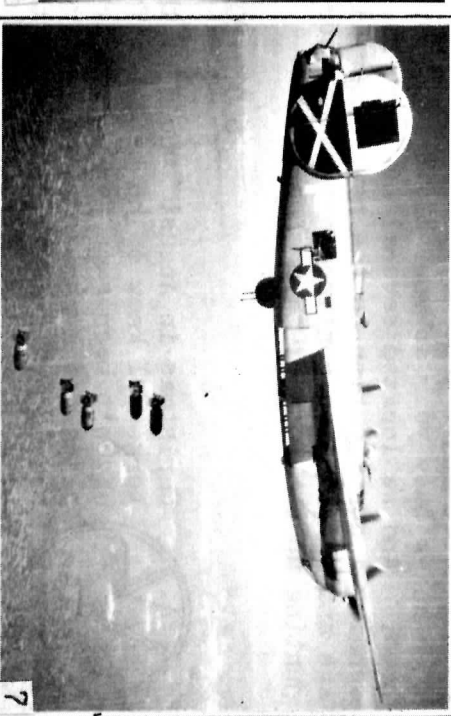
4



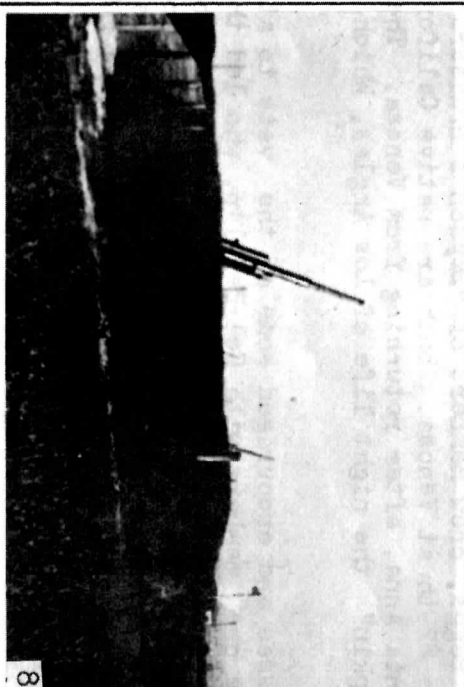
5



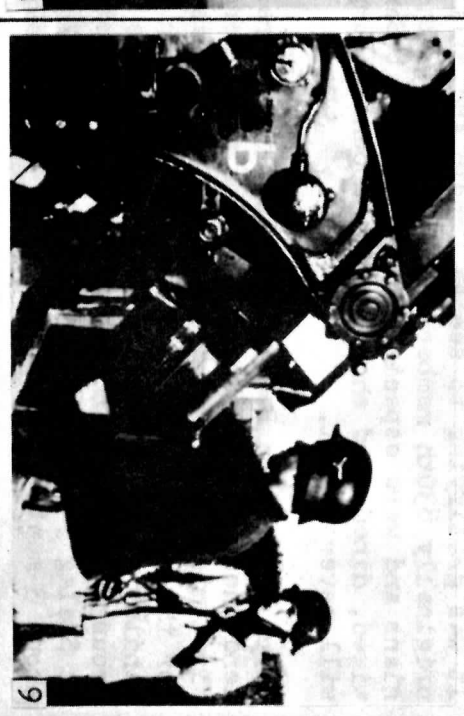
6



7



8



9

485TH BOMB GROUP CHRONICLE

1943

- 13 Mar - Constituted as the 485th Bombardment Group (H) at Gowen Army Air Field, Boise, Idaho.
- 20 Sep - Activated at Fairmont AAF, Geneva, Nebraska with LCol Walter E Arnold, Jr, Group CO; Capt Edward H Nett, 828th CO; Capt Maurice W Boney, 829th CO; Capt Richard V Griffin, 830th CO; and Capt Daniel L Sjodin, 831st CO. Air Crews train in the B-24, Liberator bomber.

1944

- 9 Mar - Completing combat training, the Air Echelon leaves for Lincoln, Nebraska for final processing prior to overseas deployment. 828th Lib 41-28830H is "washed out".
- 11 Mar - Ground Echelon departs Fairmont AAF.
- 13 Mar - Group's Liberators (71) leave for Morrison AAF, Florida and assignment with the 15th AF in Italy. Crossing of the Atlantic is accomplished via the southern route.
- 14 Mar - Ground Echelon, 57 Officers and 1170 Enlisted Men, arrive at Hampton Roads POE, Virginia.
- 18 Mar - Liberators arrive at Oudna, Tunisia (12 miles south of Tunis) and for the next few weeks engage in Tactical combat practice. Liberator 42-78140G, piloted by 2Lt Robert J Olney, 829th Crew 34, is lost on the flight from Marrakesh to Oudna.
- 23 Mar - Group Headquarters Detachment, 8 Officers and 48 Enlisted Men, begin Atlantic crossing.
- 2 Apr - The balance of the Ground Echelon sails from Hampton Roads.
- 11 Apr - During the night the convoy carrying the Group Hq Detachment is attacked by JU-88s, He-111s, and DO-217s, 45 miles east of Algiers. The convoy suffers no damage and four members of Group are injured slightly.
- 15 Apr - Air Echelon begins leaving Oudna.
- 18 Apr - Group Hq Detachment disembarks at Brindisi, Italy and arrive at Venosa AF the next day.
- 20 Apr - At dusk a formation of Ju-88s attack the convoy carrying the Ground Echelon 45 miles east of Algiers. One ship carrying 8 Officers and 146 Enlisted Men of the 831st is hit, explodes and sinks in 30 seconds. A Destroyer-Escort is also sunk.
- 22 Apr - All bombers and crews arrive at Venosa AF and begin preparations for combat.
- 29 Apr - Ground Eschelon arrives at various ports in Italy and proceed by train to Venosa AF.

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

and by jove, the ol veterans can still carry a good tune. We enjoyed a busy Saturday, and after the banquet, Hugh White showed a series of beautiful color slides of Alaska, including the earthquake damage in Anchorage. Hugh has offered to host a reunion in a few years at Anchorage. It was a real pleasure to see Hugh again for me as this is the 30th year since he was my pilot flying to Italy. He was shot down after his 5th mission and taken POW.

I've had a busy year as your 829th reporter. Received many letters from the 829th members. And we located several new members. I want to thank all the 829th members for sending a contribution to the newsletter along with their letters. It keeps us in postage and supplies to continue expanding our Squadron contacts. Keep up the good work, junting up the lost 829th members. *****EARL BUNDY*****

830TH BOMB SQDN



Christmas in August would be the best way to describe the 1974 reunion in York. I know of no better gift than to reunite with ol friends, many who haven't been seen for over thirty years. The Ramada Inn was a very friendly place and Myron Johnston, manager, and his wife Barbara, Pam, and the staff provided a red carpet service to make the reunion a most enjoyable one.

It was gratifying to see Al Corbin and Bill Beggs, crew members of "Bryson's Bruisers", originally 830th members, transferred to the 829th at Venosa. Both are native Californians and were especially kind to me at Santa Anna, after returning from Venosa. They wine, dined, and showed this "Country Bumpkin" the night life of Los Angeles, which I will never forget.

Ralph Helm, Sqdn Bombardier, supplied addresses and encouraged some of the vets to attend their first reunion. Ralph and I were crew members with Col Herblin, who led the first mission of the 485th. Thus, Ralph has the distinction of dropping the first bombs for the 485th. Ralph's law office is in Studio City, CA, across the street from Joe Landis' place of business, CBS, where he is a program director. Col Landis was Asst Group Ops Officer to Bob Marland; was shot down over Vienna on May 30, 1944 and a POW at Stalag 3 in Sagan, Poland until January 1945 when he was transferred to Nurnberg, Gr. About 3 months later, with the help of Yugoslavian POWs, he escaped to the 3rd Army.

MAILING ROSTER

485TH GROUP HQ

ANGLE, William R
 ANDRUS, Burton
 ARNOLD, Walter E, Jr
 Maj Gen, USAF Ret
 BAKER, Merlin W
 Col, USAF Ret
 BAYLES, Hugh
 BOLTON, Squire
 BRADLEY, Wm G, Col
 BRYANT, Olen C
 COLMER, Wesley D
 COLTRIN, Fritz C
 CZACHOROWSKI, Leo J, Jr
 GOODSON, James H
 GREER, Ike
 HANNAN, John M, Jr
 Major, USAF Ret
 HARRISON, Sydney P
 HERBLIN, Wm L
 Col, USAF Ret
 KRAL, Edward
 LACKEY, Harry
 LANDIS, Joseph P
 LADNER, Walter A
 LOMBARDI, Francis L
 LUND, Paul E
 LYONS, Wesley I
 PRIVER, Maurice S, Dr
 RAINEY, Robert B
 REEVE, Roy
 ROBINSON, PAUL
 RUBINFELD, Irving I, Sgt
 SIGGS, Robert W
 VOCINO, Lawrence J
 WAKEFIELD, Ralph J

828TH BOMB SQDN

ADRIAN, Ernie
 AKIN, Jesse W, Jr
 ANDERSON, Karl
 ANDREWS, Jim
 ARNETT, Don O
 BAGGAN, Fred E
 BAKKE, Wayne
 BALLANGE, Chester K
 Col, USAF Ret
 BARNES, Charles
 BARNES, George, Jr
 BASSETT, Dean F
 BATES, Richard
 BEAMISH, Robert E
 BECKLEY, Paul
 BEHNKE, Laurel L
 BELL, Gilbert I
 BENTLEY, M D, Dr
 BERGERON, Alvin
 BERRY, Harold
 BERSAK, John
 BONUS, Walter J
 BORGETTI, Ambrose
 Boyle, David
 BRIEN, William L
 BROWN, Arlynn R
 BROWN, Richard
 BURBA, Sherrill
 BUZAN, Fred
 BYRNE, John
 CALHOUN, John D
 CHRIST, Ben
 CHRISTENSON, Gale M
 CLARK, Edward J
 COCHREN, Melvin S
 COKER, Joe L
 COMPTON, Ralph H

COPELAND, Wm C, Jr
 CROUSHORE, Fred E
 DEEDS, Robert S
 DEKOSTIC, Edward
 DEVANE, Edward J
 DOZIER, Craig
 DUNN, Louis E
 EDEN, Clarence J
 ELLIS, Elmer
 FARACI, Joseph
 FISHER, Henry E
 CMSgt, USAF Ret
 FITE, Calvin W
 Col, USAF Ret
 FREYERMUTH, Fred
 FRIEDMAN, Michael
 FULTON, James
 GADD, Matthew B
 GIGOWSKI, Carl P
 Major AFRes Ret
 GILBERT, Alexander
 GILBERT, Don
 GILL, Joseph
 GRACE, Carl D
 GRAVES, Charles E
 GREEN, Joseph B
 GRUBIC, Milton
 HANSON, Harvey
 HARTMAN, Clarence
 HAWKINS, Adelbert C
 HAYES, Eugene W
 HAZEN, Henry T
 HENSELIN, Donald T
 HOHMANN, Lawrence H
 HOUCK, Robert K
 HURLEY, Arthur
 ICK, George
 JENKINS, Bailey
 JONES, Roger J, Jr
 KALLIS, Frank
 KIXMILLER, Walter A
 KNOX, Harlan R
 KUNS, Robert
 LAMAKOS, Gus
 LANGSTAFF, Thomas A
 LEFFERT, Russel
 LEGGETT, T W, Jr
 LEMON, George
 LERCH, John
 MAC KINNON, J N
 MANNING, Edmond B
 MARETT, Arden A
 MATTISON, Richard F
 MAY, Davis C
 MAYHEW, Keith R
 MAYLAND, Arthur J
 MAZZONI, Carl
 MESCHER, Raymond
 MONROE, Roger E
 LCol, USAF Ret
 MONTULLI, Nicholas A
 MOORE, Kenneth R
 MORE, James K
 MORGAN, Chas O, Jr
 MC DONALD, Walter J
 MC ELROY, John D
 MC FADDEN, James J
 MC MASTERS, Clarence L
 NELSON, Maynard D
 NETT, Edward H
 NIKKILA, Einno
 NORRIS, Clemmie E
 OBERLIE, Robert
 O'NEIL, Charles E

PARKER, Irvin A
 PECK, Roy T, Dr
 PEPPARD, Sam
 PETERS, Wm H
 PIKUS, Francis
 POPKOWSKI, Chester
 POZIEKBO, Joseph J
 RAFFALE, John
 REITEN, Roy L
 ROBERTS, William C
 ROZANSKI, Leonard J
 RYBARCZYK, Joseph J
 SALESE, Pat
 SAMPSON, James
 SCHNEIDER, Sam
 SCHOULTZ, William H
 SCHROEDER, Irvin F
 SCHNEUER, Walter
 SEDLAK, Stephen, Dr
 SERIJAN, Nuby M
 SHAFER, Ray
 SHANNON, David W, Dr
 SMAGUIA, Phillip
 SMITH, James E
 TABOR, Thomas R
 TEASLEY, J E
 THALER, Ray
 THULL, John
 TRAUTMAN, Ray
 TURECKI, Stanley
 TUTTLE, Richard O
 VAN KIRK, Mart W
 VOLBRECHT, Robert
 WALDEYER, John T
 WATSON, Charles
 WHEELER, John H
 WILSTERMAN, Howard
 WIMPELIER, A Robert
 WINTERS, Jackson
 WREN, Herb
 YAWORSKY, Micheal
 YEEMA, Seret V
 ZARACHOWICZ, William

829TH BOMB SQDN

ALLAN, Lloyd, LCol
 ALLEY, Ralph L
 ASPINALL, Thomas
 BALCERZAK, Raymond F
 BALL, Hovey J
 BEGGS, William B
 BOWLING, John W
 BRIDGMER, Robert
 BRINKMAN, Delmar L
 BROWN, Robert C
 LCol, USAF Ret
 BUCHANON, Roy L
 BUNDY, Earl L
 BURNS, Percy
 BUTTI, Alvin S
 CARLSON, Arthur
 CARPENTER, R W
 CATHCART, J W, Jr
 CLINE, Harold F
 LCol, USAF Ret
 CONNELLEE, Sid W
 CORBIN, Allen B
 CREIGHTON, Joseph R
 DAVIS, Bradley
 DEMASURE, Joe
 DILLAHAY, Robert E
 DOLIM, Henry P
 DONACHE, Leigh
 DUECKER, Charles J

DUNTLEY, John M
 EDWARDS, Lloyd
 FASANO, Caster
 FEILDMAN, Kermit
 FERRELL, William B
 FESSIER, Norman
 FUNDLING, Milton
 FERGUESON, W G
 GEORGE, F E
 GILLETT, James L
 GLONEK, George
 GRAY, Derrill
 GRAY, James L
 HAGAN, Richard P
 HALE, Homer G, Jr
 LCol, USAF Ret
 HARRELL, Clyde
 HARTEMIDER, Bill
 HAUGEN, Robert
 HAWK, John H
 HEALY, George A
 HEATON, Fred
 HOLLOWELL, William C
 HANOSKI, T J
 HUDSON, Jack
 JOHNSON, Carroll D
 JOHNSON, Lloyd
 JONES, James L
 KARNS, Arthur J
 KNOWLES, William S
 Col, USAF
 KING, Robert C
 KREYER, Ralph
 LAMBRECHT, Franklin
 LANCIA, Frank
 LIBBERT, Ralph J
 LINDSAY, Marvin H
 LIS, Stanley T
 LO BELLO, Salvatore, Jr
 LOZIER, Frank, Jr
 MALKOSKI, Alex J
 MARIAND, Robert T, Comm.
 MARTIN, Alvin L
 MASTRANGELO, Anthony P
 MC CARTHY, Clyde
 MC FADDEN, Kirk L
 MC GEHEE, Slayton
 MERRELL, Rex D
 METAXAS, Mentor
 MILLS, Ernest
 MOORE, Clarence E
 NAPIER, Wythe J
 NESBITT, J Glen
 NORRIS, John C
 O'BRIEN, Albert
 O'CONNELL, K B
 O'KEEFE, C J
 OSTROSKI, Henry
 PESCHKA, Al
 PETERSON, Robert T
 PINNELL, Earl E, Dr
 PORTER, Orace N
 REDDER, Edward N
 REMPE, Bernard L
 REYNOLDS, Ebe T, Jr
 RIDEOUT, James A
 RITCHIE, Allen
 ROBINSON, Andrew F
 ROFFMAN, Harvey A
 ROSSI, L J
 RUCKER, William
 SANDERS, William Y, Rev.
 SAVAGE, Fred C
 SCOTT, James R

MAILING ROSTER

829TH BOMB SQDN

SILVA, L J
 SIMS, Fred W
 SKELTON, Robert B
 SMITH, K H
 STRAIT, Carroll D
 SUTTERBY, Merle
 SWANSON, Floyd
 TACKETT, Carmel
 THOMPSON, Robert A
 TOWERS, Lloyd F
 TRAFFORD, William S
 UNDERWOOD, David L
 VAN AMBURGH, Paul E
 WALLACH, Donald M, Jr
 Major, USA Ret
 WEYLAND, Kearney B
 WHITE, Hugh B
 WILLIAMS, Norman
 WOODWARD, Jack
 WOOLF, Stanley I
 WULF, William F
 ZORENA, Crest

830TH BOMB SQDN

ANDERSON, David H
 ANDERSON, William
 BARTRAM, Charles D
 BENTZ, Neil R
 BEST, William
 BLACK, Emil E
 BLUM, Jack
 BOTARD, Guy R
 BRABSON, John
 BROCKEL, Frank J
 BROKAW, William
 BUCK, Francis J
 CAMPAGNE, Rudy
 CANNON, Henry C
 CASTER, Frank A
 CHARLTON, Paul
 CHILDERS, Max L
 CHRISTENSON, John
 CHYNOWETH, Melvin
 CICHON, John
 COLEMAN, Robert E
 CORKIN, William N
 COTTINGHAM, B F
 CRABILL, George A
 CRAVER, Pleasant
 CRISCIONE, Sam
 DANIELS, LeRoy
 DART, James H
 DE FOYD, Paul E
 DE JONG, Les
 DENSMORE, Cecil N
 DISSTON III, Jacob S
 DYER, George E
 DYKES, Paul
 EICHNER, Carroll W
 ESAREY, Robert
 FAHINKAMP, Melvin G
 FARRELL, Jack
 FOSTER, Roy
 FOURNIER, Charles R
 FRANK, Jerome
 FRASHER, Thomas M
 GALLAGHER, Frank E
 GOMBOLD, John
 GOODNER, Ted C
 GRAHAM, Edward R
 GRIFFIN, Richard V
 GULLICKSON, William
 HAMBER, A, George E
 HANSON, LeRoy J, Col

HAWKINS, Delbert R
 HELM, Ralph B
 HENRICKSEN, Robert
 HERTZOG, Roy
 HILLYARD, Henry H
 HOHAUS, Gerhard W
 KEELIN, Paul
 KNIGHT, Marshall L
 KOGAS, Don
 KOKENGE, Julian
 KOZAK, C J
 KRANTZ, Howard
 KRATTLI, Orville, A
 LANDERS, Christopher
 LAUGHIN, Robert
 LENFEST, Eugene B
 LCol, USAF Ret
 LIPINSKI, Theodore
 LOLLE, Eugene
 MAGEE, Robert
 MANN, Wallace H
 MARTIN, Garnis
 MARTIN, Lawrence E
 MATTOX, William F
 MAYO, Elmore C
 MC DERMOTT, MD, F P
 MC VANN, Robert
 MERCER, Ellis
 MERLO, William
 MELTZER, Morris
 MUSE, Kinard H, Col
 MATNEY, E E
 NELSON, Christian G
 ONLEY, Charles L, Jr
 ORMISTON, Vance
 PETERS, Howard L
 POPE, Edward G
 PORTER, Hollis P
 REIFER, Edward J
 RICHMOND, Joseph H
 RITCHIE, Rod
 ROWLAND, Gale
 RUSTEIN, Oscar
 SAKALL, Vito S
 SANDERS, LeRoy
 SCHAWALDER, C J, Jr
 SCHOLTMAN, Robert, Jr
 SCHNEIDER, Fred
 SCHUMACHER, Lyle J
 SEKAC, Vincent I
 SHELLINE, Claude D
 SHOEMAKER, Dale J
 SKINNER, Ralph H
 SNIPES, Jack L
 SOVERN, Russell L
 STODDART, John B
 SWAFFORD, Kenneth
 SWANN, Everett H
 SYRJANEN, Matti
 SEAGRAVES, Elliott
 TABELLION, Joseph
 TAGLIARINO, Joseph T
 TALBOTT, Lyle T
 TOLIE, Eugene
 TOMPKINS, George W
 TUNSTALL, Francis P
 TUTTLE, Frank
 VAIL, James
 WETJEN, M J
 WHEELER, Harry L
 WHITNEY, Ronald C
 WILCOX, Maurice
 WILLIAMS, George T
 WOLF, Louis E

WADE, Robert
 WOOD, Jesse P
 ZURKAMER, Raymond

831ST BOMB SQDN

ALLDREDGE, Miles I
 BACZEWSKI, Mickey
 BARRETT, Robert J
 BAWDEN, Orval C
 BOCK, John
 BOEH, Kenneth J
 BOLLING, Wm D, Judge
 BONE, Victor J
 BROWN, Kenneth H
 BROWN, Robert L
 BUTLER, LeVern
 BUTLER, Roy H
 CADENHEAD, Phil W, Dr
 CHAFFIN, W Frank
 CHRISTENSEN, Vernon O
 CLEGHORN, George P
 COMBS, Harold B
 COOPER, John R
 COOPER, Tom
 COTTON, Homer
 CRAIG, Lee
 CROSS, Hugh H
 DAHLBERG, Henry W
 DUNDON, Harold E
 DUSENBERRY, Arthur
 EHERLE, Francis E
 FRANCIS, Edward G
 FLISS, Frank
 GODFREY, John J
 GOGLIA, Michael L
 GRADY, Gerald W
 GWOREK, Walter
 HALLING, Robert W
 HANSON, Robert V
 HARNER, Cletus M, Major
 HARRINGTON, Bill
 HESKES, Ray
 HIGGINS, Phillip M
 HOWARD, Russel A
 HUFSTADER, Rodney A
 IWANSKI, Walter S
 JACKSON, Purl G
 JACKSON, John S
 JACKSON, S R
 JACOBS, Theodore B
 JONES, John M
 KNIGHT, R R, Dr
 KONDRAKS, Edward
 KORKUC, David S
 LAMAR, Eugene A
 LARSON, Leland G
 LENTZ, Frederick C
 LEWIS, Vincent P
 LCol, USAF Ret
 LITTLE, Leonard L
 LIPMAN, Morris H
 MADORE, Armand
 MC CARTHY, Eugene J
 MC GAW, Harry L
 MC LAWHORN, Richard H, Jr
 MEYERS, Otto W
 MILLER, Robert W
 MORRIL, Harlan R
 MROZINSKI, Cazemer C
 NARDI, Frank
 O'HARA, William
 PACE, Charles
 PALMER, Rollie
 PAUL, Albert E

PETRELLA, Vincent P
 PHELPTS, Angus
 PLOCOCA, B
 CMSgt, USAF Ret
 PRATT, Frank
 PROUDLOVE, Lloyd, Col
 RADAFFORD, Eugene V
 RAWZ, John H
 RECTOR, Robert R
 REDINGTON, Mal J
 REYNOLDS, Charles
 RICHARDS, Harold
 SALAZAR, Andre
 SANBORN, Howard W
 SCHOENEMAN, Louis
 SHAY, Ottis W, Jr
 SIBILA, Edwin A
 SIKES, Louis W
 SILBERMAN, Isadore
 SJODIN, Don
 SMITH, Robert
 STAHL, Donald M
 SPENCE, William F
 STAUVERMAN, Edward, Jr
 STEPHENS, Kirby
 SUMMERS, Ralph
 SUTTER, Lester J
 SWEDRYK, Michael E
 SWIFT, Robert D
 TILLEY, W E
 TOLIE, John
 TOLLESON, Juluis Q
 VIETH, Larry
 CMSgt, ANG Ret
 WALTERS, Wendall C
 WERNER, Paul G
 WINTER, George V
 WOODYARD, Howard P
 WRAY, Eugene H, Jr
 YAGLE, George

408TH ENG SQDN

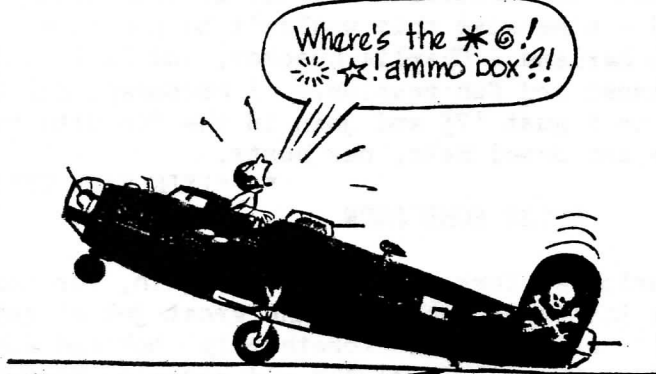
DILLON, Jim
 PRINCE, Leo
 TIPTON, Robert C

ORG UNKN

COLLINS, Joseph
 DOUTHIT, Thomas D N
 FALCK, George
 KING, Henry
 MADSEN, Hurley
 SALVATOR, Leonard



THE MOST IMPORTANT PIECE OF EQUIPMENT IN THE 'LIB' WAS A EMPTY 50 CAL. AMMO BOX--



(P.S. IT WENT UNDER HERE TO KEEP THE NOSE DOWN ON THE GROUND).



Bob Stevens

Bob Stevens'

"There I Was..."

CROSS SECTION OF THE BOMBARDIER AND NAVIGATOR WORKING(?) IN THE 24' SPACIOUS NOSE SECTION.



"Reprinted by permission of Air Force magazine"

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

Received communications from Capt George Tompkins, San Mateo, CA; his bombardier, Gale Rowland, McGhee, AR; LeRoy Hanson, navigator, who stayed in service until retiring as a LCol in 1963 and is now in real estate in Sunnyvale, CA. James Dart, Schenectady, NY, also a crew member, planned to attend but due to his wife's illness, had to alter his plans. Ted Goodner, Green Bay, WI was unable to make the reunion due to the passing of his wife. Hopes to make a future reunion. I extend my deepest sympathy to Ted and Jim. Charlie Onley had corrective surgery for injuries sustained in a previous auto accident and was unable to make York. I am sure it was a disappointment as he flew overseas with Tompkin's crew. Fred Schneider, the friendly day room clerk, who dispatched the passes and kits, was unable to attend due to business commitments.

LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER CALLING

Published annually by and for the veterans of the 485th Bomb Gp (H)

Editor: Carl P Gigowski
344 Eola St SE
Grand Rapids, Mich 49507

Ass't Editor & 828th Reporter:
William H Schoults
532 Park Ave
Newton Falls, Ohio 44444

829th Reporter:
Earl L Bundy
5773 Middlefield Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43220

830th Reporter:
Lyle Talbott
310 Mohican Drive
Crooksville, Ohio 43731

831st Reporter:
Howard P Woodyard
3539 Butternut Drive
Lambertville, Mich 48144

Contributing Editor:
Robert S Deeds
4643 286th St
Toledo, Ohio 43611

Communications from Jess Wood, John Chicon, Matti Syrjanen expressed their regrets but to extend their best wishes. Speaking of medics, I obtained John McDermott's address in Seattle. Doc McDermott was the 839th Flight Surgeon and probably knew more about the 830th personnel than the Chaplain. Carroll Eichner located his pilot Eugene Lenfest when vacationing in Florida. Ike's wife is Postmaster at Killduff, IA. So we are in the same business - grooming the ponies for the pont express. I mailed Eugene several newsletters and received an interesting letter stating he enjoyed them and it proved good therapy as he was in the hospital and the letters were a moral booster. However, he had sad news to report, his co-pilot Edgar Titon, passed away in October.

Some happier news from the reunion. Willie and Julie Best celebrated their wedding anniversary at York. Rod Ritchie, from the mountains of Colorado, complained of the cold weather in Nebraska and couldn't get his bearings in the flat country, no mountain peaks for directions.

JOURNEYS END

Members Deceased Since	The End Of WWII	
ANNINOS, Milton P	828	1971
BAGGS, Bill	830	1969
BARRETT, Sam	830	
BARQUIST, Ernie	828	1967
BLACKWELL, Earl	828	1959
BOYER, Henry	828	1964
BRODRICK, Gerald A	828	1968
BROWN, Wilbur	828	1972
CAMPANELLA, John	829	
*CATHY, Joe	830	
CHAPMAN, Russel	828	
COREY, Russel	828	
COX, Lester C	828	1972
DEGAN, John	830	1966
DI MATTEO, Gene	828	1969
DONACHE, Leigh	829	1971
ENTWISTLE, Jack	828	1959
FREITAS, Henry E	828	
GIBSON, Richard O	828	1962
GILLESPIE, Kenneth	GPH	
GRASS, Alfred W	828	
GREENWOOD, Lloyd H	830	
GRUBBS	829	1972
HARRISON, Wallace	GPH	1945
HASLER, Donald E	831	1972
HUCKEY, H.M., LCol	GPH	1973
JENSEN, Willard	828	1962
JOHNSON, R.W., Col	GPH	1972
JOHNSON, Ralph	829	1966
KEANEALLY, Wm C	828	1973
KETCHAM, Frank D	828	1968
LLA, Hans	GPH	1973
LISH, Gilbert	829	1968
MC GINN, Chas J	828	
MIFLIN, Ed	829	1971
OBERIE, Robert	828	1970
O'DELL, Rex	828	1948
PICKIE, Buck	828	1973
PRATZ, Wm S	GPH	
REUTER, Clarence W	GPH	
ROBERDEAU, Horace, Maj	830	1972
ROE, John	GPH	
RYDER, Wm	831	1972
SCHALIS, Eugene H	829	1972
SHEPHERD, Chester D	828	1973
SHINDLEDECKER, F.	828	1965
SIMPSON, Chas R	828	
SOLLINGER, Edward	828	1968
STAGMAN, Orlie M	831	
TANNER, Wm	829	1971
THOMAS, Homer	829	
THOMPSON, Harold V	831	1971
THORNE, John N	829	1971
*TITON, Edgar	830	
TRUSS, John	830	1968
WILLIAMS, Garland O	829	1965
YOUNG, Othmar	831	1971

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

I would like to thank the veterans for the contributions to the newsletter fund - otherwise this wouldn't be possible. A great thanks to Bob Marland, Charlie Duecker, and Earl Bundy for a very well planned and fun reunion. I encourage all to journey to Atlanta in August '75 and join in the fun with our good friends, Homer and Jewel Hale, our hosts.

****LYLE TALBOTT****

831ST BOMB SQDN



The reunion at York was the best again, for more reasons than one. First, the great job of getting all arrangements together by Bob and Joan Marland. Secondly, all the old memories brought back by visiting our "old home" base at Fairmont.

Attending a reunion for the first time were Henry Dahlberg, Sqdn Eng Officer; Robert Brown, pilot; Bob Swift, Armament Section; William Spence, who censored our mail; Vincent Lewis, pilot now retired from service; Robert Miller, Walter Iwinski, Robert Halling, Burl Jackson, all flight personnel. Also, Col Dan Sjodin (Ret), our first Sqdn CO, who flew his own plane in from Blaine, MN. Dan has offered to host the '77 reunion in Minneapolis. Happy to have you all at the reunion.

Sorry that Larry "Sabre Sam" Leith could not attend, due to a tragic accident in his family just before the reunion. We express our deepest sympathy to you, Larry and hope to see you in Atlanta. Harold Dundon, Victor Bone and Les Sutter were at York, maintaining their good attendance record. Robert Brown furnished good ol piano music for our "SongFest" which we all enjoyed.

Again, I received fine financial support from so many of you and it is truly appreciated. Received correspondence from Bob Barrett, Fayetteville, NY; Victor Bone, Geo Cleghorn, Shrewsbury, MO; Kenneth Brown, Stewartville, NJ; Harold Combs, Fred-

ricktown, MO; Henry Dahlberg, Harold Dundon, Ray Heskes, St Louis, MO; Burl Jackson, John Jones, Athens, OH; Vincent Lewis, Leonard Little, Tampa, FL; Eugene McCarthy, Modesto, CA; Harry McGaw, Bloomburg, PA; Warren Meyers, Chicago, IL; Robert Miller, Albert Paul, Charlestown, IL; Rollie Palmer, Cedar Rapids, IA; Mel Reddington, Silver Springs, MD; Chuck Reynolds, Birmingham, AL; Ottis Shay, Morgantown, WV; Wm Spence, Sayre, OK; Robert Wift, Dan Sjodin, Les Sutter, Ed Stauverman, Naples, FL; and Larry Veith.

I hope you all will make the next reunion with your families and bring an ol 831st bud-die along to bring up our attendance. Keep the letters coming which we really enjoy.

*****WOODY WOODYARD*****

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Once again, we are back to a 16 page newsletter - thanks to your unprecedented support. For this, I am most grateful. I wish to thank Mr Louis Gerdes, Vice-President and Executive Editor of the Omaha World-Herald for providing photo 4 on page 7 and granting permission to reprint the excellent write-up of our reunion by Tom Allan. Also, I thank Air Force magazine and Bob Stevens for granting permission to reprint some of Bob's cartoons from his book "MORE THERE I WAS", many of which appeared in Air Force magazine. For the humorous side of military life in the US Army Air Force of WWII and the US Air Force I highly recommend both volumes of "THERE I WAS". His latest book "MORE THERE I WAS" not only contains WWII and Korean air war cartoons but many of the great airmen's songs whose classic lyrics we use to sing around the ol piano in the clubs. You may obtain "MORE THERE I WAS" for \$3.95 from Bob Stevens, P.O. Box 310, Fallbrook, CA. 92028. And many thanks to Julian Kokenge for giving Down Memory's Lane a face lifting. I have crammed this issue, tried some new ideas and I sincerely solicit your comments and support.