



LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER CALLING



NO. 11

DEC 1976

MISSION NO 12: VAIL, COLORADO - Bob Deeds

Our westward journey started at Toledo, Ohio Wednesday morning with Howard and Marguerite Woodyard. Woody aimed the ol' iron horse down highway 80 and with a resounding "Colorado Or Bust!", we were off with a roaring start. Well, it was almost a bust for the ol' iron horse eventually got its temperature up, forcing us to make our first over night stop a few hours ahead of schedule. First Aid was render to the iron horse, replacing its water pump. Thursday, we crossed the plains states, reining in at Fort Morgan, Colorado where we spent the night safely from the dangers of the wild and wooly west. At Denver Airport, Friday morning, we met several ol' eagles who rented cars and took in the sights of Denver before going on to Vail.

On the road to Vail we came upon what we thought was an ol' 49er hiking which turned out to be Vic Bone. Vic hopped aboard and we continued to make tracks along the winding road slowly because of the road repairs under way which allowed us to enjoy more so, the beautiful mountain scenery. Well, the ol' iron horse blew its top as we reined in at the Talisman Lodge busting a radiator hose and belching a huge cloud of steam. About now I believe the iron horse skinner Woody, is ready to exchange it for a covered wagon and a team of mules.

The ol eagles were gathering and Rod Ritchie had activities in progress in the Columbine room. Marguerite and Dorothy pitched in, taking care of registrations. In short order the pace was set and before this ol' eagle retired Friday melted into Saturday.

PRISONER OF WAR - C Gigowski

With the oil refineries in Ploesti, Roumania severely damaged, the refineries in Austria and Germany assumed a greater importance, where production was increased. As part of the strategic effort of the 15th Air Force against oil targets, 147 Liberators of the 55th Bomb Wing were dispatched on 26 June 1944 to attack the Florisdorf Oil Refinery and Marshalling Yards outside Vienna, Austria. For outstanding performance in carrying out the mission, the 485th Bomb Group was awarded the Unit Citation.

At 0535 hours, under a clear sky, the first of 38 Liberators of the 485th begin rolling down the runway on its first mission to Florisdorf Oil Refinery. Captain Daniel D Sjodin, 831st CO, led the first attack unit and Captain John C Sandall, 829th Flight Leader, led the second attack unit. P-38's of the 306th Fighter Wing provided fighter cover, joining the formation at 0825 hours. Mechanical problems caused four Liberators to return early. As the formation passed over Lake Balaton, 830 Lib BOOZER (42-52702H, White A), piloted by Lt Jacob S Disston III, was

MINNEAPOLIS WILL BE HEAVEN IN '77

The thirteenth annual reunion of the 485th Bomb Group (H) will be held August 5 - 7, 1977 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Heartland of the sky blue waters. The round up of the eagles will be hosted by LCol Dan Sjodin, Bob Halling and Irv Parker. For particulars, consult the reunion announcement mailed earlier and for additional information write: 485th Bomb Group Reunion, c/o I. A. Parker, P.O. Box 747, Minneapolis, MN 55440.

1976 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

--TOP-- 828th Veterans: Front, L to R - Jack Eden, Breckenridge, TX; Joe O'Neill, Omaha, NB; Bob Deeds, Toledo, OH and Paul Beckley, Fairbault, MN. Rear, L to R - Karl Anderson, Carrollton, OH; Irv Parker, Minneapolis, MN; Henry Fisher, Denver, CO; Jim McFadden, Philadelphia, PA and Sherill Burba, Olney, TX.

--BOTTOM-- 829th Veterans: Front, L to R - Robert Peterson, Sinclairville, NY; Earl Isacson, Gardena, CA; Alvin Martin, Fern Creek, KY; Rex Merrell, Kansas City, KS; Floyd Swanson, Wausa, NB; Ray Carpenter, Fulton, NY and Art Karns, Petersburg, MI. Middle, L to R - Milton Fundling, Texas City, TX; Kearney Weyland, Round Top, TX; Al Peschka, Austin, TX; Don Wallack, Midwest City, OK; Bill Ferrell, Tacoma, WA and Carrol Johnson, San Gabriel, CA. Rear, L to R - John Hawk, Garden City, KS; Wythe Napier, Dallas, TX; Bernard Rempe, Tulsa, OK; Al Carlson, Nashville, TN; Albert O'Brien, Troy NY and Jim Gillett, Waterloo, IA.

MISSION NO 12 (Cont)

The Saturday morning business meeting was started with a prayer in memory of our departed buddies, shortly after nine o'clock by yours truly, acting in the absence of our editor, Carl Gigowski. Dorothy Deeds read the '76 meeting minutes and reports were presented by the Squadron Reporters: 828th - Bob Deeds; 829th - Ray Carpenter, acting for Earl Bundy; 830th - Lyle Talbott and 831st - Howard Woodyard. A brief discussion to change the reunion week end, ended with a motion by Al Peschka and seconded by Irv Parker, to keep the reunion week end as is. Dates and hosts for future reunions were confirmed: August 4 - 6, 1978, Los Angeles, California - host Roger Monroe; August 1979, Pittsburgh, PA - host Claude Sheline and August 1980, Louisville, KY - host Al Martin.

Bob Deeds suggested buying the picture "At The End Of The Trail" as a memorial to Bill Schoultz, to be donated to his VFW Post. Rod Ritchie concluded the meeting with a hearty thank you to the many veterans attending, making the reunion another successful milestone in the log of the 485th veterans. For the remainder of the day many of the veterans took in the sights around Vail while others fortified themselves with Rod's mountain dew against hypoxia due to the high altitude of the eagle's nest.

Following the cocktail hour we all enjoyed a wonderful buffet dinner. As flashbulbs popped, the eagles posed again for those historical photos. Later, there were visitations to other lodges and in the Columbine room many enjoyed a showing of slides of the Houston reunion by Jesse Wood, who also passed out souvenirs. And so it was Saturday disappeared behind the mountains, replaced by Sunday the final day of the event.

Many of the veterans desired to leave early so the short meeting to conclude the reunion was omitted. With pleasant goodbyes there was a promise to meet again in Minneapolis. We left at noon for Colorado Springs and a visit to the Air Force Academy. Well, the ol' iron horse persisted on running a high fever, so we high-tailed for home.

----The 485th eagles followed the winding trail to Vail for another successful gathering. In the unprecedented tradition of the 485th veterans, our host Rod Ritchie gave us a most enjoyable event in the beautiful Rockies, reminiscent of the Alp mountains with their Tyrolean villages, that so many of us observed from high above. We are grateful to Rod for continuing the happy saga of the 485th veterans and send his way our most sincere thanks and to all who helped make the event a success. See you all in Heaven on Earth - Minneapolis, Minn where the sky blue waters flow - from the bottle? Your comm.

PRISONER OF WAR (Cont)

observed emitting smoke from number 4 engine. At 0910 hours Lt Disston left the formation and was last observed with four unidentified silver-colored fighters following his Liberator. It was later learned that the Liberator crashed in Yugoslavia after the crew abandoned the bomber. Nine of the crew parachuted safely and one reported missing.



1976 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

--TOP-- 830th Veterans: Front, L to R - Maurice Wilcox, Madison, WI; George Crabill, Melbeta, NB; Claude Sheline, Monaca, PA and Jesse Wood, Glassboro, NJ. Rear, L to R - Ted Lipinski, Waretown, NJ; Rod Ritchie, Minturn, CO; James Blitch, Pensacola, FL; Eugene Tolle, Big Springs, TX; E Matney, Kansas City, KS and Lyle Talbott, Crooksville, OH.

--BOTTOM-- 831st Veterans: Front, L to R - John Cooper, Tampa, FL; Eugene La Mars, Colorado Springs, CO; Lester Sutter, St Louis, MO and Vic Bone, Chicago, IL. Rear, L to R - Eugene McCarthy, Modesto, CA; Walter Iwinski, Elmwood Park, IL; Louis Schoeneman, Livonia, MI; Vern Christensen, Plentywood, MT; Robert Halling, New Brighton, MN and Howard Woodyard, Lambertville, MI.

PRISONER OF WAR (Cont)

Approaching the IP (Initial Point), Ganserndorf, Austria, the Group was attacked by 35 to 40 enemy aircraft consisting of Ju88's, Me 110's, Me 210's, Me 109's and FW 190's. Flying low and level with the formation, they came in from 12 o'clock, firing incendiary rockets, cannon and machine guns. Passing through the formation, they continued to attack from 6 o'clock as the bombers made their bomb run, encountering intense, accurate, heavy flak. At 0945 hours the Group dropped 60 tons of incendiaries, saturating the target area. Rallying off the target southward, 828th Liberator SICK CALL (Red T, 41-29491H), piloted by Lt Parke Bossart, Crew 10, received a direct hit by flak and went down. SSgt Stanley Turecki, Radio Operator/Gunner of Crew 10 continues the story.

"As we approached the target we could see that it was covered with a blanket of black smoke. Just as we anticipated, the Germans were greeting us with a heavy flak barrage. Shortly after 'Bombs Away' our Lib was hit by flak. I looked out the waist window and saw the wing and engines on fire. Unable to contact Lt Bossart on the intercom, I attempted to go forward to the flight deck. However, there was a fire in the bomb-bay, preventing me from reaching the flight deck so I returned to my station.

"Our ball turret gunner, Cpl Maurice Brown, was hit in the leg. TSgt Eino Nikkila, flight engineer/gunner and I helped Brown from the turret, attached his chute and bailed him out through the rear entrance door. In all the excitement I didn't realize that I had removed my gloves and found that I couldn't attach my chute as my hands were very cold. Desperately, I finally managed to attach the chute to my harness. (How we used to abuse these life savers - kicking them, sitting on them and throwing them around the waist section. It's a wonder they opened when we pulled the rip-cord.) I signaled Eino to jump next. But he appeared to freeze at this point. Now all kinds of thoughts began running through my mind, like the plane exploding from the fires. But the Good Lord was with me and I believe He pushed me out the hatch. Remember, one was supposed to count to ten before pulling the rip-cord. Well, my count was - 1, 2, 10, PULL!

"After a successful landing I took count of my situation and started walking away. Feeling a sharp pain in my right leg, I rubbed the spot and noticed blood on my hand. This was my first realization of being hit by flak - two pieces in my leg and one in the thigh. My freedom was short lived for about an hour later, I was captured by two armed soldiers.

"At this point, the events were a bit hazy. Arriving at a nearby hospital, I met our bombardier, Lt Elmer Ellis, also wounded by flak. Doctors dressed our wounds with a salve and paper bandages. Then on to the jail-house, where two of our crew greeted us, SSgt Roy Reiten, turret gunner and Sgt Nikkila. Eino stated he bailed out as soon as I 'hit the silk'.

"We spent a few days here and then we were transported by truck under heavy guard, to a railroad siding and loaded into a very small box-car. There were so many of us packed in, that we all had to stand. After an eternity, with a dozen stops, we arrived at our POW camp, KGF LGR 4D LW. Here was our home - starting a new life as number 2759. A



1976 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

- (1) 485th Gp Hq Veterans: L to R - James M Goodson, Phoenix, AZ and John Hannan, Sacramento, CA.
 - (2) 485th POWs: Front, L to R - Earl Issacson, gunner; Robert Peterson, pilot and Rex Merrell, gunner, all of 829th crew 38. Their Liberator was downed by flak over Vienna, Austria on 8 July 1944. Rear, L to R - Jim Gillett, flight eng, 829 crew 22 downed over Munich, Germany 9 June 1944; Albert O'Brien, gunner, 830th crew 44, downed 19 July 1944, Munich, Germany; Vern Christensen, gunner, 831st crew 62 downed on his 50th mission 13 September 1944 over Oswiecim, Poland and John Hawk, gunner, 829th crew 22 downed 9 June 1944 over Munich, Germany.
 - (3) 829th Crew 38 Veterans: Front, L to R - Robert Peterson, pilot and Rex Merrell, gunner. Rear, L to R - Earl Issacson, gunner and Al Martin, radio operator.
- AND NOW GENTLEMEN, THE LADIES!
- (4) 828th: Front, L to R - Carol Goodson (GPH), Mrs Jack Eden and Isabel Beckly. Rear, L to R p Joan Burba, Virginia Hannan, Dorothy Deeds, Ernestine Fisher and Marguerite McFadden.
 - (5) 829th: Front, L to R - Jeannette Carlson, Mabel Gillett, Jean Ferrell, Theresa Carpenter. Middle, L to R - Jane O'Brien, Mary Karns, Opal Swanson, Bobbie Wallack, and Donzetta Merrel. Rear, L to R - Frances Fundling, Marilyn Hawk, Mrs Wythe Napier, Laura Rempe, Alvera Peschka, Sally Johnson, Dorothy Peterson and Lil Issacson.
 - (6) 830th: Front, L to R - Thelma Sheline, Joyce Tolle and Betty Wood. Rear, L to R - Ruth Schawlder, Rose Lipinski, Norma Wilcox and Ada Mateny.
 - (7) 831st: Front, L to R - Marguerite Woodyard, Claire Halling, Mabel Christensen and Betty Schoeneman. Rear, L to R - Helen Iwinski, Mary Cooper, Betty La Mar, Reva Sutter and Ida McCarthy.
 - (8) Vail, Colorado, the Tyrolean location of the gathering of the 485th eagles.

PRISONER OF WAR (Cont)

point of interest- our diet consisted of potatoes, potato soup, a turnip called calaroby, and bread which looked like it was made from saw dust. We received Red Cross parcels once a week which we divided amongst the four of us. I lost 32 pounds as a POW.

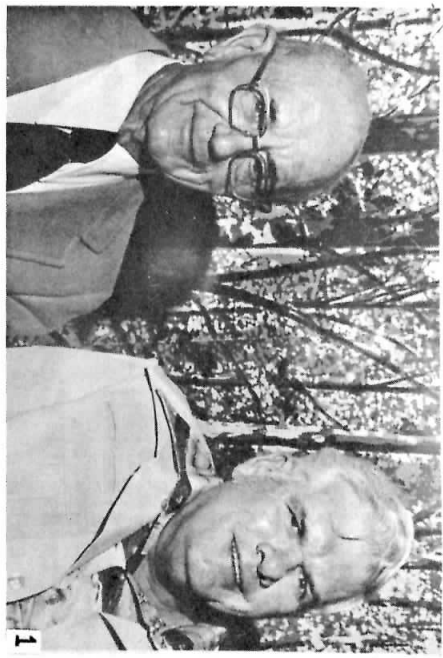
"Sometime during February 1945, we evacuated the camp which now had a population of 4,000 men of which 1,000 were British airmen, some having been POW's for two and three years. The reason for the evacuation was the big Russian offensive. We walked and walked through snow and cold weather - in wet shoes. About seventy-five per cent of the men had colds, half had diarrhea. Many died along the way. This, by the way, was called the 'Black March'.

"Eventually we crossed the Elbe River. Then the Yanks or British started an offensive. It was back across the Elbe again. The Germans held on to us, apparently hoping to use us as a bargaining tool when it came time to discuss peace. Finally sometime during the early part of May we were liberated by the British. We were flown to a camp in Brussels where we were deloused, clothed and fed. Seven days later on to Camp Luck Strike in France. Five weeks later we departed for the good Ole USA by ship."

There were additional combat casualties. Eight Libs received major damage and 14 minor damage from flak and enemy fighters. Three crew members were wounded. Liberator 330, yellow T of the 829th, piloted by Lt Clark Miller, was severely damaged and landed on the Isle of Vis where it remained for major repairs. Gunners claimed 12 enemy aircraft destroyed, 2 probable destroyed and 2 damaged. It all came to an end at 1255 hours as the Libs began to land at home base.

100 MISSION LIBERATORS SOUGHT FOR HALL OF FAME

BRIEFING, the journal of the International B-24 Liberator Club is searching for Liberators which flew one hundred missions or more. Photos and anecdotes about these air-



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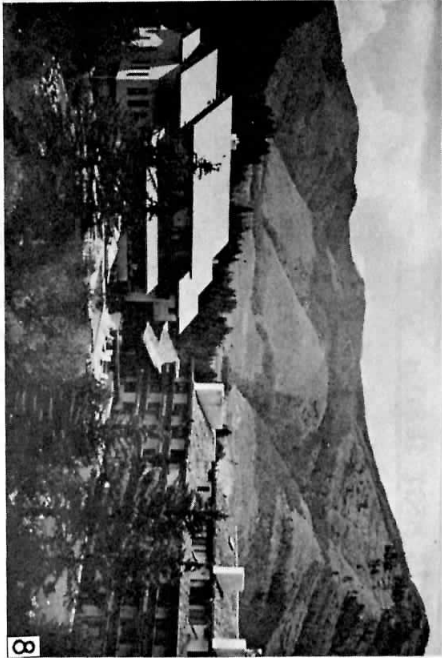
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DOWN MEMORY'S RUNWAY (Opposite Page)

- (1) Photo - W Napier - L to R: Sgt Garland O Williams, TSgt Merle W Sutterby, crew chief of 829th MISS FITZ and Sgt Andrew F Robinson.
- (2) Photo - P Charlton - L to R: Sgt Marienus Klootwyk and Sgt Paul Charlton, 830th Cooks.
- (3) Photo - F Chaffin - Cpl Frank Chaffin, 831st, returning from Venosa with new floor covering for his tent, a straw mat.
- (4) Photo - A Malkoski - 829th Lib 41-29497H of crew 32, pilot J A Latwaitis, crew chief, SSgt C J O'Keefe.
- (5) Photo - R Sovern - Front, L to R: PFC Russel L Sovern, _____ Tall and Sgt Wm H Best. Rear, L to R: SSgt Robert T Lewis, Sgt Wortha M Herman, Sgt Joseph R Tabellion and Sgt Roy L Foster, all of 830th Ordnance.
- (6) Photo - S Turecki - 828th Crew 10, Front, L to R: Lt Elmer G Ellis, B. Lt Gerald R Johnson, CP, Lt Parke N Bossart, P and Lt Richard D Wilson, N. Rear, L to R: TSgt Eino W Nikkila, E/G, SSgt Donald S Belmore, TTG, Sgt John H Turnbull, UTG, Unk, TSgt Stanley F Turecki, R/G and Sgt Roy L Reiten, NTG.
- (7) Photo - N Montulli - The stately mansion of Cpl Nicholas Montullo and buddies of the 828th.
- (8) Photo - G Ick - 828th Ground crew personnel, L to R: TSgt Ralph E Antles, SSgt Wayne H Bakke, TSgt Wm L Duncan, MSgt Raymond W Beaumont and TSgt Geo Ick.

100 MISSION LIBERATORS SOUGHT FOR HALL OF FAME (Cont)

craft will be featured in BRIEFING. Also, the Australian writer Steve Birdsall is hoping to include a complete list of these Liberators in his next book. It is fitting that the 485th Bomb Group be represented as material your editor has indicates that indeed, there were 485th Libs which flew over a hundred missions. The following are believed to be can dates for this honor:

830th:			Missions	Pilot	Crew Chief
White F	42-52728	B-24H	LIFE	110	Lt G G Jones (*)
White H	42-52724	B-24H	BUZZ JOB	100+	Lt W R Boling, Jr (*)
White I	42-52694	B-24H	PRINCESS MARIE	(*)	Lt H L Garnett (*)
White N	41-29504	B-24H	(*)	(*)	Lt F P Tunstall (*)
White Q	41-29536	B-24H	(*)	(*)	Staff (*)
831st:					
Blue C	41-28834	B-24H	TAIL HEAVY	(*)	Lt K R Craighead (*)
Blue N	42-52727	B-24H	CHARACTER	(*)	Lt C McNulty MSgt L York

All of the above Liberators flew the Groups last mission on 25 April 1945. I would be most grateful to hear from crews who flew these Libs and the ground crews who worked so diligently to keep them flying, confirming the number of missions and to provide missing information missing above, noted by (*). If possible please include any stories concerning these aircraft, including the date they flew their hundredth mission. Photos of White N, Q and the CHARACTER are needed. Are there any other Liberators that flew a hundred missions or more?

WHERE IS MSGT LESTER YORK?

Your 831st reporter, Woody is earnestly trying to locate Lester York, crew chief of the CHARACTER and so far has no clue as to Lester's hometown. We would be most grateful if you all would review your old orders, particular orders assigning personnel to Reception Centers upon returning to the States during May of 1945. Any info you may come across, please forward to Woody or your editor.

Gene McCarthy, 831st pilot and co-host of the '78 reunion in Los Angeles wants to build an exact replica of the CHARACTER. But alas, as previously stated we do not have a photo of the CHARACTER artwork. Thus it is doubly important that we obtain a photo of the CHARACTER. Anyone having such a photo, please send it to your editor who will have a negative made and return photo. It will be greatly appreciated. Along this line, Monogran has a 1/48 scale of the Liberator with 485th BUZZ JOB markings.



DOWN MEMORY'S RUNWAY (Opposite Page)

- (1) Photo - J Kokenge - 830th Crew 54, Front, L to R: Lt George D Tolsoma, P. Lt Lawrence S McGoldrick, B, Lt Edward F Toughy, CP and Lt Chester D Davis, N. Rear, L to R: TSgt Edward J Bru, E/G, Sgt Norman E Woods, AG, SSgt Alfred H Logan, G, SSgt Elliott C Atherton, G, Sgt Wilbur G Warner, Jr, G and TSgt Jullian H Kokenge, R/G. Crew completed 50 missions.
- (2) Photo - A Malkoski - B-25 taking off down hill at Venosa Air Field, 1944.
- (3) Photo - W Wulf - 485th Transportation Section (Personnel Unknown).
- (4) Photo - N Schawalder - 830th Maintenance personnel readying the Lib for the next mission. Cpl Neal Schawalder is at the front of the engine.
- (5) Photo - M Huckeby - 830th Liberator White A, BOOZER, 42-52702H of 830th crew 47, pilot Lt J S Disston III.
- (6) Photo - A Malkoski - 485th Liberator homeward bound.
- (7) Photo - E Pinnell - 828th Dispensary under construction.
- (8) Photo - E Pinnell - Capt Roy Peck, 828th Flight Surgeon (2nd from right) and medics of the 828th.

MAIL ROOM

485TH BOMB GROUP HQ - C Gigowski



From the great state of California several 485th veterans contacted your editor. Col Douglas Cairns, Group CO sent word from Redlands that Squire Bolton, our 485th Red Cross Director, phoned after noting the Col's address in the newsletter. And Squire sends his best regards to the whole gang. The two plan to have their own mini-reunion. Syd Harrison informed us that he has retired and moved to Pebble Beach. Syd has visited Hugh

Bayless, Carmal City Administrator, who plans to retire in '77. Col William Bradley, Palos Verdes Peninsula, John Hannan, Sacramento and Dr Maurice Priver, Los Angeles sent in word of their enjoyment of the newsletter and hope to make the reunion. Let's make the '78 reunion in Los Angeles a big reunion for Group Hq personnel also.

Received a nice letter from Larry Vicino, Clifton, New Jersey, expressing his enjoyment of the newsletter and in particular the 485th calander of events. Larry made his annual trip to good ol sunny Italy. Also received a note from Ralph Wakefield, West Stockholm, New York. A hearty thank you to you all for your continued support of the newsletter.

828TH BOMB SQDN - Bob Deeds



Another great reunion has come and gone. Visiting Vail, Colorado and the beauty of the Rocky mountains was something to behold. Rod Ritchie with his 830th charm, made us welcome and his name can be added to the long list of hosts who have made our reunions a successful event.

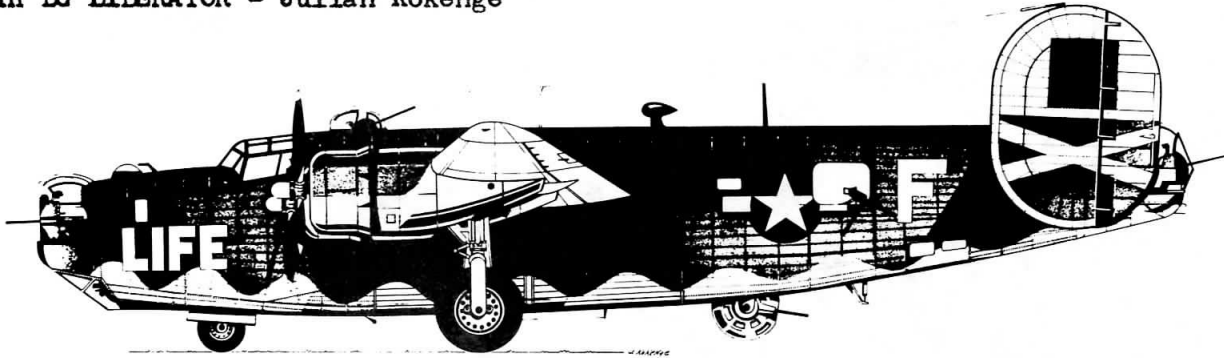
For the 828th, we had nine veterans present, including two first timers - Sherill Burba and his wife from Olney, Texas and Joesph J O'Neill of Omaha, Nebraska. And our two bombsight men were present - Jim McFadden and his wife with friends from Philadelphia, Penn. and Henry Fisher and his wife.

There were my old buddies associated with that great Liberator, THE LADY - Jack Eden, (pilot), his wife and daughter, and Karl Anderson, his two sons and daughter in law, who was the crew chief. Also, my friends Paul and Isabel Beckly and Irv Parker, who will be assisting withe reunion in Minneapolis.

Received mail from Roger 'Easy' Monroe, Nuby Serjain and Joe Landis who want to invite all of you to the land of fruits and nuts in Southern California in 1978. Also received correspondence from Felix Rameder of Austria, who is writing a history of the war. He recalls our bomb group and seen some of our planes go down. This past fall I had several telephone calls from Terry Boetlcher of Indianianna, Iowa. His father served with the 828th as gunner of Capt Van E Neal's crew and was injured in the crash of his Lib



485TH BG LIBERATOR - Julian Kokenge



830TH BOMB SQDN B-24H 42-52728 110 Missions
Pilot - Lt Glen G Jones Crew Chief - MSgt Chester Davis

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

on 7 July 1944. SSgt Donald Boettcher passed away in 1948. Oh yes, Terry is a Balloon-ist and sails thru the air with the greatest of ease.

This year I received mail from 35 of the 828th veterans including contributions to the newsletter and stories they recalled of our days in Italy. It was great to hear from you all. At present, the 828th mailing roster consists of 149 names out of a possible 500. It is rather difficult to locate the veterans and you may help by placing a small item about our activities in your local newspaper.

We regret that we must add the following veterans to the roster of Journeys End: Wayne Bakke, La Crosse, Wisconsin, Laurel L Behnke, Clintonville, Wisconsin, Ben Christ, Lockport, New York and Wayne Yankee. Remember - Minneapolis is Heaven in '77.

829TH BOMB SQDN - Earl Bundy



The 829th member contacts continues to grow each year. Keep sending in addresses you receive. And please do not forget to forward your new address when you move. Sorry I missed the reunion this year but glad other members held up and made our Squadron number one in attendance. I've had a busy year and we overcame five trips to the hospital for my wife, who is now feeling fine. Ray Carpenter reported the reunion was a great success with everyone having a good time and enjoying themselves.

Was happy to receive a letter from Slayton McGehee. Upon seeing pictures of his crew, Marvin Lindsay and Art Carlson in the last issue of the newsletter, he was reminded of the day they bailed out near Regensburg, Germany and qualified for the title of 'Kregie'.

One of several letters from Wythe Napier came in July after he, Milton Fundling and Al Peschka spent a week end with Kearny Wegand at his home in Round Top, Texas. They called me on Sunday and sure indicated they were having a grand week end. Enjoyed several letters from Bernard Rempe and find they sold their farm and are going to do a lot of tra-

MORE 485TH VETERANS

<u>828TH BOMB SQDN</u>	<u>829TH BOMB SQDN</u>	<u>830TH BOMB SQDN</u>	<u>831ST BOMB SQDN</u>
ANGLIN, Lewis	BLAIR, Don	SCHEFFMAKER, Earl	PEIRANO, Ned
LA SCOTTE, EUGENE	BUHRMANN, Dean	WILCOX, Maurice	LOWRY III, Bill
MARSHALL, Robert C	CRANE, Charles	<u>831ST BOMB SQDN</u>	MILINOG, Steve
MITCHELL, Dick	MUIR, Willis D	CECIL, Robert	MYSEL, Isadore
MC CUTCHEON, Paul R	Col, USAF	DRISCILL, John	ROACH, James M
ROBERTS, Charles J	<u>830TH BOMB SQDN</u>	HANSEN, Raleigh	ROSWALD, Bert
SMITH, Walter A, Jr	MINTON, Harry	HERRINGTON, Paul	ROTH, Harold E
WEAVER, Harold, Sr	RUSSELL, Thomas A	LEDBETTER, Jesse I	SHELBY, Al
			TINNEY, Harlan

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 M-No 53 Harbor Installations Genoa, Italy	3 M-No 54 Manzell Aircraft Works Friedrichshafen, Germany	4	5
6 M-No 55 Tarascon/Rhone Railroad Bridge Tarascon, France	7 M-No 56 North Synthetic Oil Plant Blechhammer, Ger.	8 (Scrubbed)	9 M-No 57 Budapest/Tokol Airdrome Budapest, Rumania	10 M-No 58 Astro-Romano O/R Floesti, Rumania	11	12 M-No 59 Gun Installations Sete, France
13 M-No 60 Gun Installations Sete, France	14 M-No 61 Gun Positions St Tropex, France	15 M-No 62 Highway Bridge Ponte St Esprit, France	16 M-No 63 Ober/Raderrack Chemical Works Friedrichshafen, Germany	17	18 M-No 64 Romano Americano Oil Refinery Floesti, Rumania	19
20	21 M-No 65 Airdrome Nis, Yugoslavia	22 M-No 66 Koreneuberg O/S Vienna, Austria	23 M-No 67 Airdrome Markersdorf, Aus.	24 M-No 68 Oil Refinery Pardubice, Czech.	25 M-No 69 Airdrome Prostejov, Czech.	26
27 M-No 70 South O/R Blechhammer, Ger.	28 M-No 71 Oil Refinery Szony, Hungary	29 M-No 72 Marshalling Yard Moravske-Ostrava, Czech.	30	31		
Abbreviations O/R = Oil Refinery O/S = Oil Storage						

AUGUST 1944

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

veling.

In a letter from R H 'Snake' Haugen, I was glad to receive some new history of the 485th in Italy. Our 829th namesake for aborted missions 'LITTLE EMMA', 42-78136 was the last plane to take-off from Venosa Air Base as the engineers were ripping up the hardstands. 'Snake' Haugen pre-flighted 136 and Col Cairns, Group CO, made the last take-off from Venosa.

Received letters from Floyd Swanson, Ben Skelton and Fred Heaton. Ben and Fred expressed regrets for not being able to make the reunion. I had two letters from J Ryan Scott and very sorry to hear that he has had to fight back all year from a heart attack in September 1975. Ryan sent a contribution to the mail fund and by November was improving. He is hoping to be well enough for the '77 reunion. Also, received letters from Ray Carpenter and Bernard Rempe this fall as both had been to Columbus, Ohio and I happened to be away when they were here. I was pleased to receive donations for the newsletter from Al Peschka, M Fundling, D Wallach, B Rempe, R Carpenter, J Houck, Al O'Brien, K Weyand, Bob Peterson, B Farrell, S Lis and F Swanson.

It was sad news in Wythe Napier's letter this month telling of a letter received from Mrs J Glenn Nesbitt in which she told of the passing of Glenn on December 4, 1976. Glenn was in contact with us the past three years and unable to make a reunion because of repeated heart attacks. Glenn is survived by his wife and two sons at home in Sulphur Springs, Texas. I want to thank the members that attended the reunion for your contributions. Plans for the reunion at Minneapolis are well underway and let's make it the biggest ever.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 M-No 73 Marshalling Yard Szajol, Hungary	2
3	4 M-No 74 Adige/Ora R/B Ora, Italy	5 M-No 75 Railroad Bridge Szob, Hungary	6 M-No 76 Marshalling Yard Nyiregyhaza, Hun.	7	8	9
10 M-No 77 SE Industrial Area Vienna, Austria	11	12 M-No 78 Jet Acft Factory Wasserberg, Ger.	13 M-No 79 Synthetic Oil & Rubber Plant Oswiecim, Poland	14	15	16
17 M-No 80 Maryar O/R Budapest, Hungary	18 M-No 81 N. Railroad Bridge Budapest, Hungary	19 Elechhammer, Gr (Scrubbed)	20 M-No 82 N. Marshalling Yard Hatvan, Hungary	21 M-No 83 N. Marshalling Yard Brod, Yugoslavia	22 M-No 84 Ober-Waisenfeld BMW Buildings Munich, Germany	23 M-No 85 Railroad Bridges Latissana, Italy Pieve, Italy
24 M-No 86 West Marshalling Yard Salonika, Greece	25	26	27	28	29	30
Abbreviations: R/B = Railroad Bridge O/R = Oil Refinery						
SEPTEMBER 1944						

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

830TH BOMB SQDN - Lyle Talbott



Eleven veterans of the 830th scaled the Vail Pass to join the other members of the 485th for the 12th reunion in Vail, Colorado. Those attending were Mr and Mrs Jesse Wood, Mr and Mrs Neal Schawalder, Mr and Mrs Claude Sheline, Mr and Mrs Eugene Tolle, Mr and Mrs Ted Lipinski, Mr and Mrs Eugene Matney, Mr and Mrs Maurice Wilcox, Rod Ritchie, Geo Crabill, James Blitch, and yours truly. Eugene Matney and James Blitch were 'First Timers' and expressed their enjoyment of seeing and visiting with former friends. Jim and I were close friends in Venosa and had not seen each other since September 1944.

Received communications from Vince Skeac, James Blitch, Gale Rowland, Frank Brockel, Matti Syrjanen, Jess Wood, Clifford Studaker, LeRoy Daniels, Thos Russell, Harry Minton, Ted Lipinski, James Roach, Elliot Seagraves, Charley Onley and Frank Gallagher. Clifford Studaker was co-pilot on Ken Mus' crew and Harry Minton was Squadron communications. Not sure of Thos Russell's assignment, except the Squadron navigator's name was Thos Russell. The Studakers learned of the reunion during the past year and enjoyed the event greatly and promise to see us in Minneapolis in '77.

Gale Rowland had the sad task of informing us of the passing of George Thompkins due to a heart attack on 14 July 1976. George was Gale's pilot, and was respected by all of his crew members, both air and ground - a true aircraft commander. Our last conversation was at York, a most pleasant one. His passing will be felt by all his friends and associates and I wish to express my deepest sympathy to his wife Elsie, on behalf of all who knew him.

Vince Skeac reports an unexpected meeting with Col and Mrs Dan Sjodin in the Phillipines

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 M-No 87 Adige/Ora R/B Adige/Lezzocorna R/B Ora, Italy	5	6	7 M-No 88 Winterhafen O/S Vienna, Austria
8	9	10 M-No 89 Piave/Susegana R/B Susegana, Italy	11	12 M-No 90 Ammunition Dump Bologna, Italy	13 M-No 91 S. Marcelling Yard Barhida, Hungary	14
15	16 M-No 92 Neudorf Aaft Engine Factory Graz, Austria	17 M-No 93 Nagykanizsa, Hun.	18	19	20 M-No 94 Marcelling Yard Rosenheim, Ger.	21
22	23 M-No 95 M.A.M. Works Augsburg, Germany	24	25	26	27	28
29 Augsburg, Gr. (Recalled)	30	31				
Abbreviations: R/B = Railroad Bridge O/S = Oil Storage						
OCTOBER 1944						

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

The year 1976 brought the end of daily routines for three friends, Matti Syrjanen, Theo Lipinski and Bill Best - Retirement. The Lipinski's bought a recreational vehicle and were enjoying the great west. Bill Best, the Kodak Flash, is moving to Florida to fish and take it easy. Good Luck Buddies. Maybe in a couple of years I can throw away my watch and calander and join you all.

I wish to thank Rod Ritchie for a job well done. Vail is a very scenic place and a good escape from city life. Now lets make it 'HEAVEN IN MINNEAPOLIS IN '77.

831ST BOMB SQDN - Howard Woodyard



Vail, with its mountains, rocks and streams, is beautiful rugged country. Arrived there, all steamed up - my car that is. However, I am ready for our 13th reunion. Rod Ritchie selected a location that was different from any other for our reunion. I believe everyone in attendance will agree that a wonderful time was enjoyed by all. Thanks Rod, for making the reunion a real success.

Five First Timers of the 831st made the reunion: Vern Christensen, who ran into a problem, completing his last mission (see newsletter 12), Gene LaMar and John Cooper were MIAs, and are from Vince Lewis' crew, Louis Schoeneman and Eugene McCarthy. And our regulars were there - Lester Sutter, Vic Bone, Walter Iwinski and Bob Halling. Glad to see you all at the reunion.

In addition to the members noted above we received correspondence from John Jones, Leonard Little, Ed Stauverman, who has recovered from an operation and is planning on the reunion, Bill Spence, Dan Sjodin, Hugo Cross, Warren Meyers, Harold Coombs, Kenneth

JOURNEYS END

			Members Deceased Since The End Of WWII					
ANNINOS, Milton P	828	1971	FREITAS, Henry E	828		REUTER, C W	GpH	
BAGGS, Bill	830	1969	GIBSON, Richard O	828	1962	ROBERDEAU, H, Maj	830	1972
* BAKKE, Wayne	828	1976	GILLESPIE, Kenneth	GpH		ROE, John	GpH	
BARRETT, Sam	830		GRASS, Alfred W	828		RYDER, Wm	831	1972
BARQUIST, Ernie	828	1967	GREENWOOD, Lloyd H	830		SCHALIS, Eugene H	829	1972
* BEHNKE, Laurel L	828	1976	GRUBBS, Wm E	829	1972	SCHOULTZ, Wm H	828	1975
BLACKWELL, Earl	828	1959	HARRISON, Wallace	GpH	1945	SHEPHERD, Chester D	828	1973
* BOETTCHER, Donald E	828	1948	HASLER, Donald E	831	1972	SHINDLEDECKER, F	828	1965
BOYER, Henry	828	1964	HUCKEY, H M, LCol	GpH	1973	SIMPSON, Chas R	828	
BRODRICK, Gerald A	828	1968	JENSEN, Willard	828	1962	SOLLINGER, Edward	828	1968
BROWN, Wilbur	828	1972	JOHNSON, R W, Col	GpH	1972	STAGMAN, Orlie M	831	
CAMPANELLA, John	829		JOHNSON, Ralph P	829	1966	SWANN, Everett H	830	1975
CATHY, Joe	830		KEANEALLY, Wm C	828	1973	TANNER, Wm	829	1971
CHAPMAN, Russel	828		KETCHAM, Frank D	828	1968	THOMAS, Homer	829	
* CHRIST, Ben	828	1976	LIA, Hans	GpH	1973	THOMPSON, Harold V	831	1971
COREY, Russel	828		LISH, Gilbert	829	1968	THRONE, John N	829	1971
COX, Lester C	828	1972	MC GINN, Chas J	828		TITON, Edgar	830	
DEGAN, John	830	1966	MIFLIN, Ed	829	1971	TRUSS, John	830	1968
DI MATTEO, Gene	828	1969	OBERLE, Robert	828	1970	WILLIAMS, Garland O	829	1965
DONACHE, Leigh	829	1971	O'DELL, Rex	828	1948	* YANKEE, Wayne	828	
ENTWISTLE, Jack	828	1959	PICKLE, Buck	828	1973	YOUNG, Othmar	831	1971
FORESTER, August R	828		PRATZ, Wm S	GpH				

MAIL ROOM (Cont)

Brown, Geo Cleghorn, Ted Jacobs, George Winter, Robert Hanson, Vince Lewis, who informed us that his bombardier, Robert Young passed away in 1973, Lt Col Cletus Harner, Morris 'Moe' Lipman, Ray Heskes, Ned Pierano, who sent in names for the mailing roster.

Also received correspondence from Harold Dundon, John Driscoll, Homer Hale, Hank Fisher, Bernie Rempe, who visited with Roger Monroe in Southern California and reports that the plans for the '78 reunion are well in process, Al O'Brien, Jim McFadden, Stan Turecki, and Paul McCutcheon.

Would like to hear from any 831st member with stories of their experiences in Italy for use in the newsletter. Also, would like to have the address of Sgt Robert Kirkhoff, 830 bombsight maintenance. Hope to see you all in August and take first place in attendance.

LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER CALLING

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

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PARDON OUR BLOPPER

Your editor errored in Vern Christensen's story, 'Last Mission' on page 10, paragraph 4, newsletter no. 10, 1975. It should read: Replacement crew members that day were Lt George Winter, navigator, also on his 50th mission, from Lt Staufferman's crew; Lt Matthew Hall, co-pilot, on his 50th mission, from Lt Wiggins crew, etc ---

FROM YOUR EDITOR

1976 was our country's bi-centennial year and for me it was one of the busiest years of my life, particularly at work. Nothing went according to plans. Like many others I am patiently waiting for the day when I can turn in my watch and calander. But that day is still a few years away. I hope you all will pardon the late arrival of the newsletter. I shall endeavor to do better.

I hope you all enjoy the 485th calander of events along with Jullian Kokenge's renditions of 485th Liberators. If you could view the originals, you would agree they are the work of a true artist. I sincerely thank you for your generous support of the newsletter and reunion. PS: All issues of the newsletter are reprinted and available upon request.