



LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER CALLING



NO. 13

DEC. 1978

MISSION NO. 14: NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA - Bob Deeds

Once again, the ol 485th gray eagles headed west, heeding the advice of Horace Greeley and, of course, Roger 'Easy' Monroe. So it was, during the week-end of August 4 - 6, 1978, the veterans completed another happy mission to Newport Beach, California where Roger and Nuby Serijean hosted the ol eagles at the Sheraton Newport Beach complex.

Arriving Wednesday, Bernie and Laura Rempe, and Howard and Marguerite Woodyard helped Roger put the final touch to the arrangements. The target was reached by many on Thursday as the veterans begin arriving by jet, bus and auto. Late in the afternoon the cocktail hour was conducted by the management with the action ending at the Hospitality Room where the reunion got into full swing.

Activities started Friday morning with a buffet breakfast and the usual Hospitality Room action. For many the day was spent touring the area, visiting Knoxberry Farm and Disney World. By evening the crowd had grown and the days activities concluded in the Hospitality Room.

The big day of the reunion, Saturday, began with the business meeting called to order by Earl Bundy, in the Oliver Twist Room. Welcoming the veterans to the reunion, Earl and the veterans paid tribute to our departed comrades with a moment of silent prayer and a reading of the 485th BG Prayer by Sherrill Burba. (Cont Page 2)

THE CHARACTER - Harold Richards and Burl Jackson

(Editor's Note: In the '76 newsletter information concerning 831st Liberator THE CHARACTER and its crew chief, MSgt Lester York, was solicited. We are happy to report that TSgt Burl G Jackson, RG and SSgt Harold R Richards, Gunner of Captain Jesse Ledbetter's crew responded, sending photos of THE CHARACTER and Sgt York, along with information on the Liberator.)

THE CHARACTER was originally flown by Lt James C McNulty's 831st crew 69. On June 9, 1944, while on a mission to Munich, Germany, Lt McNulty's crew were flying 830th Lib 42-52719H (Lt George W Tompkins' Lib) and were reported MIA. A short time later, recalls Sgt Richards, our crew was assigned THE CHARACTER, after we had to abandon our Liberator, TRAVELER, 42-78100G in a grape arbor on the isle of Vis while returning from a mission to Ploesti.

At 0727 hours, 26 July 1944, thirty-four 485th Liberators began taking off for a mission which would take them to the heavily-defended area of Vienna, Austria. The targets: Zwolfaxing Airdrome and Szombathely Air- (Cont Page 3)

LOOK OUT PITTSBURGH STEELERS

The Fifteenth Annual Reunion of the 485th Bomb Group (H) will be held August 3 - 5, 1979 at the Holiday Inn Airport in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Your host will be Mr and Mrs Claude Sheline of the 830th. For particulars, consult the reunion announcement or for additional information write C D Sheline, 1133 Chestnut St, Monaca, PA 15061.

1978 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

- (1) GROUP HQS VETERANS: Front, L to R - Dr Maurice Priver, Gp Flight Surgeon, Beverly Hills, CA; Col Douglas Cairns, Gp CO, Redlands, CA; Squire Bolton, 485th Red Cross Field Director, Yupaipa, CA and Mel Goodson, Gp Executive Officer, Phoenix, AZ. Rear, L to R - Major John Hannan, Gp Tech Insp Officer, Sacramento, CA; Col William Bradley, Gp Flight Surgeon, Palos Verdes Pen, CA and Joseph P Landis, Ass't Gp Ops Officer, Hollywood, CA.
- (2) A WINNER - Frank Ward, Gunner, 830th Crew 47, Toms River, New Jersey for traveling the greatest distance to the reunion.
- (3) 485TH POWS: Front, L to R - Lloyd Allan, 829th Pilot, downed March 22, 1944, Vienna, Austria; Bob Petersen, 829th Pilot, crew 38; Rex Merrell, 829th Gunner, crew 38, both downed July 8, 1944, Vienna, Austria; Marvin Lindsay, 829th Radio/Gunner, crew 35, downed June 9, 1944, Munich, Germany; Earl Iaccson, 829th Gunner, crew 38, downed July 8, 1944, Vienna, Austria and Cecil Densmore, 830th Gunner, crew 43, downed July 20, 1944, Munich, Germany. Rear, L to R - Vito Sakall, 830th Gunner, crew 58, downed July 30, 1944, Budapest, Hungary; Jack Hammersberg, 831st Navigator, crew 68, downed Guirgiu, Rumania, June 23, 1944; Robert Miller, 831st Gunner, crew 64; Joseph Landis, Ass't Gp Ops Officer; Lloyd Proudlove, 831st Pilot, crew 64; all downed May 29, Vienna, Austria and Homer Hale, 829th Bombardier, crew 21, downed July 19, 1944, Munich, Germany.
- (4) BUZZ JOB: Constructed by Frank Chaffin. Serial No. 42-52724, B-24H, originally flown by Lt W R Boling's crew 41 of the 830th. Believe to have completed over 100 missions. Flew the Group's last mission on 25 April 1945.
- (5) THE 485TH COMMITTEE: Front, L to R - Lyle Talbott, 830th, Squire Bolton, Gp Hq Honorary Member; Woody Woodyard, 831st and Bernie Rempe, 829th. Rear, L to R - Smiley Deeds, 828th, Martha Bundy, Laura Rempe, Margerite Woodyard and Dorothy Deeds. Not in photo, Earl Bundy, 829th and Carl Gigowski, Editor.
- (6) VENOSA BLUE - Named in honor of the 485th Bomb Group. Owned and piloted by Terry Boettcher. (See Venosa Blue story.)

MISSION NO. 14 (Cont from page 1)

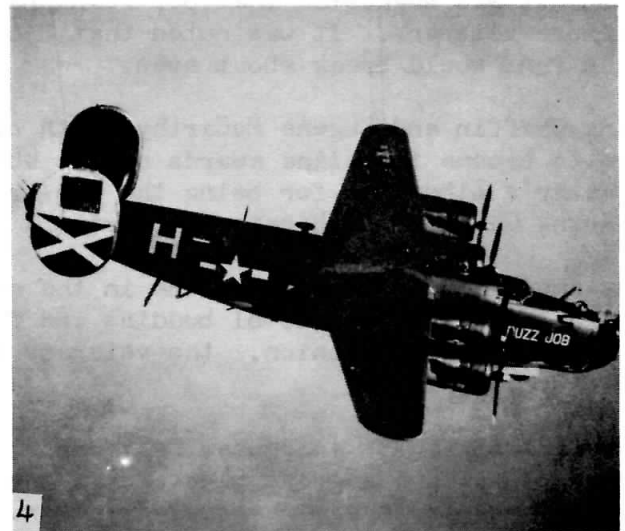
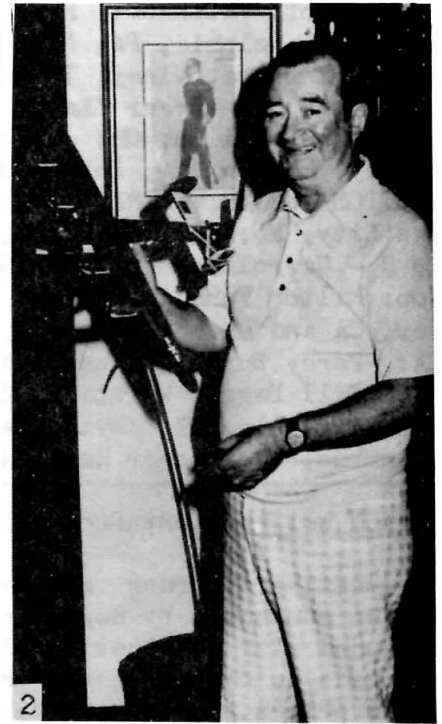
Each Squadron Reporter commented on their activity, noting the new members and the ones called above and beyond. The first timers were extended a warm welcome and the reunion committee expressed their appreciation to Roger and all who helped make this another excellent reunion. The reporters concluded by requesting continual support of the newsletter and thank all who supported the project so generously. The minutes of the 1977 meeting were presented by Dorothy Deeds and approved.

The 1979 reunion in Pittsburgh was confirmed. Laura Rempe presented plans for a European tour to conclude at Venosa, Italy, lasting 16 - 18 days with an approximate cost of \$1050.00 per person. It was suggested that this might take place in 1980. The change was discussed with Al Martin, host of the 1980 reunion and the 1980 European tour was accepted with the reunion in Louisville, KY set for 1981. Bert Rosewald reported that he had just completed such a trip and thought it was great.

Roger presented plans for the remaining part of the reunion. Squire Bolton, our Red Cross Field Director, addressed the group, reflecting on the cordial reception by the veterans and was enjoying the gathering very much. Likewise, Col Douglas Cairns, our last Group Commander spoke to the group, expressing his enjoyment at the reunion. A total of 80 veterans were in attendance with seventeen attending for the first time.

During the afternoon many veterans continued touring the metro-area including a visit to Lion Safari Zoo. Others elected to remain at the hotel, taking advantage of the facilities and - just maybe - to rest up from the previous nights activity. Early in the evening a cocktail hour was held, followed by the banquet. The days activities concluded with a dance to music of the good ol days, bring to fore many wonderful memories.

The conclusion of the reunion came Sunday morning as Earl Bundy brought the final busi-



1978 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

-TOP- 828TH VETERANS: Front, L to R - Robert Marshall, Galesburg, IL; James McFadden, Philadelphia, PA; Nicholas Montulli, Rochester, NY; Herman Laorno, Phoenix, AZ; Sherrill Burba, Olney, TZ and Paul Beckleu, Fairbault, MN. Rear, L to R- Merlin Baker, San Jose, CA; Roger 'Easy' Monroe, Newport Beach, CA; Nuby Serijan, Woodland, CA; Ed Nett, Centerville, OH; George Ick, Lisbon, ND; Myron Hails, Conoga Park, CA; Arthur Hurley, Mokema, IL; Bob Deeds, Toledo, OH and Henry Fisher, Thornton, CO.

-BOTTOM- 829TH VETERANS: Front, L to R - Floyd Swanson, Wausa, NB; Rex Merrill, Kansas City, KS; Earl Isaacson, Gardena, CA and Marvin Lindsay, Wichita, KS. Middle, L to R - Carrol Johnson, San Gabriel, CA; Al Peschka, Austin, TX; Kearney Weyand, Round Top; Milton Fundling, Texas City, TX; Charles Crane, Salem, OR; Henry Dolin, Playa Del Rey, CA and Dr Earl Pinnell, Bermuda Dunes, CA. Rear, L to R - Lloyd Allan, Van Nuys, CA; Percy Burns, Minneapolis, MN; Lloyd Johnson, Portland, OR; Wm Farrell, Tacoma, WA; Bill Beggs, Whittier, CA; Kenneth O'Connell, Grass Valley, CA; Bob Peterson, Sinclairville, NY; Wythe Napier, Dallas, TX; Bernard Rempe, Tulsa, OK; Earl Bundy, Columbus, OH; Homer Hale, Athens, GA and Bill Muir, Fairfax VA.

MISSION NO. 14 (Cont from page 2)

ness meeting to order and expressed the sincere appreciation of all for the excellent reunion conducted by Roger and his committee. Further discussion of the European tour concluded with a request of Laura Rempe to carry on with the plans. Numerous requests were made to change the date for future reunions to avoid the hot summer weather and higher prices. No further action was taken and the request will be given more consideration. It was suggested that our reunions be given more coverage with the hope of reaching more veterans. It was noted that 156 individuals attended the banquet and the reunion fund would break about even.

Frank Chaffin and Eugene McCarthy, both of the 831st, brought a model of the B-24 which were to become traveling awards of the 485th. Frank Ward, 830th, was awarded Eugene's McCarthy's Liberator for being the one traveling the farthest. Gene McCarthy was awarded Frank Chaffin's Liberator for bring a former crew member of BUZZ JOB.

Thus concluded another milestone in the memorable journey of the 485th veterans. With the fondest farewell to ol buddies and frineds, and with a hopeful promise of meeting again at the next reunion, the veterans began the journey home or continued on with their vacation.

(The land of fruits and nuts, California, proved to be something else - a land of wonderful people and a great place for a reunion as attested by the veterans who ventured way out west for the 14th annula reunion. Continuing the great saga of the 485th veterans, Roger and Noby added another memorable chapter. Your committe extends a most sincere thank you to Roger and Noby, and their appreciation to all who helped make the event, another successful reunion. Also, a special thank you to Bernie and Laura Rempe for their assistance and planning of the European Tour; and to Dorothy Deeds and Margerrite Woodyard for their secretarial assistance. We hope many of you will make the European Tour. Your Committee)

THE CHARACTER (Cont from page 1)

drome in Hungrary. Three Liberators returned early as the Group rendezvous with the 460th BG and fighter escort (thirty-five P-51s) at 1034 hours. Major Richard V Griffin, 830th CO led the 1st attack unit and Major John E Atkins, 831st Ops Officer led the 2nd attack unit.

The formation was over the primary target at 1129 hours and seven aircraft of the low box released their bomb load from 20,500 feet. The formation then proceeded to the 1st alternate target where twenty Libs released their bomb load at 1147 hours.



1978 REUNION PICTORIAL (Opposite Page)

-TOP- 830TH VETERANS: Front, L to R - Hollis Porter, Orlando, FL; Howard Sanborn, Redwood City, CA; Frank Ward, Toms River, NJ; Charles Neer, Lorain, OH; Lyle Talbott, Crooksville, OH and Cecil Densmore, Encinitar, CA. Rear, L to R - Ellis Mercer, Boulder, CO; James Roach, Tacoma, WA; James Vail, Los Alamitos, CA; Vito Sakall, Fullerton, CA; Rod Ritchie, Minturn, CO; Robert Esarey, Burbank, CA; Neal Schawlder, Pittsburgh, PA and Jay Hanson, Sunnyvale, CA.

-BOTTOM- 831ST VETERANS: Front, L to R - Wayne Whiting, Martinez, CA; Frank Chaffin, Corona, CA and Howard Woodyard, Lambertville, MI. Middle, L to R - Jack Hammersburg, Madera, CA; Otto Meyers, Chicago, IL; Lloyd Proudlove, Phoenix, AZ; Dan Sjodin, Elaine, MN; Lester Sutter, St Louis, MO and Ned Peirano, Pleasant Hill, CA. Rear, L to R - George Williams, Madera, CA; Bill Spence, Sayre, OK; Walter Iwanski, Elmwood Park, IL; Louis Schoenman, Livonia, MI; Bert Rosewald, Seattle, WA; Gene McCarthy, Modesta, CA; Richard McLawhorn, Winterville, NC; Bill Brokaw, Aptos, CA; Robert Miller, Lompoc, CA and Victor Bone, Chicago, Ill.

THE CHARACTER (Cont from page 4)

On the return flight, approximately 40 Me109s and Fw190s were observed between Feldbach and Muryslag. Ten more Me109s were seen near Zagreb, Yugoslavia. Shortly, about 30 of the enemy fighters attacked the formation. In the first attack about 15 Me109s were flying high, to the right and parallel with the formation. Peeling off they zeroed in on the 2nd unit, approaching from 12 and 2 o'clock high with 2 and 3 fighters abreast and 3 or 4 staggered slightly. They broke away low and then, attacked the formations from 5 to 6 o'clock, level and low.

Three Liberators were severely damaged by cannon and machine gun fire and one bomber was damaged by flak. The navigator on 438 was killed by a 20mm shell. The formation was back over the air field at 1512 hours with 438 returning later and 727 landing at a friendly field.

Liberator 727 was THE CHARACTER, manned by Captain Jesse Ledbetter's crew. Reviewing his record of the mission, Sgt Jackson relates the events of the incident.

"I don't remember the location of the formation when the Me109s and Fw190s attacked, damaging no 1 and 2 engines, gas tanks and hydraulic lines. Captain Ledbetter and Lt Hasulak, co-pilot, managed to keep THE CHARACTER on course for home with the aid of the auto-pilot, despite the fact that we were unable to feather no 1 prop. A short time later, 10-12 fighters attacked again.

I received 20mm fragments in the right foot and left arm. Sgt Kristal, ball turret gunner was hit severely in the left side. On the last pass, the fighters knocked out the tail turret, ammo chutes and the right waist gun. Two of the fighters came in pancake style on the tail of the bomber. It was 'holly h' back there. Fortunately it was their last pass at us. If they would have made another, we would have been a sitting duck.

We now headed for the isle of Vis. On several occasions it appeared as if we would have to bail out. However, we made it safely. Here, we left Sgt Kristal and THE CHARACTER. We were back at Venosa on October 4th by way of a fishing boat across the Adriatic Sea to Bari.

I did not know that THE CHARACTER returned to Venosa until recently when conversing with Woody Woodyard."

THE BOOZER - Frank Ward

--Editor's Note-- One of the Liberators lost during the mission to the Florisdorf oil refinery near Vienna, Austria on 26 June 1944, was THE BOOZER (42-52702H, White A) of



DOWN MEMORY'S RUNWAY (Opposite Page)

- (1) Photo - Unkn - MSgt Lester York, 831st Bomb Sqdn, Crew Chief of THE CHARACTER.
- (2) Photo - E Manning - 828th Chef, Cpl Edmond Manning.
- (3) Photo - B Kuns - Bob Deeds and Bob Kuns.
- (4) Photo - H Richard - L to R - Lt Shelby, MSgt York and SSgt Harold Richards, TTG on THE CHARACTER.
- (5) Photo - H Richards - 831st Crew 76 (Orig): Front L to R - Lt Jesse Ledbetter, P; Lt John Breen, N; Lt Harold Berman, B; F/O Lewis Baker, CP. Rear, L to R - Sgt Arthur Lawler, NTG; SSgt William Schuetze, E/G; _____ Ashmore, G; SSgt Harold Richards, TTG; SSgt Albert Paul, R/G and Sgt Michael Lupoli, BTG. Ashmore was reported MIA while traveling to Italy aboard a troop carrier, torpedoed in the Mediterranean Sea off North Africa. Sgt Burl Jackson replaced SSgt Paul. Photo taken at Fairmont, Nebraska.
- (6) Photo - C Onley - L to R - TSgt Paul A Palasz, Crew Chief, MSgt Arthur Reymann, 'A' Flight Chief and Cpl McCullen, Ass't Crew Chief, all of the 830th.
- (7) Photo - E Seagraves - L to R - Sgt Walter Schlichter and Sgt Elliot Seagraves, 830th Ground Crew.

THE BOOZER (Cont from page 6)

the 830th, piloted by Lt Jacob S Disston III (see n'ltr Dec '76). Near Lake Balaton BOOZER begin emitting smoke and was last observed heading homeward with four unidentified silver-colored fighters following. SSgt Frank Ward, gunner on the crew continues with the story.

"It was no. 2 engine that gave out and being unable to feather the prop, we had a wind-milling prop to contend with. As we started to lag the formation, Lt Disston added more power to the three good engines when the supercharger on no. 2 engine failed. Again, we were unable to maintain our formation position and begin losing altitude. About eight minutes from the target, we headed back for Venosa, continually losing altitude.

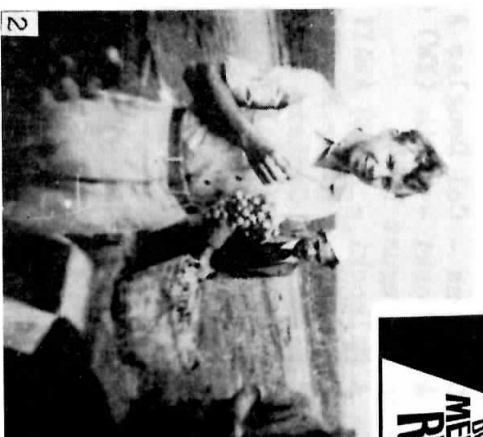
Then the mountains appeared ahead. For awhile we managed to fly around and between the mountains. It soon became apparent that we would not make it over the mountains. The flight engineer and radio operator were ordered up to the flight deck leaving Sgt Dwyer, tail turret gunner and I alone in the aft section of the bomber. The pilot told us to get ready to bail out at which time Sgt Dwyer emerged from the tail turret, proceeded forward in the waist section with his chute in one hand and his GI shoes in the other. I helped put on his chute, opened the hatch and told him to jump as the crew up front had started to bail out. Suddenly, he appeared terrified and grabbed on to the left waist gun. I was unable to get him to let go and he said that he would follow me. It was time to jump for we were down to 4000 feet when the crew started to bail out.

About two or three hours later, eight of us got together at which time we learned that the tail gunner failed to jump. Sgt Petersen, nose turret gunner was missing and none of us were sure just what happened to him. Eventually we got back to Italy, to the hospital for 24 hours and then on to 15th Air Force Headquarters for interrogation. (Ed Note - Anyone know what happened to Sgt Petersen? Please let us know.

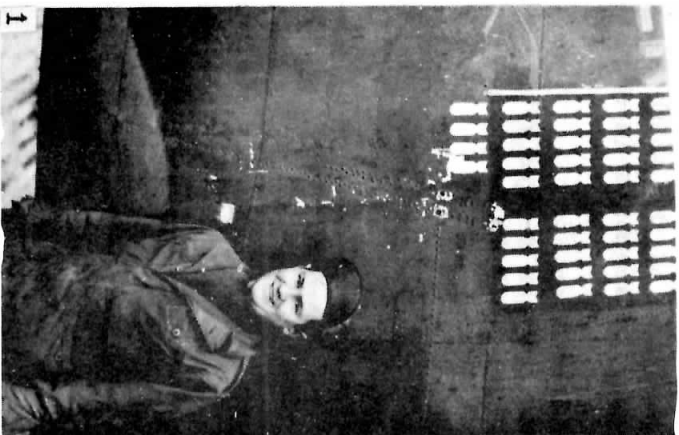
VENOSA BLUE - Terry Boettcher

VENOSA BLUE is the official name of the sports balloon, N 2162H, owned and piloted by Terry Boettcher of Indianola, Iowa. Terry's father, SSgt Donald E Boettcher, was a gunner on Captain Van E Neal's 828th Crew 7. The balloon was named in honor of the 485th and Terry hopes that in some manner he can carry on the spirit of the Group through its flights for many years to come. He believes this is the only balloon named in honor of a combat group. Frequently he is asked the meaning of the name and proudly explains the story behind the name.

Manufactured by The Balloon Works of Statesville, North Carolina, the balloon has an



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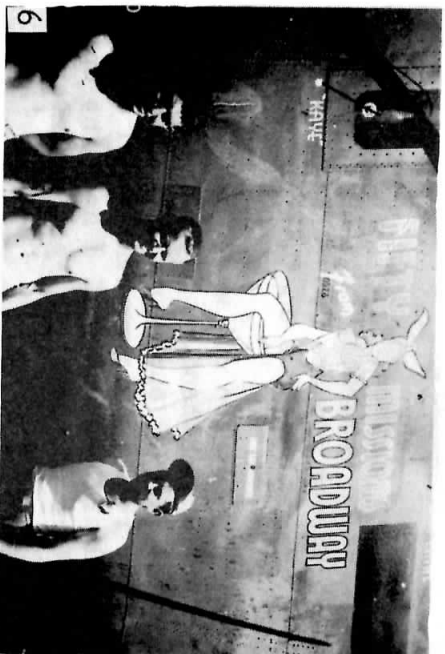
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DOWN MEMORY'S RUNWAY (Opposite Page)

- (1) Photo - D Cairns - Col Douglas A Cairns, fourth commander of the 485th BG.
- (2) Photo - A Malkoski - 829th (YW) 42-52729 bombing gun inplacements in southern France on 13 August 1944.
- (3) Photo - A Malkoski - BOMBS AWAY! Mid-way through a mission.
- (4) Photo - E Pinnell - Major Maurice Priver, Gp Flight Surgeon x-rays a patients arm.
- (5) Photo - E Pinnell - Captain John P McDermott (3rd from left in back row) 830th BS Flight Surgeon and medical personnel.
- (6) Photo - W Wulf - One of the Groups crash wagons.
- (7) Photo - W Wulf - Major James Goodson, Gp Executive Officer (seated). MSgt Hugh Bayless, First Sergeant is second from left. Others unknown.

VENOSA BLUE (Cont from page 8)

envelope size of 55,660 cubic feet with a maximum weight of 1050 pounds and can carry three passangers. The top and bottom stripes are dark blue. The next two stripes toward the middle are a light blue and the middle stripe is white. Some day at one of the reunions we may see Terry and Venosa Blue. And as Terry says, "Get high on hot air." We may just do that. If there should be a balloon meet in your area, watch the sky for you may well see Terry and Venosa Blue sail by.

MAIL ROOM

485TH BOMB GROUP HQ - C Gigowski



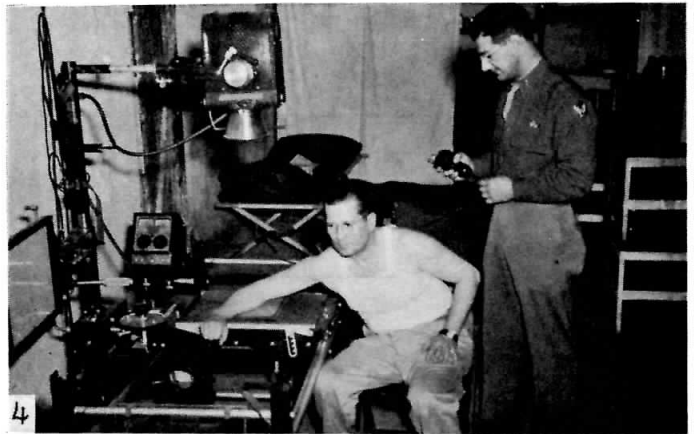
Indeed, it is heart warming to hear from the veterans of Group Hq, noting their enjoyment of the newsletter and the reunion along with news tidbits. John Hannan noted that the veterans of the west coast were well represented and for most it was meeting old friends for the first time since WWII. Like your editor, John hopes to retire in about five more years.

Squire Bolton, well, in his words, "I sure did enjoy myself and the fellows that I had forgotten, just came around and discussed events that happened and sure made me feel good." Squire works at the new Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda and suggests that veterans, while traveling, should carry a copy of their discharge papers and ID card for easy access to a VA Hospital, just in case the need arises. To his old friends, Ed Krall and Ralph Wakefield, Squire extends his most sincere "Hello".

Col Douglas Cairns, our last Group CO, sent a nice note, stating that the reunion was a great success and extends his congratulations to Roger Monore for putting on a darn good show. Col William Bradley, Flight Surgeon mentioned that he was able to make only the Saturday night meeting and it was great to see old friends for the first time in 34 years. In particular, Col Cairns and Col Henry Dolin, 831st CO, as the three served together at the 55th Wing Hq before transferring to the 485th. Mel Goodson, also commends Roger and Noby for the great job they did on the reunion. For him also it was the first time he had seen many of the veterans since the days of Italy.

Also, received notes from Dr Maurice Priver, Gp Flight Surgeon, Ralph Wakefield, Group Radar Officer and our good friend Larry Vocino. Ralph remarked, "One of Doc Priver's last noble act overseas was to treat a terrific hangover for one Group Radar Officer in Naples while waiting to board ship for the US." Hmmm, did APCs do the job?

Gentlemen, I deeply regret that I could not make the reunion out west and I extend my sincere apology. It was one reunion I really wanted to attend. Several of you I remember and the rest I feel I almost know personally through our correspondence and the newsletter. Knowing that the newsletter is so well received is rewarding and on behalf of my reporters and myself, we thank you for your dedicated support. I hope the opportunity will knock again so that we may meet at a future reunion. Ah yes, remember that old expression of yesterday - Keep-em flying!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 M-No 130 Graz, Aus.	2	3
4	5 M-No 131 O/S Regensburg, Ger.	6	7 M-No 132 O/S Pola, Italy	8 M-No 133 South G/D Vienna, Austria	9 M-No 134 Moosebierbaum O/R Vienna, Austria	10
11	12	13 M-No 135 South G/D Vienna, Austria M-No 136 M/Y Graz, Austria	14 M-No 137 Lobau O/R Vienna, Austria	15 M-No 138 Main Station Wiener Neustadt, Austria	16 M-No 139 Obertaubling A/C Regensburg, Ger.	17 M-No 140 Harbor Install. Pola, Italy
18	19 M-No 141 Harbor Install. Pola, Italy Maribor, Aus.	20 M-No 142 Harbor Install. Trieste, Italy	21 M-No 143 Matzleinsdorf M/Y Vienna, Aus.	22 M-No 144 Casarsa, Italy	23 M-No 145 Marshalling Yard Bruck, Aus.	24 M-No 146 Ora, Italy
25 M-No 147 Benzol Plant Linz, Austria.	26	27 M-No 148 M/Y Augsburg, Ger.	28 M-No 149 M/Y Ora, Italy			
Abbreviations: O/S = Oil Storage G/D = Goods Depot A/C = Aircraft Components M/Y = Marshalling Yard						

FEBRUARY 1945

MAIL ROOM (Cont from page 10)

828TH BOMB SQDN - Bob Deeds



Another reunion is now history. If you have never attended one of these events, please keep in touch with us for information on future reunions as we may be meeting in your part of the country someday. Now, I would like to thank Roger 'Easy' Monroe for a wonderful reunion. And as usual, the reunions seem like they are getting bigger and better. There were many attending for the first time and it is rewarding to this reporter to see old friends getting together for the first time since our days in Italy. Again, from all the gang in the 828th we say, "Thank you Roger for having us out your way."

Received a lot of mail the past year from the 828th veterans, sending in their donation to the newsletter which is important to all members. Some have requested back issues to complete their files. Several inquired about the reunion or about an old buddy. And all seem to remember well the days in Italy for most included a story of that great adventure.

Had a nice visit with Leona Schultz, Andy Anderson and Claude Sheline. Claude is organizing our reunion in Pittsburgh and it should be another good one. If you live in the eastern part of the states, journey down to Pittsburgh for a darn good time with your old buddies of the 485th.

Our friend Irvin Parker underwent a serious operation and last reports were that he was doing fine. Irv was one of the hosts for our reunion in Minneapolis and would appreciate hearing from you all.

I would like to remind all that we are in continual need of new members, stories and

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 M-No 150 M/Y St Polten, Aus Amstettin, Aus	2 M-No 151 South M/Y Linz, Austria	3
4 M-No 152 South M/Y Szombathely, Czech.	5	6	7	8 M-No 153 PortoNuovo M/Y Verona, Italy	9 M-No 154 Station M/Y Graz, Austria	10
11	12 M-No 155 Florisdorf O/R Vienna, Austria	13 M-No 156 Southeast M/Y Regensburg, Ger.	14 M-No 157 M/Y Nove Samky, Hungary	15 M-No 158 M/Y St Polten, Aus.	16 M-No 159 M/Y Amstettin, Aus.	17
18	19 M-No 160 M/Y Muhldorf, Ger.	20 M-No 161 M/Y Amstettin, Aus.	21 M-No 162 A/C Neuberg, Ger.	22 M-No 163 Leilogenstadt M/Y Vienna, Aus.	23 M-No 164 M/Y Gmund, Aus.	24 M-No 165 A/D Neuberg, Ger.
25 M-No 166 Letnany A/L Prague, Czech.	26 M-No 167 Ranger M/Y Bratislava, Czech	27	28	29	30 M-No 168 North Station & Goods Depot Vienna, Aus.	31 M-No 169 M/Y Villach, Aus.
Abbreviations: M/Y = Marshalling Yard O/R = Oil Refinery A/C = Aircraft Components A/D = Airdrome						
MARCH 1945						

MAIL ROOM (Cont from page 12)

photos for the newsletter. It is interesting to hear what you did in service and what you are doing now. Please continue to write as there is always someone interested in hearing about you. Thank you for your continued support of our projects and hope to see you in Pittsburgh.

829TH BOMB SQDN - Earl Bundy



Now I know why they said, "Go West Young Man", so many years ago. My wife and I enjoyed a vacation thru all the west coast states, but best of all was a most enjoyable reunion hosted by Roger 'Easy' Monroe. He made it look 'Easy', but I know he spent many long hours in planning. We arrived before lunch on Friday and found a good many registered already. By evening we had a big crowd. So many of old 485th members have settled in California and it was wonderful to renew acquaintances after 33 years. The majority of members at the Minneapolis reunion had reported they would be at Newport Beach in '78 and I believe they were. It was one of the best ever. I was especially happy to see my favorite pilot of the 829th, Lloyd Allan. I survived a crash landing with him in Italy and had not seen him since he completed his missions and left Venosa for California.

During the year several members have hunted up old members of the 829th. R.V. Burling, Plymouth, Ohio; Clarence V Ianier, Tucker, Georgia; Fred E Waters, Hilton Head, South Carolina and Bernard M Weintack, Newport News, Virginia. I found an old address and by calling the telephone operator I located Charles A Papp at Dayton, Ohio. He and his family are fine and we enjoyed a long visit. He was a mechanic and crew chief in the 829th.

Clark R Miller, 829th pilot, I flew many test hops with, saw our announcement in one of

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 K-No 170 Austria No drop	2 M-No 171 Main M/Y Graz, Aus.	3	4	5 M-No 172 Turin/Lingota Logg Depot Turin, Italy	6	7 K-No 173 Pola, Italy No Drop
8 M-No 174 M/Y Fortezza, Italy	9 M-No 175 Tactical Area Northern Italy	10 M-No 176 Tactical Area Northern Italy	11 M-No 177 R/B Campo Di Trens, Italy	12 M-No 178 R/B Ponte Di Piave, Italy	13	14 K-No 179 M/T Depot Ossopo, Italy
15 K-No 180 Comm. Install. Northern Italy K-No 181 Gun Install. Bologna, Italy	16 M-No 181 Gun Install. Bologna, Italy	17 M-No 182 Gun Install. Bologna, Italy	18	19 M-No 183 M/Y Rosenheim, Ger.	20 M-No 184 Road Bridge Garzara, Italy	21
22	23 M-No 185 Road Bridge Padua, Italy Cavarzera, It.	24 M-No 186 Diversion Bridge Casarsa, It.	25 M-No 187 M/Y Linz, Austria	26	27	28
29	30					
Abbreviations: M/Y = Marshalling Yard R/B = Railroad Bridge						
APRIL 1945						

MAIL ROOM (Cont from page 13)

the veterans magazines and contacted me. He lives in Northridge, California and called me at the reunion Friday night. He planned to attend on Saturday but couldn't due to illness and sent his regrets. I was pleased to hear from him and received two new address' and a contribution to the newsletter.

I received a good many letters all during the year and I was very pleased to receive the contributions to keep the LIGHTWEIGHT TOWER solvent. I want to thank each and every one. Do your best to make the reunions so I can thank you personally. You won't know what a pleasure you have been missing 'til you have attended a reunion and meet the veterans and their families whose close friendship started near 35 years ago. The treasure of their years can never be forgotten.

830TH BOMB SQDN - Lyle Talbott



A big 1979 'Hello' to all 830th veterans and members of the 485th Bomb Gp. The 485th will penetrate the 'Steel Curtain' of Pittsburgh the week-end of August 3 - 5, 1979 for another fun reunion. Mr and Mrs Claude Sheline of the 830th will host this event. Let's give them the same support to show our appreciation for their efforts. This reunion should be well attended as many of our veterans live in Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and adjacent states.

I have received very interesting letters and Christmas cards from Elliott Seagraves, George Mac Laren, Al Liddicoat, Frank Brockel, Ken Muse, Frank Ward, Mattie Syrjanen, Charles Fournier, Neal Schawalter, Charles Onley, John Christenson, Fred Schneider and Roy Foster. Frank Brockel has now joined the ranks of the retired and is enjoying it very much. Ken has retired from the service but is managing an airport. Can't keep away from airplanes. Telephone calls from Charles Onley, Clarence Miller, George MacLaren

MORE 485TH VETERANS

828TH BOMB SQDN

HAILS, Myron
HOLIKAN, R N
JOHRDE, Ray
LAORNO, Herman
OPALKA, Emil
PRENTISS, Robert

829TH BOMB SQDN

BURLING, R V
LANIER, C V
MILLER, Clark R
PAPP, Chas A
WATERS, Fred E
WEINSTOCK, B

830TH BOMB SQDN

BARISON, James
GANSELL, Sturart E
LIDDICOAT, Al
MAC LAREN, George
SANBORN, Howard
WARD, Frank

831ST BOMB SQDN

FARINETTI, Joseph
HAMMERBURG, Jack
HOOSIER, Fred
LAWSON, Joe D
MILLER, Wm A
MONAHAN, Bob
MAUMAN, B W
PEIRANO, Ned
WHITING, Wayne
WILLIAMS, George

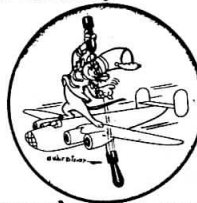
MAIL ROOM (Cont from page 14)

and George Dyer. A very unusual one from Charles Fournier relayed by CB to the hotel in Newport Beach during the reunion.

Newport Beach - a favorite subject. Fifteen veterans of the 830th attended the '78 reunion. The first timers were Ellis Mercer, James Roach, James Vail, Vito Sakall, Robert Esarey, Jay Hanson, Howard Sanborn and Cecil Densmore. Others in attendance were Rod Ritchie, Hollis Porter, Ralph Helm, Frank Ward, Charles Neer, Neal Schawalder and myself. It was very rewarding seeing and talking with James Vail, Vito Sakall and Cecil Densmore, who I observed shot down on various missions. I had hoped to have a special item on his experiences but Cecil failed to supply me with a detail account. Thus it may appear in a future issue. Howard Sanborn informed me that he was the first and perhaps the only radar navigator in the 485th. The California reunion was a very enjoyable affair, well planned and executed, thanks to you Roger, for a job well done.

Each year sad tidings - 'Yankee Bill Best' passed away July 4, 1978. Bill did a very good job hosting the reunion in Rochester and will be missed by the many veterans who knew him. I extend my deepest synpathy to his widow, Julie, who enjoyed sharing the reunions with him. Again, I hope to see as many as possible in Pittsburgh this year. FINITO.

831ST BOMB SQDN - Woody Woodyard



Our last reunion held in Sunny California was another big hit as have been all the others. LCol Roger Monroe, USAF Ret, of the 828th Bomb Sqdn is to be commended for all the work and effort put forth in giving us an enjoyable and successful affair. The dinner was excellent and the dance afterwards was most enjoyable, with our kind of music. The tours were great and enjoyed by all that took them. Thanks Roger! Also, thanks to Nuby Serijan and his wife Sue and Bernie and Laura Rempe for their very active assistance in making things move along so smoothly. There were eighty veterans plus their wives and families attending. This is the second highest - York, Nebraska had eighty-eight veterans attending. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Pittsburgh in August to make another fine reunion.

The following 831st veterans attended at Newport Beach for the first time: Frank Chaffin, Bill Brokaw, Jack Hammerburg, Lloyd Proudlove, Robert W Miller, George Williams, Wayne Whiting and Bert Rowsold. Also the following who have attended former reunions: Victor Bone, Gene McCarthy, Walter Iwanski, Bill Spence, Richard McLawhorn, Ned Peirano, Warren Meyers, Louis Shoenman, Dan Sjodin, Les Sutter and yours truly, 'Woody' Woodyard, for the fourteenth time! So glad to see those eight new members of the 831st. Hope you attend more.

Again, I enjoyed very much receiving letter, phone calls and Christmas cards from the following: Vic Bone, Kenneth Brown, Robert Brown, George Cleghorn, Harold Combs, Hank Dahlberg, Joe Ferinetti, John Godfrey, Bob Halling, Ray Heskes, Raleigh Hansen, Bob Hansen, Walter Iwanski, Ted Jacobs, Gene LaMar, Vince Lewis, Harry McGaw, Bob Monahan, Al-

JOURNEYS END

Members Deceased Since The End Of WWII

ANNINOS, Milton P	828	1971	GIBSON, Richard O	828	1962	ROBERDEAU, H, Maj	830	1972
BAGGS, Bill	830	1969	GILLESPIE, Kenneth	GpH		ROE, John	GpH	
BAKKE, Wayne	828	1976	GRASS, Alfred W	828		RYDER, William	831	1972
BARRETT, Sam	830		GREENWOOD, Lloyd H	830		SCHALLIS, Eugene H	829	1972
BARQUIST, Ernie	828	1967	GRUBBS, William E	829	1972	SCHOULTZ, William H	828	1975
BEHNKE, Laurel L	828	1967	HARRISON, Wallace	GpH	1945	SHEPHERD, Chester D	828	1973
+BEST, Willie	830	1978	HASLER, Donald E	831	1972	SHINDLEDECKER, F	828	1965
BLACKWELL, Earl	828	1959	HUCKEY, H M, LCol	GpH	1973	SIMPSON, Chas R	828	
BOETTCHER, Donald E	828	1948	JENSEN, Willard	828	1962	SMITH, Kenneth H	829	1977
BOYER, Henry	828	1964	JOHNSON, R W, Col	GpH	1972	SOLLINGER, Edward	828	1968
BRODRICK, Gerald A	828	1968	JOHNSON, Ralph P	829	1966	STAGMAN, Orlie M	831	
BROWN, Wilbur	828	1972	JONES, Glenn G, Jr	830	1974	+SULLIVAN, Hailey	829	1960
CAMPANELLA, John	829		KEANELLY, William C	828	1973	SWANN, Everett H	830	1975
CARLSON, Arthur	829	1977	KETCHAM, Frank D	828	1968	TANNER, William	829	1971
CATHY, Joe	830		KOKENGE, Julian	830	1977	THOMAS, Homer	829	
CHAPMAN, Russel	828		LIA, Hans	GpH	1973	THOMPSON, George	830	1976
CHRIST, Ben	828	1976	LISH, Gilbert	829	1968	THOMPSON, Harold V	831	1971
COREY, Russel	828		MC GINN, Charles J	828		+THOMPSON, Robert A	829	1977
COX, Lester C	828	1972	MIFLIN, Ed	829	1971	THRONE, John N	829	1971
DEGAN, John	830	1966	NESBITT, J Glenn	829	1977	TITON, Edgar	830	
DI MATTEO, Gene	828	1969	OBERIE, Robert	828	1970	TRUSS, John	830	1968
DONACHE, Leigh	829	1971	O'DELL, Rex	828	1948	WILLIAMS, Garland O	829	1965
ENTWISTLE, Jack	828	1959	PICKLE, Buck	828	1973	YANKEE, Wayne	828	
FORESTER, August R	828		PRATZ, William S	GpH		YOUNG, Othmar	831	1971
FREITAS, Henry E	828		REUTER, C W	GpH		YOUNG, Robert C	831	1972

MAIL ROOM (Cont from page 15)

bert Paul, Ned Peirano, Chuck Reynolds, Isadore Silberman, Dan Sjodin, Bill Spence, Ed Stauverman and George Winter. Also heard from a few members of the other Squadrons. Always glad to hear from all members.

Vern 'Chris' Christensen of Lawrence's crew 62 and Bob Monahan of Barber's crew 61 have been in touch for the first time since 'over there'. George Winter of Wiggin's crew 66 plans to attend in Pittsburgh. Chris and George should have quite a reunion. Any others on these crews are urged to attend.

Already we have inquires about the planned 'mission' back to Venosa, Italy some time in September 1980. You will be getting mailings with all information regarding this trip. Interested parties, please be sure to answer Laura's letter or get in touch with me. More information will be given at the reunion. The trip is scheduled for about 18 days, visits to various European points of interest and terminating with a reunion at Venosa. A real bargain if we can get enough participants to make it possible. So, please send your commitment early so plans can be completed early.

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

828th Reporter:
Robert S Deeds
4643 286th St
Toledo, Ohio 43611

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

830th Reporter
Lyle Talbott
310 Mohican Dr
Crooksville, Ohio 43731

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

I have again received very fine financial support from many of the 831st veterans. Thank you sincerely - it is appreciated. Keep your letters coming with all new names and addresses and we will put them on the mailing roster. Will be looking forward to seeing you in the beautiful rolling green hills of Pennsylvania. Thanks again for all of your good support.

FROM YOUR EDITOR - C Gigowski

Mrs Hailey Sullivan is trying to locate a photo of her late husband, who served as a gunner on Capt Clark Miller's crew 23 of the 828th. The photo shows Hailey dressed for combat as a air crew man. Any assistance you can give, please write me.

It has been a very busy year for me and as a result the newsletter is very late in being published. I do look forward to a more normal schedule and have the next newsletter out earlier. Thank you all for your continued support and letters.