

POOP from GROUP 467

VOL. 9 NO. 4

STATION 145 RACKHEATH APO 558

DECEMBER 1, 1990

FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVENTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ASSOCIATION, LTD.
IRC Section 501(c)(19) EIN: 39-1592334

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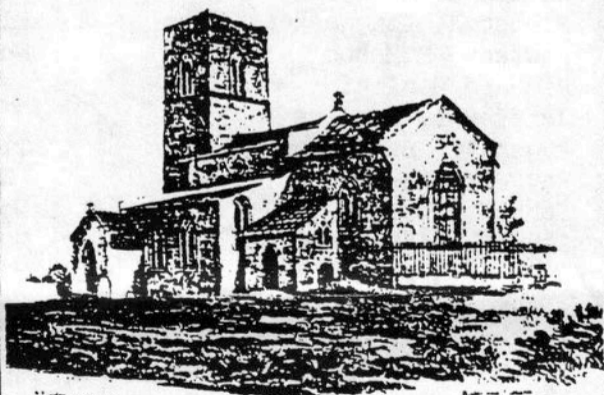
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Season's Greetings

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH
RACKHEATH**



RACKHEATH CHURCH

The sound of Christmas never grows old, does it? And I guess it's because the meaning of Christmas endures. To say it as Henry Van Dyke said it, "I'm thinking of you today because it's Christmas, and I wish you joy. And tomorrow, because it's the day after Christmas, I shall wish you joy. Perhaps I can't tell you about it from day to day, for you may be far away, or we may be entangled with the things of life, but it makes no difference. My thoughts and my wish will be with you. Whatever of joy or success comes to you I shall be glad, clear through the year. Without pretense, I wish you the spirit of Christmas.

A HAPPY AND JOYFUL HOLIDAY WISH TO EACH OF YOU
AND OUR MOST SINCERE WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

FROM THE PREZ

"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNING....OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY!" That lyric from the musical "OKLAHOMA" is applied to Omaha, Nebraska on October 4, 1990. The weather was absolutely perfect and was the omen of things to come for our convention. One hundred seventy-seven members (102 veterans and 75 associates) were in attendance. Of that number, 36 were "first timers". Two 467th flight crews had six members each in attendance. Several other crews had 4, 3, and 2 members attending. Many other individuals represented their crew, ground personnel, and staff.

One of the convention highlights was the arrival of the restored B-24 "ALL AMERICAN", one of only three flyable B-24's in existence. This airplane's restoration cost in excess of \$1,300,000 and is a duplicate of a B-24 coming off the production line in 1944. What a sight to see! Nostalgia permeated the air that surrounded her.

Other highlights on that wonderful weekend included tours to Offutt Air Force Base-- Strategic Air Command Hdq., the SAC Underground Command Center, Fr. Flanagan's "BOYS TOWN", the "OLD TOWN MARKET" in downtown Omaha, the Heritage Museum, and for those who enjoy competitive racing of the four-legged variety, an afternoon at the dog track.

Roger Giblin, engineer on Bill William's crew, kept many in stitches with his comic chatter. He also videotaped many interviews with the attendees and has presented the tape to the Association to become a part of its memorabilia. Vince Re took many colored still photographs for our viewing pleasure at next year's reunion and displayed many of those he took at the 2ADA Reunion '90 in Norwich. (We might get a sampling in our next PFG).

We were very fortunate to have as guest speaker at our Saturday Night Banquet Brigadier General Richard N. Goddard, Deputy Director for the National Strategic Target List. He was commissioned in 1966 and presently holds a command pilot rating with more than 3,200 hours in F-100, T-37, and FB-111 jet aircraft. General Goddard emphasized the continuing need for the B-2 bomber in the SAC's weapons arsenal.

I would like, at this time, to publicly thank and congratulate (and I'm sure that you all join me) Puff Pugh, Bill Sheldrick, Phillip Day and their wives for the outstanding job they did in making the 1990 convention in Omaha a tremendous success.

Even before the end of this year's convention, actions were being taken on planning for next year's convention. The Site Selection Committee picked Tucson, Arizona over San Diego and Sacramento, California for our 1991 affair with tentative dates in mid-October. I've appointed Ralph Elliott as Convention Coordinator. Ralph lives in Tucson and will bring his tour director expertise into planning another big and wonderful convention for us. I hereby appoint all of you as delegates, so you start planning now to be with us in Tucson....YA HEAR....Y'ALL!

Bill Dillon, Paul Gourd and I were happy to attend the "CARPETBAGGERS" reunion (the organization the original 788th Squadron was transferred to in May, 1944) in Memphis, Tennessee, the weekend of September 29. We saw several former 788th members including Leonard McManus, Bill Carey and Charles McClarren who send you their best wishes!

Eleanor joins me in wishing all of you a wonderful Holiday Season!

LETTER FROM JACK STEVENS

Congratulations and best wishes to Bob Salzarulo on being elected President of the 467th Bomb Group (H) Association, Ltd.

I want to thank all the members of the 467th, on both sides of the Atlantic, for the honor you gave me this last year. To be president of the 467th was an eventful and priceless experience. The pleasure of receiving unexpected telephone calls and letters, with helpful information and suggestions, or to say that an article in POOP or a reunion event was enjoyed, cannot be described.

Particularly, I want to thank David Hastings, our officers, the members of our Board of Directors, the Editor and Publisher of POOP FROM GROUP, the committee chairmen, and the committee members for being there with me, for their advice, and for doing their best to anticipate and provide for the thousand and one details that made my term as president so memorable.

LAST POST

John K. Beer
Alvin Eischen

Robert G. Gardner
William M. Ryan

"May they go from Strength to Strength in the Life of Perfect Service in GOD'S Heavenly Kingdom."

LOST SOULS

POOP was returned from the following. Tell us what you know of him, try to locate him if he lives in your area.

Earl S. Jensen Glendale, AZ

ROSTER ADDITIONS

W. H. "Bill" Beasley -A	Denver, CO
James E. Benham	Beaverton, OR
Byron Brigham	Seward, NE
Lewis T. Curtis	Trinity, TX
Wilbur Clingman -2ADA	Downey, CA
M. A. Copley	Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA
Sam Eagen	Muskogee, OK
Roy B. Flay	Concord, CA
Robert R. Haas	Lakewood, OK
Lowdon B. Helle	Ideal, SD
Keith Hall -A	Northants, ENG
Richard Jeppe	Memphis, TN
Willis H. Kirkton	Chatham, IL
Ernest J. Longnecker	Flushing, NY
Lawrence McMahon	Westford, MA
Richard Schlieff	Nelson, NE
Jeffrey L. Stevens	Milton, MA
Eugene C. Struckhoff	Timonium, MD
Ray Ward -A	Waverly, NY
John Wright -A	Norwich, ENG
John L. Witherspoon	Black Mountain, NC

Anyone wanting an address, drop me a card. If they live near you, give them a ring, drop by to see them. Don't let any one of them not be welcomed. And please, each of you reading this, send me the names and addresses of any 467th or 2nd Air Division veterans so we can get them on the Group Roster or in contact with their Group representative. The time is now to do this.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Fund:	
Cash on Hand 09-01-90	\$ 5,584.95
Contributions	
Extraordinary (3)	702.50
Other (18)	321.00
Interest 2 months	127.14
Hat Sales Lloyd Haug	300.00
Sub Total	<u>7,035.59</u>

CONVENTION 1991
 From Ralph Elliott
 The 1991 46th Bombardment Group (Heavy)
 Association, Ltd. Convention will be held at
 the Doubletree Inn in Tucson, Arizona, October
 12-16, 1991, and it promises to be one of those
 CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS doings in an area that's
 known worldwide for it's Western hospitality.
 Planning is well advanced on a program that
 will include a trip to Mexico for some unusual
 shopping, a visit to one of the best air
 museums in the country--Pima Air Museum, and a
 visit to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum where
 live mountain lions and bighorn sheep roam in
 their natural habitat. There will be plenty of
 good food--including a Western BBQ--and plenty
 of time to visit with your buddies and to
 rehash those great times of "yesteryear," as
 the Lone Ranger used to phrase it. The theme
 will be WESTERN, so keep your eyes peeled for
 some great Western dudes--I mean dudes--and
 don't forget to put October 12-16 on your
 calendar for the new year.

We'll need to get notices in as many service
 publications as possible later on. Any of you
 receiving veterans publications, send in the
 above dates and list me as contact, 6000 W.
 Rafter Circle, Tucson, AZ 85713, phone 602-883-
 8088.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DINNER
 The 1991 Southwest Regional Dinner of the 2nd
 Air Division Association will be held Saturday,
 March 16 at the Holiday Inn, L.B.J. and Jupiter
 (Jupiter Exit) in Dallas, TX. Geoff Gregory,
 Dinner Chairman this year, urges all 46th
 veterans and families in this region to attend.
 Geoff says the 46th used to be the top
 attending group at this dinner and he would
 like to see support from the 46th once again.
 Costs for the dinner: \$25.00 for chicken or
 fish; \$30.00 for prime rib. Hospitality suite
 opens at 1:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00. Notices
 will be sent to the membership in January 1991.

THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE FOUR
 HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVENTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY)
 ASSOCIATION, LTD.
 The Association is incorporated under the
 provisions of the Statutes of the State of
 Wisconsin, in particular under Chapter 181-
 The Wisconsin Non-stock Corporation Law, with
 approved Articles of Incorporation and By Laws
 by which it is operated.

The Association is exempt from Federal Income
 Tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)
 (19) with an Employer Identification Number
 (EIN): 39-1592334. As at least 90% of our
 members are war veterans and as we are
 organized and operated primarily for purposes
 consistent with our current status as a war
 veterans organization, donors to the Associ-
 ation can deduct contributions made to or for
 use of our organization.

It is the policy of the Association in con-
 vention to conduct the business meeting of the
 Association after due and proper notice and at
 this meeting to, of record, name each veteran
 and/or associate attendee a delegate to the
 convention. This latter is for veterans and/or
 associates benefit in claiming deductions for
 costs of attending the convention, after
 consultation with your tax advisor.

The Board of the Association consists of six
 members, two of whom are elected at the busi-
 ness meeting of the Association each year for a
 three-year term of office. Recommendations for
 nominations to the Board should be sent to
 Vince Larussa, Chairman of the Nominating Com-
 mittee. Please be certain that the recommended
 persons are willing to serve the three-year
 term. This method provides continuity of the
 Board with two members retiring each year, two
 coming on for three years, two with two years

None of these projects have been approved,
 however there is still an outstanding approval
 of \$1,000.00 to the 8th Air Force Museum, Inc.
 from a prior business meeting which has not
 been paid due to fiscal problems at the Museum.

Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

1/ Memorial - U.S. Air Force Academy 2,000.00

1/ Support 1,000.00

1/ Memorial Library 2,000.00

1/ 8th AF Museum 7,900.00

1/ Historical - Association Support 2,000.00

Newletter Publication 2,800.00

Costs 33,000.00

Gross Income 12,700.00

Convention 1991 - Tucson 9,900.00

Misc. Sales 450.00

Interest 150.00

Contributions 2,400.00

Estimated Cash on Hand 01-01-91 \$ 7,700.00

ASSOCIATION BUDGET ESTIMATE
 JANUARY 1, 1991 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1991

DR BALANCE CR

Estimated Cash on Hand 01-01-91 \$ 7,700.00

Contributions 2,400.00

Interest 150.00

Misc. Sales 450.00

Convention 1991 - Tucson 9,900.00

Gross Income 35,000.00

Costs 23,000.00

Newletter Publication 2,800.00

1/ Historical - Association Support 2,000.00

1/ 8th AF Museum 7,900.00

1/ Memorial Library 2,000.00

1/ Support 1,000.00

1/ Memorial - U.S. Air Force Academy 2,000.00

Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

USPS Post Cards and Other 19.80

USPS Overseas Mail 19.37

USPS Poop from Group 9-3 Mailing 300.00

Ken Darney Fund 75.00

Rackheath Historical Marker 100.00

Albert J. Shower Fund 786.50

Total Special Funds \$ 961.50

Operating Fund Total 12-01-90 \$ 6,485.11

Sub Total 550.48

Misc. Officers and Directors 21.23

Neil's Reproductions PFG 9-3 190.08

USPS 100 Post Cards and Other 19.80

USPS Overseas Mail 19.37

USPS Poop from Group 9-3 Mailing 300.00

Ken Darney Fund 75.00

Rackheath Historical Marker 100.00

Albert J. Shower Fund 786.50

Total Special Funds \$ 961.50

Receipts: \$ 31,531.00

Attendees after reimbursement 2,830.00

Donations to All American Appearance 500.00

Omaha Convention Bureau 213.91

Room Reservations Forwarded (99) (6,237.00)

Sub Total 28,837.91

Expenses: 191.24

Telephone Mailing, Update Letters, Invoices, etc 160.01

Badges 445.65

Programs 213.00

Men's Convention Remembrance 1,161.00

Ladies' Convention Remembrance 400.00

Bluff Run Entry Fees 54.00

SAC Museum Entry Fees 282.00

Chartered Buses (7 Units) 2,500.00

Day Room - 4 Days 1,485.62

Breakfasts 6,399.71

Hors d'Oeuvres 1,278.45

Western Dinner 2,691.47

Lunch at Ofit AFB 1,073.80

Lunch at Red Lion (96) 956.97

Banquet 2,971.83

Banquet Open Bar 1,250.09

Banquet Band 350.00

Collings Foundation (All American) 4,000.00

Collings Foundation Rental Car 69.82

Sub Total 27,934.66

Convention Net 903.25

TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS 12-01-90 8,349.86

President Salzarulo requested a budget estimate
 for 1991. The following is submitted by the
 Treasurer in compliance with that request.

Association Support 2,000.00

1/ Historical - 8th AF Museum 7,900.00

1/ Memorial Library 2,000.00

1/ Support 1,000.00

1/ Memorial - U.S. Air Force Academy 2,000.00

Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

Association Support 2,000.00

1/ Historical - 8th AF Museum 7,900.00

1/ Memorial Library 2,000.00

1/ Support 1,000.00

1/ Memorial - U.S. Air Force Academy 2,000.00

Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

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Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

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1/ Memorial - U.S. Air Force Academy 2,000.00

Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

Association Support 2,000.00

1/ Historical - 8th AF Museum 7,900.00

1/ Memorial Library 2,000.00

1/ Support 1,000.00

1/ Memorial - U.S. Air Force Academy 2,000.00

Estimated Cash on Hand 12-31-91 \$ 4,900.00

remaining on the Board and two with one year remaining. After the election of the two incoming members, the Board meets for organization and elects from its members the President and Vice-President, and a Secretary and Treasurer from the Association, and if necessary, additional Association members to fill such offices as the Board may deem necessary from time to time.

The current Directors and Officers of the Association, with Directors remaining term are:

Robert C. Salzarulo	1 Yr.	President (1)
Robert D. Sheehan	2 Yrs.	Vice-President (2)
John E. (Jack) Stevens	1 Yr.	
Ralph E. Elliott	2 Yrs.	
Floyd J. Pugh	3 Yrs.	
Ted M. Wheeler	3 Yrs.	
William P. McGovern	Non-Board	Secretary
Phillip G. Day	Non-Board	Treasurer

(1) Serves as Vice-President for 467th in its relationship with the Second Air Division Association.
(2) Serves as Deputy Vice-President for 467th in its relationship with the Second Air Division Association.

MINUTES OF MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 467TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ASSOCIATION, LTD.

The President, John E. (Jack) Stevens, opened the annual meeting of the membership of the 467th Bomb Group (Heavy) Association, Ltd. in the Red Lion Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska, on October 6, 1990. The following officers and members of the Board of Directors were present: Geoff Gregory, Robert Salzarulo, John Stevens, Robert Sheehan, Ralph Elliott, Phillip Day and William McGovern.

President Stevens announced that the terms of Geoff Gregory and David Swearingen on the Board of Directors had ended and that Vince LaRussa, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, was placing in nomination Theodore (Ted) Wheeler and Floyd Pugh as Directors. Both were unanimously elected. Other members of the Nominating Committee were Walt Mundy and Charles Caldwell.

Geoff Gregory gave a report on the Historical Marker which has been placed on the site of the Rackheath Base and which was dedicated in a ceremony held at the site during the recent reunion of the Second Air Division at Norwich. He stated that the land for the marker had been donated by Robert Lomax and that Mr. Lomax and other English friends had donated the marker foundation and the flag poles to each side of it. He further stated that our Honorary Member, David Hastings, most generously paid the VAT (Value Added Tax) tax of nearly 400 pounds which had been assessed on the marker.

Chairman of Conventions Salzarulo reported on future meeting sites for the association and stated that the next convention would be held at Tucson, Arizona during the month of October, 1991. Ralph Elliott, who would be Coordinator for the convention, reported on the various places of interest in the area. Chairman Salzarulo continued that thought was being given for a convention of the Association to be held in England in 1992 or 1993. Many raised hands indicated favor for the 1993 date.

Phillip Day gave a report on the events of the 1990 Convention and those that were coming up.

Upon motion of Day, it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that all veteran and associate members of the 467th Bombardment Group (Heavy) Association, Ltd. present at the 1990 Convention at Omaha, NE be declared as delegates to the Convention.

It was reported to the meeting that Bill Dillon, Chairman of the Awards Committee, had processed award recommendations for thirteen English friends of the 467th in recognition of the work they have done for the Group. These

awards were presented to the selected individuals at the buffet supper held with the villagers in Norwich on July 29, 1990.

President Stevens gave a report on some of the highlights of his year as President of the Association. He stated that Bill McGovern and Phillip Day had successfully obtained a tax exemption for the Group and that there was a possibility that the veteran members attending the Convention could recapture some of their expenses by way of tax deductions, but cautioned that they should consult with their tax advisors. He thanked Robert Lomax for donating the land for our marker at Rackheath and stated that we now own this land permanently. He further said that at a meeting of the Directors held on the previous evening the matter of a museum for the 467th Bomb Group was discussed. This would contain memorabilia of the organization and the matter of funding it would be looked into. He announced that the Board had passed a resolution honoring Colonel Albert Joseph Shower and naming Colonel Shower as "Honorary President" of the Association.

Upon motion of Phillip Day, it was unanimously resolved that all actions taken by the Board at its meeting on October 5, 1990 be approved.

President Stevens then read a biography of Al Shower and highly praised him for the work and dedication he had shown to the Group both during war time and at the various activities of the Group and Association since the war. He then presented Colonel Shower with a Certificate of Appreciation.

President Stevens then read citations for the following outlining their contributions to the Association and Colonel Shower presented the Appreciation Awards:

1. Phillip Day
2. Geoff Gregory
3. Vincent LaRussa
4. William McGovern
5. Joe Dzenowagis - given in absentia
6. David Swearingen - given in absentia
7. Kenneth Darney - given posthumous
8. Adam Soccio - given posthumous

Vince LaRussa then talked about the history of the Association and how it had started with 350 names which had been accumulated by Doris and Ray Betcher and that today our roster has names of over 1,100 veterans who served with the Group. He talked of Healy's "History of the 467th", which concerns the history of the Group and named those who had helped with contributions towards its successful reprinting on two occasions. He stated that a reprint of the book is available from him for the sum of \$30.00.

Lloyd Haug presented Phillip Day with a check in the sum of \$300 for the Group Mail-Memorial Funds, which were proceeds derived from the cap project which he had undertaken.

Walt Weaver talked of the progress of the Eighth Air Force Heritage Center which is to be built at Savannah, Georgia, probably starting in 1992. He asked for donations from the 467th to help in its funding. No action was taken on this request.

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
William P. McGovern, Secretary

LETTER FROM ROBERT "BOB" LOMAX

Many thanks for your copies of "POOP FROM GROUP". I do find the reading most interesting. I have written several letters to Geoff Gregory and a couple of others, but as you were perhaps the editor/distributor of your news magazine to all your readers, I thought it also wise to write to you as well.

I know, as you previously wrote, that you were disappointed at not being able to attend

the convention in Norwich; however, Sarah, myself and our three boys hope to visit the States and hopefully attend one of your conventions. Most of what I am writing you may have already heard through Geoff, but in case you haven't, I'll carry on anyway.

My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed "The week that was," your convention here, and we have many photos and pleasant memories to look back upon. We were touched by the open warmth of your members and met many interesting and friendly people. I'll keep in touch and make sure that Roger Hastings and myself look after the marker. I'll also report on any interesting local events relevant to the 467th. We have people continually stopping beside the marker, it's a talking point and certainly admired by many visitors.

On a more lighthearted note, you might be interested to know that when my wife met Geoff she was heavily pregnant at the time with our third child. Geoff was absolutely adamant that it would be another boy and that his first name would be his namesake. Anyway, our third son was born at home weighing 9 lbs. He was rather long in the body and we suspect he will be over six feet tall. He was rather chubby and looked cheeky and we felt he would become a loud joker. We had to therefore name him Ralph Geoffery Lomax. Anyway, Geoff and Terry had no children of their own, it made them happy and we like the name anyway. I do hope it hasn't put anyone else's nose out of joint.

You may not know that there is a local children's play group for the under 5's. They have registered their group name as "The Rackheath Bombers Play Group." Probably just as loud, lively, and cantankerous as the 467th when they were here.

Rackheath Hall is up for sale as the last owner has, I believe, got into difficulty. There's a good possibility of it being saved, however. If your members saw it in its present condition, I am sure they would wonder why a building like this should be allowed to fall into such a bad state of repair.

When Jack Stevens introduced me to all present at the Village evening reception, he asked me to explain why I helped out with the marker. I had never really addressed this point previously and at the time, one of the phrases I used was "the pleasure is in the giving," meaning the giving of the 467th, of the return acknowledgement of such. I held back slightly for fear of sounding "corny" and perhaps on reflection I should not have worried about sounding sentimental. So many of the 8th Air Force were little more than boys who had come to this country of their own free will. I am comparatively young and it is for this reason that I can relate in some way to what happened at that time and appreciate what was done for us all. Perhaps the sharing in trying to make up for others that didn't know or didn't care. I have so much to look forward to with my family and 235 of your members missed out on living a happy free life. I hope my generation doesn't forget. Perhaps with so many films of the World War II and the feelings that these films can convey compared to the written word, the good and the bad will be remembered.

The pen and pencil set your Association presented to me has pride of place on my office desk and is most useful as previously I could never find a writing implement when the phone rang!

Best wishes to all your members.

We look forward to seeing recently found friends and meeting some of your members that were unable to come to Rackheath. We will keep in touch with Geoff and Terry on a regular basis and our boys are quite excited about the thought of a long holiday combined with travel

across the States.

Yours sincerely, Bob, Sarah and Boys.

P.S. If you are short of photos of the marker or anything else in the area, please let me know and I can soon sort something out.

FROM THE EDITOR

Additional Groups under the umbrella of the Second Air Division Association are beginning to publish newsletters. The 453rd Bomb Group Association is at Volume 1, No. 2. On their roster are over 1,000 453rd veterans. The 492nd Bomb Group (the original bombardment group) issued THE HAPPY WARRIOR, Vol. 1, No. 1, in September. W. H. "Bill" Beasley is now Group Vice President of the 492nd and Editor of THE HAPPY WARRIOR. You of the 467th who have connections with the 492nd, write Bill at 1525 South Garfield Street, Denver, Co 80210-3022. And we need to offer our congratulations to E. W. "Bill" Clarey, former Vice President for the 492nd for 11 years and now Executive Vice President of the 2nd Air Division Association. We know he will be a great one.

The 389th BG is entering its fourth year of a Group newsletter; the 446th Bomb Group Association, Ltd. is now in its fifth year of publication. Bill Davenport is Editor of the 446th BEACHBELL ECHO and I look forward to its quarterly publication. It is similar to our POOP FROM GROUP but more professional in appearance and with a number of letters to the Editor which are enlightening. The name of their publication, BEACHBELL ECHO, is from their Group call sign Beachbell as DECKTRAY was for the 467th.

I want here to thank Lloyd and Carmen Haug for handling Association cap sales for the last couple of years. The caps are all gone, there ain't no more, but the Haugs have sent the Group Mail-Memorial Fund nearly \$600, \$300 given me at Omaha. Thank you both so very much (so inadequate for having done so much).

Vince LaRussa has some additional copies of Allen Healy's "History Of The 467th," about 70 I believe. When these are gone, there won't be anymore of them either. Vince LaRussa, 97 Grayton Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150. Thirty bucks, cheap for what you will get. Members of the 467th owe a debt of gratitude to the following for their financial support in getting the history reprinted. Charlie Bednarik, Archie Boisselle, Emily Carrico, Jim Coffey, Ken Darney, Roy Dettinger, Jim Johnson, Andy Kapi, Jr., Jim Mahoney, Jack Stevens and Al Tucci. Without their unselfish support the reprints would not have been available. I thank each of them for their faith in the success of the reprintings and special thanks to Vince for being the spearhead and motivator of these projects. The profits from these ventures have added substantially to the Association's Mail-Memorial Funds. Again, thanks to each of you above named.

There are two (2) only 467th windbreakers left, both medium, \$27.50 each. Will you who wanted the XXX-Large (at Omaha) call or write me, I apparently lost my note concerning it.

There have not been many letters (received by me) concerning the Norwich/Rackheath Reunion or of Omaha. A number of notes thanking ME for the Omaha Convention. I told you there, I tell you here, I had little to do with the Omaha Convention. The accolades belong to Floyd (Puff) and Ann Pugh and to Bill and Eileen Sheldrick. They did a fantastic job under adverse conditions. The four of them worked very hard for months prior to the Convention, they worked extra hard at the Convention, and at this writing they are still working to close out our costs at the best advantage to the Association. The Treasurer's report will show you what they did and I offer my sincerest thanks and congratulations for an excellent

Convention.

They will, I know, be offering their expertise to Ralph Elliott who will be (is) Coordinator of our 1991 Convention at Tucson, AZ in October. Other info concerning this is in this POOP. Make your plans now to attend. DO THOSE THINGS NOW NECESSARY TO ATTEND.

Over the last several years, since 1987, when the original list was printed, I have been scanning and cross-checking all orders you have sent me to try to arrive, as close as possible, to names of all assigned or attached to the 467th from Wendover through RZI in June-July, '45. The Queen Mary manifest obtained from Col. Shower, and the other orders you have sent me, has the number up close to 5,000. We have estimated the total assigned should be about 5,100-5,200. Vince LaRussa has accepted the task of recomputerizing all the names known at present. When redone, we will send two bound copies to England, one to Rackheath, the other to the Memorial Library Room, to replace those presently there. PLEASE, look through your memorabilia and send Vince any order (copies of orders) you have. We need to wrap this project up.

Bob Salzarulo, President of the Association, requested that POOP include more pictures. I have received very few of recent events. Those in this issue were furnished by Vince Re. If you want pictures in POOP, send them in color or B/W. Send copies, please, less for me to do if I don't have to return them but I will if that is the way it has to be.

Bob also wants an Association History. Any of you who can contribute, Dot Darney, Ray and Doris Betcher, Vince LaRussa, Jim Coffey, Dave Swearingen, Geoff Gregory, Jack Stevens, and the rest of you with knowledge of the 467th in its association with the 2ADA or as an Association, please send to me at your earliest convenience and I'll try to get something started on this.

Dues-Duns-Donations--Again, the Association does not have dues. This is probably a unilateral decision on my part but when I started editing POOP nine years ago and somehow became Treasurer as well, the Second Air Division Association was our communication route but we wanted to reach ALL 467th vets, not just those that were members of the 2ADA. We are still communicating with every 467th vet we know about (except one, but that is another story), over 1,100 and this effort is funded by your donations and surpluses from Post Exchange sales and from our Association convention activities. So we have no dues, we have no duns, I don't have to have a set of books to keep up with all of it. We do ask you for donations and wish that every one of you would send something. Every donation is gratefully received and faithfully acknowledged (though I am behind by 18 acknowledgements at this writing). We do not, generally, receive sufficient donations quarterly to print and mail POOP FROM GROUP. We will this quarter, however, much more. The shortfall comes from our PX sales and convention surplus. But, so, if you enjoy reading POOP FROM GROUP, send a \$5, \$10, or more donation and we will keep on publishing.

I want you to know of Virgil Marcom-A, 4129 Ellery Ave., Dayton, OH 45439. Virgil is a friend of Ron Rambosky, they served together prior to Ron joining the 467th. Ron told Virgil about the 467th Memorial at Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum and every time there is a publicized function at the Air Force Museum, and he is in residence at Dayton, Virgil goes and places two United States flags at our Memorial and sends us a picture of the Memorial. Everyone of us needs to send Virgil a note of thanks and appreciation for his efforts. I hope he gets 1,100 cards and

letters. Write him, in winter at 801 64th Street, South Unit #11, St. Petersburg, FL 33707. (November, 1990-April 15, 1991). With Marvin "Ralph" Davis of Dayton making sure that the bird droppings are periodically cleaned off the plaque and Blackie Dunnam of Troy, OH watering the tree, I know our Air Force Museum Memorial is receiving topnotch care.

We brought the Collings Foundation B-24 Liberator ALL AMERICAN to Omaha '90 and the veterans and associates were most generous in donations to defray the cost of its appearance. And I want to tell you that all of us enjoyed, were overjoyed, to see and hear once again our beloved B two dozen. Those Pratt and Whitneys rumbled, burbled, and roared just as we remember, the brakes on taxing squeal and the nose bobs a bit. Caroline Collings is a fantastic PR person, a beautiful and vivacious lady. If ALL AMERICAN comes anywhere near you, go see it, feel it, walk through it. If you don't get tears in your eyes, you are a hard-hearted person. We all need to thank the Collings and to thank all who contributed to its restoration. It is a beauty.

BITS AND PIECES

Ray Ward -A has written THOSE BRAVE CREWS, an account of a courageous WWII battle, the USAAF raid on Ploesti, Roumania oil refineries (Code Name: TIDAL WAVE), the famous (infamous) low level attack of 1 August 1943. Be advised that this is poetry, maybe great as poetry, but it's great as a history. \$18.45 per copy, postage included.

George Hoidra, 4206 Weldon Dr., Temple Hills, MD 20748-4917 is offering Genuine Leather A-2 Flying Jackets, manufactured by Cooper who made our WWII A-2s and is currently manufacturing the jacket issued to USAF personnel today. The \$175 cost includes shipping, handling, insurance and a \$5 donation to the 467th. You can call George at 301-423-0036.

Walt Colvin was featured on the front page of the Omaha World-Herald of October 5, 1990, with a two-column wide in color picture of Walt sitting in the tail turret of the B-24 ALL AMERICAN, and nearly 15 column-inches of Walt's remembrances. I have forwarded the article, sent to me by Ed Novak, on to Walt.

The East Anglia Tourist Board, Toppesfield Hall, Hadleigh, Suffolk, England IP7 2DN has sent information concerning the USAAF Reunion East Anglia 1942-1992. Events are scheduled, presently, from 19 May through 13 September 1992. If you have interest in this event, write Jane Sullivan, Project Coordinator, at the above address for further information.

Bob Wyatt and wife Katherine were in a very bad automobile accident west of St. Louis on their way to Omaha. Katherine was severely injured, had to be operated on and spent ten days in hospital and is still recuperating at their home. Bob was relatively uninjured though his car was totaled out. I know they would appreciate hearing from you. Write them at 322 Imperial Circle, Warner Robins, GA 31093.

Bob Sheehan writes that Rosemary has made steady and positive progress in therapy in recovering from her stroke. Although she still must use a wheelchair and walker, she does gain more strength every day and has a very good attitude. I have neglected elsewhere to remind you that Bob has the Association's 467th/2ADA/8th AF four-color window decals. Send \$3 for each to Robert D. Sheehan, 1828 E. 27th St., Tulsa, OK 74114.

Betty Schrader (Mrs. Lyle M.) writes that Lyle is now a resident in a care center in Northfield, MN 55057. Their home address is 401 Oak Street. Send them your love and support by cards and letters.

I went by to see Hal and Jean Weeks in

stattle. They were both reasonably well and happy but Hal very frustrated that his stroke keeps him from flying his home-built WEEKS which he now keeps in mint condition in his garage.

Jackie Swearingen says Dave is about the same. Some medication problems are now apparently corrected and he is a little more mobile.

LETTER FROM EDWARD W. KING

Of major interest to me was the POOP newsletter of July 1987 with Group Lead Pilot Ralph W. Elliott's account of the Nienburg Bridge (Weser River) mission of March 3, 1945. That mission was particularly memorable for me, as I was flying Deputy Lead to the second Squadron in the formation--the 789th. And thereby hangs a tale, as the saying goes.

That was my crew's 19th mission, and we had been flying deputy squadron lead for a long time--lugging that Norden bomb sight over Germany and back without ever having had a chance to use it for anything beyond a "tracking device" for my Bombardier, Roy Flay, to pick up the target and monitor the Squadron's progress in approaching it. We were to be ready to take over if the lead ship had trouble, but otherwise we were not allowed to use it. (But it was a bonus to have such a ringside view of the bomb run though; nice to hear Roy's comments as we went down the bomb run; that was usually "We're right on target!")

On that Nienburg Bridge mission, we were greeted with a beautiful, blue sky--just a few scattered cumulus clouds, the most ideal weather one could have for visual bombing. And no enemy planes or anti-aircraft fire anywhere near the target. Our first run to the target was picture perfect: "Right on!", reported Flay. But for no ascertainable reason, the Squadron Leader did not drop. So around again we went and made our second run. "Right on", said Roy; but again no drop!

"What in hell are we waiting for", I thought, "the German fighters to get around to us?" And for the third time we started down the bomb run. "Right on target again" said Roy. "They sure as hell will drop this time," I thought. "Roy" I called, "put your trigger up" (meaning we will drop our bombs by the bombsight, rather than on the bombs away signal from the Squadron Leader.

"That's against the rules," said Roy. "I know it," said I, "but I want to make sure that at least once you will have the chance to show them that you're a damned good bombardier."

Roy objected again, and I said, "Put that trigger up Roy; that's an order!" Up it went, the indices crossed and out went our 1,000 pounders while the squadron lead ship and the rest of the squadron held onto their bombs!

"Get those hand-held cameras going on our drop," I hollered over the intercom. "We're in deep trouble if we don't hit that bridge and have the proof that we did it! Everybody, watch that drop."

And sure enough, our bombs hit it dead center, and the bridge went down into the Weser River!

There being no point in making any more runs on that target, we went on to the Secondary--the Bielefeld railroad viaduct, where we three squadrons encountered a helluva lot of flak. My plane had no bombs to drop, of course--we were just along for the ride. But having no "mission" but to tag along, my mind was free to experience and dwell on my severe guilt feelings over probably having caused this diversion to the secondary. As we were jolted around in that maelstrom over the target, I prayed hard that no one would be wounded or killed. (I don't know that anyone was; I don't recall that I had the courage to inquire.)

Elliott's account of the Nienburg Bridge bombing says "The Squadron behind us had managed to drop as well, but the other two squadrons still had bombs on board so we headed for Bielefeld...". Allen Healy's history (pg. 77) says of it "...our lead Squadron, with Col. Shower flying as Command Pilot, found a rift in the clouds and, despite a terrific cross wind that brought the formation across the bridge at a 45-degree angle, the pattern was squarely on the bridge" and the other "three Squadrons hit Bielefeld..."

Healy's statement that three Squadrons hit Bielefeld is closest to 100% correct. But it would have been more accurate to say:

"Three Squadrons hit the Secondary target, Bielefeld--but the "Massilon Tiger," flying deputy lead in the second squadron, had no bombs to unload on Bielefeld, having dropped its bombs dead center on the Nienburg bridge in the last pass of its Squadron over that target."

If Elliott's account that "Fourteen 1,000-pound bombs landed directly on the bridge" is correct, I am sure that four of them came from "The Massilon Tiger"--the four that finally sent the weakened bridge crashing into the river! Or perhaps 18 bombs hit that bridge?

Roy did not get the DFC--which I thought he deserved--for his craftsmanship with the Norden bombsight that day, but at least he had the satisfaction of having proved that he knew how to use it!

(Editor--This will probably cause some rebuttal which we will publish as received.)

LETTER FROM GEORGE BRISON

Dear Phil, In the last copy of "POOP" was a letter from Charley Caldwell, May 10, 1990. He asked about Harvey P. Pettit. He was certainly a pilot and a very good one too. I flew 21 missions with Harvey as a "Ball Turret Gunner." I was with him on the mission when he was struck by flak, tore up his leg and lodged in the pelvis. There was no nose turret on the plane, so the flak had nothing to strike before hitting Harvey. (Editor--This needs some clarification.) I made two trips from the waist to the front; one with heated blanket and one with knife, which we used to slice his pant leg and give him a shot. On the 2nd trip up front, I ran out of oxygen and passed out on the catwalk in the bombay. Jimmy Dewhunt (radio man) saw me and brought a full oxygen bottle to me so I was only out a few seconds. We returned to our base on only two engines, piloted by the co-pilot, a young fellow with only one combat landing, so as we came in to land, he shoved the throttle forward to take off again, which we couldn't do on only two engines. Brenderman, the navigator, flying in Harvey's seat grabbed the throttle and brought us down on one wheel off the runway, bounced back up and down again on the other wheel, tearing the tips from both wings; but on the ground and we got Harvey to the hospital.

I flew the balance of my missions with different pilots, a total of 32. I visited Harvey in the hospital just before I left for the U.S.A.

Harvey and I have kept in touch all these years.

Hope this info has helped you.

MEMO FROM TOM SWINT

The phone rang on Fox Island, WA, October 13, 1990:

"Tom Swint talking."

"Hi, this is Phillip Day...you know, Phillip Day of "Poop From Group"...the 467th...I need your street address."

"OK, 588 Island Boulevard...but I get my mail at Box 117."

"No, I need your address. I'm coming out to

see you. Are you at home to me?"

"You betcha! Are you calling from Shreveport?"

"No...No. I'm at Fort Lewis, visiting my son. See you in about half an hour. Put the coffee pot on."

Some of you, if your ears burned, you now know why. It was a neat visit; may there be many more.

Phil, Many thanks for helping me find Larry Spencer's address in Las Vegas. On May 19, 1990, Larry and I met in Grants Pass, OR, and ETO anecdotes flew hot and heavy.

Spence, the ex-Tech Sergeant, got called back in the Air Force in 1950 and was sent to Korea as a John Lieutenant. He retired after 21

years as a procurement officer and went to work for Howard Hughes in Vegas.

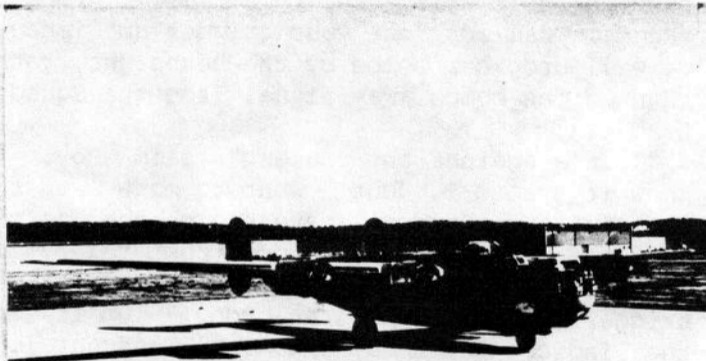
We liked each other so well, 45 years later, he drove on up to Fox Island, near Tacoma, WA, as our house guest. If hot air were money, we'd be millionaires.

In August, 1990, Spence was again in Grants Pass to buy some antique cars. Shirl and I drove down. My son Thomas took Spence on a raft trip down the Wild Rogue River. The most disgusting aspect of two gray-haired old flyboys swapping lies is that Spence can still wear his Ike jacket and has a full head of hair. He should be so lucky.

Regards. Tom



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