



POOP from GROUP 467

VOL. 15 NO. 3

STATION 145

RACKHEATH

APO 558

December 1, 1996

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

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FROM THE PREZ - WALTER J. MUNDY

It will be a hard act to follow. The Savannah convention was one of our best. The Mighty Eighth Heritage Museum was impressive. Although there was a very noticeable lack of 2nd Air Division, B-24's and the recognition of the winning role we played in the finest days of the Eighth Air Force, we were able to get our message to General Shuler and his staff. General Shuler is committed to creating a major representation of the 2nd Air Division. A major model of B-24 (we will lobby hard to make it a replica of the "Witch") is planned.

Neal Sorensen advised us that the Bronze B-24 project proposed for the Air Force Academy will also produce a large wood model of the B-24 which could be integrated in the Mighty Eighth Museum. This project is estimated to cost approximately 170 to 180 thousand dollars. This breaks down to about 12 to 13 thousand per bomb group (average) as a 2ADA fund raising project. I intend to discuss this project at the 2ADA Executive Committee Meeting.

Following our departure from Savannah, Ruth and I flew to Charlotte, N.C. where we were to connect with our flight back to California. We arranged for a four-day delay en route and rented a car to drive to Ellenville, N.Y. We were guests of the Nevele Hotel which has been selected as our 1997 Convention Site. The Nevele is ideally located in a beautiful mountain valley approximately 40 miles from West Point Military Academy and The Hyde Park home of President Roosevelt. It is also about 35 miles from Newburgh's Stewart International Airport. The official 1997 Convention Registration forms will be published in the April 1, 1997 Poop From the Group. I urge you to make your plans now to come to the convention scheduled for September 23 through 28, 1997. We have reserved 126 plus or minus 24 rooms in the main building. Cutoff date for rooms will be August 25, 1997.

The hotel convention cost has not yet been determined. We want to give you a total package cost to include room for four nights, four breakfasts, four lunches (at hotel or boxed if on tour), three host bars, three dinners and one banquet. Hotel meals will be in the Group dining area and will be "All You Can Eat" selections from full menus.

Live music and dancing will be available in the evening and a floor show will be held Friday and Saturday evening.

Considering the quality of the rooms and the extent of the facilities including indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, steam room, dry sauna, indoor handball, tennis and many more on-site activities, this convention promises to be memorable. On a total cost basis the convention package will be slightly higher than Savannah and comparable to San Diego and Minneapolis.

If you would like additional information about the convention, hotel, location, look for it in the next Poop from Group or contact the

convention coordinator, Mr. Sidney Katz, 129 Abbe Ln., Clifton, N.J. 07013, Tel. (201) 742-5661.

TENTATIVE 1997 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Tues., Sept. 23 -- Early Bird Arrival (on your own)

Wed., Sept. 24 -- Lunch

Registration 1-6

Hospitality Room Open, Snacks and Beverage

Dinner

Thurs., Sept. 25 -- Breakfast

Tour (West Point or Hyde Park)

Lunch

Hospitality Room

Host Bar

Dinner

Fri., Sept. 26 --

Breakfast

Tour (West Point or Hyde Park)

Lunch

Hospitality Room

Business Meeting

Host Bar

Dinner and Entertainment

Sat., Sept. 27 --

Breakfast

Local Tours (on your own)

Lunch

Free Time -- Hospitality Room

Host Bar

Gala Banquet and Entertainment

Sun., Sept. 28 --

Hail and Farewell Breakfast

Checkout -- 12 Noon

FROM THE EX-PREZ—Ralph Davis

I asked Walter Mundy to let me cover the convention at Pooler, Georgia. I wanted to express my sincere thanks to Walter and Mary Weaver for the exceptionally fine job they did in setting up this convention. As you who were there know, Walter Weaver had a quad by-pass operation two days before we started with the early birds. Doris and I came in two days early to catch up with what Walt and Mary had prepared over the past twelve months. Mary did come over most every day that she could under the circumstances. Also, Walter and Ruth Mundy came in early to help and Vincent and Gloria LaRussa, Kevin and Myles Coolidge and Pat Robinson were invaluable help and assistance. The response was greater than any of us had anticipated and we saturated the Ramada Inn and had to put people into the Econo Lodge across the street.

For those of you that missed this convention, we believe that you missed one of the best. It was set up to be an experience of friendliness and general exposure to Savannah life style. The meals

FROM THE EX-PREZ—Continued:

started with a buffet style Low Country Broil and then Barbecue; the next two were regular type dinners. Transportation was set up for the Savannah Historic Trip and to The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum on Friday. Saturday we had transportation to both the Museum and to downtown Savannah for Octoberfest. Sunday there were optional tours along the beach, a low country tour, dolphin watch and in some cases a combination of two.

The biggest advantage of this convention was the location and low cost. The hospitality room that was given us was almost as large as the banquet room. We had many tables set up with memorabilia with room to review the data and then if there was something you wanted to have a copy of, a copy machine was provided to make as many copies as you desired. There was an area just for conversation, snacks and drinks and also a place to have video showing. The motel let us set up our own coffee, tea, soft drinks and snacks in the hospitality room which greatly reduced cost. From everyone I heard this was perhaps the most friendly "get-together" convention they had attended. The personnel of the motel bent over backwards to make things right and to help us have a most successful convention. We have given some lessons learned to Walter Mundy for next year and Walter and Mary Weaver provided Walter Mundy with a total package of things to do and how to get the word out to others. We had 31 first-timers because of their advertising in the military magazines and news releases. The total in attendance was around 254. We had some drop in and about 14 left the day of the banquet.

AT THE BANQUET: As a procedure, the pledge of allegiance and invocation is given only on the night of the banquet. Walter Mundy led the pledge of allegiance and I gave the invocation in the absence of Phillip Day. The banquet head table included Gen. and Annette Shuler (8th AF Museum), Neal and Patricia Sorensen (2ADA), Colonel and Charlotte Shower, Walter and Ruth Mundy, William McGovern (Secretary), Doris Davis and myself. My apologies to the two reserved tables I set up in the front. I intended to introduce the members of the board, past presidents and former squadron commanders, but I forgot to "Write it Down" (Convention joke) and missed them. They were Fred and Jane Holdrege (790th Commander); Jack and Lucile Stevens, Ralph and Yvonne Elliott, Robert and Rosemary Sheehan and Mel Culross (Past Presidents); and Vincent and Gloria LaRussa, Vincent and Carolyn Re, Lloyd Davies (Members of the Board). In attendance were four widows: Vicky Brasier (Carl), Betty Elsen (Tom), Carolyn Lees (Eric) and Jackie Swearingen (Dave). We do deeply appreciate their attendance and hope to see all of them at future conventions. We had seven families in attendance: Coolidge (Myles, Kevin and Kelli), Hannafey (Paul, Grace and William), Samuel (Robert, Robert Jr., and Robin Fillebrown), Schy (Robert, Pat, Harold and Ray), Wilkinson (From England—Andy, Jacky and Tom), Johnson (Dean, Daniel, Mary and Steve Unthank), and Bozy Johnson's Grandchildren (Tara, Monica and Casey). If I missed any, I'm sorry. Distant attendees were Lloyd and Harriet Gilbertson, from Hawaii; Perry and Jill Watts from Salhouse, England; and Andy, Jacky and Tom Wilkinson from Middlesex, England. We had 28 from California, 22 from Florida and 17 from Illinois. There were 90 "early birds" and Jane Holdrege won the drawing of the cost of the convention (\$185). There were 30 - 788th, 32 - 789th, 70 - 790th, and 77 - 791st in attendance. Only one from the 470th Sub Depot. There were two crews that had six (6) members in attendance, a couple of fours and several threes. Unfortunately, I did not get the name of the crews, sorry. If you will drop me a card, I'll see that this oversight is covered.

Three awards were presented: Colonel Shower for exceptional leadership and devotion to all personnel with the Group since its conception; Ralph Elliott for outstanding service and dedication to the Group and devoted service as the 2ADA Group VP; and Phillip G. Day for outstanding service and dedication to the Group and devoted service as the Editor-Publisher of the "POOP FROM GROUP."

General "Buck" Shuler, who we made an "Honorary Member" of the Association, was our guest speaker. He very diplomatically covered the concerns of many as to what appeared to be a lack of B-24 within the museum. He explained how they are making strong efforts to obtain even more than they now have. His people looked over the many items of memorabilia that we have, expressing a keen interest in most all of the data and equipment. Some of the equipment was donated to the museum after the convention. However, most of our memorabilia is being maintained with the 467th, the

reason being is that if we continue to have turnouts as we had at this one, the memorabilia was one of the main interest items of the attendees. General Shuler requested a copy of Jim Mahoney's film and Jim sent him a copy on October 28.

Colonel Shower then addressed the Group making mention of the many people that supported and led to the successful group status. The two new board members were introduced, Vincent LaRussa and Walter Weaver for a 3-year term. Remaining members are Walter Mundy and Lloyd Davies - 2 years and Vincent Re and Ralph Davis - 1 year. After thanking the Group and the board members for their support to me over the past year, the banquet closing was turned over to the new president, Walter Mundy.

I may be stealing Walter and Mary Weaver's input but to date the convention has returned the initial \$500 advanced by the Association and has written a check to the Association for \$3,800. There is still money available to ship memorabilia and finish up final costs which means they may have more to turn in. The insignia pins that I sold during the convention made us \$124.10 over their cost and I still have about 43 pins left for sale. This money is being put on the name tags. The convention covered the balance of cost of the new name tags that we presented officers, board members, group and squadron commanders and attending widows with their husband's name below. It also covered the award plaques as well as the Presidency plaques being made.

I heard from many and the general consensus was that of Fred Holdrege's to Walter Weaver, "that the 1996 convention at Pooler, Georgia was one of the friendliest and warmest convention that they had attended. It takes great people to have one and it takes great people to make one." Enough said!!

One last word. I do sincerely thank Walter Mundy, Vincent LaRussa, Lloyd Davies, Charles Caldwell and Vincent Re as members of the board for their putting up with me and all the action correspondence that I generated throughout the year. I and all of us are always in debt to the excellent support that we get from our treasurer Phillip Day. His work on our group account as well as the "POOP FROM GROUP" has been a mainstay of the organization. He has advised me that he is ready to turn over the "POOP FROM GROUP" to my son Robert who will be doing the publication starting with Vol. 16. I'm sure that Phillip will lend support to him to get him started on the right track. Most of all I want to thank the Group for letting me serve over the last year and for their very intelligent support by electing quality people into the board of directors.

Doris and I wish each and everyone of you the best for the Holiday Season and the coming New Year. See you all in New York!!

Sincerely, Marvin Ralph Davis

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION—Marvin R. Davis

Lieutenant General Phillip J. Ford, Eighth Air Force Commander, wrote the following letter, with attachments to Mr. Phillip Upschulte, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force. All of the attachments were the ones I sent forward with the exception of the 467th Bombing Statistics and that was put together by Mr. Phillip Myers of the 8th Air Force History Office. He also tracked down the award of the Flying Tigers to establish it as a precedent. The help of the 8th Air Force, Second Air Division and many within the 467th have been above call. Let us hope that Mr. Upschulte will have a change of heart and go along with General Ford's excellent recommendation. The letter and Eighth Air Force attachment follows:

Dear Mr. Upschulte,

Since early 1991, the 467th Bomb Group has been trying to gain Presidential recognition for its World War II achievements. After thoroughly reviewing the 467th's performance, I wholeheartedly support this effort. A look back in history emphasizes one fact—the 467th was an elite unit in the "Mighty Eighth." Statistics indicate consistent outstanding performance (See attachment 1).

Based on its consistent record of outstanding achievement, the 467th Bomb Group is long overdue Presidential recognition. Nearly all Distinguished Unit Citations for World War II units were awarded for efforts in single missions. The 386th and 379th Bomb Groups, however, are exceptions. Both units received a DUC for a period of outstanding performance in World War II. Despite the limitations of Public Law 81-501, former Secretary of the Air Force Donald B. Rice awarded the Flying Tigers a Presidential Unit Citation on 21 August 1992 for extraordinary heroism in action

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION—Continued:

against an armed enemy in World War II. This action established a precedent.

The attached letter from Col. Irvine A. Rendle, the 96th Combat Bomb Wing Commander, reflects his intent to submit the 467th and its three subordinate squadrons for a presidential citation based on "overall performance throughout operations against the enemy." In the Eighth's rapid withdrawal from Europe after May 1945, it is quite possible that Colonel Rendle's nomination package became lost in the shuffle. Let's do the right thing and give this outstanding organization its long overdue recognition,

Sincerely,

Phillip J. Ford, Lieutenant General, USAF Commander

467th Bombing Statistics (Attachment)

The 467th had the best bombing results in Eighth Air Force, from November 1944 to March 1945 and the second best, June to October 1944. From August 1944 to March 1945, the 467th delivered more bombs within 1000 feet of the target than any other Eighth Air Force unit. The unit averaged a 47 percent effectiveness rate compared to 36.2 percent for other groups. Similarly, the rate for bombs within 2000 feet surpassed the Eighth Air Force average, 71 percent compared to 63.7 percent. In January–February 1945, the unit accomplished a tremendous feat, delivering 100 percent of its weapons within 2000 feet of the target. In the 14 April 1945 attack on heavy coastal gun installations near Royan, France, the 467th achieved a perfect strike with all squadrons dropping their weapons within 1000 feet. This achievement broke a previous record of 97 percent from a 13 August 1944 mission to St. Malo, France.

The 467th had an incredible sortie effectiveness rate—94 percent of sortie aircraft completed effective sorties between September 1944 and March 1945. The unit pushed that mark to 97 percent effectiveness in November 1944 and March 1945. The 96th Combat Bomb Wing, its parent organization, averaged 89 percent effectiveness by comparison for the same period.

The 467th had the lowest number of ineffective sorties due to mechanical failure in the 96th Combat Bomb Wing—1.6 percent compared to a 3.1 percent average between September 1944 and March 1945.

The 467th had the lowest number of aircrew losses per credit sortie in the 96th Combat Bomb Wing—4 percent compared to a 48 percent average for the 96th Combat Bomb Wing between September 1944 and March 1945.

The 467th had an extremely low number of aircraft losses per credit sortie—.65 percent compared to .96 percent for the 96th Combat Bomb Wing between September 1944 and March 1945.

The 467th had the greatest percentage of fully operational aircraft—90.3 percent compared to 83.7 percent for the 96th Combat Bomb Wing between September 1944 and March 1945.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF 467TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ASSOCIATION, LTD.

The annual meeting of the members of the 467th Bombardment Group (Heavy) Association, Ltd. was held at the Ramada Inn, Pooler, Georgia, on October 5, 1996.

The meeting was called to order by President Ralph Davis; Officers and Directors present were:

Ralph Davis, President

Walt Mundy, Vice-President

William McGovern, Secretary

Lloyd Davies

Vincent Re

Vincent LaRussa

Col. Albert J. Shower, Honorary Chairman of the Board

Mr. Charles Caldwell, Director, and Mr. Phillip Day, Treasurer, were absent.

The President appointed all registered members present to be convention delegates.

The President announced that a majority was present. A motion was made and seconded to suspend the reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting from San Diego.

The treasurer's report for fiscal year October 1, 1995 to September 30, 1996 will be published in the POOP, Vol. 15, No. 3. It was announced that total assets had dropped from \$12,675.33 to \$9,562.61 from the past year, but was explainable as the 467th donated \$5,000.00 to the 8th Air Force Heritage Museum.

Vincent LaRussa spoke on the third printing of the history of the 467th. A profit of \$2,028.00 had been made.

President Davis brought the members up-to-date on the long ongoing procedure to secure a Presidential Unit Citation for the 467th. He has

prepared a package of papers for the signature of the President of 2ADA to be sent to the Eighth Air Force recommending the approval of the award.

Neal Sorensen, the President of 2ADA, spoke. He said that he had endorsed the granting of the citation, that he was impressed by its bombing record and was confident that the citation would be issued. He then referred to the lack of attendance of members of the 467th at the 2ADA conventions and blamed derisive persons at group and division levels. He urged that the 467th hold its convention on the day following the 2ADA convention. It was obvious that his intent was to suggest that the 467th members first attend the 2ADA convention. A coolness to his proposal was apparent among the members. President Sorensen then spoke of the 305th Bomb Group raising the sum of \$160,000.00 for a bronze replica of a B-17 to be placed at the Air Force Academy. He estimated that it would cost about \$170,000.00 for a like replica of a B-24. He invited us to think about such a project which would allow the wood prototype to be placed at the 8th Air Force Museum at Pooler, Georgia. He suggested that all B-24 Units, not just those that were part of the 8th Air Force, be called upon to back the project financially.

Ralph Elliott, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, placed in nomination Walter W. Weaver and Vincent LaRussa to serve as Directors of the association for a term of three years each. There being no further nominations, Walter W. Weaver and Vincent LaRussa were duly elected to serve as Directors of the association for terms of three years. They will join Lloyd Davies and Walt Mundy (2 years) and Vincent Re and Ralph Davis (one year) as Directors of the association.

Walt Mundy, Chairman of the 1997 Convention Committee was called upon to report on the place selected for next year's convention. He stated that a place had been selected but that because of the remarks of Neal Sorensen calling on us to hold our convention on the day following the 2ADA convention, he would like to delay the announcement. When Ralph Davis stated that time was important, he said the announcement would be made on the next day.

Vincent LaRussa spoke on the control tower project and said that much depended on financing by the people in England and that later developments would appear in "POOP."

Ralph Davis, in closing out a very successful year as President of the association, referred to ten actions which were passed by the Board of Directors during the year. All of these actions were printed in "POOP" (April and August issues). He specifically mentioned the item appearing in the August issue of "POOP" calling for the establishment of a group within the Executive Committee to establish a procedure to dissolve the 467th Bomb Group (Heavy) Association, Ltd. and fold it into the Second Air Division Association. He further suggested that a criteria should be established as to the "how and when," along with a recommendation as to the distribution of its assets and that the results of this action be recommended to the Board of Directors and the general membership at the 1997 convention.

Peggy Lou Gair showed a blouse that was made from parachutes that were recovered from a bailout.

Bill McGovern, who served as legal officer of the Group while at Rackheath, then asked for the floor and was granted permission to speak. He said that it was at the 2ADA Reunion in England in 1983 that Phillip Day discussed with him the possibility of incorporation of the members of the 467th Bomb Group. He told Phillip Day that he thought that it was a good idea, that corporate status would give a continuity of purpose and organization, that certain tax benefits would result, that activities involving veterans of the 467th Bomb Group and its attached units could be fostered and encouraged and that the group could be perpetuated through memorials, both domestic and in England. After further correspondence between them, ten years ago in October, 1986, the 467th received its charter from the State of Wisconsin as a non-stock, non-profit corporation. The corporation applied for and was granted exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and donors may deduct contributions made for the benefit of the corporation. In furtherance of the corporate purposes, Officers and Directors have been duly elected for the past ten years and by-laws duly adopted. A group of dedicated Officers and Directors have worked to establish a fitting memorial at Rackheath to forever memorialize members of the 467th who fought and died there. Finally, the Lomax Family gave a parcel of land, approximately 6-1/2 feet wide by 4 feet deep, to the 467th corporation, and a Historical Monument was dedicated on July 29, 1990. McGovern concluded his remarks by pointing out that the mechanics of dissolving the corporation are simple, but that before doing so, a decision must be made as to the transfer of ownership to our piece of land upon which the monument is placed. Our corporation by-laws, which Internal Revenue relied on for granting our tax exemption, provide that if the corporation is ever dissolved, its assets must be transferred to an organization which is exempt under Section 501 of the Code or to a federal, state or local government for public purposes. This could be the Second Air Division Association or a church or municipality in the Rackheath area which would agree to forever maintain our monument.

Colonel Shower was then called upon for a few remarks. He chose to defer them to the banquet on the following evening. He received a grand ovation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

William McGovern, Secretary.

CONVENTION 1996—By Walt and Mary Weaver.

Coordinators

(Editor's Note: Walt and Mary began planning this Convention prior to San Diego in 1995. They did all the things that have to be done for a successful reunion, which all reports say it was, and were ready to participate and enjoy the fruits of their labors when Walt was diagnosed as requiring open heart bypass surgery, which surgery occurred on October 1. President and Mrs. Davis and Vice-President and Mrs. Mundy went to Savannah on October 1 to be with Mary and do anything necessary to keep the Convention on track. Vince LaRussa arrived on October 2 for the same reason. Others volunteered and helped when they found out the circumstances.)

The 1996 Reunion is over and one the Weavers will never forget. When we planned the Reunion, our goal was to have a warm, friendly get-together to showcase the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum and to show off historic Savannah and its Octoberfest celebration. From the feedback we succeeded.

We have thanked those that we know helped us. We are sure there were more of you that pitched in when needed. Thank all of you so very much. Many thanks to Doris and Marvin Davis who filled in for us. We heard (know) that you did a great job.

Here are some pertinent numbers. We had 253 people attending, but not all for the entire package. There were 131 veterans and 4 veteran's widows. There were 22 cancellations due to circumstances beyond anyone's control. It was nice having 34 attending their first reunion and 33 states represented.

We will see you at The Nevele (Resort) Hotel, Ellenville, NY in September 1997.

Some comments received by Walter and Mary Weaver on the convention. Bea and Bob McKenzie writes "Just a note to tell you how much we enjoyed the convention and all the hard work you had to put into it to make it a success. Granted, it wasn't the Hyatt Regency, but it had more than adequate, convenience and the price was right. The people we had to deal with were very helpful and gracious. Thanks again for a job well done. Mission accomplished." Wayne Crossan Writes, "You did a fine job of setting it up and I heard many favorable comments. I know I certainly did enjoy myself and I had a great time. Walt, I want to thank you for setting up such a great reunion for us and also, thank you for the very good directions and the map you sent me. Everything was great." Roger Giblin writes, "I know you did a terrific job setting up the convention. And I'm sure Mary pitched in. It was too bad you weren't there to see the fruits of your labor. I've been to the last six conventions. I loved everyone of them and I always have a great time...but this one in Savannah was the greatest. Thanks again for a job well done and best wishes for a complete recovery." Jack Stevens writes, "We want to tell you how much we enjoyed the convention with our friends there. Getting the Ramada, with meals included, at that daily rate was a real good deal for us and merits a tip of the cap to you. I think everyone enjoyed the 467th get-together, our visit to the new museum, and tours of Savannah's historic areas. Lucile has been telling all her Girl Scout associates about Juliette Low's birthplace and her (Juliette's) many accomplishments. Thanks again for a swell convention and I hope all is progressing well with you folks." Fred and Jane Holdrege added a note in his get well card, "Let every ball in the capsule represent the thanks to you of everyone who attended the "Friendliest" convention ever of the 467th and the best wishes of each of us for your speedy recovery."

LETTER FROM ANDY, JACKY AND TOM WILKINSON

Dear Walt, Mary and Friends in the 467th,

It was a real honor and privilege to join with our special friends once more and we thank you all with our deepest appreciation for making us feel so welcome at such a wonderful reunion. It was indeed a memorable trip, and now we are home it is a chance to reflect on the generosity and kindness we experienced from everyone in Savannah. The 467th are truly a great bunch and it was such a thrill to be among so many familiar faces on such an auspicious occasion. The sizeable number of first-time convention attendees was truly heartening, and let's hope they enjoyed the experience of joining with comrades and will be encouraged to make the trip next year. We value and treasure our association with the Group and look forward to continuing the relationship over the coming years.

We're already planning ahead to next September and the prospect of another wonderful 467th reunion in New York. Very much hope the family will be able to join with you and the many friends who make the 467th such a special Group.

Our very best wishes to all, Andy, Jacky, and Tom Wilkinson.

LETTER TO THE 467th FROM JILL and PERRY WATTS

We both wish to say how much we enjoyed attending the 467th Group Convention in Savannah last October, and to thank you all for making us most welcome, and indeed we both appreciate your great friendship.

All being well it is our intention to be with you at the 467th Group convention in 1997.

Finally a good friend of mine and also of many of the veterans, David Jones, would like me to write on his behalf and convey to you all his very best wishes and again on his behalf God Bless you all. (David, a lay preacher, conducted the services in Salhouse Church on numerous occasions when the 467th Veterans have returned to this area on group visits and

most recently, on November 10th, for our Salhouse Church Remembrance Memorial Service.)

In the meantime, take care, God Bless and our best wishes to you all.

BITS AND PIECES by Phillip G. Day

There was not a great deal of correspondence to the Editor in the last four months, not even much about Convention 96 and I am disappointed in that. By letter and telephone I received information that it was the friendliest Association gathering that they had attended. When I looked at the attendees (listed in this POOP) I was all the more upset that I was unable to attend.

The short of it is that I had a right thigh femoral artery aneurysm which ruptured on September 6. Fortunately I was in the hospital for the swelling caused by it and my vascular surgeon was in attendance. They put a Greenfield clot catcher in my aorta first thing on the 6th, then operated to bypass the rupture. They saved my life and my leg but nerves were damaged below the knee and I have little or no feeling from the knee down and have foot drop which requires that I wear a brace on my right leg. Physical therapy in hospital and at home for six weeks to learn how to use a walker and cane. There was no way the doctors were going to let me go to Georgia. I get around poorly but am driving the car left footed cautiously. I AM BOUND AND DETERMINED TO GO TO CONVENTION 97 NEXT FALL. WON'T YOU PLAN ON BEING THERE TOO.

Kevin Cooledge-Associate Historian, son of Myles Cooledge, Veteran, has taken the Associations photo albums and scrapbooks to update and repair so they will be more usable. As soon as I can get this POOP ready for printing, I will send him the Peter Bond album on Rackheath and a box of miscellaneous photos and memorabilia I have accumulated in the last several years. If you have any materials for the Association scrapbooks and photo albums, send them to KEVIN at 760 Laloma Ln., Conora, CA 91719. Do not put off your contributions, it will be a lot of work on Kevin's part to do this and he should have as much time as possible before Convention 97.

Miss Cille's garden did not do well. We did enjoy the peppers, eggplants, a very few tomatoes and much okra but on a scale of one to ten I would say a four. Zinnias continued bountiful until they just wore themselves out blooming. Periwinkles have been pulled up and pansies planted. She will be planting sugar snap peas and sweet peas (flowering) right away, and will get things ready for spring planting. The hummingbirds returned in August, four of them, and stayed around until early October. The feeders are cleaned up and ready to put up when return next spring. We had our first light frost on November 2, not enough to burn the peppers or tomato plants.

Weil the time has come. This will be my last effort as Editor and Publisher of POOP FROM GROUP. The next edition, Vol. 16, No. 1, April 1, 1997 will be edited and published by Associate Robert A. "Bob" Davis, son of Marvin E. Davis, immediate Past President of the Association. Bob has the facilities in house for the desktop publishing requirement and has volunteered to publish POOP. We have not worked out the details of his handling it as yet. You should write to Bob at 1654 Flesher Ave., Kettering, OH 45420. You may continue to write to me and I will pass it on to Bob. I will continue to answer your inquiries of a historical nature and will continue as Treasurer so keep those contributions coming in.

In the last fifteen years I have sent out thousands of POOPS, answered hundreds of historical questions, handled thousands of our money. I have had the pleasure of corresponding with thousands of you, of meeting hundreds at conventions and reunions. The friendships I have made are precious to me, some of you are as close as my family and I am so much richer for you and you will be mine forever. There is no paying job that could be as rewarding as this one has been. I wish we could do it all over again but this time in slow motion so I wouldn't miss a thing. God Bless!

MISCELLANEA by Phillip G. Day

A letter from Jordan R. Uttal explaining that donors of funds to purchase books for the Memorial Library from June 23, 1996 should soon be receiving titles of books selected and copies of the bookplates used. Training for the new Trust Librarian and the Fulbright Librarian delayed the administration of this matter. Jordan is again in a position to accept book fund donations and promises 45-day reply from Norwich to donors. Send donations to Jordan at 7824 Meadow Park Drive, Apt. 101, Dallas, TX 75230 and note on the check "Special Contribution for Books" and enclose the information you want on the bookplate.

Jennifer Sane has asked me to find out anything about the military career of her Grandfather, Walter Christopher Sane. He is shown as Left Waist Gunner of the Damian J. Murry, Crew 36 of 789th BS(H) on Missing Aircraft Report of August 6, 1944, A/C 29373, B-24H-15-CF, (THE MONSTER), which was originally assigned to the 788th. None of the crew are currently on the Association roster. Do any of you remember Sane? If so, please write me so I can help her in her quest.

Mike Neitzel is seeking information of his father, Captain Stanley J. Neitzel, assigned to the 467th from July 5, 1943 to October 3, 1944 when he was transferred to the 448th BG. Mike says Stanley was a Command Pilot serving as 790th Ops Officer until July 1, 1944 when he became Group Asst. S-3. Write to me or to Michael J. Neitzel at 13943 Tawya Road, Apple Valley, CA 92307 of your remembrances of Stanley.

I wrote in POOP some time ago that Air Crews were not relieved from combat missions because of numbers flown but for rest and recuperation

MISCELLANEA BY PHILLIP G. DAY—Continued:

from combat fatigue. Now comes James L. Sherrard with Medical Form For Returnees which states "Completed Operational Tour 1 March 45. No Operational Fatigue." I don't find any such in my files.

Speaking medically, every Group had its share of personnel with a venereal disease and the 467th was no exception. In July, 1944 after over a dozen cases were reported to the CO, a policy was adopted, a campaign in the daily "POOP FROM GROUP," and announcement of the establishment of a "Poison Ivy Club" and all personnel known to be infected with VD were listed and given membership. In subsequent editions of "POOP FROM GROUP," new members were announced with name, rank, organization and frequently the city or locale where the VD was contracted. The method worked because the Group was later cited for its low incidence of venereal diseases.

Wesley Bartelt's wife, June, passed away in June after a long battle with cancer, this after losing her leg in 1991. A lovely lady who all of us enjoyed knowing at the several conventions she attended with Wes. Wes is at 5606 Hickory Dr., Ft. Pierce, FL 34982.

Remember last POOP I wrote that Ronald Spencer would collect e-mail addresses of 467th veterans. The ones he has at present are:

V-Edward W. King	ewk3@cornell.edu
V-Ronald Spencer	Liberamus@aol.com
A-Andy Wilkinson	toggy@dial.pipex.com
A-Milan Sefca	Sefcas@worldnet.att.net
V-Stanley Kiler	Kili1@juno.com

I don't have any idea what all this means, I work with a 5-year-old word processor, but if you do and want your address listed with Ronald, get in touch with him. Ron and his wife were at Convention 96 with three other first timers of his crew. Wrote that he thought the Museum was going to be a winner and he was looking forward to NEW YORK next year.

I had an inquiry about a B-24 based in Florida. I now know that Kermit Weeks purchased the "Delectable Doris" from the bankrupt Dave Tallichet and it can be seen at Weeks' museum in Miami. Bill Graff, original pilot of "DD" lives here in Shreveport and he told me of this at a church service recently. Bill doesn't know what plans Weeks has for the airplane.

Will one of our Rackheath Associates write me of the history of Rackheath. I would like to know its history and share it with our POOP readers. I am sure it will go back to the Domesday Book of Records-1082.

You will see that Lillian Stephens, widow of Rufas B. Stephens, KIA 29 May 1944, has died. She was to have come to Savannah for the presentation of my painting of "Lil Peach" to the museum, named for her by Rufas at Wendover, UT. Lillian never remarried. Her sister wrote me that Lillian died of a massive stroke in June, 1996.

MAIL-MEMORIAL FUND

There were only 34 contributors to the fund in the period July 15 through November 15, 1996, down from 48 in the previous period. The amount for the period was \$1,210, down from \$1,440 in prior period. The amounts were from \$5 to \$100 with an average of \$35.60 per contributor. The cost to publish and mail out POOP FROM GROUP was \$1,450 for the August edition. Please contribute to the mail-memorial fund, we should at least get enough contributions to cover POOP. It has been the policy since Volume 1, Number 1, that every veteran on the Group Association roster would receive the POOP regardless of his contribution participation. This is still the policy but now includes veteran's widows and a number of Associate Historians but I do purge the roster of AH's who do not contribute either donations or POOP material on a regular basis. The Association needs the support of each person on our roster. Send your contributions to 467th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ASSOCIATION, LTD., 237 Pennsylvania Ave., Shreveport, LA 71105.

THE ASSOCIATION IS A VETERAN BASED, NOT-FOR-PROFIT, CHARTERED ENTITY AND ALL DONATIONS ARE FEDERAL IN-COME TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Contributors in the period were:

Joe Abernathy
David A. Baumhover
Ernest A. Beasley
Raymond A. Betcher
Phyllis M. DuBois -AH
Howard W. Dye, Jr.
Edward E. Frazier
Delbert R. Gardner
J. D. Goggin
Charles W. Grace
Jim F. Gummelt -AH
Charles W. Harter
Donald D. Kaynor
Anton J. Looman
Anthony J. Maris
Peter J. Martino
Robert B. McEwen

John A. Moulder
G. Bruce Palmer
Harvey Pettit
James E. Randazzo
Vincent Re
Warren J. Roseborough
Harold C. Ruberdall
Joseph Severance, Jr.
Victor S. Smith
John W. Upp
Charles R. Wagner
Allen J. Welters
Gordan Wildes -AH
John Wilde -AH
Andrew W. Wilkinson -AH
VeLoyce G. Winslow

I thank each of the above on behalf of the Association and personally for their donations. Their contribution is appreciated, they are appreciated.

There were no contributions to the Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum, but \$50 by Christine P. Armco -AH to the Rackheath Control Tower fund in the period.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Fund 7-15-96 to 11-15-96

Opening Balance	\$ 1,617.21
Income:	
Mail—Memorial Contributions (\$36 from prior qtr.)	1,246.00
Sheehan's Window Decals	55.00
Welter's ETO Memories	30.00
LaRussa History Books	1,829.30
Control Tower Fund	50.00
Convention 1995	2,851.76
Convention 1996	4,300.00
Interest on Checking Acct. (4 mos.)	75.56
Interest on CD (4 mos.)	17.52

Sub-total Income \$ 12,072.35

Disbursements:	
POOP 15-2, Secretarial	338.16
POOP 15-2, Reproduction	599.65
POOP 15-2, Domestic Postage	439.36
POOP 15-2, Foreign Postage	36.00
USPS Other Postage	74.34
USPS 2 Shipments to/from Conv. 96	62.59
2ADA Reunion Decorations (Mundy)	63.70
Identification and Awards Fund (Davis)	600.00
Bank Fees	19.00
Treasurer's Supplies	30.29
Control Tower Fund	50.00

Sub-total Disbursements \$ 2,313.09

Closing Balance Operating Fund \$ 9,759.26

Special Fund Accounts:	
Albert J. Shower Endowment	\$ 796.50
Control Tower Reserve	155.00
8th AF Museum Fund	50.00
32-day Certificate of Deposit*	5,000.00
Total Special Funds	\$ 6,001.50
TOTAL ALL ASSETS	\$ 15,760.76

*Will increase to \$10,000 11/21/96

ROSTER ADDITIONS

Helen Amick -AH, 11 Park Lake Ave., Titusville, NJ 08560
John P. Bosko, 1 Lowick Ave., S. Huntington, NY 11746
Joseph P. Bridenbaugh, 26 Wilton Rd., Rochester, NY 14524
Pauline M. Brien -AH, 1890 Andrews Dr., Concord, CA 94521
Charles W. Cox, 7418 Brittany Park Ct., Peoria, IL 61614
Robert A. Davis -AH, 1654 Flesher Ave., Kettering, OH 45420
Carl J. Dottore, 20360 Blackfoot Ave., Euclid, OH 44117
James F. Farrell, 1 Alba Circle, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
David W. Johnson, 1531 So. Louisiana, Crossett, AR 71635
Eugene A. Jacquemart, Jr., 5437 Manitowac Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
Jeffery M. Pierce -AH, P. O. Box 56, Ellettsville, IN 47429
Milton Rubin, 2414 Bentley Dr., Palm Harbor, FL 34684
Charles A. Shamburg, 16 W. Congress St., Corry, PA 16407
Sam Wagner, P. O. Box 83, Riderwood, WA 98581
E. G. "Buck" Shuler, Jr., P.O. Box 1992, Savannah, GA 31402

If they live near you, give them a ring, drop by to see them. Don't let anyone 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.

LOST SOULS

POOP was returned from the following. Tell us what you know of them. Try to locate them if they live in your area.

Marvin H. Arnold, Jacksonville, FL
Francis P. Muleady, Anaheim, CA
Oliver Omundson, White Bear Lake, MN

LAST POST

William H. Counts
Keith C. Farner
James W. Littleford
Robert J. Perkins

Charles M. Pollock, Jr.
David P. Rainer
Lillian B. Stephens -AW

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

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT

CONVENTION 1995, San Diego, CA: Jack Stevens, Coordinator, has reconciled his books for the final financial report of the Convention to the Association. He had repaid the \$2,000 advance previously and now has sent the surplus of \$851.76 to the Treasurer. The surplus covers the \$589 paid directly by the Association for Convention expenses and leaves a profit of \$263 to the Association.

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT—Continued:

CONVENTION 1996 Savannah, GA: Walt and Mary Weaver, Coordinators, have repaid the \$500 advanced by the Association and have forwarded a surplus of \$3,800 from the Convention with final accounting not yet completed. An advance of \$600 of this surplus was sent to Marvin Ralph Davis to cover existing and anticipated awards and decorations expenses from Convention 1996 and 1997.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS EXPENSES: Ralph Davis has been advanced \$600 for this project which will include awards, permanent identification badges for officers and directors and miscellaneous other costs.

THE HISTORY OF THE 467TH THIRD REPRINT:

500 Copies ordered—Grover Cleveland Press	\$12,329.30
Paid direct by LaRussa from pre-sales	2,000.00
Paid by Association	10,329.31
Grover Cleveland Press Account Balance	-0-
Income to Association from Sales	10,329.31
Remaining to Recover	-0-

Vince LaRussa has handled each of the three reprints of the History. The first two returned considerable profits to the Association and this printing will also with the sale of the 125 copies on hand. An addendum will be sent to all purchasers so order your copy as soon as possible. Many thanks to Vince for his devotion to this project.

SQUADRON PATCHES:

1000 Patches ordered cost	\$2,296.38
Income to Association to date	2,456.00
Profit to Date	159.62

Paul V. Hatten saw the need to coordinate this project, and has done so from inception and will continue until the remaining Squadron Patches are sold. Additional patches have not been ordered as suppliers queried want larger volumes than we can sell and the prices have gone out of sight. Our thanks to Paul for what he has done and what he will continue doing in this effort.

WINDOW DECALS: This is Bob Sheehan's continuing project. He has sent \$757 to the Association over the last couple of years. Many thanks for this, BOB.

G.I. MEMORIES OF THE E.T.O.: This is Al "Wabbit" Welters' project that has had no cost to the Association but has sent us \$180. Thanks "Wabbit" for what you have done.

POST EXCHANGE

The 467th Bombardment Group (History) September 1943—June 1945 by Allan Healy, first privately printed in 1947. The third reprint is by the 467th BG (H) Association, Ltd. This third reprint contains the total original Healy publication plus includes an alphabetically arranged roster of all known personnel who were assigned or attached to the 467th from March 11, 1944 to July 6, 1945, over 5200 names, and an alphabetical and chronological listing of all known deceased of the Group while assigned to the Second Air (Bombardment) Division. A short history of the 788th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), information on the lead squadron—wing squadrons of October 44 through May 45 and some other personnel matters are included in the addendum.

Orders of the third reprint will receive at least one update of roster names and additional materials on the Group's KIAs.

For your order of this third reprint with addendum, send \$40 per copy to: Vincent D. LaRussa, 8570 N. Mulberry Drive, Tucson, AZ 85704.

Squadron Patches Only: Each 4" diameter patch consists of a white background with 1/8" black border. The black lettering height on all patches is 1/2". The squadron patches have XXX Bm. Sq. above the caricatures and 467th Bomb Group (H) below. No Group patches available. Individual patches are \$4 each. All are post paid at the quoted prices. Send your orders with check or money order made out to the 467th Bomb Group to: Paul V. Hatten, 2927 W. 8380 S., West Jordan, UT 89088.

467th BG(H)/2nd Air Division Window Decal:

\$3 each from Bob Sheehan, 1828 E. 27th Street, Tulsa, OK 74114.

G.I. Memoirs Of The E.T.O.: A 5-1/4" x 8" booklet with front cover, a title page and 25 pages of cartoon-like scenes of enlisted personnel activities, on and off base. \$5 per copy to Al Welters, 1418 SE 70th St. E., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077.

ATTENDEES AT CONVENTION 96

V-Veteran	W-Veteran's Widow
A-Associate	N-Not Associate
V-Ralph N. & Mary Jane Anderson	
V-Victor T. & Norma Bakan	
V-Robert & Shirley Barclay	
V-Steve F. & Gizella Barilich	
V-Learned W. & Margaret Barry	
V-Wesley J. Bartelt	
N-Walter F. & Josephine Basar	
V-Anthony V. & Constance Bell	
V-Raymond A. & Opel Betcher	
V-J. Ray Bickel	

V-John P. Bosko
V-James E. & Anna Branton
W-Victorine "Vicky" Brasier
V-Merle J. & Lathea Brinkman
V-John B. & Joyce Brinson Jr.
V-Clement W. & Eleanor Brown
V-Forrest D. & Patricia Brown
V-John W. Burns
V-Oliver Carner
V-John D. & Evon Collins
V-Raymond J. & Betty Comtois
A-Kevin & Kellie Coolidge
V-Myles E. Coolidge
V-Charles W. & Ann Cox
V-Robert H. & Margie Crocker
V-Wayne O. Crossan
V-Mel Culross
V-Lloyd A. Davies
V-Marvin R. & Doris Davis
V-Anthony & Joann DeBaise
V-Robert W. & Myra DeKerf
V-Haskell H. & Joan Dekle
V-Roy M. Dettinger and Elaine D. Ream
V-George Y. Dong
V-Hugh J. & Eileen Donlon
V-Carl J. & Concetta Dottore
V-Howard W. & Anne Dye Jr.
V-Thomas H. & Martha Edwards
V-Ralph H. & Yvonne Elliott
V-Henry W. & Mary Ann Ellison
W-Elizabeth J. "Betty" Elsen
V-Donald J. & Theresa Faford
V-Bernard J. Farrell
V-Leo F. & Betty Feeney
V-Norman W. & Lucy Felbinger
V-Jacob & Peggy Lou Gair
V-Delbert R. & Marilyn Gardner
V-Richard M. & Ingrid Garver
V-Roger C. Giblin
V-Lloyd A. & Harriet Gilbertson
V-Edward F. & Elizabeth Gore
A-Jim Gummelt
V-Joseph W. & Florence Haenn
V-Jack Hallman & Betty Cone
V-Dale E. & Eileen Hamilton
V-Paul J., Grace & William Hannafey
V-Benjamin R. & Carolyn Hatch
V-Joseph A. & Evelyn Hodge
V-Fred E. & Jane Holdrege
V-Capers A. Holmes
V-James W. & Dorothy Holt
V-Fred C. & Eugenia Hudlow
V-Arthur K. & Irene Ireland
V-Eugene A. Jacquemart Jr.
V-Dean H. & Danial B. Johnson and Pauline Brien
V-Frank H. & Rita Johnson
V-Billy L. Johnston
V-Andrew & Anna Kapi Jr.
V-Donald D. Kaynor
V-Glen L. Kenagy
V-Edward W. & Theresa King
V-Willis H. & Eileen Kirkton
V-Lloyd F. & Marian Koth and Marleen Loushin
V-Paul J. & Carolyn Kuchinski
V-Clarence P. & Faye Kurtz
V-Vincent D. & Gloria LaRussa
W-Carolyn L. Lees
V-Roger L. & Dorothy Leister, and Mark & Joanne Woodfill
V-Bernard A. & Annie LePoer Jr.
V-Anton J. & Clover Looman
V-Maurice L. & Virgie Malone
V-Addison B. Manning
V-Anthony J. Maris
V-Robert B. & Ruth McEwen
V-William P. McGovern
V-Robert L. & Beatrice McKenzie
V-Edward T. & Eleanor McQuellon
V-Fred W. & Claire Miller
V-Wayne G. & Ruth Mountford
V-Walter J. & Ruth Mundy
V-J. Wilson & Cecily Noden and Helen Amick
V-R. P. & Lula Nelle Odem
V-William L. & Eleanor Pehrson
V-Fay E. & Merlina Perkins
V-Robert M. & Olive Pierce

ATTENDEES CONVENTION 96—Continued:

V-James C. & Marcia Pippenger
V-Clem C. & Rose Plaskiewicz
V-Vincent C. & Carolyn Re
V-Vernon W. & Joan Rigsbee
V-Walter J. & Pat Robinson
V-Robert L., Robert L. Samuel Jr. and Robin Fillebrown
V-Morton R. & Marilyn Schecter
V-Louis J. & Lela Schiavo
V-Robert L., Harold, Pat & Ray Schy
V-John Fred & Marguerite Segalia
V-Robert S. & Margaret Seiler
V-Robert D. & Rosemary Sheehan and Helen Corcoran
V-James L. & Mirreta Sherrard
V-Albert J. & Charlotte Shower
V-Henry G. Simon
N-Neal E. & Patricia Sorenson
V-Ernest G. & Mary Sorrentino
V-Ronald D. & Dorothy Spencer

V-Robert C. Sprague
V-John E. (Jack) & Lucile Stevens
V-Robert M. Stone Jr.
V-Jack D. & Anne Stratton
W-Virginia (Jackie) Swearingen
V-John E. Thompson
V-Alexander S. Trainoff
V-Allan T. Tucci
A-Mary & Steve Upthank
V-John W. & Catherine Upp
V-Charles R. & Marjorie Wagner
A-W. Perry & Jill Ann Watts
V-Walter W. & Mary Weaver
V-Gene P. & Patricia Weslock
V-Arthur A. & Jean Wicks
A-Andrew J., Jaqueline & Thomas Wilkinson
V-Robert M. & Margaret Winger
V-Leo S. & Nadina Woodside
V-Joseph N. Zbikowski

**BEST WISHES FOR A
WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON
AND A
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

Celle and Phillip

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FORWARDING AND RETURN
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*Dear Andy and family,
I pray this finds each of you in
good health and of good cheer.
I have not improved much, right
leg still is a burden to drag around,
Lift over, etc. Takes a lot more
energy than what it used to.*

*I hope you have a merry
Christmas and Tom gets everything
he asked Santa for. We
hope to have two sons, three wives and four
grand children home.
Will write Andy when I get
Witchcraft⁴ Finished
Mission record*

Phillip