

VOLUME V

NUMBER II

JUNE 1983

MENDLESHAM MEMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H



DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE 34TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION:

Yes, it is that time again, for the newsletter to be sent out. Seems like yesterday that the March newsletter was sent out.

We hope all you wonderful people from the 34th B.G. in Cal, Miss, Ala, Texas, Col, and LA. and all the rest of the places, where the weather has been bad, are safe now. We kept thinking about all of you, when we heard the news, on TV, about the snow, rain, floods, wind and mud slides, which you were experiencing. Hope everything has cleared up by now.

The Tour to Mendlesham, for the dedication of our Memorial and the Tour of England, is shaping up, pretty well. I have received a list of those who will be going across with the Tour. There are 38 to date and several have said they would meet us at Ipswich and Mendlesham, for the dedication.

A meeting of a few of the Officers for the Ass'n, was held at Merriville Ind. to discuss the program, for the dedication of the Mendlesham Memorial. More about this in the President's message to the members.

For those who wish to join us at Mendlesham, for the dedication, we will be staying at the Post Hotel at Ipswich and at the Power Hotel in London. For those who wish to attend the banquet on Saturday night at Ipswich, you can purchase tickets, at the Hotel. Reservations should be made the day before if possible, to give the Caterer time to prepare extra. I have no idea as to the cost of the dinner, but it was estimated to be 12 pounds. It may change by the time we arrive. Glad it is not the same rate of exchange as it was when we were there.

We will meet the rest of the Tour in London and spend a couple of days before returning home. It will be a fast trip, not like the one, when we were all over there during the war. Then we did not know when we would be coming home.

Gerry Pine and I have decided to stay an extra 7 days in England before we return home. There are some things we wish to see that we did not see while we were there in the 40's.

I did not make the prereunion meeting at Houston this year. Bryant Grimes, who lives at Houston, was kind enough to fill my place. Thanks to you and your wife for the help Bryant. He has sent me a tape of the Oct reunion at Houston. Starts Oct 13th and lasts until Oct 16th. Sounds as if it will be a good reunion, with a lot of activities. The brochures should be with this letter. Please read carefully.

You will have the your choice of Hotels at Houston. 700 rooms have been reserved at the Hyatt Regency, 300 at the Sheraton and 300 at the Holiday Downtown, which is a couple of blocks from the main Hotel, Hyatt Regency. If you are planning on going to the reunion, get your reservation in early.

Our Rendezvous Room at the Hyatt, will open at 1:00 on Thursday and we will have it until Sat. evening. I do hope you will not let me and the 34th B.G. down, for again we are expected to be no. 1. We will have a lot of competition from the 7th Photo Group, as you may remember they were no. 2 last year, just a little behind us.

For those who arrive early, there will be a golf Tournament on Wed. For those who play golf, bring your clubs or rent some and join in the tournament. Wed night will be a Cocktail party for early arrivals, cash bar. Thursday night will be the aero Club Dance. Friday there will be tours of the Ellington AF Base, where the CAF will have some of the WW II planes on exhibition. (This is after a sit down breakfast at the Ballrooms of both Hotels) From here to the NASA for the Johnson Space Center Tour. Lunch will be served at the NASA Space Center. After the Tour the buses will return to the Hotels.

At 3:00 on Friday, the Units Business meeting will be conducted, not much time allocated, for this, so we must get the business meeting over with before time to have the Rendezvous Room cleaned up for the Rendezvous Banquet. At the business meeting, there will be an election of

a new Vice President and two members of the Board of Directors.

The speaker for the Rendezvous Banquet will be our own, Roy Tavasti. Of course you all remember Roy. He was the Commanding Officer of the 7th Sqd. and also the Operation Officer for the Group. Of all the Sqd C.Os. I have been asked about Roy more than any other one. So come on down to Houston and hear Roy.

On Sat morning, there will be a business meeting of the members of the 8th AFHS. In the afternoon, there will be a Symposium. To those who do not care to go to the Symposium, the afternoon will be free, to wander around Houston or to spend some time with your old crew members and rehash over old times.

Sat evening will be the 8th AF Banquet and dance. Music by Tex Beneke and his band. All of us remember and have danced to Tex Beneke back in the 40s and 50s, when we were a whole lot younger.

Sunday will be a Continental breakfast and time to say farewell once again to old freinds and promise to meet again at the next reunion.

I will remind you once again to read your brochures carefully, to understand all the activities and to pick out the Hotel you wish to stay at and above all send in your reservation form as quickly as possible.

Should you want to see part of Texas, come early and visit the CAF Air Show at Harlington Tx. Oct 9th and Oct 10th. Here is an opportunity to see one of the greatest assemblies of WW II aircrafts, at the CAF Base at Harlington Tx. For more details, write to C.A.F. P.O. BOX C.A.F Harlington Tx. 78551. If you plan to see the show and stay close by, it would be wise to write or call ahead for reservations.

Do not forget the CAF air show at the MT Comfort Air Field Mt Comfort Ind. June 25th and 26th. I will be there on Sat and possible Sunday.

I received a letter from Stanley Kowalczyk, from Emery Ralls crew. It seems, when the crew parted, they vowed to meet again in twenty years, but so far they have not done so. Now two of the crew have passed on, Emery Ralls and Harold Moran. He suggests that the remainder of the crew, have a reunion at Houston, in memory of those of the crew who are gone. How about it crew #41, 18th Sqd? Get your crew chief and ground crew interested.

Jim Hanson, Oscar Hanson's nephew, would like anyone having information or pictures of Oscar's plane to write to him. The aircraft was a B17, Serial # 43-38059, Call letter(M) Pilot Oscar T. Hanson. Plane went down Nov. 30, 1944, Mission to Mersburg Germany, only plane to be shot down on that mission. Hit over Halle, Germany, after bomb run. Hit on port wing and broke off after crew bailed out. Crew Chief Stephen Rutkowski (now deceased). Does any one know of the plane had a name? If you have any information to help Jim, please send it to him. 1142 4th Ave S.E. Rochester Mn. 55901.

Just received a letter from Marv Jalving, of Randall Martin's crew inviting me to a reunion of the crew at McGuire's Motor Lodge and Resort, Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac Mi. 49601. Sept 30th-Oct 2nd. Randall Martin has worked hard to bring his crew together and with him again at the controls, I am sure a good time will be had by all the crew. How about some of you who live close by, stop and say hello to the crew. Marv let me know how the reunion of your crew turns out. Maybe you can give us some pointers for the reunion of the 34th, which we hope to have some time next year. Sorry I can't be with you, this time.

Received several pictures from Jack Odom of his first crew and Tex Burrous. He asked me to find Tex. I did but too late. He stayed in service and was killed in '62 just before he was to retire. Jack I will return your pictures, soon.

Also received some pictures from Raymond S. Brown, who flew the B24, Shadrack. This was the B24 which Jack Terry was flying when he was shot down over Kiel. Your pictures will be returned shortly.

Also received some pictures from Leo Harrison, 18th Sqd Mech. Leo is a Dentist in Portsmouth N.H.

Burton Vrooman also sent me some pictures of the 4th Sqd. One was the 4th Engineering on the wings of a B24. Thanks a lot Burt. Your pictures will be returned soon.

I have received word, from Mrs Gerald Feit, saying that Gerald is very ill and is not expected to recover. You can send him a card at his home address. 510 Cerro De Ortego, S.E. Correlis Hghts Rio Rancho N.M. 87124. We do hope he can recover.

We did get to Washington D.C. this spring to see my sister. We met Henry and Ruth Jurgens at the Waterfront in Baltimore and lunch with them at Hausner's restaurant in Baltimore. We had a real nice time visiting with Ruth and Henry, while we were there. If you are around Baltimore, stop and have lunch and dinner at Hausner's as it is one nice place.

Called quite a few of you while we were in Baltimore and found most of you were not home. Sorry we missed you but we will be back one of these days.

Same thing happened in Washington, for we did not find many at home. I could not let you

know the exact time we were coming. We were delayed a couple of days, due to a death in the family. I did talk to Father Scannel, who was our Catholic Chaplain at Mendlesham, He took Father Monahan's place, when father Monahan came back to the states. He said to tell all of you hello and that he is still alive.

From here we went to the Carolina Coast, thinking that I could get in some fishing. It was no use as the weather had turned cold and the fish had not come into shore as yet. From here we went back to Va Beach and had dinner with "Pete" Gray and discussed the trip back to Mendlesham. "Pete" said he had been wanting to go back to Mendlesham for some time and now was the opportunity to do so. Glad you are going with us "Pete". He is going to bunk with one of his former Pilots, Randall Martin while on the Tour. After dinner, we were joined at the Motel by Clyde Sawyer, Pilot from the 18th Sqd., Clyde, believe it or not, when I arrived home I had some pictures in the mail of you and your, Pilot William Hatley. It was nice talking to you both and seeing you again. Clyde and "Pete" had gone to the same school when they were younger and each one did not know they had been in the same B.G. until "Pete" called Clyde one day.

From here we stopped in Richmond to see Junius and Ginny Cobb at their Meadowbrook Resturant. in Richmnod. I had called Junius, sometime before and told him we were stopping by on Friday. He notified several of the 34th B.G. men, who live in Richmond, that we were coming. Those of you who did not make it, missed a real good time. Tom and Virginia Snelling, Don and Francis Wimer, Irving and Betty Hardy, Hannah and myself and Junius and Ginny Cobb. We were still discussing the 34th B.G. and reliving old incidents, which happened, when we were in the 34th, when midnite came and we had to leave. Junius brought out a chocolate pie and said he would make some coffee, if we would stay longer. We did resist the temptation and finally said good by and left for the Motel. The pie looked good, Junius, we will take a rain check on it for another time.

Next morning it was foggy and raining, but go towards home, we must. It was raining so hard when we went thru Charleston and Huntington W. Va. that we could not see, where to pull off the road. I had wanted to stop and call some of you in those cities but did not get too. I was afraid to pull off, afraid of getting hit. I had seen one bad crash on the Interstate, just as we came into Charleston. We will stop the next time we are thru and call you.

I want to thank each of you who ordered jackets, sorry some of the jackets had to be sent back due to sizes also sorry about the delay in getting them out to you. Due to the increase in price by the vendor, we will no longer take orders for the jackets. The cost will be too high for us to make any money on the sale. I want to thank Dana Schrupp and Grady Deatherage for doing the leg work for us.

During the B.O.D. meeting last Oct at Cincinnati, the idea for a Memorial at the A.F. Academy was discussed but was tabled, at the time, as we had no idea as to how much the Memorial at Mendlesham would cost the Group. We have paid for the Memorial at Dayton and at Mendlesham, with enough money, left over, to pay the upkeep of the Mendlesham Memorial for sometime and due to the money from the jacket sale, the B.O.D have decided to go ahead with the Memorial at the AF Academy in Colorado. Dana Schrupp, is looking after this and has been given the go ahead to have the Memorial Plate made and placed on the Memorial Wall at the Academy. The Memorial Committee from the Academy has approved the rubbing on the final plate and as soon as the plate is done, Dana will have it installed on the Memorial Wall.

If you should be writing or talking to Roy Jones, Ask him about deer hunting in his new car, How much did you say it cost you to have the car fixed? Glad you did not get hurt, Roy. Ask Jim Schutt, of Holland Mi, what the girl from Ipswich England, who works in Holland, Mi. calls him, when he walks in the restaurant, where she works.

Doug Underwood, would like for any of you, who might have papers, from your service days, that you do not want and do not know what to do with, to send them to him, as he is putting together a history of the 34th B.G. and can use them. When he is thru with them he will give them to the Archives at Maxwell Field Ala, to be used for further study about the Group. Let him know if you want them returned, please identify all you send with your name and address.

I am trying to write a little something, about Blythe Ca., for our newsletter. I need your help to do this. Write me a letter about your experiences with the 34th B.G. at Blythe Ca. Make it interesting, make it funny if you want to. Remember there were quite a few, who were not with us at Blythe and did not know the WONDERS of the place. Such things as: The heat, the scorpions, rattlesnakes, chasing jackrabbits with a cletrack and jeep. The swimming pool, which opened just before we left, which many of us did not get to use after we had worked on it.

Can you remember what Blythe Ca. was called. NO NOT THAT, FOR I CAN NOT PRINT THAT KIND OF

LANGUAGE IN THE NEWSLETTER. It was called "THE WORLD'S HEALTHIEST AIR BASE" Do any of you know the name of the newspaper on the Base? I will have the answer in the next newsletter. See if you can guess.

Did you know one Pilot, when he lost all four engines on a B24, flew the plane 45 miles and landed at the Base at Blythe? This is in the 34th B.G. records.

I now have one letter about the Blythe AB. from Irving Levy, 18th Sqd Crew Chief. It goes like this:

At first we tried working during the day light hours, which proved pretty futile. We kept our needed tools in a bucket of gasoline, so we could pick them up and not burn our hands. To get upon the wing, to gas up a B24, we hoisted ourselves up thru the cockpit hatch, with our arms. This proved painful, unless our sleeves were rolled down, to protect our arms from the heat of the metal. We gassed the planes, hopping from one foot to the other, as the heat from the metal wing penetrated thru the soles of our shoes. It helped to alternate the feet. Very ungraceful way to dance Ha.

We did the heavy maintenance, at night, which involved putt putts and glaring lights, to see inside the engine nacelles. (temp never under 100 degrees at night and often reaching 170 degrees during the day on the runways).

The barracks had no insulation and a very low roof, which made sleeping unbearable during the day. The days of intense heat and no sleep did a lot of things to the men on the line. Believe it or not. I found men asleep, with their head in the engine nacelle, with tools in their hands. One man fell asleep on the wing of a B24 and woke up on the cement ramp and did not know how he got there. (This is the truth, no kidding.) We were allowed to sleep in the Base theater, which was air conditioned but we slept on an unpadded 12" bench. There was just enough room to sleep on ones side.

You were so exhausted, you slept for a few hours but got up with aching bones and a dizzy head. If you worked days and slept nights, you moved your cot outside, which was not too bad in the early morning hours. We made sure to shake our shoes before putting them on for the scorpion, a native of the desert, had a way of crawling into our shoes.

The big day arrived: They "Air Conditioned" our barracks. One unit at each end of the barracks. Each unit consisted of a box full of excelsior and a hose to let running water wet the excelsior with a fan blowing air thru the wet excelsior. A help but the men at each end of the barracks, had perpetual colds and the men in the center still suffered from the heat. Plenty of the men went to the Base Hospital suffering from the heat.

We were issued salt pills to take, due to the loss of salt in our bodies. Our coveralls would turn white from the moisture from our bodies, never wet from perspiration, for the air dried it as we perspired. I can remember the great amount of water we consumed, not only to drink but to splash on our head and bodies. We drank so much water that at times it slushed around in our stomach, when we walked. There was always a lister bag filled with water, ice and cut up lemons. This was filled several times a day.

The Group moved to Salinas, for a time. It was cooler here and we enjoyed it very much. But back to Blythe we went and into the heat. Salinas was good but the weather was treacherous, with fog about 4 oclock every day. Our runways at Blythe were nearly finished and a B24 could land on them and not roll up the runway on the wheels.

The Air Base at Blythe had a higher temperature than the City as the Base sat on a higher elevation than the city. Also the Colorado River ran within a couple of miles of the City.

Any way, we did survive the "WORLD'S HEALTHIEST AIR BASE" and it was a great experience.

Thanks Irving for your comments about Blythe Ca. Air Base.

To those who sent the names and S/N of your B24s to John Beitling of 5215 E 24th St Kansas City Mo. 64127, we say thanks. To those who haven't, and you can remember the S/N and name of your plane, please do so, He is compiling a record of the planes. He has sent me a copy of those he has received

the 36th annual National Convention of AMERICAN EX-POWS INC, will be held in Cleveland Ohio July 20-21-22 1983. Hosts will be the Barbedwire Buckeyes. Hdq will be at the Stouffers Inn on the Square. Contact: AMERICAN EX POWS 1983 CONVENTION P.O. BOX 34983 CLEVELAND OHIO 44134.

The name of the book written by LeRoy Newby of Webster City Iowa, has been changed to "TARGET POLESTI, VIEW FROM A BOMB DIGHT" It was GREEN FIRES OVER POLESTI.

A little more about our Hospitality Room at the reunion. If you bring your own liquor and we want you to do so, please be discreet about it and do not make a public display, with it. If you want to, you might bring a bottle for use at our bar in the Hospitality Room. It would be welcome.

After the meeting, which your president, tells about in his message to you, Wanda and Gerry Pine came down to Anderson, to help with the newsletter. Tho the newsletter was not ready, I kept them busy for a couple of days, helping me with the records and getting the addresses corrected for the computer. Thanks a lot for your help. Wish some more of you would drop by when the newsletter is ready to send out.

Look at your address label and be sure the right address is on it. If not, send me a correction. You know how hard it is to get a correction, once it is on a computer. It cost .25¢ to get the letter returned and an extra amount to send it back out.

Do not forget to put a notice in your newspaper about the 34th B.G. reunion, at Houston Tx. Oct 13th thru Oct 16th.

Now I will leave you with this thought: If I had my life to live over, I'd probably still make the same mistakes but I would start earlier.

Hope to see you all in England in July and Houston in Oct.

CHEERS

Ray L Summa

UNIT CONTACT #5TH B.G. ASS'N

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A meeting was held at Day's Inn on 12-13-14- May 1933 at Merriville, In.

The following were present:

Robert H. Wright	Pres.
Gerald Pine	Vice Pres.
Ray Summa	Contact
Ralph Bush	Board Member
Ralph Applegate	Member
William Oneschack	Member

The discussion was primarily concerned with plans for the re-dedication of the new Memorial at Mendlesham and with various program activities and events. The Houston Reunion 13-16 Oct. 83 was also discussed at length as well as our own 34th B.G. Reunion to be held in '84'. Many locations were suggested with the most popular being St. Louis, Mo., Nashville, Tenn., Dayton, Ohio. Of course this will come under new business at the 34th B.G. Reunion in Oct. at Houston.

Friday evening we attended the Holiday Star Theatre and a good time was had by all.

Meeting adjourned Sat. A.M. 14 May 83.

See you in England in July and Houston in Oct. 83.

Robert H. Wright

Robert H. Wright
Pres. 34th B. G. Ass'n.

Harrison, Leo G. 18
233 Middle St.
Portsmouth N.H. 03801

Vrooman, Burton 4
Rd 1 Box 273 A
Cobleskill N.Y. 12043

Baker John 4
Cardinal Rd.
Wall Kill Park Box 35
Hyde Park N.Y. 12538

Stafinaik John 4
142 High St
Coaldale Pa 18219

Braeger Robert
Braeger Chevrolet
4100 S 27
Milwaukee. Wi 53221

Lundeen, Ralph
2630 W River Rd.
Minneapolis Mn. 55430

Hopkins Harold
4777 So Hudson Place
Tulsa Okla. 74135

TAPS

Clarence Markham
Franklin Hillegas Avilla Ind.
Summer Gordon. Newton Ma.
Irvin "TEX" Burrous Lufkin Tx.
Harold Moran,

James Byers to Box 252
Donald Shee Z.C. to 60516
Mrs Andrew Blair to 10525 Alara Dr Roswell Ga 30075
Warren Love to Box 1673 Omak Wa.
Edgar Geoghagen to 14346 Hiway 410 Naches Wa 98497
H. E Richards Z.C. to 33033
Sidney Lovitt to 14 Black Creek Lane
John Coscia Riviera Beach Fla.
Joaquin Fernandes Z.C. 94545 Estori Place
Herb Janke 2401 N.E. 24th St
Change Spelling of Olszewski to Olszewski
Gene Bouline to P.O. Box 447 Calvert Tx 77837
Change George Hall to Rall Howartn Rd. Spgfield Pa.
McColl, Roderick to 154 Wallingford

34th B.G. LOST and FOUND. JUNE 1983

Rowe, Robert
742 Eastview
Greensburg Pa. 15601

VanBuskirk, William V.
P.O. Box 1287
Lichfield Park Az. 85340

Seamons Jackson Jones
10974 Connecticut Ave
Sun City Az. 85351

Bass, Rubin
58 The Hemlocks
Roslyn Estates N.Y. 11577

Colton, Ivan Dr.
1333 E Loren
Springfield Mo 65804.

Thummel Grant
2401 E 45th St
Lake Oswego Or. 97034

Plank Don
8115 No Woodlawn
Picqua Ohio 45356

Baccus John J.
1109 6th Ave No
Great Falls Mt. 59401

Fulmer George 18
1543 Woodlawn Ave
Franklin Pa. 16323

Dunn, James A.
844 Corbett Dr
Pittsburgh Pa. 15234

Golding, Robert
1433 Dublin Rd.
Darlington Md. 21034

Oravec William J.
403 No Dale Ave
Mt Prospect Ill 60056

Willis Clyde W.
Box 4 Rte 12
Carrolton Mo. 54633

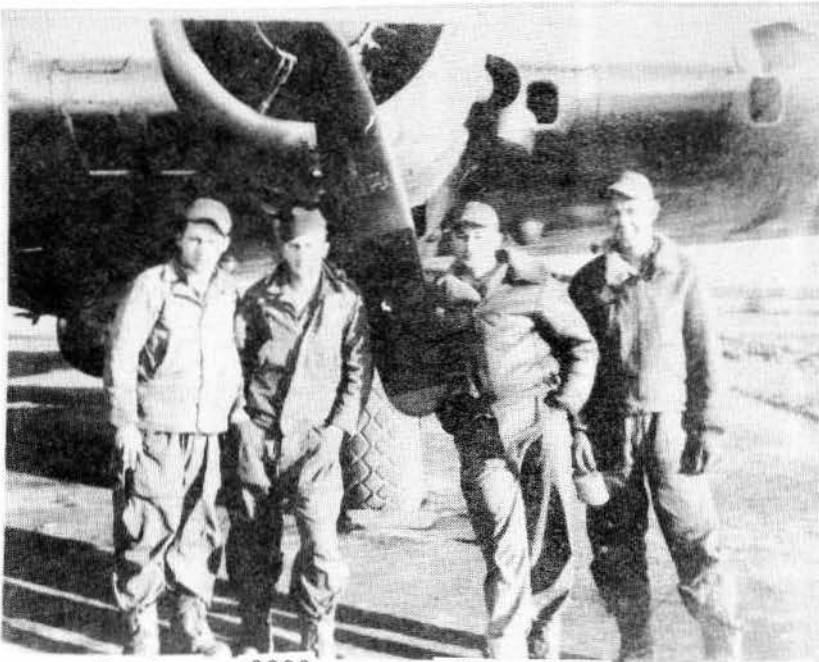
Cheary, William W.
296 Arlberg Rq.
Hickman Ca. 95325

Address Changes and Corrections.

BAF FRIENDSHIP HOLIDAY '83 Members going on English Tour

PAGE 1

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME(S)	STREET	CITY/STATE/ZIP	UNIT
ANDERSON	KEITH	3327 WORK RD	RAVENNA, OH 44266	34
BAER	ROBERT	253 S 25TH ST.	TERRE HAUTE, IN 47803	34
BALDEA	ELI & ROSE	1595 SUNNYSLOPE DR.	CROWN POINT, IN 46307	34
BOWDEN	JASON	C/O 2614-23 1/2 AVE	ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201	346-9
BROOKS	THE REVEREND FREDERICK	2614-23 1/2 AVE	ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201	34
BUCKLEY	BEN & MARY	951 SECOND ST. N	WISC. RAPIDS, WI 54494	34
BUSS	PAUL & MARY	RT 2	OLNEY, IL 62450	34
CREER	WILLIAM & VIVIANNE	2619 BURTON AVE	LAS VEGAS, NV 89102	34
DICKMANN	JEROME	5531 CANDIELAND LA.	SRAFTON, WI 53024	34
FELKER	WALTER	4329 N LK ORLANDO PKWY	ORLANDO, FL 32804	34
GRAY	WILLIAM (PETE)	5601 SEDGEMOOR RD	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23455	34
JENNINGS	BILL & CAROL	4419 N 19TH DR.	PHOENIX, AZ 85015	34
KENNEY	WILLIAM	105-00 SHORE FRONT PKWY	ROCKAWAY BCH, NY 11694	34
LAWLER	EDWARD	45 TWIN PINES DR	BROOKLYN, NY 11239	34
LYONS	JOHN & LA VONNE	9008 CAVELL CIRCLE	BLOOMINGTON, MN 55438	34
MARTIN	RANDALL	19 INDEPENDENCE LANE	HINGHAM, MA 02043	34
MERCURIS	ALISON	C/O 45 TWIN PINES DR	BROOKLYN, NY 11239	34
PETERMAN	CLARENCE	7 TALL PINE LANE	MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29577	34
PINE	GERALD	5414 HWY 12 RT 1	WAUKESHA, WI 53597	34
PROVINCE	HAL & JAN	BOX 598 LIBERTY DRIVE	SLIDELL, LA 70458	34
RUTKA	HAROLD & GENEVIEVE	11 EAST ARTAVIA ST	DULUTH, MN 55811	34
SCHONTHALER	KAL & EVELYN	1339 EAST 30TH ST.	ERIE, PA 16504	34
SMITH	CHARLES & CARRIE	2854 YORK ST	PONTIAC, MI 48057	34
SOTHERN	BRUCE	3354 ULYSSES ST. NE	MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418	34
SUMMA	RAY	2910 BITTERSWEET LANE	ANDERSON, IN 46011	34
WRIGHT	NOBLE 'DOC' & DORIS	2650 FISK RD	MONTGOMERY, AL 36111	34



J Odom ???? T Burrous, F.A. BRISTOW



Robert Patterson



K. Anderson's Burning Fuel
Truck



Tex Burrous



This is an 18th Sqd Crew
Can you name them?

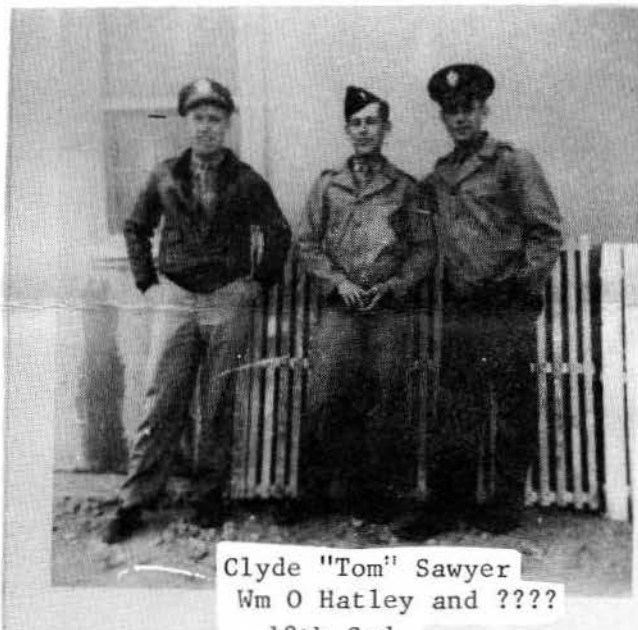
Sam Laskin, 18th Sqd
Brought this one in



Battle damage resulted in this brand new 34th BG aircraft being written off at Manston, 14 Jun. 1944.—(USAF)



Roy Tavasti Ira S Coles???



Clyde "Tom" Sawyer
Wm O Hatley and ????
18th Sqd



THE SHADRACH AND ITS CREW

(Front row, left to right) S/Sgt. Joseph C. Mathews, Springdale, Me., nose gunner; S/Sgt. Edwin N. Moyer, Downey, Calif., top turret gunner; S/Sgt. James W. Higginson, Beardstown, Ill., tail gunner; S/Sgt. Wayne C. Garman, Sterling, Ill., ball turret gunner; T/Sgt. Eugene J. Tanking, Kenosha, Wis., radio operator-gunner; (rear row, sitting) 2nd Lt. William H. Garretson, Washington, Pa., co-pilot; and T/Sgt. Kenneth H. Revander, San Francisco, Calif., engineer-gunner; (rear row, standing) Lt. Brown; 2nd Lt. Jean P. Boulane, Houston, Texas, navigator; and 2nd Lt. William G. Ingram, Jr., Summit, N. J., bombardier.

THE UPPER ROOM HELPS TO INSTILL COURAGE

"Shadrach" is the name of a B-24 Liberator, belonging to the Eighth AAF heavy bombardment base, "somewhere in England."

An interesting story of this bomber has recently been released by the Public Relations Office at headquarters of the United States Air Forces in Europe, as follows:

"Before the long flight overseas to take part in the Eighth Air Forces aerial offensive against the Nazi war machine, the crew of a B-24 Liberator sought a name for their bomber. At that time the pilot, 2nd Lieutenant Raymond S. Brown, of Phillipsburg, N. J., read in a little book called *The Upper Room* a quotation taken from the Book of Daniel: 'Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst

of the fire, and they have no hurt.' The next day he read to his crew the Biblical story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who were thrown into the fiery furnace by the Babylonian dictator, Nebuchadnezzar, because they refused to worship the golden image which the king had set up, but so great was their faith that they were unharmed by the flames.

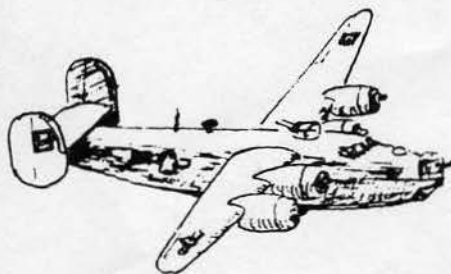
"The crew then decided to name their Liberator 'Shadrach' and painted the verse from Daniel on their fuselage, changing the 'four' men to 'ten,' the number of a bomber crew, and the word 'walking' to 'flying.'

"Thus, filled with faith and courage, they went out to combat with confidence in God in their hearts, just as the three young Hebrews faced the fiery furnace."



18th Sqd B17 crash near Mendlesham

34TH BOMB GROUP



34th BOMB GROUP ASSN
c/o RAY L. SUMMA
2910 BITTERSWEET LANE
ANDERSON, IN 46011

NON PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Anderson, Indiana
PERMIT NO. 1547

From the collection of:
Joseph K Marks
Pilot, 4th Sq., Crew No. 12, April - Aug 1944

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED