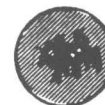


MENDLESHAM MEMORIES

34TH BOMB GROUP H

4



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391

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George Ritchie (919) 393-8806
Sam Baglio (717) 654-0205

❀ ❀ OBSERVATIONS ❀ ❀

Joy to the world!! Spring has come with all those goodies that follow. I've begun my gardening and am already dreaming of reaping the fruits of my labors.

Our friends from Mendlesham, Fred and Margaret Maundrell have visited with us for two weeks and it was a very pleasant experience. It was most interesting comparing our individual lives; you know, the small things that occur in everyday life as it is lived in the two countries.

We spent a week in Florida, visiting with Walt and Ruby McAllister, saw Disney World's Magic Kingdom and Epcot Center. We also visited NASA's Cape Kennedy and spent some time with our three kids in Orlando and Palm Bay. We finished that trip with a couple of days at our condo on the Gulf of Mexico near Clearwater. A fine time was had by all!

And now to matters of importance to the 34th B.G. First of all, our publishers are looking for a suitable name for our new 34th Bomb Group Book. Bring any of your ideas with you to the reunion or, if you can't attend, mail it to Walt McAllister, 4063 Summerwood Ave., Orlando, FL. 32806. Also, many of you have a winter hideaway where you spend those months away from your permanent address. We are receiving far too many returns of our December and March issues marked "Temporarily Away." Our mailing permit does not include forwarding. All we can expect from the Postal Service is an address correction and, even then, we often don't get one. Please, if you have a winter address, get it to me. We have two sets of mailing labels, one for the June and September issues and one for the December and March issues. We'd like to make sure that you get your copy of Mendlesham Memories but, if we can't find you, that may be impossible. I repeat, if all of you with temporary winter addresses would please notify us, we can try to make sure you get your newsletter.

Again, with this issue, you will find reservation forms for the activities at our reunion in King of Prussia, PA. in September. Unfortunately, in the last issue, our printer put mail-in forms back-to-back and you could use either one or the other, but not

both. We've corrected that problem with this issue. Also, by now, you have received a separate mailing from our reunion committee which clarifies some of the misunderstandings that were in the last mailing. Keep in mind that we will have the election of officers at the reunion. We're hoping to see and meet all of you there. You'll have a ball!



Ray Summa...

This has been a very eventful spring for us. Herb and Anne Hall from Scotville, MI. visited us one day in April. We talked about old times with the 34th B.G. in England. We attended the Indiana chapter of the 8th AF Historical Society meeting at Bloomington, IN. one Sunday and met Dale and Marge Finley from Carothersville, IN. We had a real nice visit with them and enjoyed the dinner and meeting afterwards. More of you from Indiana should come to the meeting next fall. I will send you the date.

I wish to make a report at this time. We have 631 paid members for the year 1987 plus 50 paid for 1988. Several have paid their 1989 dues. There are now 49 Life Members. Quite a few names will be eliminated from the mailing list this time for failure to pay their 1987 dues. Remember this, your 1987 dues must be paid in order for you to attend the reunion. PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

We had a fun day at Union Station in Indianapolis, IN. with Rose and Eli Baldea. While Eli and I sat and people-watched and talked about the 34th B.G. newsletter, the gals took in all the shops. How was the fudge, Rose?

Hannah and our daughter held a garage sale and I was afraid to leave the house lest they sell off all my fishing gear and clothes. Didn't have to worry, though, as no one seemed to want my old clothes. Anyway, we did get the attic cleaned out.

Then, in May, we took off for our favorite playground, Atlantic

(Continued on page 2)

From the Hangar of Ray L. Summa

(Continued from page 1)

Beach, N.C. Dex and Beulah Jordan had told us to advise them of any impending visit and they would set up a meeting of 34th people in the surrounding area. Dex really knows how to set up a party. We had 14 people at the meeting in the Hampton Inn at Charlotte, with everyone telling his version of the Big Flight and events of the 34th when we were together at Blythe and Mendlesham. Attendees were Dex and Beulah Jordan of Hunterville, N.C., Al Giardini of Ft. Mills, S.C., Bob and Liz Campbell of Florence, S.C., John and Helen Wolf of Southern Pine, N.C., Ken and Eileen Anderson of Greensboro, N.C., Fred Simmons of Ashville, N.C., Pete Gray of Virginia Beach, VA., Graem Yates of Charlotte, NC. and Ray and Hannah Summa of Anderson, IN.

We had been invited, by Lt. Carroll of the Base Public Affairs Office, to visit Pope A.F. Base at Fayetteville, N.C., and we did after leaving Charlotte. He told us this was a great week at Pope because the International Air Rodeo had been going on all week and we were in time to view the presentation of the trophies at ceremonies that afternoon. This is an annual affair at Pope with teams from MAC bases all over the world competing. The rodeo consists of supply dropping, precision flying and dropping of airborne troops. We were directed to the grandstand where the Bob Hope Birthday show had been taped the previous Sunday. We didn't get to see the show live, but we did on TV. We sat among all the officers from countries with teams participating. Wherever I looked there were stars and bars; 4-star generals down to One-star generals and on down to lieutenants all around us. I've never seen so much brass at one time unless it was at the Pentagon. The West German team took the Grand Trophy but don't fret, guys, they were trained by our men.

At Atlantic Beach, someone must have told the fish I was coming and they disappeared. All I got were sharks and skates,



Ed Hiltner, England, 1944



Ground crew of J. C. Smith's aircraft. 1944

and plenty of them. Anyway, the peacefulness of the beach and ocean were worth the trip.

We had a fun day visiting with George and June Ritchie at their place near Bogue Sound just off the ocean. Kivett Ivey, one of George's original crew members and his wife, Lucille, came down from Goldsboro to visit while we were there. You can just imagine the stories that were told. I had hoped George had tied some fish up to his dock, but again, no luck for me. He had set his crab traps and had several crabs in them when we arrived. We ate crab for dinner that night and really enjoyed the visit with George and June and Kivett and Lucille.

On the way up I-95, the traffic was bumper to bumper with cars heading towards the events honoring our fallen men from all wars at Washington, DC. About 20 miles north of Richmond, VA. we decided not to fight the traffic anymore and turned west on I-64 towards home. It's great to be back but, oh, the letters! I am still trying to answer them as I'm writing this.

Our oldest grandson's graduation is this June and it reminds us of long ago for my Class of "32" 55th reunion will be held this July. Enough of this. Please make an effort to attend the reunion at King of Prussia, PA. on Sept. 10th to 13th. Also get those photos and stories in for our new book. SEE YOU ALL IN KING OF PRUSSIA IN SEPTEMBER.

Don't Forget Your Dues

Mail \$7.50 to:
Ray Summa
2910 Bittersweet Lane
Anderson, IN. 46011

News from Here and There:

We have received information regarding availability of Military Ceramics including cups, dishes, ash trays, plaques, etc. which can be obtained. Anybody interested can write for a catalogue to:

MILITARY SUPPLY COMPANY
P.O. Box 286
Gainesville, Florida 32601

* * *

In our September issue we related news as to locating a friend. Vince Doran has advised us that it was not quite right. His method follows:

1. Send a check in the amount of \$3.50 made out to AFO, Randolph AFB, Texas.
2. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope for their reply.
3. Write a letter to the person you are looking for, enclosed in a second stamped, un-addressed envelope.
4. Send all the information you have about the person you are looking for: full and correct name, rank or grade, service number, social security number, etc. (for Air Force personnel only)
5. Mail all this to:
AFMPC/DPM003
9504 IH 35 NORTH
SAN ANTONIO, TX. 78233-6636

* * *

We are in receipt of a letter advertising a new book. It is called "IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES," the story of an American Army Chaplain in World War II German prisoner-of-war camps, 112 pages, soft cover, with pictures. If interested, send \$5.00 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling to:

Eugene L. Daniel Jr.
5311 Robinhood Road
Charlotte, N.C. 28211

* * *

Frankie L. Champion writes that he flew two missions without receiving credit for them. He flew as a replacement ball turret gunner with two crews of the 4th Squadron. He remembers the missions but not the names of the crews he flew with. The missions were:

Aug. 3, 1944, Marshalling Yards at Brussels, Belgium.

Aug. 5, 1944, Airfield at Halberstadt, Germany.

Anyone who can provide information as to the crews he flew with is asked to write him at:

Frankie L. Champion
Rt. 3, Box 47
Morton, MS. 39117

* * *

There are now available many video tapes of World War II. If you are interested please write for a descriptive brochure and price list to:

Mike Weber
30 Sunny Hill Ln.
Dry Ridge, KY. 41035



ROSE'S CORNER

Due to the fact that Eli and I did not go to England this year, our British friends, Freddie and Margaret Maundrell, came to visit us and we were delighted!

Five years ago, during our stop in Mendlesham, we, along with Bill and Viv Creer, walked up to a big tudor-styled house, knocked on the door and asked if we may see the inside of a typical English home. This lovely lady said "Yes" and that was the beginning of a friendship which is unique. Many letters were written and we had another visit just two years ago during the 34th reunion there.

Last year Freddie retired and they sold Weald House, the home we visited. He and Margaret decided that now was the time to make that trip of a lifetime. I had mentioned that they couldn't die before they visited Disney World's Magic Kingdom and Epcot Center, as well as NASA's facilities, so we all flew to Florida where our host and hostess, with the mostest, Walt and Ruby McAllister, showed us how to get around with the least waiting in line. The Maundrells were really impressed with the efficient way we handle crowds here in the U.S. Of course, Disney is tops in the field. So after a week in Florida, we returned to Indiana where we rested for a few days and then, reluctantly, bid them farewell until our next trip with the 34th to England. It was a great "wonderment" (Freddie's favorite word) for them and us!

We're waiting with great anticipation to see you all at the reunion in Pennsylvania.



Jim Troup & Herbert Hall, England 1944



WALTER STURDIVAN — Stockton, CA.

Just received the M.M. today and have already read it from cover to cover. While glancing through it the first time, it was with gratification I came across my picture with the "Monkey Suit" on. I don't know what happened to those heavy sheep-lined suits after we got to Mendlesham because we were issued heated suits. Perhaps some of the ground crew members could tell me. I think they know what it was like to wear "fur." I did keep my boots and wore them on missions.

* * *

CLAUDE H. GIBBS — Catawissa, MO.

In my opinion, the Mendlesham Memories far surpasses any other organization's publication that I have seen. It is a joy to read.

Ed. Note: This is nice to hear. We just had to crow a little.

* * *

MILDRED R. GRIFFITH — Lansford, PA.

It is with a very sad heart that I get this letter off to you. I lost my dear husband, John G. Griffith. We had 39 good years of marriage although he was ill since he was in his early thirties. He died March 20th in Chester, PA. at the age of 61.

* * *

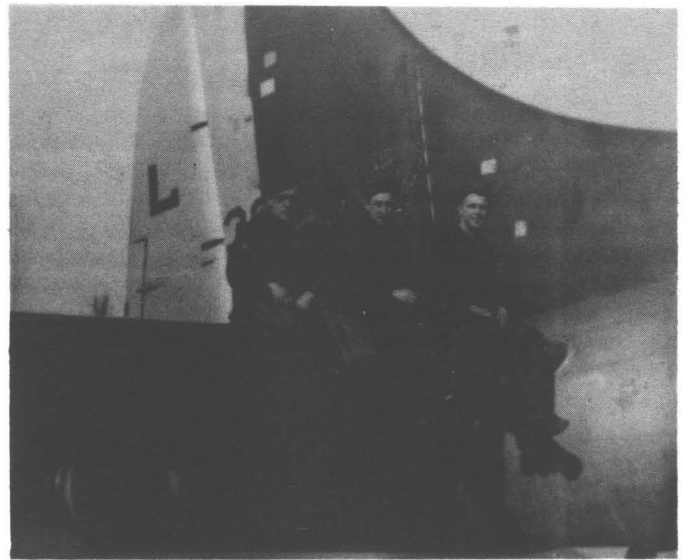
BETTY R. MOORE — Maiden, NC.

My husband, Benjamin D. Moore, passed away July 3rd, 1986. He was buried with military honors at his hometown, Greenville, NC.

* * *



Walter Sturdivan at Blythe, Calif.



King, Sothern & Simpson on Rear Stabilizer

FRANKIE L. CHAMPION — Morton, MS.

I remember one night at Mendlesham that was a madhouse. There were enemy fighters in the area and all the air fields closed down. They cut off the lights and told us to "get the hell out of here!" We wound up on the other side of England at some RAF base that opened up for us. There were about 18 planes landed there that night, some B-24's and B-17's. All of us were just about out of fuel. I never did find out who the enemy hit that night but it wasn't us.

If anyone knows of a photo of our old B-24 at Blythe by the name of 'Blue Goose,' I would sure like to have a copy of it. It was the first B-24 I had ever flown in.

* * *

CAROL (LLOYD) ELLIOTT — Oklahoma City, OK.

Last April, the "Flying Dutchman" crew got together at our house for their first reunion. Lloyd Elliott, Ervin Hankin and Reid McCloskey. The original crew was shot down over Kiel in January, 1945. Pilot Clair Zarfoss, bombardier Reid McCloskey and tail gunner, Lloyd Elliott were not with the crew that day, neither did they fly the "Flying Dutchman." Ervin Hankin and Clayton Irwin were the only two to bail out. In Lloyd's and my travels we have visited either all of the survivors or their mothers. Clayton Irwin passed away in 1970 and Clair Zarfoss in 1979. While at the Maddingly American Cemetery, I found the name of the pilot that fateful day, Jacob Raver, buried at Arnhem. Also, at St. Pauls Cathedral, I found the name of Johnny Singer who also went down that day.

* * *

RALPH BRUNE — No. Myrtle Beach, SC.

On receiving the latest Mendlesham Memories, I was very pleasantly surprised to see a picture of my old airplane in it. I was sure glad you didn't cut me off for non-payment of dues. The plane was Dynamite-N-Dodo and I sure loved seeing it again. I was wondering who sent in the picture. Just can't remember who the flight crew on it was.

Would sure like to compliment and thank Ray and Eli for the great job they do on the association's work and the newsletter. Keep up the good work.

(Continued on page 5)

Notes From Our Friends

(Continued from page 4)

CLARENCE SQUIRES — Cainsville, MO.

I'm getting so I get my feet tangled up every once in a while. Fell and broke my left wrist in November with a sack of groceries in my arms. Still not able to use it much.

Last fall we had, as visitors, Steve and Emily Bialas and, in January, Lester Thompson stayed with us for about 3 hours. Sure wish I could get out on the road, but I just don't feel like it anymore.

Tell Junius Cobb and Hank Jergens "Hello!" for me. I'm going to look up Wes Franklin at the V.A. Hospital in Des Moines if I ever get there.

* * *

RALPH HARTMAN — Ballston Lake, NY.

My last letter (2 years ago) was to advise you of the loss of my right leg (below the knee) from a blood clot. Today I'm teaching handicap skiing — which says it all!!

* * *

WILLIAM J. DONLON — Pineland, FL.

The news letter arrived as usual and it contained good reading again. I look forward to its coming and read every word. Those of you who make this possible are to be thanked time and time again.

As you have already noted, I have moved to Florida: Pine Island, which is close to Ft. Myers. We have built a home on the golf course, just a block and a half from the marina. I bought a small boat and spend time on the water fishing the sound when I'm not on the golf course. Tough decisions to make every day. Do I go fishing today or do I play golf? Some days it's just too much and I either sit in the shade and read or go for a swim. It's a great life. One of the best decisions I ever made, retiring. For the first time in over 40 years I have the time to do the things I enjoy without feeling guilty, or failing to do something I should be doing.

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE WAR



From: VINCE DORAN, Anchorage, AK.

There were no sanitary facilities built into the B-17. You might think that was a pretty harmless omission, particularly when our missions to Germany lasted from six to ten hours. But since Boeing had also left space heat out of the plane, a system would have frozen and busted anyway. At the altitudes we flew, it was always at least fifty degrees below zero.

So we had to come up with our own solution to the problem. It was not practical to dehydrate yourself; you would become weak. We settled for empty hydraulic fluid gallon cans. Urinating was the concern. The Germans kept scaring it out of us.

It became the engineer's added duty to hand the can to the pilots on request. This did not appeal to him at all. He said "It is downright humiliating and beneath my dignity!" We agreed with him and sympathized, but he had a longer oxygen hose than we had which gave him more mobility. He grumbled, but we couldn't think of any other way. It was embarrassing for us, too, to have to be exposed like that. Besides, we were the ones likely to get frostbite, or stuck to the neck of the can. War has many hazards!

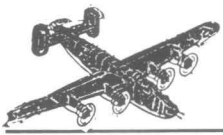
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In March, 1945, exalted headquarters could see that the war in Europe would soon end. They sent instructions down to the Groups to interview the troops and make recommendations as to who should be invited into the Air Corps for post-war careers.

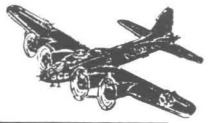
At Mendelsham, the squadron commanders conducted the personal interviews. When it came to my turn to be queried, I hauled myself up into a position of rigid attention (30 mission version) and responded manfully in my quavering tenor to Bucky Freeman, "Sir, I am a temporarily displaced civilian." He withered me with his famous pitying stare and barked, "Get out of here!" I am almost sure he reported I was not suitable career material.



Standing L.-R.-Jim Kenny, George Muellerschoen, Bill Gombos, Conley Ferguson.
Kneeling L.-R.-James Beugler, Ray Snow, Roy Smith, ? Johnson, Ernie Waite



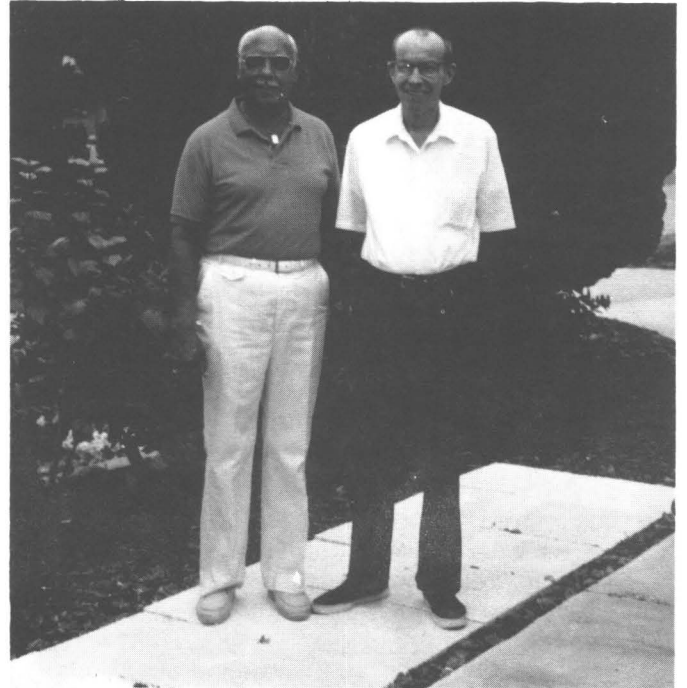
Then and Now



Bob Wright & David Sigourney



1944



1987

Claude & Audry Gibbs



1940



1982

Address Changes or Corrections

(CHANGES UNDERLINED)

✓ Abraham, William, 317 W. 2nd Street, Clarksville, MS. 38614-4019
 Alvord, Fayne, Box 125, E. Earl, Pa. 17519
 Baker, William V., 5617 W. Roma Avenue, Phoenix, AZ. 85031
 Bloczynski, John, 612 So. Cherry Avenue, Marshfield, WI. 54449
 Breitschwerdt, Ed, Rt. 1, Box 110, E. New Market, MD. 21631
 Busse, Arthur W., 5380 East Honeywood Lane, Anaheim, CA. 92807
 Couse, Conway, 3022 S.E. 18th Ave., Cape Coral, Fl. 33904
 Crisp, Harold Jr., RT. 3, Box 1143, San Antonio, TX. 78218
 De Hann, Ben F., 815 Duke Drive #402, Grand Forks, ND. 58201
 De Santia, Lou, 266 Briggs St., Syracuse, NY. 13208
 Derenge, Michael, 18249 Steele Avenue, Port Charlotte, FL. 33948
 Dwyer, John R., 143 La Villa Way, Ft. Pierce, FL. 33451
 Frangella, Patrick, 250 El Dorado #C-119, Webster, TX. 77598-2212
 Friedal, James, Route 13, Box 19, Spartanburg, SC. 29303
 Friedal, John, 6848 Sherburne Drive, Dallas, TX. 75231
 Furlo, Vince, P.O. Box 310, Carrollton, MI. 48724
 Gardner, Merlin M., 5308 E. Countryside, Wichita, KS. 67218-4410
 Hansen, Timothy, 189 Floral Court, Lancaster, PA. 17602-3451
 Hudelson, Mrs. Ray, Candlewood Pl. Bld. 4405, #201, Rapid City, SD. 57702

Hurley, Floyd, 2531 - 57th Ave., Sacramento, CA. 97515
 Israelsen, Allen O., 1515 Interlachen Dr. #526, Silver Springs. MD. 20906-5641
 Johnson, Roy D., 2030 So. Jay Way, Lakewood, CO. 80226-2517
 Koppen, Robert, 9942 N.E. 4th Ave. Rd., Miami Shores, FL. 33138
 Labuda, Steve, Box 402, Yukon, PA. 15698
 Martin, Howard, 1346 Whitman, Walla Walla, WA. 99362
 Ostrom, Thomas, 483 Erickson, Whitehall, OH. 43213-2836
 Poulos, Arthur, 80 Fernwood Road, Lynn, MA. 01904
 Revetti, Joseph D., 1605 W. Hampton Dr., Youngstown, OH. 44515-3860
 Rhein, Lyle, 967 Sterling Ave. No., Maplewood, MN. 55119
 Sacherman, Lee E. 21801 Burbank Blvd. #89, Woodland Hills, CA. 91363
 Schommer, Paul C., RR #1, Box 274-C, Rush City, MN. 55069-9774
 ✓ Simpson, Robert F. Jr., 7044 E. 71st Court, Tulsa, OK. 74133
 Spilker, Gordon, 17333 Brookhurst St. #E-5, Fountain Valley, CA. 92708-3721
 Sugarman, Sidney, 6543 Overland Dr., Delray Beach, FL. 33445-1557
 Vronz, John, Rt. 3, Box 331, Liberty, MO. 64068
 Wagner, John L. 15250 Old Oak Ranch Rd., Sonora, CA. 95370-8501

NEWLY FOUND

BLUM, ROBERT T., Rd. 8, Box 8097, Stroudsburg, PA. 18360
 BROWN, JACK N., Box 66, Prairie Hill, TX. 76678
 BUCKNER, ROBERT, 125 Kathleen, Pittsburgh, PA. 15211
 CHAMPION, FRANKIE L., Rt. 3, Box 47, Morton, MS. 39117
 COLE, DAVID C., 33 Bittersweet Rd., Fairport, NY. 14450
 CONNOLY, JOHN M., 78 Codman Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA. 02124
 DIXON, BILLY V., 296 No. Calle Del Santo, Green Valley, AZ. 85614
 EASTON, ERIC, Star Rt. 4, Box 37, Everett, PA. 15537
 GIVEN, RICHARD, Box 716, Silver Star, MT. 59713
 KINTZEL, GUY, Rd. #5, Box 179, York, PA. 17042
 KOHR, CHARLES, 6490 Franklin Lebanon Rd., Franklin, OH. 45003
 MEIER, GEORGE, 605 So. 6th St., Hamilton, MT. 59054

MORRISON, DON, Rt. P.O. Box 196, Pana, IL. 62557
 PUFFER, DONALD L., P.O. Box 202, Cape Porposie, ME. 04014
 REGAN, WILLIAM, 18851 Medford Ave., Santa Ana, CA. 92706
 REISS, LEONARD, 69 Bank, New York, NY. 10014
 RUBLY, RICHARD, 1510 S. Bascom Ave. #122, Campbell, CA. 95008
 RYLANDER, PAUL J., 20 Chandler, No. Providence, RI. 12911
 SIMPSON, ROBERT M., 150 Kern St. #2, Salinas CA. 93905
 TATICH, GEORGE, 69 So. Bryant, Bellevue, PA. 15202
 THOMAS, JAMES, 1538 E. Oakdale Ave., Tulare, CA. 93274
 TROUP, JOHN C., 229 So. Elder St., Anaheim, CA. 92805
 TRYKOWSKI, ANDREW A., 294 Francis St., New Britain, CT. 06063
 WADE, FRANK, 61 Lynch Street, Brooklyn, NY. 11206

Additional Lifetime Memberships

James C. Blair
 Joseph Edwards
 Chester Gavryck

Jack Kinney
 Robert Priddy
 Samuel Turnipseed

TOTAL NOW 49 LIFETIME MEMBERS



Bob Pacholski & Victor Lupei in Africa, 1944

HDD

163

18

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34th Bomb. Group

1595 Sunnyslope Drive
Crown Point, Indiana 46307
(219) 988-4607
c/o Eli Baldea

34th Bomb Group Assn.

From the collection of:

Al Israelsen

Pilot, First Crew No. 1, 4th Sq. Feb - Nov 1944

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Memories

"PETE" GRAY — Virginia Beach, Va.

Shortly after the end of World War II, the Saturday Evening Post magazine carried a short article about a small town in Iowa. Red Oak was its name — a small farming community of some 5,600 souls located in the western part of the state. However, in the article, not too much emphasis was placed on the town itself. It dealt more specifically with the number of casualties the community had suffered in the war.

These casualties numbered only 50 — a rather small number you might say. Yet, if New York City had lost a proportionate number, its losses would have been 70,000 instead of the actual 16,000. Only a few of those killed were mentioned by name. One was Edwin Bailey who had been lost over Germany while flying with the Eighth Air Force.

Ed Bailey was one of the ten original members of a B-24 bomber crew, with Randall Martin, age 21, as pilot, training in the western part of the country in late 1944. Training completed, they were assigned to the 34th Bomb Group at Mendlesham. The 34th was now a B-17 group so one of the gunners had to be eliminated. Ed Bailey was selected for the cut and was assigned to a pool of other gunners who would be called on to fill a vacancy on another crew.

However, before Martin and the rest of the crew had been settled down in their new home, Bailey was called on to fly his first combat mission! And it proved to be his last! The plane in which he was flying took a direct hit in the bomb bay and exploded, killing all on board!

Now you can imagine what effect this had on Martin and the other members of his crew. Suddenly, and abruptly, the war had been brought very close to home! Yet, before they could recover from the shock of Ed Bailey's death, they, too, were alerted for a mission. The plane they flew was named "Ol' Buddy." And "Ol' Buddy" proved to be a very lucky airplane. Not only did they make their first mission in it but they made almost 30 more — all without mishap!

After the war ended, the crew returned home and each went

their separate ways. Martin returned to college, got married, and started a family. When his first son was born, he was named EDWIN BAILEY MARTIN! Now, I never knew Ed Bailey, but I think he would have liked that.

DARRELL W. BULIS — Early, TX.

One of the problems faced in keeping our huts warm was the fact that the stoves were built to burn coke. It was rationed and there was never enough. We would burn bomb rings, made of pressed paper, but they burned very quickly and gave off very little heat. We tried to burn engine oil, but it didn't work too well and filled the hut with smoke.

We decided to steal some coal which was stored in a barbed-wire enclosed area, guarded by an M.P. We set up our plan and waited until about 11:00 P.M. to put it into action. The coal pile area gate and guard had a floodlight on them but the other side of the area was in the dark. Four of us put on the act of playing the drunk bit; we doused ourselves with beer and made a lot of loud talk as we approached the gate with the guard. We tried to get him to take a drink of beer and crowded around him, keeping him busy for at least 40 or 45 minutes.

While this was going on, six of our guys used wire cutters on the dark side of the pile, cut through the barbed-wire, loaded a cart with coal, and took off with it. Where they got the cart I don't know. However, we had our coal. It didn't last very long, but the fun of talking about it has lasted for over 40 years.

*See You All
At
King of Prussia
In September*