



384th BOMB GROUP INC.

650 Snug Harbor Drive
Apt. G-402
Boynton Beach, Florida 33435

February 1994

In September of 1992 we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Activation of the 384th Bombardment Group(H) at Newport Beach/Irvine, California. In May of 1993 we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Arrival of the 384th Bombardment Group(H) at Station 106, Grafton Underwood, England with Memorial Junket VII. Both affairs were very, very successful and thoroughly enjoyed by all whom attended. The next big affair of the 384th Bomb Group, Inc. will be the FOURTEENTH REUNION which will take place in October of 1994 at Sarasota, Florida.

The preparations for the FOURTEENTH REUNION of the 484th Bombardment Group(H), Eighth Air Force have been completed by your Reunion Committee. So now is the time for you to start your preparations, travel plans, hotel reservations, etc., and to fill out and return the necessary forms to the 384th Bomb Group Staff and the Hotel Staff.

The Reunion Committee and the Board of Directors have worked very hard and have devoted a lot of their time to make the FOURTEENTH REUNION another great Reunion. Another point to remember, each Committee Member, and the Members of the Board of Directors volunteer their services and they pay for their travel, hotels, etc. at their own expense. This is real dedication to your Organization and to show your appreciation for this exemplary service, one should make every effort to attend the FOURTEENTH REUNION.

HOTEL

To accommodate our Reunions we need a hotel that has adequate facilities to handle our functions, etc. The other major factors are the location and a reasonable room rate.

The hotel for the FOURTEENTH REUNION will be the HYATT HOTEL ON SARASOTA BAY, 1000 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, Florida. It is located just off of US-41 and just 7 minutes from the Sarasota/Brandenton Airport and 75 minutes from the Tampa International Airport.

The Reunion Committee is to be congratulated for a job well done and for booking such an excellent hotel. The Hyatt Hotel is situated on shimmering Sarasota Bay and is an oasis famed for its lush gardens, dazzling marina and legendary sunsets. Its dramatic atrium is your introduction to

297 rooms and 12 suites. Tempting options is dining at the boathouse for casual dining, or at the Pampana Cay for fine dining, or wind down at the Poolside Pavilion or Tropics Sports Bar. You will enjoy the FOURTEENTH REUNION at the HYATT HOTEL where your cares will melt away in warm sunshine and cool ocean breezes.

The Hyatt Hotel is adjacent to the Sarasota Quay featuring dockside shopping, restaurants, and night life.

Nearby is the Ringling Museum, Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, the Asola Theater, Opera House, Selby Gardens, and the Motts Marine Laboratory Aquarium.

It's minutes away from powder-white sands of Siesta Key Beach, Lida Key Beach, and fashionable St. Armands Circle.

Recreation includes nearby championship golf, tennis, boating, fishing, and a variety of water sports.

If you plan to arrive by air we suggest that you schedule your Airline Flight into the Sarasota/Brandenton Airport. The Hyatt Hotel has complimentary bus service to and from the Airport. At Airport you must call Hotel for Bus.

If you arrive by car, take the Sarasota Exit 39 from I-75 to US-41. The Hyatt Hotel is just a couple of blocks north on US-41 and a couple of blocks west on the Boulevard of the Arts.

Your Reunion Committee is to be complimented on securing such an excellent Room Rate, especially with the FOURTEENTH REUNION being scheduled during the Florida Tourist Season. The Room Rate for the Hyatt Hotel will be \$69.00 per day, plus tax for a Single or Double Room. The same room rate is available for two days prior and for two days following the Reunion, this is an outstanding rate! The Annual Board of Directors Meeting was recently held at the Hyatt and all agreed that the Hyatt is an excellent choice for the FOURTEENTH REUNION. There are also many restaurants near the hotel... the location could not be better!

REMEMBER, you must make your own Hotel Reservations. After you mail us your FOURTEENTH REUNION Registration Form and Deposit, we will send you the Hyatt Hotel Room Reservation Card, Envelope, and Hotel Brochure. PLEASE MAIL THE HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION CARD to the Hyatt Hotel on Sarasota Bay. You can also make your Room Reservation by a telephone call direct to



544th



545th



546th



547th

the Hyatt Hotel: 1-813-366-9000, or you can telephone the Hyatt Toll Free Number: 1-800-228-3360. If you make your Room Reservations by telephone, please remember to tell them that you are a 384th Bomb Group Registrant. ALL HYATT HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1994.

PROGRAM

As we have learned from past Reunions and Memorial Junkets that we must have a Program. Too many people feel they are being left out if we don't. Many of our members have forgotten some of their old comrades, or were never with the Group long enough to get acquainted . . . or they were shot down on an early mission. So to make sure that no one is left out, we have a program that includes everyone. We feel that your Reunion Committee has put together an excellent program for the FOURTEENTH REUNION, one that had something new or different each day.

The Program for the . . .

FOURTEENTH REUNION

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 20TH

Check-In - Hyatt Hotel Lobby	ALL DAY
Registration - Longboat Room	10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Memorabilia Room & Lounge - Four Flags Room - Cash Bar	12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M.
Poolside Cocktail Party & Buffet - Cash Bar	7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

FRIDAY - OCTOBER 21ST

Coffee & Danish - Desota Ballroom Lobby	7:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M.
Assemble in the Hyatt Hotel Lobby for the Optional Tour	7:30 A.M.
Coaches Depart on the Optional Tour - Hyatt Hotel Entrance	8:00 A.M.
Memorabilia Room & Lounge - Four Flags Room - Cash Bar	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Registration - Longboat Room	1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Coaches Return from the Optional Tour - Hyatt Hotel Entrance	5:00 P.M.
Cocktail Party - Desota Ballroom Lobby - Cash Bar	7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Dinner - Desota Ballroom	8:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.
Circus Show & Party - Desota Ballroom	9:30 P.M. - 10:45 P.M.

SATURDAY - OCT. 22ND

Coffee & Danish - Desota Ballroom Lobby	8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.
Business Meeting - Desota Ballroom North	9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon
Ladies Lunch & Fashion Show - Desota Ballroom South	11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Memorabilia Room & Lounge - Four Flags Room - Cash Bar	12:00 Noon - 5:00 P.M.
POW & Evadee Meeting - Conquistador Room	2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Host Cocktail Party - Desota Ballroom Lobby	7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Dinner Dance - Desota Ballroom - Cash Bar	8:00 P.M. - 11:59 P.M.

SUNDAY, OCT. 23RD

Service of Remembrance - Desota Ballroom	9:00 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.
Breakfast - Desota Ballroom	9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
Check-Out - Hyatt Hotel Lobby	ALL AFTERNOON

There will be entertainment on Thursday and Friday evenings. We have booked the Trinidades for Thursday and the Ringling Circus Show for Friday. We have booked an excellent Orchestra, the Jack Golley Band, for the Saturday Dinner Dance.

The Optional Tour for Friday is not included as part of the Reunion Package. Friday is basically a free day. If you elect to take the Busch Garden Tour you will pay a deposit and the balance during registration at the Tour Desk. For the Ladies Lunch and Fashion Show on Saturday, you will pay the full amount at the Tour Desk.

The Optional Tour scheduled for Friday, October 21st, 1994:

1. A trip by Coach to Busch Garden, Tampa, Florida. (We've been told that this is an excellent attraction).

The Optional Ladies Lunch and Fashion Show is scheduled for Saturday, October 22nd, 1994:

1. The location is the Hyatt Hotel Ballroom South.

To give us some idea as to the number of people that plan to take the Busch Garden Tour or attend the Ladies Lunch and Fashion Show, please check the appropriate box on the back of the Registration Form and list the number of people in your party.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

For the past few Reunions and Memorial Junkets we have made arrangements with a Travel Agency to help you with your travel and vacation plans, however the majority of our members did not take advantage of this service, so because of this we have discontinued this service for the FOURTEENTH REUNION.

October 20-23, 1994 are ideal dates for the FOURTEENTH REUNION, this is the start of the Florida Tourist Season and the weather is normally excellent at this time of the year.

There are many PRE/POST REUNION TRIPS for your enjoyment in Florida. Tampa is nearby, just a short 75 minutes from Sarasota. Orlando, with Disney World, is approximately a three hour trip from Sarasota. There are many sunny beaches, an abundance of golf courses, and other recreational sports. Fishing, boating, Caribbean Cruises, you name it, it's all available in Florida.

Start making your plans to enjoy these many attractions, either prior to, or following the FOURTEENTH REUNION.

REGISTRATION FORM AND DEPOSIT

A Registration Form is included with this Newsletter. It would be greatly appreciated if you would fill out and return the Registration Form immediately . . . remember a \$50.00 per person deposit must accompany each Registration Form for your registration to be considered confirmed. PLEASE help your Reunion Committee by mailing Ted Rothschild the Registration Form and Deposit as soon as possible and no later than September 27, 1994. Mail the REGISTRATION FORM to:

Ted Rothschild, Acting Secretary/Treasurer
384th Bomb Group, Inc.
650 Snug Harbor Drive, Apt. G-402
Boynton Beach, Florida 33435-6137

Please make your Check payable to: 384th Bomb Group, Inc.

If you plan to take the Optional Tour or attend the Ladies Lunch and Fashion Show don't forget to check the appropriate box on the back of the Registration Form.

ASSIGNED TABLE SEATING

Assigned seating for the dinners has been very popular and well accepted at our previous Reunions and Memorial Junkets so it will once again be used for the FOURTEENTH REUNION. For both the Friday Evening Dinner and for the Saturday Dinner Dance there will be assigned seating. A TABLE RESERVATION FORM is included with this Newsletter with instructions on the back of the Form telling you how to fill it out. To assure you are assigned a Group Table you must fill out and return the form. There is a deadline for the return of the form, we must receive the Table Reservation Form prior to October 1, 1994. People not requesting a Group Table will be assigned a table based upon the date their Registration Form is received. Based upon this it would be to a person's advantage to make sure they send in both the Registration Form, and/or the Table Reservation Form as quickly as possible.

Mail the TABLE RESERVATION FORM to:

Lloyd W. Whitlow
25151 Rivendell Drive
Lake Forest, El Toro,
California 92630

If you have any questions about how to fill out the Form, don't hesitate to telephone Lloyd at: 1-714-830-3663.

POW's and EVADEE's

On Saturday, October 22nd between 2:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. there will be a POW and EVADEE meeting. To help our Historian, Clint Orea, in his work we would like to have all former POW's and EVADEE's attend this meeting. Clint is also compiling a list of 384thers who were POW's while with the 384th BG. If you have not already given him your name, it would be greatly appreciated if you would do so. He needs the name of the Camp that you were in and any information you may have about other 384thers that were in the Camp with you. Mail this information to:

Clint Orea, Historian

WML Rt. 2, Box 4417
Show Low, Arizona 85901
You may also telephone him at: 1-602-537-7539.

MEMORABILIA ROOM

Don't forget our Nostalgia Room . . . bring pictures, books, or any other memorabilia that you have. You will get a lot of enjoyment looking over these old mementos and talking over the old days. PLEASE remember to pick up your stuff before you leave.

PRICE

It takes money to put on any kind of affair . . . there are a lot of hidden costs a person doesn't think about. The cost per person for the FOURTEENTH REUNION will be \$175.00 per person. This does not include your hotel room. The \$175.00 includes your Registration Fee. If a person is unable to attend the entire Reunion this price will be prorated. Even with the inflation that has occurred since the last Reunion we were able to keep the price the same as it was for the 50th Anniversary Reunion.

SUMMARY

That's about it! We have finalized the Program and we are sure that you will enjoy every minute of it! Again a reminder, for the Friday Dinner and for the Saturday Dinner Dance all seats will be assigned. We have found from experience that by doing it this way there will be no hard feelings as to who will be sitting with whom. If you are interested in sitting with your Crew or Special Group, please fill out the Table Reservation Form and mail it to Lloyd Whitlow, his address is on the form.

It's up to you! Talk it over with your old buddies and/or crew, sign and fill out the Registration Form and return it with your Deposit to Ted Rothschild, his address is on the Form. Don't procrastinate or set the Reunion Material to one side to do tomorrow, as tomorrow never comes! DO IT NOW, TODAY! This will be a great help and will lighten the work load of the Reunion Committee!

With your help and participation we can make the FOURTEENTH REUNION the BIGGEST, THE BEST, with the LARGEST ATTENDANCE that we have had for one of our Reunions. The Eleventh Reunion at Savannah, Georgia had our largest attendance, let's top that at the FOURTEENTH REUNION AT SARASOTA, FLORIDA!

The largest number of 384thers live in Florida and if a large number of them attend, this could well be one of our largest Reunions. This is another good reason for you to return your Registration Form, Table Reservation Form, and make your Hotel Room Reservations as early as possible.

The Hyatt Hotel on Sarasota Bay awaits you for the FOURTEENTH REUNION of the 384th BOMBARDMENT GROUP(H), EIGHTH AIR FORCE. There will be a 384th Host and Hostess to greet and welcome you upon your arrival. They will direct you to the Hotel Registration Desk, answer any of your questions, and they will direct you to the 384th Bomb Group Registration Room.

PLEASE NOTE AND
OBSERVE THE DEADLINES . . .

So let us continue to . . .
"KEEP THE SHOW ON THE ROAD"
SEE YOU IN SARASOTA, FLORIDA,
OCTOBER 20th-23rd, 1994.

THE BLAND FUND

We would like to thank all of the people that contributed to this worthy cause. Thanks to your generosity you have made it possible for Quentin and Barbara Bland to attend the Fourteenth Reunion.

The members that have attended a Memorial Junket, or have made a visit to Grafton Underwood on their own are fully aware of the Bland's dedication, devotion, and loyalty to the 384th.

They have asked us to tell you how thrilled and happy they are that you have made it possible for them to be with you during our upcoming Reunion. They can't thank you enough for your generosity. They are looking forward to seeing and greeting their old friends, and in meeting and making new friends during the Reunion.

"D" DAY GATHERING

In the last Newsletter there was an announcement about a Mini-Reunion to take place at the Heritage Museum, Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, Utah on May 19-22, 1994. Nathan Mazer has informed us that the dates for the Mini-Reunion have been changed to June 4-6, 1994 to coincide with the 50th Anniversary of "D" Day.

We are aware that having two Reunions in one year can be expensive, but if you are able to attend it would be greatly appreciated as we would like to have a nice 384th representation.

If you attend you will be able to see the many 384th items on display at the Museum and to see your beautiful duplicate Memorial Stained Glass Window located in the World War II Heritage Chapel.

Complete details about the "D" DAY GATHERING will be mailed to you by the Museum Staff.

OMISSION

In the Memorial Junket VII Newsletter the text telling about the Saturday Ceremony at our Memorial Monument during Memorial Junket VII had one line omitted by the printers. The underlined in the following text is the line omitted. It read thus: "The Service concluded with the Wreath Laying Ceremony, Major General Dale O. Smith laid a Wreath for Group Headquarters, Morgan Himmelstein for the 544th Bomb Squadron, John Herzog for the 545th Bomb Squadron, Jim Compton for the 546th Bomb Squadron, Bill O'Leary for the 547th Bomb Squadron, and Everett Barnes for the Military Police.

AWARD 50 YEARS LATE

In October, 1993 the Secretary of the Air Force approved the Award of the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) to Captain James C. McClanahan. The DFC recognized Captain McClanahan's extraordinary achievement as a Bombardier on the Schweinfurt Mission of October 14, 1943. The Award was made possible through the efforts of Major General Dale O. Smith. Congratulations Jim!

BOOKS

"AS BRIEFED" . . . there are still a few copies of the third edition still available. The third edition covers the original book, plus the Addendum, and the many things that the 384th Bomb Group, Inc. has done during the post-war years to perpetuate the memory of the 384th Bombardment Group(H) and the men who served with it. The price is \$29.95, plus \$2.95 for postage and handling. There will be copies available at the Fourteenth Reunion, but if you would like a copy prior to the Reunion send your request to:
Ted Rothschild, 650 Snug Harbor Drive, Apt. G-402
Boynton Beach, Florida 33435-6137
Telephone: 1-407-734-5052

"SCREAMING EAGLE" . . . a remarkable and well done book, the thoughts, and the ideals of a man who was there, the third Commanding Officer of the 384th Bombardment Group(H). If you would like a copy of this excellent book by Major General Dale O. Smith, there will be copies available during the Fourteenth Reunion. The special price for 384thers is \$12.95, plus \$2.95 for postage and handling. If you would like a copy mailed to you, send your request to:
Ted Rothschild, 650 Snug Harbor Drive, Apt. G-402
Boynton Beach, Florida 33435-6137
Telephone: 1-407-734-5052

"COMBAT TOUR WITH UMBRIAGO" . . . the author is 384ther, E.A. (Jerry) Jerome. The personal combat experiences of gunners, cockpit and nose crewmembers in the B-17G Flying Fortress during their 8th Air Force tour with the 384th Bombardment Group(H). An authentic history which provides insights into each ground crew dedicated role, and giving full particulars on combat crew problems and actions both on the ground and in the air. Price \$19.95, which includes postage and handling. Send your check to:
E.A. Jerome
8101 Ellet Road, Springfield, Virginia 22151-1925
Telephone: 1-703-321-7057

"WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME" . . . the author is George C. Kuhl, who was a member of the 30th Bombardment Group(H), Chelveston, England. The book is about the second Schweinfurt, Germany Mission of October 14, 1943. The price is \$24.95. If you mail your request for the book and include your Group and Squadron, he will personally autograph the book:
George C. Kuhl
2329 Redwood Drive
Augusta, Georgia 30904

Why Do We come?

The Reunion

By Lee Bergee

(BORROWED FROM THE 97TH B.G.. NEWS)

What is it that binds combat vets together? It isn't friendship. We all have friends. You go to a company picnic or a convention and you will not feel the same emotions in the air as you do when you attend a veterans' reunion. It is something beyond regular friendship. It is the knowing that "you and they have been to Hell and back." It is a deep-rooted emotion that binds you together. It is the knowledge that when things were tough, you and your buddies stuck it out and lived through it. You can attend high school reunions, college reunions, company conventions . . . the whole civilian works, but there isn't the "band of brothers" feeling that you feel when combat buddies get together!

You and your buddies may have less hair on top and a lot more inches around the beltline, but deep within all of you is the same comradeship that you had during those terrible days of war. Whether it is 10 years or 40, when combat buddies meet it seems like yesterday! All of your memories begin to assemble in your mind . . . memories that you thought had been pushed back into the recesses of your memory bank . . . "Whatever happened to . . .?" and "Remember when . . .?"

You try not to let on that these old veterans mean a lot to you, but by the time Auld Lang Syne is played and the flags are furled and the station wagons are packed, there is a lump in your throat and a tear in your eye as you part company with the men who once lived and fought beside you.

You tell your wife "Damn, it was good to see them again" . . . And, it was! "Old Charley" might have gained 50 or so pounds, but he sure could fire that machine gun. "Chief" looked almost as young and fit as he did when he crawled up and gave you first aid under fire. "Danny Boy" is still the comedian, although he left both legs over there. "Big John" is now almost bald, but he was quite a sergeant in those days and "Jimmy the Polack" gets around pretty good with one glass eye and one arm. YES, memories flood your mind as you head for home. No one knows the feeling except those of us who were there. You wonder if you will ever see any of them again. Combat was hell and you have terrible memories of death and destruction, the memory of total camaraderie with men who shared Hell will forever be embedded in your heart. There is no friendship like that of combat buddies. It is something that lasts forever.



Letter From William (Bill) Brennan

I was an Engineer gunner on "G.I. Jive." Our pilot was G.I. Poole and we were shot down over one of the Schweinfurt raids April 13, 1944 - Our group got hit (my 20th) hard that day - FW - 190's frontal assault with cannons and extra armament. I wound up in Stalag 17B - Krems, Austria. I suggest that you all refrain from calling it 1/2 mission as for all the air combat we saw - it would equal 3 or 4 or more.

Wm. M. (Bill) Brennan
AM Retired (from Hard Work)
and living down here on the ocean.
Would welcome a visit from any of my
ole buddies.

345 Goldsboro Ave.
Carolina Beach, NC 28428

GRAFTON UNDERWOOD . . .

USAAF STATION 106 - Airfield Code: GU - Elevation 388 ft. amsl
 Built by George Wimpey & Company, Ltd. and later brought up to Class A. standard.
 RESIDENT FLYING UNITS

15th BS 97th BG (342 & 414 BS only) (Satellite of Polebrook)	5/12/42 - 6/9/42	A-20 Boston. No Unit Code used.
	7/6/42 - 9/8/42	B-17 Flying Fortress. No Unit Code used.
305th BG	9/16/42 - 12/6/42	B-17 Flying Fortress. No Unit code used.
96th BG	4/16/43 - 5/27/43	B-17 Flying Fortress. Unit Codes: 337 BS - QJ 338 BS - BX. 339 BS - AW. 413 BS - MZ
384th BG	5/25/43 - 6/16/45	B-17 Flying Fortress. Unit Codes: 544 BS - SU. 545 BS - JD. 546 BS - BK. 547 BS - SO.

COMMANDING OFFICERS

15th BS	Major J.L. Griffith	5/12/42 - 6/9/42
305th BG	Colonel Curtis E. Lemay	9/12/42 - 12/5/42
96th BG	Colonel Archie J. Olds, Jr.	4/16/43 - 5/27/43
384th BG	Colonel Budd J. Peaslee	5/25/43 - 9/6/43
	Colonel Julius K. Lacey	9/6/43 - 11/23/43
	Colonel Dale O. Smith	11/23/43 - 10/24/44
	Colonel Theodore R. Milton	10/24/44 - 6/16/45

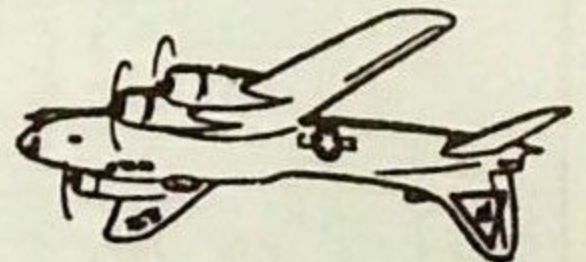
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"Keep the Show on the Road" . . .

MaJ. Francis J. Alter
 7117 SONTAG WAY
 SPRINGFIELD VA 22153-1223

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



384th BOMB GROUP INC.
 EIGHTH AIR FORCE
 650 Snug Harbor Drive
 Apt. G-402
 Boynton Beach, Florida 33435

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