



384th BOMB GROUP INC.

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

July 1995

MEMORIAL JUNKET VIII - VE DAY 50TH ANNIVERSARY 5-6-7-8 MAY 1995

Memorial Junket VIII is now history, but fond memories of this historical event still linger with the sixty-one members, wives, widows, and friends that attended. Among this loyal group was the Fourth Commanding Officer of the 384th Bombardment Group(H), General Theodore R. Milton. Others that joined this loyal group were our English Honorary members, Quentin and Barbara Bland, Mich & Nora Gibson, Annie Bagshaw, Nancy Braines, Frank & Joe Pearce, and Brian & Susan Goodman.

384th Bomb Group members, wives, widows & friends that attended Memorial Junket VIII: Robert & Ann Aitken, Edward & Pat Barnes, Charles & Audrey Besso, Dana & Gloria Bohnsack, Jerry & Lola Botero, Weldon & DuAnne Bragg, John & Mary Bridget, Betty Carroll, Bill & Grace Cawthon, John Davidson, Wallace & Lillian Davidson, Gene Goodrick, Wilma Mitchell, Arthur & Jean Guilmet, Bill & Betty Harvey, John Herzog, Lynn Hesko, Tom & Edwina Hunt,

Howard Kaessner, Donna Koepp, Philip & Barbara Leavitt, Allyn & Dolores Lewis, Earl & Gwen Lippincott, Earl & Becky Majeske, Nathan & Fran Mazer, James & Billie McClanahan, Mitt Mittendorf, Tony & Kathleen Occhino, Jean Purdy, Theodore & Margaret Rothschild, Roscoe & Charlie-Lou Rouse, Gerald & Beatrice Schumer, Roy & Stella Snyder, Lloyd Whitlow, Earl & Lois Wysong, Ed & Jean Zieba.

Memorial Junket VIII officially opened on Friday, May 5, 1995 with registration at our Headquarters, the Leicester Holiday Inn. Friday evening a Host Cocktail Party took place and opened with a Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag lead by Ted Rothschild, followed by a briefing that covered the coming events for Memorial Junket VIII.

The Official 50th Anniversary of V-E Day was on

Saturday, May 6, 1995 and was held at the Medingley American Military Cemetery, Coton, Cambridgeshire, England. Saturday morning the 384thers boarded two coaches for the trip to Cambridge for a delightful lunch at Trinity Center. After lunch the 384thers again boarded the coaches for the short trip to the Cemetery. Upon arrival at the Cemetery, each Veteran was given a special name tag which stated they were a World War II Veteran, and at the bottom of the tag it read, "United States of America 50th Anniversary of World War II, A Grateful Nation Remembers." Each Veteran also received a Commemorative Coin with the same inscription.

The V-E Day 50th Anniversary Service was opened by the Memorial Service Master of Ceremonies, Chaplain,

Lt. Col. Lee M. Thompson, USAF. The United States Air Forces in Europe Band next played the British National Anthem followed by the United States National Anthem. There were addresses by Her Royal Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant, James G.P.

Crowden, the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe, General George A. Joulwan, USA, and the Vice President of the United States, Al Gore. The Air Force Band then played a Glenn Miller Musical Tribute followed by the presentation of floral decorations. Then there was a moment of silence and a Twenty-One Gun Salute. Then the very moving Taps with the echo buglers which ended with a USAF Fly-By/Missing-Man Formation, then a RAF Fly-By, and last, but not least, the Fly-By of a B-17. After the service we attended a Reception and the Veterans entered the Tent down an aisle made by a Saluting Honor Guard. Drinks and food was available and the 384thers, along with the other Veterans, were greeted by the Vice-President of the United States and his wife, and other dignitaries.

Saturday evening was an informal affair which started
(Continued on page 2)



544th



545th



546th



547th

with a Host Cocktail Party, opened with a Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag lead by Ted Rothschild, followed by dinner where the 384thers were serenaded by a Combo. After dinner there was dancing to a Glenn Miller style Orchestra and the members were entertained by an excellent Comedian.

On Sunday, May 7, 1995, the 384thers boarded a World War II Vintage Double Deck Bus for a trip to Loughborough where they disembarked and reboarded the cars of the Great Central Railroad. This was a restored WWII Steam Train which runs just a short three or four miles with authentic railway stations of the same period, it brought back many memories. At the end of the line we proceeded to a Pub for a toddy or two, then back to the station to be greeted by a Winston Churchill look-a-like, who gave the famous Churchill V-E Day Speech. There were various types of entertainment which included an excellent Glenn Miller Style Orchestra. All in all it was a very enjoyable day.

The actual 50th Anniversary of V-E Day was on Monday, May 8, 1995. On this morning the 384thers boarded the two coaches for the trip to Grafton Underwood where we held our celebration of this Historical Day. The Service was held at our beautiful Memorial Monument, which now has a background of full grown fir trees. The American Flag was held by Howard Kaessner, the Group Banner by Art Guilmet and Roy Snyder, and the United States Air Force Flag, with the Group Streamers, by Mitt Mittendorf. The Service was opened by Quentin Bland, Master of Ceremonies who called on Ted Rothschild for a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, then introduced Reverend Daniel Foote who gave the Invocation. He then introduced Canon Frank Pearce who gave a very moving talk about those trying days and our lost comrades. Quentin then brought up General Theodore R. Milton, the Fourth Commanding Officer of the 384th Bombardment Group(H), who gave the same address that he gave the troops from the Control Tower on V-E Day. This was followed by our traditional Wreath-Laying Ceremony. The Wreath-Layers were introduced by Lloyd Whitlow. The first Wreath was laid for the members of the 384th Bomb Group Headquarters by General Milton. Wreaths were laid for the members of the 544th Bomb Squadron by Allyn Lewis; for the members of the 545th Bomb Squadron by Charles Besso; for the members of the 546th Bomb Squadron by Philip Leavitt; for the members of the 547th Bomb Squadron by Robert Aitken; for the members of the Military Police by Edward Barnes; and for the members of the 443rd Sub Depot by Earl Lippincott. Lloyd then introduced the British Wreath-Layers; Mrs. Ann Scott, President who laid a wreath for the Desborough Royal British Legion, Women's Section; Mr. Jim Scott, Vice-President, Desborough Royal Brit-

ish Legion; Consular Phillip Painter, for the Grafton Underwood Parish Council and Lord Dalkieth, for his Grace, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch. Lord Dalkieth is the son of the Duke and Duchess. As in the past, there were a very large group of British that attended our service, they have not forgotten those dark days of the 40's!

After the service we boarded the coaches for the short trip to Boughton House, one of the homes of the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, for liquid refreshments, lunch and a tour of the house. After the tour we again boarded the coaches for a tour of the Old Airfield, during this tour we were treated to a Fly-By of a British Spitfire. Prior to returning to the Holiday Inn we made a stop at Grafton Underwood Church so our people could view our beautiful Memorial Stained Glass Window.

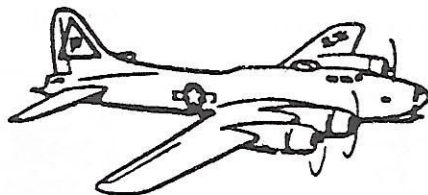
Monday evening opened with a Host Cocktail Party which preceded our traditional Galal Farewell Dinner Dance. The Dinner was opened by Ted Rothschild who introduced Reverend Daniel Foote who gave the Invocation. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. A Combo played during dinner for those who cared to dance.

The Queen of England had made a Proclamation that in memory of V-E Day that at 8:35 P.M. there would be two minutes of silence would be observed throughout England. At 8:35 P.M. all the people at the Gala Farewell Dinner Dance stood for this moment of silence.

After dinner there was a very short program, Natha Mazer introduced General Theodore R. Milton who gave a very short address. Nate then introduced Quentin Bland who also gave a short address. Nate then brought Lloyd Whitlow to the Podium who thanked the 384thers for their support and for attending Memorial Junket VIII. Lloyd then asked Quantin and Barbara Bland to join him at the Podium. He thanked them for their devotion to the 384th Bomb Group and for the many hours they put in organizing a Memorial Junket. He explained that without this hard work and the time spent, the Memorial Junkets would not be the huge success that they always are. He also commended them for maintaining our Memorial Monument and the grounds, along with the other Memorabilia. Lloyd then told them that in appreciation for their hard work and for their devotion and their dedication to the 384th Bomb Group, that the Board of Directors had unanimously agreed that the 384th would bring Quentin and Barbara Bland to the U.S.A. to attend the Fifteenth Reunion of the 384th Bomb Group, which will be held at St. Louis, Missouri.

After this short program, the 384thers and their British guests enjoyed the music and the dancing to a Glenn Miller style Orchestra.

Thus ended a very successful Memorial Junket.



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

A few words from the Desk of Lloyd W. Whitlow, President, Board of Directors, 384th Bomb Group, Inc. in Memory of VE DAY 8 May 1945.

The 384th Bombardment Group (Heavy), 41st Combat Wing, 1st Division, 8th Air Force, European Theater of Operations, was constituted as the 384th Bombardment Group(H) on 27 November 1942, activated on 1 December 1942.

The 384th Bombardment Group(H) flew its first Combat Mission on 22 June 1943 and after flying a total of 316 Credited Combat Missions, 9348 Credited Sorties, lost 159 B-17's, and a total of 1625 Men, of which, 1579 Aircrew Members were lost on Combat Missions. The Group was credited with destroying 165 Enemy Aircraft, with 34 Probables, and Damaging 116. 22,415.4 tons of bombs were dropped on Enemy Targets. The Group had the Distinction of dropping the last bombs carried by the 8th Air Force on 25 April 1945.

It is now 50 years since all of this happened and our role in World War II ended and we have returned to England to attend Memorial Junket VIII to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of VE Day.

We would like to pause to honor those comrades who made the Supreme Sacrifice. Those brave young men were heroes in every sense of the word. When our Country, in its time of need, sent forth its call they were quick to respond. They chose flying as their way of contributing to the War effort. High Altitude Strategic Bombing was a type of warfare here-to-for unknown. By wars end, technology had passed it by and hug aerial comrades will never be committed to battle again.

These brave young men, and those of us still amongst the living, helped the group make a valuable contribution to the allied success in Europe and were among the most heavily decorated in World War II. Three men were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, fifteen men won the Silver Star, and well over one

thousand men flying from Grafton Underwood, Station 106, won the Distinguished Flying Cross. Combat crew members were awarded an Air Medal for each six missions flown. In addition, six ground crew members were awarded the Legion of Merit, others received the Bronze Star. For the groups efforts they received Distinguished Unit Citations for missions flown, 11 January 1944, and 28 April 1944.

In remembrance of the men who served, both living and deceased, the 384th Bomb Group Association has established a number of things to preserve the memory of the 384th Bombardment Group(H) and the men who served with the Group. Among a few are the Memorial Monument, Memorial Stained Glass Window, and the Memorial Avenue of Trees at Grafton Underwood, England. A duplicate Memorial Stained Glass Window in a World War II Chapel, in the Museum Complex at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, and the sponsorship of the Eagle and Fledgling Sculpture awarded each year to the outstanding graduating cadet in Biological Sciences at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

We have once again come together here in England to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of VE Day. In closing we would like to repeat the message from the Commanding General of the E.T.O. U.S.A. Lieutenant General Jacob L. Devers who commended both Ground and Air Personnel for the thoroughness of their work. "Few people realize the hours of work by the Ground Crews, the hours of flying at high altitudes by the Combat Crews necessary to make a mission a success. Your will to carry out these missions day after day, press home the attack, comes from within yourselves. You yourselves have exerted effort beyond and above any and all expectations. I admire you, I congratulate you. It is only such missions you have performed, sacrifices you have made, hours you have worked and fought, and courage you have shown in the face of the enemy that will carry this war for America and her Allies to Victory."

A LETTER FROM ENGLAND

My sincere thanks for your help in World War II.

For 50 years I have lived in peace and freedom, married and raised a family of two children, and now in my retirement pursue my greatest hobby, which is flying.

When I pass over the old disused Airfields occupied once by the U.S.A.A.F., I consider how fortunate I am to be able to do this.

I also think of all who helped to achieve the peace and especially those who made the supreme sacrifice. Thank you once again

An ever grateful Englishman

Paul Knight

ON THE PHOTO'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Out of a hundred or more, I picked the one's that showed the most of the people who were there. If you do not see yourself, you did not send me any pictures. (NOT FAULT). Come to the reunion and you will see them all . . . they will be in an album of the 1995 England Junket.

NEWS ITEMS

If you have anything pertaining to 384th that you think should be in our future newsletters, send it to me - Ted Rothschild, your editor, your newsletter writer, or anything else you call me.

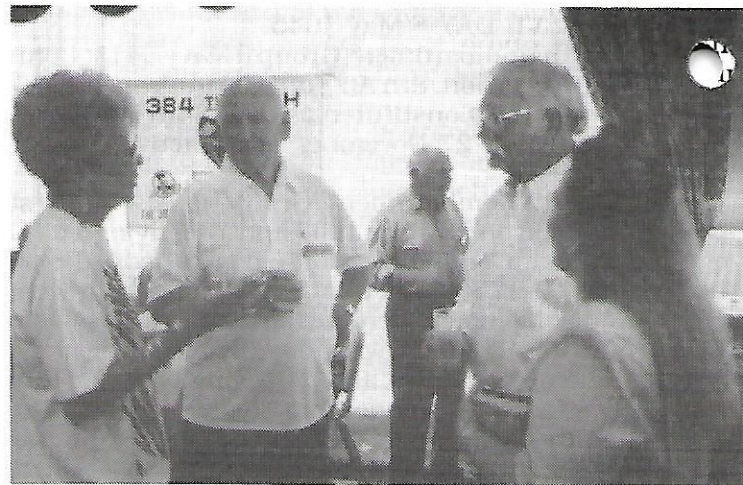
FIFTEENTH REUNION -(1996)

As you all know, the site for the Fifteenth reunion will be St. Louis, Missouri . . . so start saving your pennies now . . . Your board is now in the process of making all the arrangements (hotel, pricing, dance bands and food plus all the other goodies that go into a reunion) . . . so start planning to come to your group reunion . . . Year 1996 Date - September or October.

More in next newsletter.



REGISTRATION GROUP



GROUP AT REGISTRATION



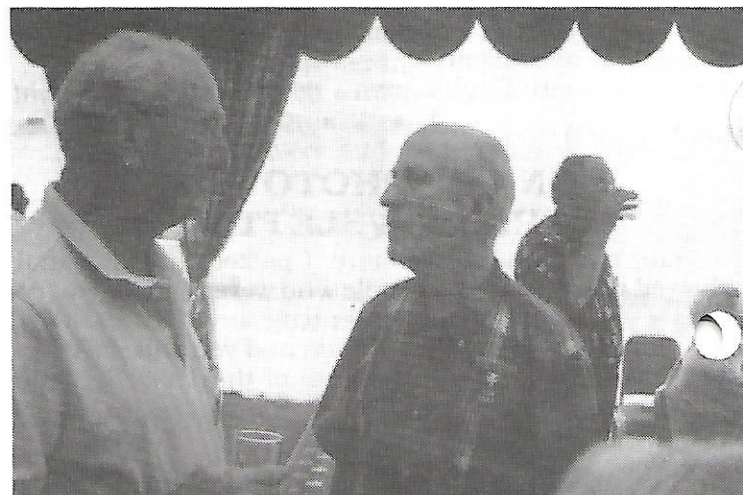
HOST COCKTAIL PARTY - 1ST NIGHT



WAITING FOR BUS



HOST 1ST NIGHT - COCKTAIL PARTY



COCKTAIL PARTY - GENERAL MILTON & TOM HUNT



COCKTAIL PARTY - 1ST NIGHT



DINNER DANCE



MORE HAPPY MEMBERS



HAPPY 384THERS



MORE OF OUR HAPPY MEMBERS



*LYNN HESKO - MARGARET ROTHSCHILD
MEETING ON REUNION*



GENERAL SMITH & SOME OF THE FLY BOYS



GENERAL MILTON - QUENTIN BLAND



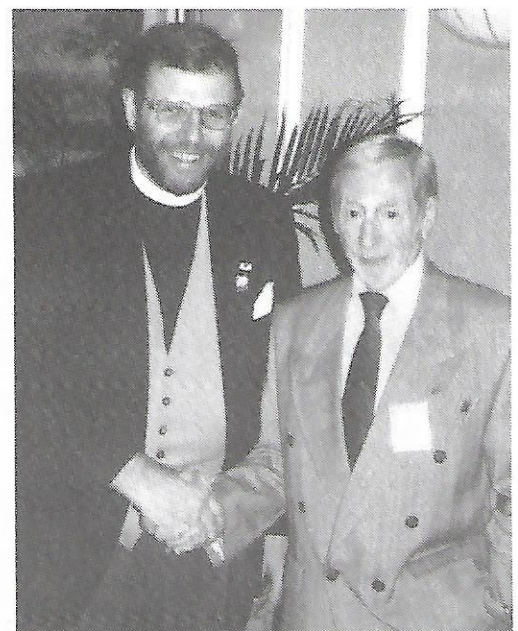
HAPPY GROUP AT DINNER DANCE



SOME ENGLISH FRIENDS WITH ED ZIEBA & JEAN PURDY



QUENTIN BLAND - LLOYD WHITLOW -
BARBARA BLAND "HAPPY TIME"



REVEREND FOOTE & YOU KNOW WHO



BILLIE & JIM McCLANAHAN AT MEMORIAL



*ENGLISH GUEST
PHILIP LEAVITT & EARL WYSONG*



GENERAL MILTON



BILL HARVEY & MIKE MAZER



ENGLISH PEOPLE AT MEMORIAL



LLOYD WHITLOW



MEMORIAL SERVICE



V.E DAY CELEBRATION
WINSTON CHURCHILL & GROUP



WINSTON CHURCHILL
ED ZIEBA & BEATRICE SCHUMER



WINSTON CHURCHILL
MARGARET ROTHSCHILD & BETTY CARROLL



SIGN



LEICESTER STEAM TRAIN



DUKE OF BUCCLEUSH - SON & JIM McCLANAHAN



MIKE MAZER, MIKE GIBSON & ART GUILMET



*BILL & BETTY HARVEY
JEANNE GUILMET & ANNIE BAGSHAW*



*GENERAL MILTON & ANNIE BAGSHAW
AT BOUGHTON HOUSE*



*LOIS WYSONG - ANN & BOB AITKEN - EARL
WYSONG*



LYNN HESKO - ROY SNYDER - HOWARD KAESSNER



LYNN HESKO - BETTY CARROLL



KATHLEEN & TONY OCCHINO & ROSCOE ROUSE



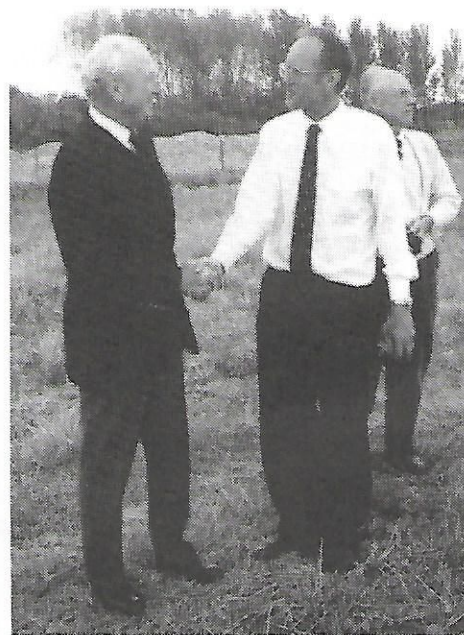
TOM & EDWINA HUNT & BILLIE McCLANAHAN



LLOYD & REGISTRATION GIRLS



JOHN HERZOG & BARMAID



*GENERAL MILTON STANDING ON LAND
WHERE AIR TOWER WAS*



SPENCER BALDWIN - TED ROTHSCHILD - JOHN HERZOG - BILL HARVEY



TWO GENERAL'S CONFERRING



V.P. AL GORE & PAT BARNES



*V.E. DAY AT CAMBRIDGE CEMETERY
OUR GROUP*



BILL CAWTHON - WELDON BRAGG - GERALD SCHUMER



LLOYD WHITLOW - QUENTIN BLAND - GENERAL MILTON AT CAMBRIDGE CEMETERY

BELOW - SPEECH MADE BY GENERAL MILTON MAY 8, 1945
AND AGAIN MAY 8, 1995

Today the war in Europe is always remember. It has been a have suffered our share of the ca-glory too. The 384th has made a can be proud of.

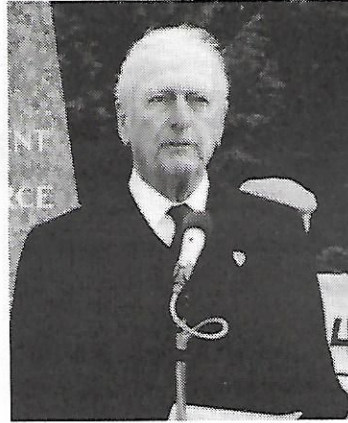
It has been an even longer and British. Even so, they have taken friendship, as though we were their us, but an even more special day

With that in mind, we will stay ebration, and not intrude on theirs.

As we stand here today, May of the most horrific war in the bers of the 384th B.G. (H) can look done and of the part we played.

The first mission by the small was flown from here, and we as members of the 384th B.G. (H) can be justly proud that from this same field we flew the last bombing mission of the war in Europe as part of the now Mighty 8th A.A.F.

Wherever we go from here, my appreciation and best wishes go with each and everyone of you, and it has been my privilege to lead you and be a part of the 384th B.G. (H). We "Kept The Show On The Road." May God go with you.



officially over, a day we will long and bloody war, and we sualties and won a bit of the record we, and our country,

more punishing war for the us in with hospitality and own. This is a special day for for our British friends. on the base today for our cel-

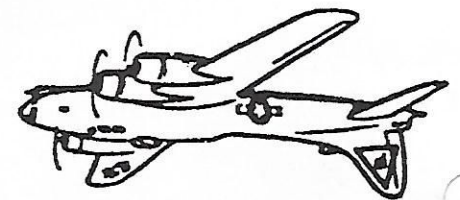
8th, 1945 witnessing the end history of the world, we, mem-back with pride on a job well

8th A.A.F. Bomber Command

"Keep the Show on the Road"...

Mr. Wallace A. Storey
118 Stairline Drive
Spartanburg, SC 29307-3714

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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