

384th BOMB GROUP INC.

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

December 1996

ANOTHER GOOD REUNION

The 15th Reunion opened on Thursday, 17 October, 1996 with registration. Memorabilia Room, and Lounge was open all day. At 7:00 P.M. Cocktails and Buffet in the Dugout Lounge with a roaring Waterloo German Band.



Friday, 18 October, 1996 - trip to Scott Air Force Base for a tour and lunch at the Officer's Club. Lunch was exceptional. At night we had a Cocktail Party, Dinner and Show with a strolling band called the Jim Dandy's and comedian George Johnstone - a fine night.

Saturday morning, 19 October was a business meeting and the women went to St. Louis Botanical Garden if so desired. In the evening was the Host Cocktail Party Dinner Dance with the Sentimental Journey Orchestra playing Moonlite Serenade as we came into the Grand Ballroom.

During the introduction and short ceremony presentations and awards were given to our members. The highlight being General Milton presenting D.F.C. to Flight Sgt. Bernard Mendez for a mission in March, 1944, where he was awarded same, but never received. Sam Arauz presented to me - Ted Rothschild, a model of a B-17, which I find very beautiful. Can I say more . . .

All in all the 15th Reunion was a great success.

At the end of the Reunion after Sunday morning service and Breakfast, many of our members went on to Branson, MO for four additional days to see Country Music entertainment. This trip was very well planned - all of the shows were exceptional, each one better than the last. We of the 384th were honored at the shows and were part of Bobby Vinton Show, with flags and a really great time was had by all who attended. I'm sure many more would have enjoyed it. There were 79 of us. Picture's of all activities will be in center of newsletter.

I want to personally thank Mike Schmitz and Gene Goodrich for all their help on making this reunion a success. They deserve the recognition. At the business meeting it was noted that the next reunion in 1998 will be in Hershey, PA. Location will be checked out by Board of Directors and final decision will be forthcoming.

In the afternoon, Clint Orcan held his P.O.W. & Eva Dee meeting in conjunction with Mike Mazer who presented movies on 8th A.F. and 384th - Hill Aerospace Museum - it was well attended.



544th



545th



546th



547th

Wednesday, 16 October at Board of Directors meeting - 12 members were present. Copy of Board Meeting minutes are enclosed. One of the highlights

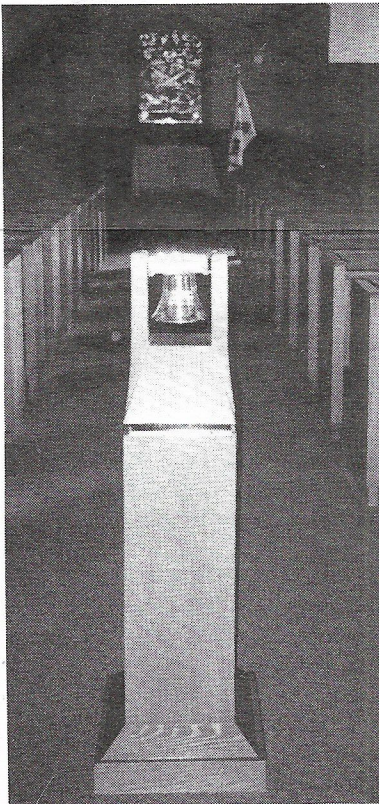


discussed, was the Bell we had made in England. A copy of which has now been installed in Heritage Chapel at Hill Air Force Base. This bell was cast in Taylor Bell Founders in Longborough, England. It is an exact copy of the 1980

bell the 384th BG donated and installed in the St. Paul and St. Peter Parish Church, Kettering, England.

The bell weighs 455 pounds - not including the ringing and installation fittings to same. It is solid bronze and for the members who are musically inclined, it rings in the musical tone of "G" which I am told all good church bells do.

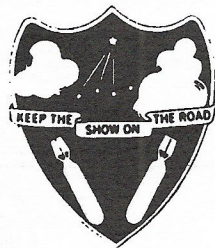
The bell is inscribed with: "American Airmen At Grafton Underwood England 1942-1945" 384th B.G.



In the chapel approaching the center aisle is a small bell, a copy of the larger bell that rings in the belfry. With the same inscription and plaque explaining to the public, the bell they hear ringing in the chapel is the bell and why it is there.

It has been suggested that we will have our Board of Directors meeting at Hill Aerospace Heritage Museum in Utah sometime in May, 1997 when we will have the dedication of the bell. More on this at a later date.

So start saving your money for a trip to Utah. You will be receiving literature on same in the mail soon.



FORGET? NEVER!

A TRIBUTE TO THE MEN OF "THE MIGHTY EIGHTH"

The years have passed, it seems I'm old
 Yet still the memories unfold
 Of fine young boys in battle dress
 Who to their country's call said, "Yes"
 Who chose to serve in skies above
 For freedom's sake they showed their love.
 All volunteers - they asked to fight
 To break the back of Hitler's might
 They picked the toughest job of all
 "The Mighty Eighth" would be their call.
 In heavy bombers, crews of ten
 We changed from kids to older men
 Between the members of each crew
 A bond of friendship grew and grew.
 This bond of love can never end
 For one on each they did depend.
 Six miles straight up, no place to hide
 they did their job with guts and pride.
 The 17s got glamour more
 But none surpassed the 24
 They roamed the skies and fought the fight
 And brought us home both day and night.
 Through heavy flak and fighter's fire
 they gave me so much to admire
 Of missions limit 25
 How could we live? Could we survive?
 With purest luck I did stay well
 Lord knows we had our share of hell.
 My heart is sad, the tears they burn
 For thousands who did not return.
 Their life was sweet - a brimming cup
 Yet willingly they gave it up.
 Dear God, my life I'd gladly give
 If they could have a chance to live.
 Each one a hero in my mind
 We nevermore will see their kind.
 My hair turns white, my body lame
 Still proudly do I bear its name
 With love, respect, abiding faith
 I can't forget, "The Mighty Eighth"

A Survivor,
 Albert P. Hall, 489th BG

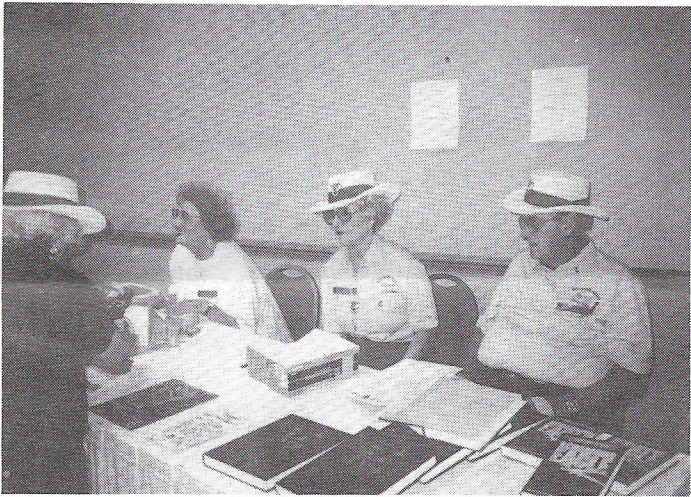
HIGHLIGHTS OF REUNION



Ladies at Registration Desk & Lloyd



More ladies at Registration Desk



384th Sales Personnel



General Smith Making a Purchase



Jean & Ed Zieba and Lynn Kaessner



Busy Raffle Sales and Books



Wonderbar German Band



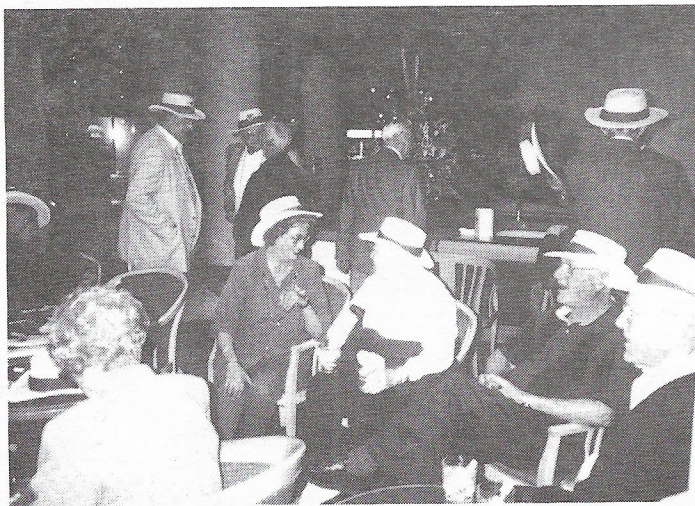
German Band



Mike Mazer Welcoming Committee



A Few Of Our Old Timers



Lobby of Hotel with Our Fancy Headgear



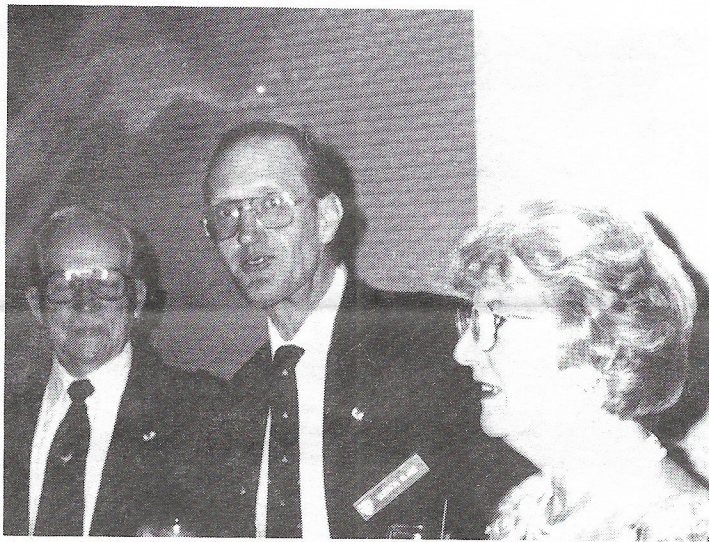
Pat Barnes Giving a Fancy Hat to Waitress in Lobby



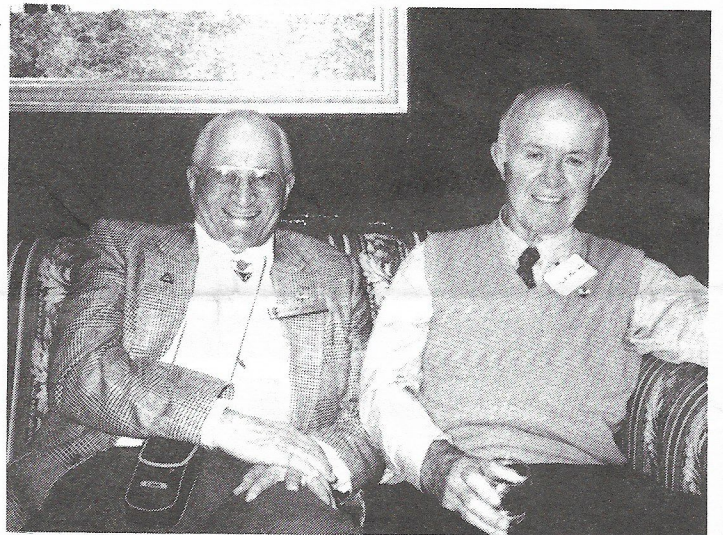
Charlie Besso Making a Point



Gary Robison, Gen.'l Smith, Fran & Mike Mazer, Jean Purdy



Quentin & Barbara Bland, Our English Guests



Sam Aravz, Chuck Rowland



Leonard Rizzuti & Wife Jessien



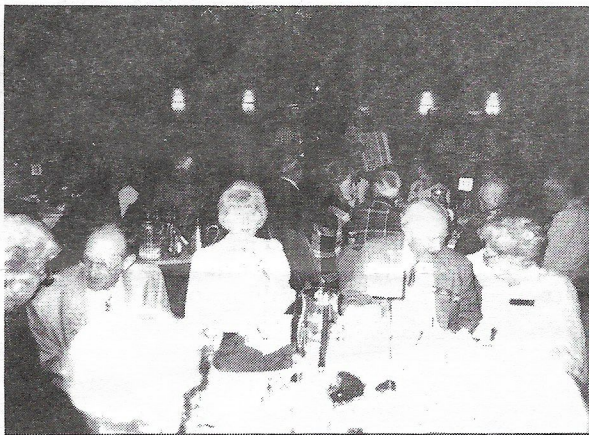
Ted Bardue, Helen Sienkiewicz, Penny Bardue, Hank Sienkiewicz



Noak & Helen Hickman Trip the Light Fantastic



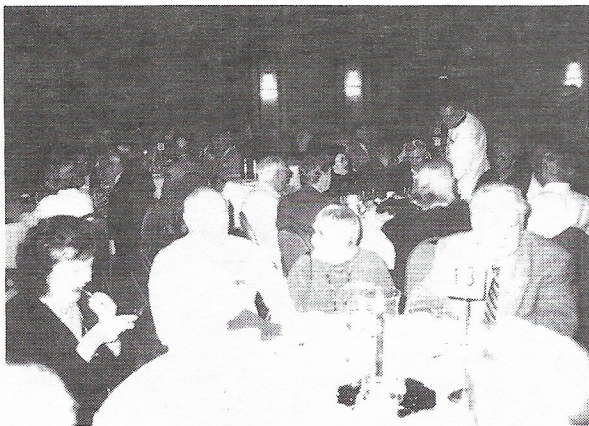
*Mary & Paul Snider, Hedwig & David Lustig,
Lynn & Howard Kaessner*



*Friday Night Dinner Dance - Quentin & Barbara Bland,
Bill Harvy, Margaret Rothschild*



Friday Night Good Group



Roy & Stella Snyder, Allyn Lewis



Jean & Art Giulmet, Pat & Ed Barnes

Minutes of Board Meeting October 16, 1996 St. Louis, Missouri

Meeting was called to order, roll call of Board members was dispensed with. Minutes of the previous Board meeting was also dispensed with.

Correspondence: Bill Harvey read an article from a publication which had been written by a 384th member commenting about content of the newsletter. Board decided to ignore the letter.

The American Museum in England received \$100 from our group. Since then we have received 16 requests from other groups. We are going to ignore the other requests.

Duxford needs the nose of a B-24. Hill Air Force Museum found 90% in the Aleutians Islands and will be supplying as much as possible.

Financial Report: Copies of financial report were passed out to Board members. We came out well from the Nelson Estate. After the IRS and the attorneys got finished, we may get \$35,000.

Monument at Grafton Underwood has been repaired and is paid for.

Motion to accept the financial report was made by Sam Arauz and seconded by Nate Mazer. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Report was made by Nate Mazer on Hill Air Force Museum. \$20,000 was authorized but \$10,000 was held back until needed. Reported that all facilities are owned by the U.S. Air Force. The new bell which is a replica of the one in Kettering will be hung soon. U.S. Corps of Engineers has engineered the structure and approved for installation. A miniature of the bell will be in the foyer of the chapel to show what the steeple bell looks like. A plaque of Father Billy will be mounted in the foyer. There has been 1,000,000 visitors to Hill A.F. Base this year. Hill Museum now has a P-38. The B-24 is complete but needs nose art. 30,000 square feet of hangar space is allocated to WWII aircraft. Quentin Bland reported that a piece of concrete runway from the 384th B.G. at Grafton Underwood is on display at Savannah, Georgia.

Harvey reported that there are 2 bells, a replica of the one in Kettering and a miniature to be in the foyer of the chapel. The miniature was found in Fritz Nowosad's belongings. It was originally owned by Pop Dolan. New bell to go into the chapel will be in the key of G as is all important bells. Contract and cost was approved at a previous meeting.

Q. Bland announced that there will be a 50th anniversary reunion at Maddingly, England, in 1997.

Discussion of the Air Force Association reunion in 1997. Information will be distributed to membership and will be handled on an individual basis, not an official 384th function.

S. Arauz moved that a Gathering in Utah serving as a mini reunion and board meeting as well as the bell dedication be held in 1997. Seconded by Bud Turner, approved unanimously. Tentative date would be May, 1997. Hotel would be announced.

Bill Harvey gave a report on Savannah Museum. He and Bland spent 4-5 hours there and was greatly impressed. Q. Bland gave his impressions of the museum. He stated that the 384th was well represented. Bland had picked up the original weather

vane from G.U. many years ago. The vane was portrayed on a painting now in the museum. Bland and Harvey presented the vane to a representative of the museum who was very impressed and thrilled to get it. A formal English garden being constructed was described.

The Air Force Academy is obtaining a B-17 and they were approached regarding placement of a triangle P on the tail. For \$55,000 our request would be "considered." It was decided to decline the offer.

The 384th has given \$5,000 previously and presently is having a B-17 model constructed at a cost of about \$5,000. Bids are presently being requested. The Savannah Museum agreed that they would accept and display the model. All three editions of "As Briefed" will be the Savannah Research Library. Col. Wayne Corbett is the publicity contact at Savannah. Peter Herd painted pictures of the 384th and the originals are there. Our 384th flag will be placed in the rotunda at Savannah. Mazer appealed for artifacts for Hill Museum.

Mazer described a method developed to keep moisture out of the machine gun barrels. A G.I. Armorer solved the problem by using a condom.

New Business: Bernard Mendez will be presented the DFC at the dinner dance by General T.R. Milton. Mendez replaced an engine on a downed B-17 in Europe so that the plane and crew could return to England. Details are not known. A person thought his uncle should get a medal from General Smith. The details are unclear and no action was taken.

Assignments: Ted and Margaret will handle registration. H. Kaessner and Ed Zieba will handle Memorabilia Room, Don and Irene Thompson will handle greeting. Everyone should go out of their way to greet new attendees who will be wearing red dots on their badges.

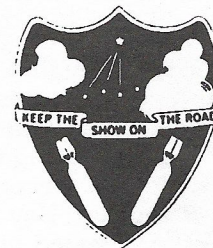
Promotion of 1998 sites for reunion. Spokane, Ogden and Hershey were proposed for reunion in 1998. Ballot committee consisted of: Count: Art, Assist: Steve, Monitor: Don.

Turner Publishing Co. wishes to produce a book on the history of the 384th with personal stories. It will be at no cost to the Group. Kaessner, Mazer, and Whitlow will coordinate input to the book.

Motion to close was made by S. Arauz, seconded by T. Rothschild. Passed unanimously. Meeting closed at 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Kaessner, Alternate Secretary



15TH Reunion Business Meeting October 19, 1996

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ted Rothschild. Opening prayer was led by Nate Mazer.

A statement was made by Bill Harvey honoring Paul Ketelsen, First CO of the 545th Squadron who had passed away recently. All members stood honoring all those who had passed away during the last period. Harvey read the list of 20 names while we observed a moment of silent prayer.

Rothschild reminded all to notify him of the death of anyone.

Rothschild call roll of officers and board members. Carnes and Hunt were absent. It was moved and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 14th Reunion.

Financial Report: Rothschild reported that the Group had given \$10,000 to Hill Air Force Museum and \$5,000 to Savannah. We have a new flag and purchasing a model B-17 to perpetuate the 384th. Details of financial condition of the group are available for examination. Details of this reunion will be in the next newsletter. Motion to accept Financial Report, seconded and approved unanimously.

Old Business: Quentin Bland reported that the Stained Glass Window is well known in England and many visitors come to see it. The Memorial needs and gets periodic maintenance. Annie Bagshaw is 94 and is frail but still gets to the memorial about 3 times a week. The Memorial is 50 years old and doing well and maintenance of the area continues. Photographs will be taken of the area and will be published in the Newsletter. Curbs have been built around the base to prevent damage to it. The monument in a trust to perpetuate it's existence. Quentin was honored for his work on facilities in England.

Bill Harvey reported on facilities at the Savannah Museum. Quentin reported on a piece of concrete runway from Grafton Underwood which he shipped over some time ago. He felt that the 384th was well represented at Savannah. Quentin mentioned a documentary film "Target for Today" as, probably the best ever produced. He thought the visual presentation was superb and highly recommended it to all.

A model B-17 will be built by the 384th and presented to the museum. Bids have been requested and contract awarded soon and should be in place in a year.

Nate Mazer reported on activities at Hill Air Force Base in Ogden, Utah. It is an Air Force Facility and all activities are performed and owned by the Air Force. The Museum has recovered 2 - B-24's and one P-38 from the Aleutians. There has been over 1 million visitors to date. The 384th has a mini-museum there. Duxford in England has offered 1 million dollars for a B-24. Hill expedition has brought back enough wreckage for two B-24's. A bell, which is a duplicate to the one in Kettering, has been cast and is being mounted in the chapel. The chapel is being used by schools for graduations and weddings. Recently it was used to welcome a group of Russian Boy Scouts. Donations of artifacts are being requested and the new ball (in the key of G). A miniature bell which was originally presented to "Pop" Dolah is in the foyer of the Chapel.

Quentin Bland was again recognized for his work at Grafton Underwood in behalf of the 384th BG.

The Air Force Academy is reconstructing a B-17. Our Group would like to have Triangle P placed on the tail but we would have to put up front \$55,000 to even be considered. We decided that publicity would be too expensive. A suggestion to contact the EAA organization to see if we could get our tail symbol placed on an aircraft.

The 384th is already well represented at the Air Force Academy by various memorabilia so there is no need to spend that much money for anything else.

Results of the vote for the next reunion location are as follows: Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Dedication of the Bell at Hill Air Force Base will probably be May 1997. It will be a mini-reunion and board meeting. All members will be invited to attend. Details will come out in the Newsletter.

Officers for the next reunion. A nominating committee was formed and retired to make their selections. They are:

President	Howard Kaessner
Asst. to Pres.	Donald Thompson
V.P. Region 1	Morgan Himmelstein
V.P. Region 2	Tony Nilo
V.P. Region 3	Charlie Gobel
V.P. Region 4	Earl Majeski
V.P. Region 5	Ted Carmack
V.P. Region 6	Gene Goodrick
V.P. Region 7	Art Beese
V.P. Region 8	Ted Bardue
Chaplain	Nate Mazer
Asst. Chaplain	Tony Palazzo

Nominations were closed and it was moved that slate be accepted as nominated.

Ted Rothschild requested photographs of the reunion activities for the newsletter.

Suggestions from the floor that we should think about perpetuation the organization by accepting family members as associate members and making membership available to members of lesser means. Manny Biera suggested that we should have a category which would encourage interested young people to participate. Arauz suggested that when we have less than 100 people attend we could become worried with the future.

Attendance of Generals D.O. Smith and T.R. Milton was recognized.

There is a possibility of going back to England in the future as a group. Duxford is having a reunion of sorts next year. Veterans Administration can supply telephone numbers of veterans, also, many public libraries have computer lists of all listed telephone numbers.

The Air Force Association is having a reunion in Las Vegas this April 22-26, 1997. Information is available for individual attendance, no group activity. Six members all from the same crew are attending this reunion.

The 384th BG supported "Project Frantic" which was a shuttle bombing raid to Russia. M/Sgt. Morgan Himmelstein is here and has been invited to Washington, D.C. to receive a medal from the Russians.

Poem was recited by a member written by James Whitcomb Rieley.

Meeting was closed at 10:40 AM by popular acclaim.

Respectively submitted,

Howard L. Kaessner, Assoc. Recording Secretary



General Milton, Margaret & Ted Rothschild



Mike Mazer, Lloyd Whitlow, General Smith



*Donna Koepp, General Smith, Gary Robison
Lloyd Whitlow*



Dinner in Rooftop Restaurant With Our Hats



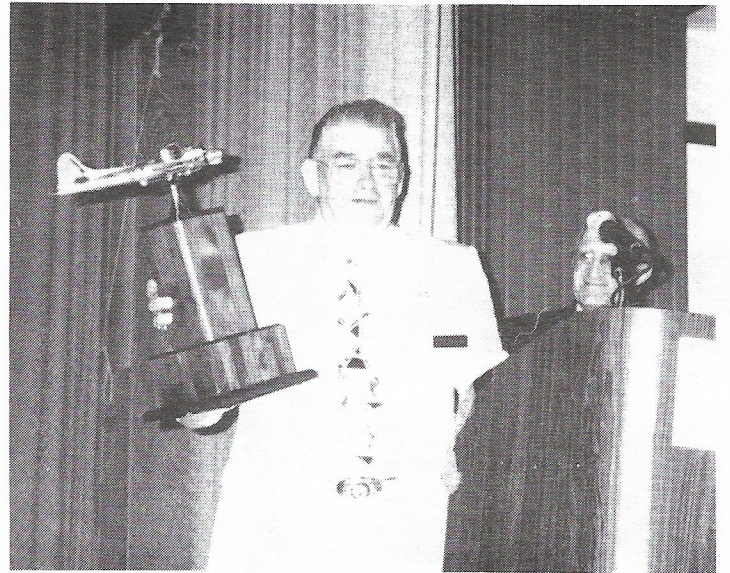
General Smith & General Milton Together



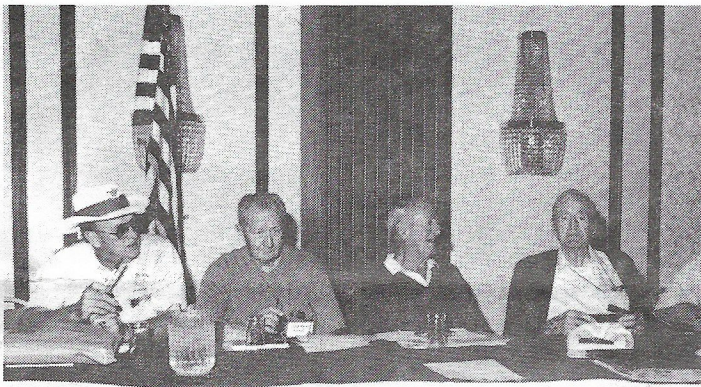
Picture of 2 Generals Meeting 1944



General Milton Presenting Award to Bernard Mendez



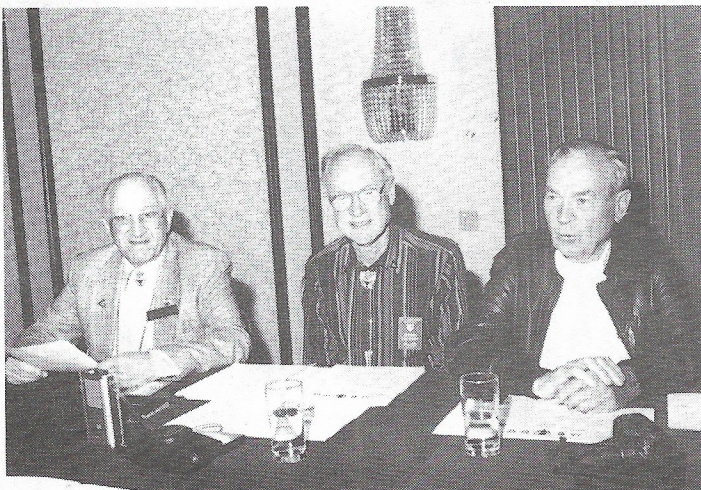
Old What's His Name Getting His Trophy



*Ed Barnes, Bud Turner, General Milton,
General Smith, Saturday Meeting*



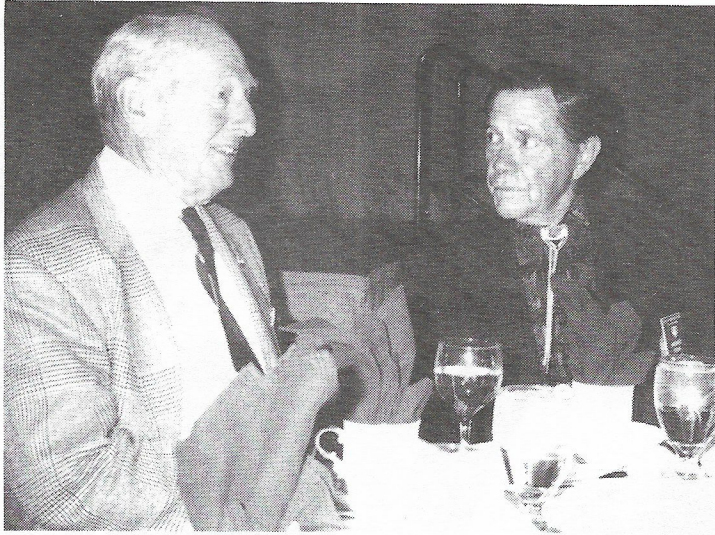
*Bob Coleman, Steve Kasmerski, Don Thompson
At Saturday Meeting*



Sam Arauz, Howard Kaessner, Art Guilmet



*Bill Harvey, Mike Mazer, Ted Rothschild &
Lloyd Whitlow Saturday Meeting*



General Milton and Horace Frink



Group Getting on Bus for Branson, MO Tour



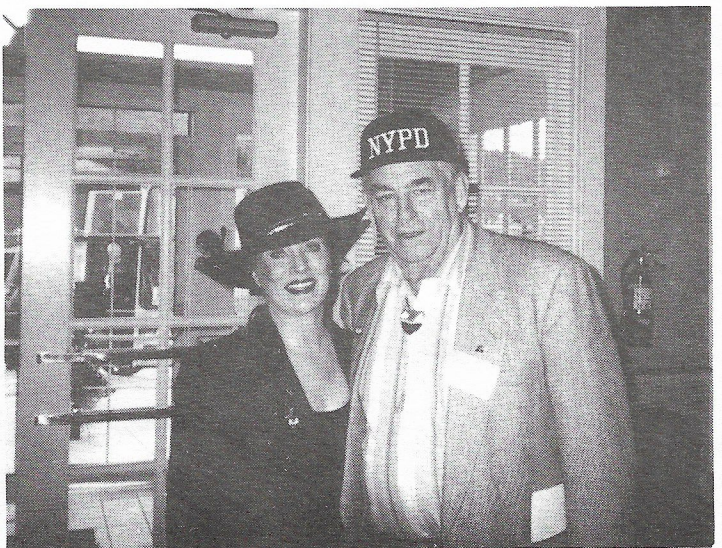
Waiting For Show To Start In Branson, MO



Watching A Show In Branson, MO



Our Tour Guides Caroly & Larry - Branson, MO



Reta Lee, Showgirl & You Know Who



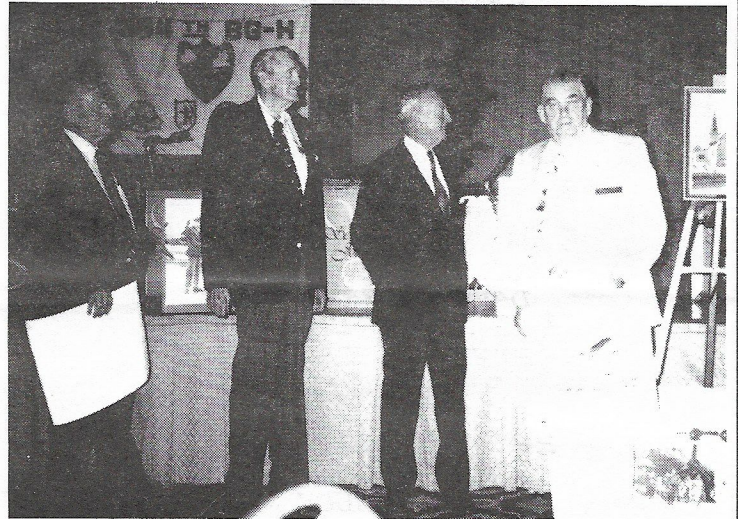
Pat & Ed Barnes Taking Count On Bus To Scott Air Base



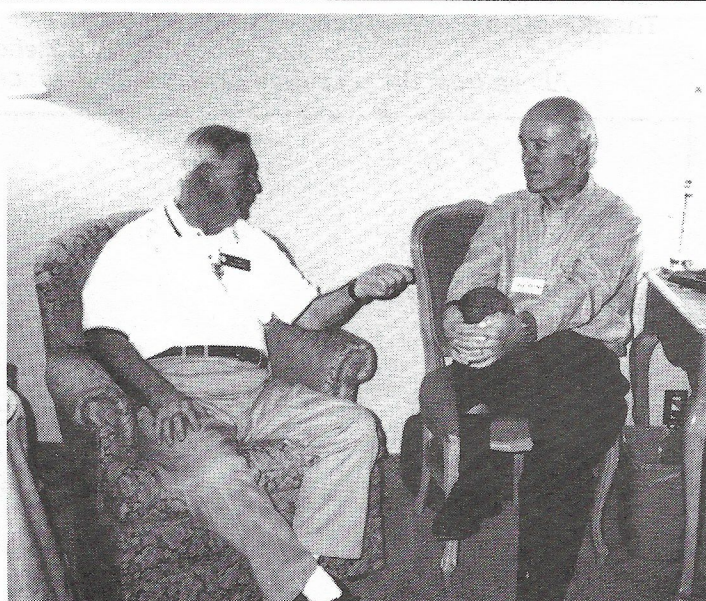
Group Wine Tasting At Stone Hill Winery, Branson, MO



Guess Who At Saturday Dinner Dance



What A Group?

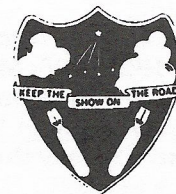


Gene Goodrick & Chuck Rowland



How Did This Get In Here?

15th Reunion Financial Report



INCOME:	
Reunion fees	\$59,555.00
Raffle, Shirts, Books . . .	
EXPENSES:	
Hotel, Dinners, Bands, Breakfast, Coffee, Etc.	\$39,652.68
Gifts, Pins, Hats, Napkins, Calculators	3,449.29
Buses, Tours, Botanical Gardens	2,016.00
Officer's Club Luncheon	2,737.00
Misc. Expenses, Hospitality Room, Lloyd Exp., Tips, etc.	1,450.00
Printing Exp., Tickets, Program, Cards, etc.	811.44
	<u>\$50,658.41</u>
Return's Deposit (37 Members, sick or died)	-2,910.00
	<u>\$53,568.41</u>
SUMMARY:	
Income	\$59,555.00
Expenses	\$53,568.41
Profit	\$6,186.59

"FINAL TAPS"

Deceased Members Year 1996

PHILIP ALGAR
 DELTON WHEAT
 EDWARD SCHEROKEAN
 CHARLES REINHARDT
 JERRY JEROME
 WILLIAM PRICE
 ANDREW SCHNEIDER
 GLENN HINSHAW
 DAVID ANDERSON
 ANTHONY OCCHINO
 KENNETH STOLTE
 EDWIN KENNEBECK
 JOHN HERZOG
 MRS. FRITZ NOWOSAD
 PAUL KETELSEN
 EMMETT SHUCK
 VERNON GREEN
 LLOYD MOREHEAD
 BOB LANGLOIS
 EDMON McANALLY
 TOM HUNT
 ART FOLEY (DOC)

A FEW OF THE MANY LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

From England:

To the boys of the 384th U.S.A. Air Force. Very best wishes to you all on your Reunion. Hope you all have a good time.

Best wishes.

From Annie Bagshaw

November 8, 1996

Dear Marge & Ted:

Even though I (Ed) am typing this letter we want you to know that we really appreciated all that you two have done to make the reunions the success that they are.

The St. Louis reunion is another good example of a well run operation mainly headed by the Rothschild's of Florida.

To you Ted, I hope that the 384th organization realizes what a prize that they have in you as Secretary/Treasurer. We wouldn't want to take anything away from Fritz but it was run quite loosely with him at the helm. Fritz did the best that he could but things could have been run better. Thanks to you Ted, the 384th will really grow, and if no one else writes to you to express their appreciation and thanks, then let it be known that Jean and I are speaking for all the members.

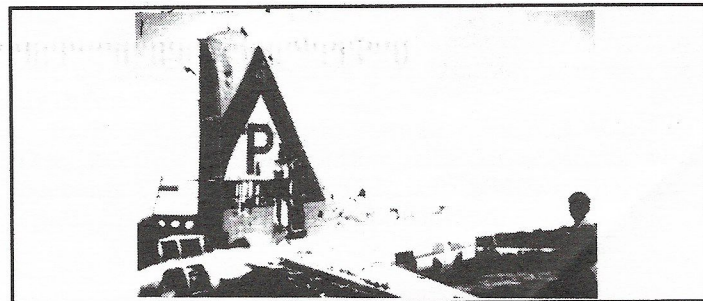
To you Marge: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, for all that you have done for the group. Without a doubt your leadership, your ladies, your work behind the scenes, and your devotion to helping Ted and all the members, have showed us how a well oiled machine is run!! The organization COULD NOT begin to operate as smooth as it does without your expertise.

Jean and I do not intend to make this a floweree letter but truly we had to write to let you know how much we (and the group) really appreciate all that you two have done to make our reunions and the quarterly newsletter so interesting.

Thanks again . . . We think you two are GREAT.

Our love . . . Ed & Jean Zieba

Above from the president of St. Louis Reunion



On March 22, 1945, the mission was to Westerholt Gr. One of our aircraft of the 547th Squadron, S/N 43-38630 SO-G, landed at Knokke, Belgium due to battle damage. The area had been liberated and the aircraft, on landing at an old German base, hit a mine field. The picture is of the tail of that aircraft. If any of you were on that crew, or have any knowledge of the incident, please contact me. Thank you.

Clint Orea

So You Want To Live The Longest

If you are planning to be the longest living veteran of any American war, you have quite a long time to live, reveals a piece in the August issue of Air Force Magazine.

The longevity records are: Revolutionary War, 109; War of 1821, 105; Mexican War, 98; Civil War, North, 109; Civil War, South, 112; Indian Wars, 101, and Spanish-American War, 106.

Then, if we say the median birth year for men of the 384th was 1920, that puts the market out there at 2032 at least.

That's a long time to be annoying your great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren!!!!

"For our air superiority, full
tribute must be paid to the United
States Eighth Army Air
Force."

- Winston Churchill

Did you know?

One out of seven casualties in
World War II was in the Eighth
Air Force.

Aerial Gunner

Presenting the last of an air crew, the
Aerial Gunner. Now that you have seen the
whole crew, don't you feel more safe and
secure knowing that your Army Air Force is
on duty tonight.

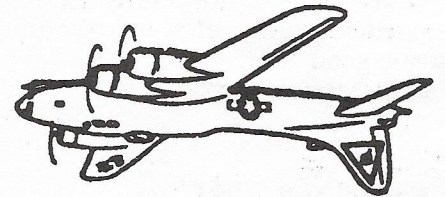


"Keep the Show on the Road"...

SYRACUSE, NY 13219-1308
105 OLIN DR
MR HENRY C SIENKIEWICZ



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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

First Class
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Palm Beach, FL
Permit No. 2161