

# POOP from GROUP 467

VOL. 21 NO. 2

STATION 145

RACKHEATH

APO 558

August 1, 2002

## FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVENTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HEAVY) ASSOCIATION, LTD.

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Editor/Pub: Ralph Davis, 1143 Kenora Cir., Beavercreek, OH 45430/Phone(937) 426-2988/Fax 426-9955/E-Mail: [mrdavis@ameritech.net](mailto:mrdavis@ameritech.net)

**TOLL FREE NUMBER - 1-877-882-7235** - Report Change of Address, Last Post, and short deadline news items

Webmaster: Bob Davis, 1654 Flesher Ave., Kettering, OH 45420 -Phone (937) 258-0368 / Fax 254-0610 / E-Mail: [bobdavis@erinet.com](mailto:bobdavis@erinet.com)

467th Home Page: [467bg.com](http://467bg.com) --- Andy Wilkinson 467th Picture Page: [www.usaaf467th.org.uk/](http://www.usaaf467th.org.uk/)

Fred Holdrege 790th Home Page: <http://fred790.tripod.com/welcome.html>

### Hon. Chairman of the Board

Col. Albert J. Shower  
21320 McConnell Ave,  
Riverside, CA 29518  
Phone: (909) 697-2543

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Marvin Ralph Davis  
1143 Kenora Circle  
Beavercreek, OH 45430  
Phone: (937) 426-2988

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4209 Ormston Circle  
Rock Hill, SC 19732  
Phone: (803) 980-6529

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929 N. Astor St., #901  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
Phone: (414) 276-8332

### 2ADA Vice-President

Geoff Gregory  
3110 Sheridan Drive  
Garland, TX 75041  
Phone: (972) 278-8537

<u>Directors</u>	<u>Term Remaining</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City &amp; State</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
5 year	3 years	Walter J. Mundy	24030 Basin Harbor Ct.	Tehachapi, CA 93561	(661) 821-5101
5 year	3 years	Vincent C. Re	6450 Rapid Run Rd.	Cincinnati, OH 45233	(513) 941-2241
5 year	3 years	Marvin Ralph Davis	1143 Kenora Circle	Beavercreek, OH 45430	(937) 426-2988
3 year	3 years	John W. Upp	5751 Camine Del Tronido	Tucson, AZ 85750	(520) 615-4140
3 year	2 years	Paul V. Hatten	4209 Ormston Circle	Rock Hill, SC 19732	(803) 980-6529
3 year	1 year	Anthony V. Bell	853 Jordanolo Dr.	Ripon, CA 95366	(209) 599-3066

### **FROM THE PREZ**

#### **COLONEL SHOWER'S MEMORIAL**

I did receive a few more donations and I believe that I should cut off the donation time period as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. It was my intention to have something at the 8<sup>th</sup> AF Heritage Museum at the time of the convention. We have now received donations from 63 individual plus a donation from the 467<sup>th</sup> treasury. We have around 1,400 members and associates and a response of 63 is still only .045 % of the population a very meager response. In all, we are looking at three areas to have Colonel Shower memorialized. We have decided to donate to (1) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Division Memorial Library, (2) The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum, and (3) possibly The Collins Foundation (B-24 All-American). To make these areas of memorial meaningful, we need your support. I believe there are many out there that want to be a part of this effort and I'm sure that I can expect additional contributions before the time period ends. There was only one "Al Shower" and we should recognize him for all he did for us in the 467<sup>th</sup>.

#### **CONVENTION 2002**

All we need now is to have you in attendance. The registration forms are in this issue. The cost is \$225.00 per person. The motel price is set at \$60.00 per person, single or double. The only trips planned will be transportation to and from the Heritage Museum on Friday. Friday will also have two memorial services at the 8<sup>th</sup> AFHM Memorial Chapel. One will

be at 11:00am and the second will be at 2:00pm. There will be a sign-up sheet at registration for time selection. It is necessary to do this as the Chapel will only hold around 80 and we do not want to over-crowd the service. There will be trips to the Museum and then to the City Market and River Street and back to Museum and motel on Saturday. City Market is a restored warehouse of a variety of shops, galleries and eating and drinking establishments. The outdoor sidewalk cafes of City Market lend a bit of Old World charm to Savannah. Market Street is your access to the Octoberfest in Savannah with many various stores crafts and eating-places. Representatives will be at the motel Thursday afternoon and Friday morning to schedule special tours such as: Ghost Tour, Island Tour, Shopping Tour, Book Tour and Dauphine Tour. They may have others, as they become available. Sunday as always is set aside for the business meeting and board meetings, so those not involved could schedule a tour on Sunday. We will have the large three-section hospitality space, which will afford itself to good conversation, reviews of memorabilia, snacks and drinks. An "on your own" snack lunch of soup, sandwich and drink will be available at the motel for those who wish to eat lunch at the motel on Friday and Saturday. It is also possible that the motel will have a restaurant in place at that time. The fact that the motel does not have a restaurant has been a real problem. I am using a food caterer from the area and caterers are not allowed to



have liquor license, I have gone to a liquor caterer who has license which may be OK for Friday and Saturday, Georgia law does not allow liquor to be sold or served on Sunday unless the motel has a restaurant has a Sunday liquor permit. The motel is still working on it and so is the Mayor. I will not know until around the time we arrive. This will mean that we will be unable to have cocktails and wine at the banquet. Of course, you may have liquor in your room, but you can't bring it with you to the banquet. The liquor was not the end of it. Just last week on July 11, I was advised that the Tax Exempt Form I signed was no good. It seems that Georgia does not give a Tax Exempt status for Veterans organization even if they have a 501 c (19) status. Georgia is very unfriendly to veterans and I believe this information should be known by other groups planning to have their conventions there.

If all goes as planned, I hope to have the Colonel Shower Memorial available in place at the Museum for all to see.

### **CONVENTION 2003**

Progress to date is good for the San Antonio Convention in 2003. Believe me I have checked on the liquor regulations for the City of San Antonio and the State of Texas. Our review of the two hotels by Jim Gamble and Pete Hatton led to the of the Radisson Hotel, located at 502 West Durango Blvd., which is on the trolley line at a price of \$79.00 per night plus tax. Our dates have been changed to the last week in September to avoid the additional cost of \$13 to get the first week in October. A tour trip of the Missions is planned. One tour is scheduled in the morning and the other in the afternoon. At present, they plan to drop you off at an area where you can have lunch on your own and then back to the hotel or on to the tour. I'm not sure at this time if there will be a trip to one of the local Air Bases, if possible, I will try. San Antonio for many of us was a part of our introduction into the USAAF. We will hit the "Alamo" a one sure stop, plus some other missions. I need to know if anyone would like to visit the Sunken Gardens, now called the Japanese Tea Gardens. It was, as I remember, a very pretty place to visit. You will either have time to take the trolley to town and do some visiting as you see fit. I will also try to get someone to be on board for Thursday afternoon and Friday morning to sign up members for special trips, especially the river trip. At the present time, I still do not have any idea what is totally available.

### **CONVENTION 2004**

Looking at two places right now. One is the Covington Kentucky area and the other is Las Vegas. Both have very good offers for hotel accommodations. It has been a while since we have had one in the Far West and we can discuss this in Savannah. If any of you have an idea better than Las Vegas to compete with Covington, Kentucky let me know. I would be partial to Kentucky as it would be close to home. I will have more on this in the next issue.

### **PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION**

It appears now that all our effort was in vein. The last we heard was that no one within the Air Force, Department of Defense or the White House believed that the 467<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Heavy) participated in the real dangerous part of World war II to merit the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions. I did receive an article taken from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Division Journal, which is titled, "To Set The Record Straight". This was written by Dave Swearingen. In this article he quotes of an exceptional mission led by Col. Albert Shower and Swearingen's crew to Leipheim Air Field, Germany on April 24, 1944. (0% of the bombs fell within the 1,000-foot radius and all were within the 2,000-foot radius. For this effort, Col. Shower was awarded his first Distinguish Flying Cross and the 96<sup>th</sup> Combat Wing and its three Bomb Groups were awarded a Presidential Citation. I apologize to the individual that sent me

this article as I have misplaced his name. I have forward this information to my Representative's Chief of Staff to see what he can find out. If this fails, then I believe it is time to end this 10 to 12 year effort.

### **DIRECT COMMUNICATION**

The use of the toll free number is still not being used as much as it should be. I had about 30 postage forward charges from the last newsletter. The number is **1-877-882-7235**. I no longer have a privacy manager system on my phone, so you do not have to dial **467** right after the above number. You can use this for news, last posts, address changes, etc.

### **INTERNET - WEB PAGE OF THE 467<sup>th</sup>**

As I told you in the last newsletter, the 467<sup>th</sup> now has its own domain name, **467bg.com**. This should be in effect around the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. So try it and lets us know if you have problems.

### **CONVENTION 2002 ACTIVITIES**

#### **Thursday, October 3, 2002**

Arrival & Registration Day, Memorabilia room set up  
3:00 P.M. - Hotel check in  
7:00 - 9:00 P.M. - Welcome reception Deli Buffet

#### **Friday, October 4, 2002**

7:00 - 9:00 A.M. - Sunshine Buffet  
11:00 A.M. - 1<sup>st</sup> Memorial Service @ 8<sup>th</sup> Chapel  
9:00 A.M. (See Schedule)- Buses to 8th Museum  
12:00 P.M. - Lunch on your own  
2:00 P.M. - 2<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Service @ 8<sup>th</sup> Chapel  
4:00, 4:30, 4:45 & 5:15 P.M. - Last Buses to Hotel  
7:00 - 8:00 P. M. Host/Pay Social Hour  
8:00 P.M. - Barbecue Buffet at hotel

#### **Saturday, October 5, 2002**

7:00 - 9:00 A.M. - East Bay Buffet  
9:00, 9:15, & 10:00 A.M. - Buses to Museum and  
Downtown Savannah  
12:00 P.M. - Lunch on your own  
4:30, 4:45 & 17:25 P.M. - Last Buses to Hotel  
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. - Host/Pay Social Hour  
7:00 - 11:00 P.M. - DJ '40s Music  
8:00 - Roast prime Rib of Beef Dinner

#### **Sunday, October 6, 2002**

7:00 - 9:00 A.M. - Sunshine Buffet  
1030 A.M. Current Board of Directors Meeting  
12:00 P.M. - Southern Buffet  
2:00 P.M. - Membership Business Meeting  
4:00 P.M. - New Board of Directors Meeting  
6:30 - 7:30 P.M. - Host/Pay Social Hour  
7:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Comfort Duo (Sirloin & Salmon Filet)  
7:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Barbershop Quartet  
8:30 - 9:30 P.M. - Group/Member Recognition

#### **Monday, October 7, 2002**

0700 - 900 A.M. - East Bay Buffet  
Farewell till we meet in San Antonio (2003)

### **FROM STATION 145**

Just to wish you all a very Happy Independence Day. We are thinking of you. God Bless you and God Bless America. See you in Baltimore, God willing.

Recently the BBC did a Broadcast on the Forum but gave little mention to the 2nd AD Memorial. I phoned and complained and they promised to correct the error. What an apt day they chose for the correction as this morning on BBC Radio Norfolk we have had a full 10 minute interview with Andrea Hough and a wonderful "sound visit" to your unique

Memorial. "Everyone is excited about the Royal Opening of the Forum on Thursday July 18th and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will be visiting the 2nd Air Division Memorial. I will have the privilege of showing him around and hopefully presenting the Team including Walter Mundy. The Memorial Library continues to be extremely busy and as we thought the magnificent new Forum Building has become very much a focal point in our City and always thronged with people.

Gave the Marker Stone another good weed and clean session last weekend with the flags being repaired by Jean. We have received a wonderful offer from the youngsters of the Wroxham Air Training Corps to help us keep the Marker Stone area neat and tidy.

The new road in Rackheath, "Mahoney Drive" houses some excellent businesses and the main one has incorporated in their Reception area photographs of Lt. Col. James Mahoney.

Jean and I hope to see you all in Baltimore. God Bless".  
David.Hastings  
Memorial Trust Chairman.

## **POST EXCHANGE**

### **CURRENT MEMBERSHIP ROSTER**

(Alpha & Zip available) \$3.00 ea, including shipping.

### **ADDENDUM & ERRATA BOOK & GROUP ROSTER**

Addendum & Errata Book: \$5.00 including shipping

Group Roster: \$7.00 including shipping

Both for \$10.00 including shipping

### **GROUP WINDOW DECAL (AVAILABLE)**

\$3.00 ea + \$0.50 shipping = \$3.50

### **GROUP & SQUADRON PINS**

Note: All pins are now available:

467th 789th

791st 788th

790th 470th Sub Depot (limited number)

\$ 5.00 ea. plus \$0.75 package and post.

All 6 pins set, \$24.00 plus \$1.00 package and post

All 5 pins set (less 470<sup>th</sup>), \$20.00 plus \$0.75 package and post

Package and post is \$0.75 for up to five pins.

### **ALL OF THE ABOVE AVAILABLE THROUGH:**

Ralph Davis  
1143 Kenora Circle  
Beavercreek, Ohio 45430-1101

### **GROUP & SQUADRON PATCHES:**

467<sup>th</sup>

791<sup>st</sup> 790<sup>th</sup>

798<sup>th</sup> 788<sup>th</sup>

\$ 5.00 ea. plus \$0.75 package and post.

All 5 patch set (less 470<sup>th</sup>), \$20.00 plus \$0.75 package and post

Package and post is \$0.75 for up to five patches.

### **PATCHES AVAILABLE THROUGH:**

Paul V. Hatten  
4209 Ormston Circle,  
Rock Hill, SC 19732

### **GI MEMORIES OF THE ETO:**

A 5-1/4" by 8", 25-page booklet of cartoon like scenes of enlisted personnel activities is available for \$5.00 from:

Allen J. Welters  
1418 70<sup>th</sup> St. E.  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

## **MAIL MEMORIAL FUND**

There were 35 contributions to the mail fund this period that gave \$1,587.51, approximately \$45.36 per donation. Your generosity, as always, is deeply appreciated. The cost of preparation and mailing the newsletter averages around \$1,500 per issue. We have used 1<sup>st</sup> class mail as it gets there much earlier for most; however, I will use the non-profit mailings to cut costs on some mailings that time allows. If you enjoy the newsletter, please help support it. Donations for Colonel Shower's Memorial Fund are indicated by a (\*) and Bob McEwen by a (\*\*). Contributors this period were:

Alexander, Jr., Ed (*)	MacIntire, Malcom
Bake, Frank	Malone, Bodie (M)(*)
Bell, Tony	Maris, Anthony (M)(*)
Brown, Merle (M)(*)	McGovern, Bill (M)(*)
Carner, Oliver	McKenzie, Bob (M)(**)
Condry, Mary-AW (*)	North, Tony (*)
Corvino, Valerie	Palmer, Bruce
Cox Charlie (M)(*)	Patterson, Dave (2AD)
Crandell, Lee	Prichard, Lyle (*)
Cridling, Mildred (Vance)(*)	Pugh, Floyd (M)(*)
Dastrup, Evan (*)	Rambosky, Ronald (*)
Davis, Ralph	Sherrard, Jim
Dunnam, Blackie (M)(*)	Smith, Kay (Elliott)(*)
Ellison, Tex (M)(*)	Smolar, Anthony (*)
Elsen, Elizabeth (M)(*)	Spencer, Lowrey
Felbinger, Norm (M)(*)	Tittmann, Katharine (*)
Giesecke Investments (M)(*)	Touchette, Al (*)
Harvey, Mack (M)(*)	Tranter, Robert
Holmes, Caper (*)	Watson, Frank
King, Ed (M)(*)	Welters, Allen (M)(*)
Logan, John	Willis, Les (M)(*)

## **THE ROYAL OPENING OF THE FORUM**

### **JULY 18th 2002**

Just to let you all know that we had a really splendid day last Thursday, with blue skies and a huge crowd in the City centre to greet Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh. Jennifer Holland as Head of Libraries and Information did a really superb job and managed in the end to get all the Trust Governors and wives on the Guest list. We were also so pleased to have the President of the 2nd Air Division, Walter Mundy and Ruth also on the list.

After all the rehearsals and briefings everything went smoothly and I was so privileged to be able to show His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh around your unique 2nd Air Division Memorial Library. Her Majesty The Queen passed by our main door escorted by Jennifer Holland on her way to the Children's Library, while I waited nervously at our main entrance to be presented to HRH by Janet Holden, the Principal Librarian. I welcomed His Royal Highness and we made our way inside as I explained to him the vision that you had in the Forties that brought about this wonderful memorial. According to the briefing we should have looked at just the first part of the Mural, but the Duke was keen to see the entire mural so our well-rehearsed plan started to change. He was certainly touched by the whole concept as to how your Memorial Library began.

He then asked me to explain the Assembly Ship models (not in the plan!) before we then made our way into the Shrine Area and the Roll of Honour, which obviously moved him. Next I explained the WAC Key and the map of the bases which

led me nicely on to explaining the massive role played by the 2nd Air Division Association in supporting the Memorial over so many years, including your wonderful Fulbright Scholar Librarian gift. Although we had been told that there could be no official presentations, I did ask if he would like to meet the 2nd ADA President and he readily agreed, so I presented Walter Mundy to him, and then quickly introduce Tom Eaton, Paul King and David Neale.

We then discussed staffing and I had a great chance to introduce Derek Hills and Andrea Hough. Time was now running out and I asked his Royal Highness if he would be willing to sign our Visitors Book and again he agreed. He was so charming and had spoken to everyone, that I decided to risk it all and ask him if he would accept one of the 2nd ADA Medallions as a memento of his visit (this was not in the programme). To my delight the Duke accepted and even better, which I think showed his interest in the entire project, he insisted on going back to Shrine Area and thanking the 2nd ADA President personally for the Medallion, so Walter got two chances to talk with him! So this memorable visit ended and we had only just over-run our allotted time by 1 minute. The actual visit was totally different to the rehearsals but thanks to the kindness and interest of the Duke of Edinburgh we achieved everything and more than we had dared to hope for. HRH then went on to visit the Tourist Office and Origins, while the seven of us in the 2nd AD Memorial were taken through the rear of the building to be reunited with our wives in the Atrium ready for the Queen to be invited by David McCall, the Chairman of the Forum Trust Limited to formally open the Forum. Her Majesty and the Duke then left the Forum to mingle with the huge crowd on Millennium Plain before finally leaving Norwich for Sandringham. Back in the Atrium we enjoyed champagne and canapés courtesy of the Forum Trust and there is no doubt that Robin Hall, the Chief Executive of the Forum Trust and Jennifer Holland of the County Council together with all their respective teams worked so hard to make the occasion the huge success. Certainly none of us will ever forget that day.

In the perfect evening we just relaxed at last over supper at home in Salhouse with Walter Mundy and his great RAF Lancaster pilot friend, but we were sad that Ruth was not well enough to travel and be with us. So a great day in the history of your living 2nd Air Division Memorial Library ended.

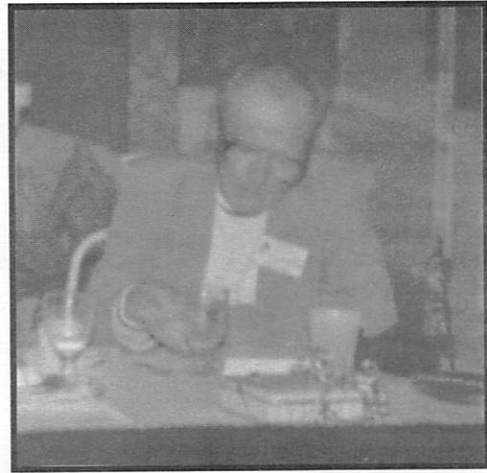
God Bless the 2nd Air Division and hope to see you all in Baltimore.

David.J.Hastings

Chairman. Memorial Trust, 2nd AD, USAAF.

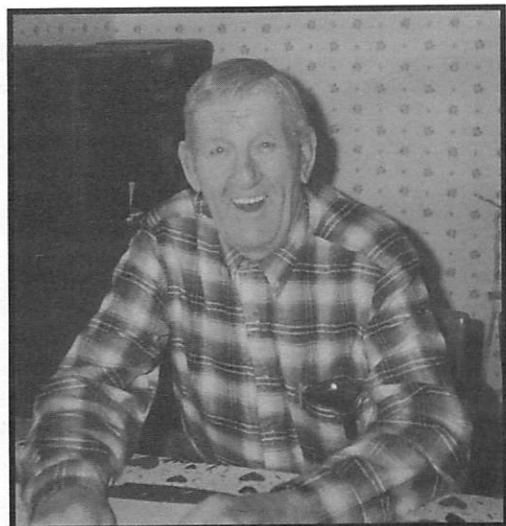
### **WILLIAM P. McGOVERN**

Bill McGovern, our Bomb Group Secretary, passed away on June 14, 2002. Bill was very active in our work. He provided the legal guidance for the Bomb Group incorporation as well as the many other functions of the secretary. He was always ready to support the many causes develop with the Bomb Group business. He is survived by his wife, Jean and his daughter Erin. Bill was active in local politics, running for various offices including State Senator. Bill will be deeply missed by his comrades and friends. Our deepest sympathy does out to his wife and daughter.



### **CALVIN C. DEYERMOND**

Calvin passed away on February 2, 2002. Calvin was a tail gunner on the crew of Lt. Sawyer. Calvin enlisted in 1940. He went to Armorer/gunnery School in Colorado and graduated from Aerial Gunnery School in Florida. He completed his combat tour with three battle stars and the Air Medal with clusters. After returning to the US he became a police officer and retired in 1968. He then joined the Raytheon Security Guards and retired from Raytheon in 1991. He has a family of police officers with the latest being his Grandson who becomes the fourth generation of police officers. Calvin had a very distinguished career of service to his nation and the public. He will be deeply missed by his wife Marilyn and his family and friends. The 467<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group expresses their sincere sympathy to Marilyn and the family for their and our loss.



**Convention Registration Form - Pooler GA., Oct 3 -7, 2002**

**467<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group Association (H) Ltd.**

(Complete this form and mail along with deposit to Ralph Davis)  
(Please fill in all the requested blanks to assist Convention Records)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I. Badge - Name

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Telephone No. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

First Timer Yes ( ) No ( )

Accompanied By;

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I. Badge - First Name

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I. Badge - First Name

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I. Badge - First Name

Date of Arrival and time \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.- P.M. (Very Important)  
Date Time

Date of Departure and time \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.- P.M.  
Date Time

Arriving via Car( )/ ( )Air line \_\_\_\_\_ Flt # \_\_\_\_\_

Car arrivals: From I - 95 take exit 102 and the sign is visible from the exit. Address is 301 Governor Treutlen Drive. It is across from the Econo Lodge and the drive is between Burger King and Hardees fast food.

Air arrivals: The motel does not have a courtesy car at this time; however, it is only 2 or so miles from the airport, so a taxicab is recommended.

RV and Motorhome: Parking available in lot at motel. There are NO hookups available.

**BADGE INFORMATION**

Important - Complete data below for badge ID

Your Squadron/Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Your Rank and Duty \_\_\_\_\_

Your Pilot/CO \_\_\_\_\_ Arrived Rackheath \_\_\_\_\_ Departed \_\_\_\_\_

POW Yes ( ) No ( ) If yes, where \_\_\_\_\_ How Long \_\_\_\_\_

Cite one memory while at Rackheath that gives you a chuckle and/or of interest to the group:

CONVENTION COSTS

Per Person \$ 225.00  
Times Number of Persons \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Deposit Due with Reservations, \$75.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Balance Due August 30, 2002, \$ 150.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay by check or Money Order!

The above cost is for the entire package as listed in the Schedule of Activities. There will be a "Freebie" drawing for a one person convention package cost of \$ 225.00. The drawing will be open to all who pay in full by August 1, 2002  
Make checks payable to: "467th Bombardment Group Convention 2002".  
Fill in the above Convention Costs form and mail with your deposit of \$75.00 per person along with the Convention Registration Form to:

Ralph Davis  
1143 Kenora circle  
Beavercreek, OH 45430-1101  
(937) 426-2988 (e-mail: BJMax@aol.com)  
1-877-882-7235

HOTEL REGISTRATION

MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH THE COMFORT INN & SUITES MOTEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
All rooms must be reserved by September 15, 2002 in order to guarantee space and to assure rates.  
Reservation phone number: 1-888-895-6464. Check-in time: 3:00 PM.

Comfort Inn & Suites Motel  
301 Governor Treutlen Drive  
Pooler, GA 31322  
1-888-895-6464 (Reservation)  
(912) 748-6464 - FAX (912) 748-8163.

Room rates are: Single or Double \$ 60.00 + tax

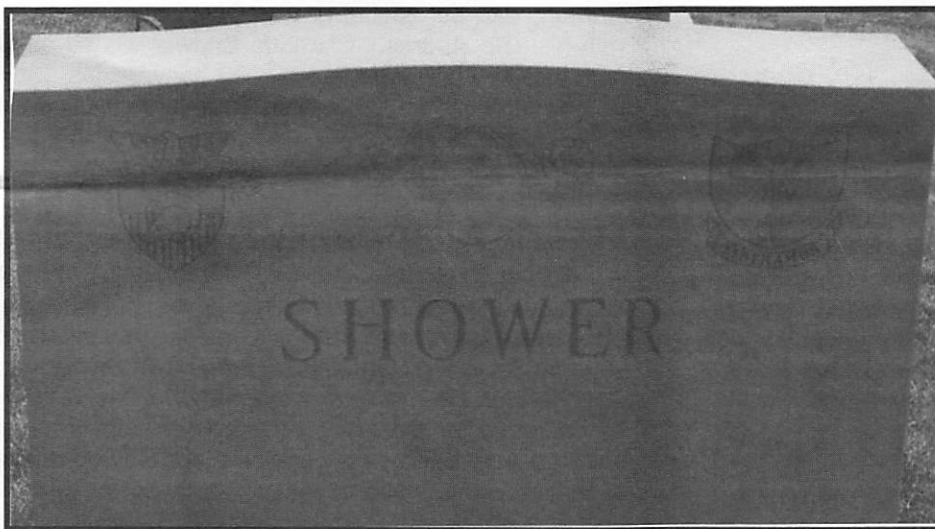
When making reservations, please refer to the 467th Bomb Group Convention, Oct 3 - 7, 2002. A 48-hour cancellation policy is in effect. These rates will apply for three or four days before and after the convention. All rooms are either a single king bed or two full size beds. In addition to the usual amenities included are a full size ironing board and iron, hair dryer, microwave, refrigerator, coffee maker and public areas are wheelchair accessible. Let your special requirements be known to the hotel.

**SOME OF THE GROUP ATTENDING COL. SHOWER'S FUNERAL**



There were several in attendance from the 467<sup>th</sup>. The Military ceremony was very impressive and only fitting for such a fine gentleman and our Commander. From time to time, I will add pictures of events and items that will keep his memory alive for the Group. If anyone has something to provide me as a comment or picture, I'd appreciate it. If you would send it to me.

**THE BACK OF COL. SHOWER'S MONUMENT**



Col. Shower had two organizations that he was very proud to be a part of and requested them to be displayed on his monument. You can observe the emblem of West Point on the left and the emblem of the 467<sup>th</sup> on the right. The "Liberamus" emblem of the 467<sup>th</sup> was very dear and close to his heart. He was devoted to our current organization and did many things to promote it.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Operating Fund 3-27-02 to 7-23-02		
Operating Fund Balance 3-27-02	\$	<b>17,672.61</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Mail- Memorial Fund Contributions	\$	1,587.51
Patch Sales		83.75
Pins, Rosters, Errata Books, etc. sales		91.75
CD Cash-in + Interest		3,166.05
Colonel Shower Living Memorial		2,345.00
Bob McEwen Memorial		15.00
Checking Account Interest		123.23
<b>Sub-Total Income</b>		<b>7412.43</b>
Sub-Total	\$	<b>25,085.04</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
POOP FROM GROUP 21-1	\$	1,477.93
Convention Items		1,037.77
Visa Charges		1,282.91
<b>Sub-Total</b>	\$	<b>3,798.61</b>

**OPERATING FUND BALANCE**                      \$ 21,286.43

Note: Operating Fund Balance includes those funds donated to Colonel Shower and Bob McEwen Memorial. Also includes some funds forwarded to 2002 Convention that will be refunded, as funds become available from Convention Funds.

**LAST POST**

- |                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| James E. Branton         | Kengwood, TX      |
| Walter Broadfield        | Farmington, IL    |
| Robert T. Charmo         | Daytona Beach, FL |
| Calvin C. Deyermond      | Salem, NH         |
| Howard W. Dye, Jr.       | Jamison, PA       |
| George D. Gerber         | Henderson, NC     |
| George B. Hallowell, Jr. | Radnor, PA        |
| William P. McGovern      | Milwaukee, WI     |
| Roger V. Scherer         | St. Charles, IL   |



John A. Sheltar  
Hollis C. Stephenson  
Raymond D. Vogel  
William J. Williams  
John Zelinka

Overlook Park, KS  
Waterford, MI  
Clinton, IA  
Laguna Hills, CA  
Pittsburgh, PA

#### **ADDITIONS**

Charles P. Bednairk  
Alan Broadfield-AF Walter  
Kay H. Charbonneau – AF (Hudlow) Cummings, GA  
Stuart Dann – AH  
Anne M. Dye – AW (Howard)  
Ruth McEwen (Bob)  
Raymond R. McC Carson  
Daniel S. Pittit – AF  
Robert Pittman – AF (Griffin)  
Paul Rodell – AF (Leo)  
James R. Sheltar – AF (John)  
Mrs. Hollis Stephenson – AW  
Cynthia Stevens \_ AF (Jack)

Coopersberg, PA  
Lake-in-the-Hills, IL  
Norwich, England  
Jamison, PA  
Mission Viego, CA  
Brandon, FL  
Ososso, MI  
Columbus, GA  
Arlington Hts., IL  
Overlook Park, KS  
Waterford, MI  
Reston, VA

#### **LOST SOULS**

James L. Bowman  
Charles L. Kotis  
Leland Tolbert – AF

Tucson, AZ  
Kettering, OH  
Portland, OR

#### **REQUEST REMOVAL**

J. Richard Buckley  
Cleveland, OH

#### **WIDOWS COMMENTS**

There are four additions to the roster this period: Marilyn Deyermond, 54 Nelson St., Salem, NH 03079; Anne M. Dye (Howard). 2010 York Rd., Apt 105, Jamison, PA 18929; Jean McGovern, 929 N. Astor St., #901, Milwaukee, WI 53202; and Mrs. Hollis Stephenson, 157 S. Ascot St, Waterford, MI 48328 If any of the Widows would like a roster of either the group or the widows, please let me know and I will see that you get one or both. I hope to see many of you at our next convention in Savannah in 2002. Also, there were many Last Posts that I did not have the widow name. If anyone knows their name, please let me know. Thank you.

#### **ATTENTION 788BS PERSONNEL -IMPORTANT**

If you served in this Squadron, in any capacity, between 10 August 1944 and June 1945, and I have not yet talked to you, **Please Contact Me Before the Savannah 2002 Convention.** I am close to completion of my book about your Squadron and want to include you and your story in it. Thanks. Robin Janton; 23573 Pole Ridge; Laurelville, OH 43135; (740) 332-1271.

#### **WWII MEMORIAL - REGISTRY OF**

#### **REMEMBRANCES – ROBIN FILLEBROWN**

The National WWII memorial is being built in Washington, DC with formal dedication to take place in the Spring of 2004. The web site is "www.wwiiregistry.org for viewing. Names may be added to the honoree list by logging on to [www.iimemorial.com](http://www.iimemorial.com) and the link will tell you where to go. The Registry will be seen by visitors to both the web site and Washington. Donations are not required to become a part of this Register. The effort is to have all World War II veterans

to become a part of this Register. The information they are looking for is: Honoree Name; Honoree Status (WWII VET); Branch of Service; Title/Rank; Hometown/State; and Honoree Activity which can be as much as you want. You can mail this to:

The National World War II Memorial  
Processing Center  
P.O. Box 186  
Calverton, NY 11933-0186

Editor's Note: I added a little bit Robin!

#### **USAAF NOW ON-LINE – Fred Holdrege**

From the Flying Fortress (what is that?) to the Flying Tigers, your Squadron is there. Please log on to [www.veterollcall.com](http://www.veterollcall.com). The mission is to reunite those who served. Your comments and suggestions are appreciated.

#### **2 AD GROUP VP – Geoff Gregory**

Most of this news will be in the 2<sup>nd</sup> AD Journal, so here are some highlights. Met the new 2ADA Fulbright Librarian, Tahitia Orr who resides in Alaska at the EX. Com meeting. We still need your support in the Bequest Program and I invite all to participate. The latest member of the Board of Governors of the Memorial Trust, Andrew Hawker, will be attending our Convention in Savannah with his wife Andrea. Charlotte Shower will be attending both the 2<sup>nd</sup> ADA and the 467<sup>th</sup> BG conventions. She told us how strongly the Colonel believed in the mission of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ADA and the 467<sup>th</sup> BG. Inspiring words! Will see you all in Baltimore and Savannah.

#### **LETTERS & NOTES FROM MEMBERS**

**Merle Brown** – Thank you for all your good work in getting us the POOP. It is always a real pleasure to hear from members of the 467<sup>th</sup>. I, along with all the other veterans of the group, was saddened at the passing of Col. Shower. In my opinion, he never received the credit he deserved for the great job he did in commanding our unit. Looking back, I now realize that he cared deeply for each one of us, while expecting us to do our best. The last time I saw the Commander was at Smokey Hill Air Force base in Kansas during early summer 1945. He was hoping to go to the Pacific Theater and wanted as many of the 467<sup>th</sup> members as possible to be with him. He never forgot us.

**Evan Dastrup** – I do want to make a contribution to Col. Shower's Memorial, but I don't have a lot to work with. I know that we are all in the "Golden Years", but I'm afraid I missed the gold – the years made it all right. I want to tell of a contact I had with Col. Shower some years ago. I believe it was early 1989. I was in La Canada, CA visiting a brother and had one of my sons with me. I had some extra time and got to thinking about the Colonel and thought I'd like to find him and visit. I knew he was in Riverside and I had his address from the POOP. So we drove over there and had no trouble finding the address – rang the bell – and there he was – tall as ever – still had his mustache – I swear, 45 years just melted away. I had never talked to him before. (I



guess at Rackheath, the object was not to). I said, Col. Shower, I'm Evan Dastrup, does that name mean anything to your memory? He hesitated just a moment and then said, Dastrup – yeah, you were one of my aircraft commanders – what brings you here? We visited a bit and then he said, why don't we go over to March Field and go through the museum while we talk. Well, we left our car, got in his Lincoln and did just that. Had a wonderful 2-3 hours together and had a great time. A "star" day for my son – he thought the Col. was very impressive – has talked of the day many times. I saw him again at Omaha and at Tucson. The only two conventions I've been able to work in. Ralph, just wanted to tell the story. He said there were those who "hated his guts" – well not I – greatest C>O> I ever had – greatest experience of my life at Rackheath, UK. (Editor's note: Evan, it didn't take many too long to realize what a great leader the Colonel was, especially when so many of us came home!)

**Allen Welters** – Again enjoyed receiving Poop From Group and it was sad news to read that our Comdr. Col. Shower has left us for his Eternal Assignment up in that peaceful Blue Yonder. Now we have to carry on as he had us trained to do in our 467<sup>th</sup>. At present I am recovering from cancer & serious back problems and to write a letter for Poop from Group will help get the mind off pain & problems. Besides that have decided to try to find someone connected to a crewless landing I remember. One of our B-24's made a landing in a meadow somewhere to the south of Norwich. The B-24's Ser. # 4252623 was a 788<sup>th</sup> Sqd. A/C at the beginning, then was assigned to our 789<sup>th</sup> Sqd. Its nose art was a large yellow rabbit posed with bomb overhead with the name "Wabbit" in large yellow letters. As memory serves me – I remember that taking place in Feb. of 1945. It returned from a mission low on gas, I saw the crew bail out over our field & Wabbit flew on crewless. About 2 weeks later it was flown back to our base, I saw it land & waited for it to come in to its hardstand & looked it over very closely, the only item noticeable was long grass pinched between nose wheel rim & tire. I would very much appreciate hearing from a crewmember of the crew that bailed out or anyone in connection with the return of Wabbit to our Sqd, & to go on flying missions until the war ended. About 3 or 4 days after the war ended, Wabbit crashed when it went over the end of the SE-NW runway because of a runaway supercharger – a real sad ending for a great OLE Rabbit. Time is rowing short so would surely appreciate hearing from someone in connection to that low gas mission to help me back up my memory & peace of mind. With all best wishes to all of you comrades, especially those who have exchanged letters or wrote letters to me in the years since we were at Rackheath. Thank you all again and God Bless you all.

**Anthony R. Smolzar** – I feel honored and privileged to contribute to a Memorial for Col. Albert J. Shower, USAF Retired. He was a fine leader whose precepts and policies did much to insure the safety of the personnel assigned to his command. The fine record of the performance of the 467<sup>th</sup> BG (H) was due directly to his astute leadership. His passing evokes a feeling of deep

sorrow, but with fond memories of all his accomplishments.

### **CAPTAIN CHARLES J. WHITE (Cont. from 21-1)**

He never knew the full extent of the trouble—nor, throughout the rest of the flight, would he ever learn the exact details of the damage his plane had sustained. (Actually, much of the Constellation's triple-finned tail had been sliced off by the jet's passing wing-tip.) At first, all Captain White knew was that his crippled aircraft was tipping left and down into a headlong descent. And he was discovering, as he began fighting to regain command of the plane, that he had no functioning control surfaces—the movable panels on the wings and tail—to pull out of the dive.

Under the best of circumstances, the pilot's voice comes through the loudspeakers into the passenger cabin a bit muffled, vaguely impersonal. But any accent of fear will filter through. Even as their own emotions were drifting to the edge of panic, the passengers marveled at the absolute calm in the voice they heard: "This is the Captain speaking. We've had a mid-air collision. Please fasten your seat belts."

And then: "We're out of control. Brace yourselves the best you can for a crash landing. You won't be hearing from me anymore. I'm going to be a little busy up here."

### **Converging Blips**

Just 40 minutes earlier, climbing out from Boston, the flight had begun as the epitome of routine travel—a Saturday-afternoon shuttle run to Newark, NJ, weather cheerfully clear, traffic only normally dense, a flight plan so ordinary that it was activated by the push of a single button on a computer at the Air Traffic Control Center. The plan called for Captain White to fly southwest (into the sun), at an altitude of 10,000 feet, to the Carmel navigational beacon in South Salem, N.Y., and then turn slightly left to approach the landing pattern at Newark.

A cross-section of air travelers was aboard, preoccupied with commonplace, if widely differing interests. Midway along the left side, Father Patrick Healy, a Catholic priest on home leave after seven years in Japan, made small talk with Lt. Marilyn Schreiber, a tall, attractive Navy nurse. Across the aisle, a young Negro woman dandled her year-old baby, who was happily playing peek-a-boo with the stranger in the row behind them, a sales executive named James Beardsell. But Beardsell, who had been a B-24 pilot in World War II, was secretly worried that the plane was just above a cloud deck. He had once experienced the narrowest of near misses when flying his bomber through clouds.

A young couple near the front were kissing, oblivious to the bizarre sight of a gold earring worn by a college boy in the row ahead. Like the trip itself, Bert Pietranski's earpiece was part of a fraternity-hazing gag. His fellow fraternity pledge, Jeff Klein, was handcuffed by the right wrist to a briefcase. The boys were supposed to be playing the roles of characters in a spy-thriller, and their unplanned trip—launched with a one-way ticket, a loaded camera and no cash—

(Continued in 21-3)

**POOP from GROUP**  
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Artist view of the mid-air collision of Captain Charles J. (Chuck) White

