



VOL. 3 NO. 1

Station 145 APO 558

July 31, 1983

Badjo
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 OFFICIAL

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Mailed \$90. 8/31/83

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Poop From Group, Volume 3, No. 4, was mailed soon after April 15, 1983. I sent 725 copies to 467th people and 21 to others in the 2nd Air Division Association. To date, only 8 467th copies have been returned as non-deliverable. So we had 717 good 467th addresses. Since then I have sent in 37 computer cards, deleting those 8 from the computer, changing 8 addresses that I have been notified of and ADDING the 21 new names that you have sent me. A good bit of progress for a few months, a net 21 gain, but a long way to go to double the roster by our October reunion in Dayton.

I have received 146 letters, including 70 reservations for 134 people for the Dayton reunion and 58 donations to the mail-memorial fund, \$1180, but nearly half of that from one individual. This amount leaves a long way to go toward the memorial at Dayton even considering the \$5 per attendee at Dayton going to the memorial. Your math will show over 600 non-responders to this appeal. Let me hear from each of you positively!

I believe I have acknowledged each reservation and each donation. But in the rush to do so before going to England May 21, I know I missed enclosures in some mailings. I believe I have now rectified all of my errors, if not let me know please.

NECROLOGY
 Anthony L. Losasso

THE 467th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) REUNION

This will be the last Poop From Group prior to the Reunion of the 467th BG in Dayton, OH, October 7-9, 1983. Attendees of the reunion will be receiving additional information by mail up to the reunion time.

THIS IS THE POOP

TIME: October 7, 1983 PM to Noon Oct. 9, 1983.

PLACE: Dayton, OHIO. We have one hundred rooms of two hundred twenty-five reserved in the Admiral Benbow Inn Dayton-Downtown (This was Sheraton Inn-Dayton-Downtown prior to the hotel chain affiliation change that occurred after sending out last Poop.) Everyone will be in same hotel, all activities except AF Museum visit and Saturday lunch will be at this hotel. Let's fill it up!

COST: \$33 per night per room whether single, double or double-double bed room; PLUS \$90 per person for activities listed in events below. Hotel reservation includes free parking for those traveling by auto.

You will have to pay limousine fare from airport to hotel and return to airport, this fare is not included in the cost of hotel or events below.

Attendees should send me their reunion costs, \$90 per person or amount calculated by cost schedule below by September 1, 1983, the date I must prepay all costs involved in the reunion.

EVENTS:

Friday October 7

6:30P to 8P Cocktail Party with Open Bar and Hot and Cold Hor D'Oeuvres
 8P to --- Reunion

Saturday October 8

7:00A to 8:30A Buffet Breakfast
 9:00A to 10:00A Bus to Air Force Museum
 10:00A to 5:00P Wright Patterson Air Force Museum
 12 Noon to 1:00P Lunch on Grounds at Air Force Museum
 1:15P to 1:45P Dedication of 467th Memorial
 3:00P to 5:00P Bus to Admiral Benbow Inn-Dayton-Downtown

6:30P to 7:30P Open Bar
 7:30P to --- Banquet Dinner, Business Meeting, Slide Presentation of Norwich & Rackheath, Reunion
Sunday October 9
 7:00A to 9:00A - Buffet Breakfast

A day Room will be open from 12N Friday, from 9 AM Saturday and until 12N Sunday. A place to congregate, display memorabilia, listen to the juke box, leave and receive messages and further reunion information.

OTHER:

Cost of Individual Events per person:
 Friday Cocktail Party \$20.00
 Saturday Buffet Breakfast \$10.00
 Saturday Bus Service \$ 2.50
 Saturday Noon Lunch \$10.00
 Saturday Cocktails & Dinner \$5.00
 Sunday Buffet Breakfast \$12.50

\$5 of each \$90 and all surplus monies will be applied to the cost of the 467th Memorial, now estimated at \$1800, more or less, including an aluminum plaque on a marble pedestal at the foot of a Red Oak tree on the Air Force Museum Grounds.

What to bring:

All events should be as casual as you wish except Saturday evening, lets dress up for that. Weather should be mostly cloudy, temperatures in 60's, probability of rain on Saturday. Memorabilia of any and all kinds. The Day Room will be the place to meet, to display, to swap talk, experiences, whatever, open as long as two or more are gathered together.

Remarks:

The schedule is crowded and tight. The times to visit will be all Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday and Sunday at breakfast, to and from and at the AF Museum. All should, will I know, attend the Memorial Dedication Service. The business meeting at the Saturday Dinner should be short, a State of the Group report, possibly one Distinguished Guest to speak and I believe you should elect a Group representative (Vice-President) for the Group's involvement with the 2nd Air Division Association. Give me their names, and that he is willing to serve prior to the Reunion.

If enough register for arrival on October 6th, the Day Room will open at 12N that date with some informal activity to be provided that evening.

I would like to show a 35 MM slide presentation of Norwich and Rackheath. I am in need of additional slides. You who were at 1983 Reunion in Norwich, send me your duplicates, let me borrow your slides, to fill out this presentation.

If you have any questions, require additional information, write or call me at any time. I cannot conclude this without acknowledging the services of Blackwell "Blackie" Dunnam, 1421 Convent Rd., Troy, OH, 45373, who responded immediately to my request for "on site" help in the furthering of the reunion plans and has been, will be, is, instrumental in the events of this reunion. Each of you should look him up at the reunion and give him your thanks for his well done efforts.

ADDENDUM: Personal - Harris!, Hugh!, Leland(Jack)!, Remo!; Walt and I will be in Dayton, why not the four of you?

Does anyone of you remember C. T. Dungan, a young man then, a military courier frequently on Rackheath. One of you gave him an Independence Safety Match box with an American coin in it. At Rackheath he gave me the match box, nearly 40 years old and in it was a one pound coin. Remember this youth of our youth who remembers us. Write to him at 7 Sir Edward Stracey Rd., Rackheath, Norwich, Norfolk, England.

I thought we were called Rackheath "Aggies" because we plowed the earth in Fortress Europe with our bombs. I was told in Rackheath, though, that we were "Aggies" because of Mrs. Agnes (Aggie) Curtiss, of Rackheath, who adopted the Group, in general, and some of you of it, in particular, soon after the arrival of the 467th in Rackheath. Tell me, anyone, what know you of this.

REUNION 2nd AIR DIVISION ASSOCIATION - NORWICH

The 2nd Air Division Association 36th Reunion in Norwich, for the 20th anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial Library Room, from May 26-31, 1983, was attended by the following 467th veterans and families.

Joe & Nellie Abernathy	Kay Lanigan
John Balog	Ed Mahoney
Bill Buchecker	Bill McGovern
George & Kathrine Church	A. E. "Rocky" & Ida Rothchild
Phillip & Cille Day	Bob & Connie Fligg
Bill & Vernice Dillon	Paul & Suzie Horvath
Charlie Finn	Cheryl Rothchild
Jeff & Terry Gregory	Dave & Joanne Rothchild
Howard & Gretta Johnson	Cecil & Debra Stanley
Jim & Audrey Johnston	Nate Snyder
	Harold & Jean Weeks

We could not have been received by Norwich and Norfolk County in any nicer manner, we were treated as distinguished guests, not as visitors. The theme of the reunion, "We came as friends, we stayed as friends, we remained friends", was wholly reciprocated by the British. The major events of the reunion, arranged and scheduled by the Chairman and Governors of the Memorial Trust of the 2nd AD, were all well attended and enjoyed by the participants. Thursday evening we had a Buffet Supper at the Norwood, which many of you will remember as the Lido Ballroom of 1944-45. Friday there was a Special Service of Thanksgiving at the Church of St. Peter Mancroft, opposite the City Hall and Library. The conclusion of the service was the Dedication of New Standards, an American flag and a 2nd Air Division flag, which were then processed to the Memorial Library Room followed by attendees of the service. After lunch a new film tribute to the 2nd Air Division, "Remember Them", principally to be shown to British school youth, was shown for us. Saturday, after the business meeting, a great number went to RAF Coltishal to participate in the Station Family Day. Especially enjoyed was the flying exhibition by a Harrier, vertical take off and landing, flying backward, high and low speed flight and then a bow to the appreciative audience. Saturday evening we were given a Civic Reception and Buffet Supper by The Lord Mayor of Norwich and The Chairman of the Norfolk County Council. Sunday a well attended Memorial Service was held at the United States Military Cemetery at Cambridge. Others went on a boat trip on the Wroham Broads and then visited Blickling Hall.

Monday morning and afternoon we had trips to the base areas, the reunion highlight.

The 467th had first a Memorial Service at Rackheath All Saints Old Church, a fifteenth century church now maintained by the New Rackheath community but about four miles from it and probably a mile north of the Wroxham Road. Then to New Rackheath for the dedication and unveiling of the village sign which prominently features our 467th B-24 Liberator, meaning that our operation from Rackheath airdrome was one of the most significant events in the over 700 year history of this area. (See Photos) Following this was a reception in the New Rackheath All Saints Church and each of us could not have been treated more graciously. From there to the Green Man for lunch. This should have been our opportunity for a Group mini-reunion but due to the crowded conditions, caused by the 458th BG being with us to this time, it was impossible to do so. The 458th left us after lunch and we began our coach tour of the base. David Hastings, of the Board of Governors of The Memorial Trust of the Second Air Division, lives in Salhouse. He visited the base as a youngster when the Group was there and was one of our guides. Peter Bond, a friend of the 467th and 2nd ADA, has visited, explored, extensively on the base in the last two years and was our other guide. I don't believe we veterans really remembered very much; possibly, Sir Edward Stracy's Rackheath Hall, now not occupied after being for many years an antique shop, the control tower, though not complete, still recognizable, the T-2 hanger in the technical site, Group Headquarters, though partially torn down, the gymnasium (possibly), the NCO Club (possibly) and some still standing Seco huts (stucco plastered brick exterior, vertical sides, unlike Nissen huts) which, we believe were for permanent party of base, not the transient flying crews, some Nissen huts scattered about. David and especially, Peter, were very helpful to us in explaining what they knew or surmised to be the original uses of the remaining structures and improvements. The accompanying photos are of this visit and a 35 MM slide presentation will be shown at the Dayton Reunion. Monday night we had the closing Banquet with A. E. "Rocky" Rothchild representing the 467th in the candle lighting memorial service. Two gripes and I'm done. Not all 467th people were in same hotel. This made it virtually impossible to

get together, to mini reunion, to get to know one another. It would have taken extraordinary planning to have gotten us all in one hotel, I think it should have been done. Second, seating at the Banquet was not by Groups, it would have been much more effective had it been so, but was decided against in order to save the seating time lost (used) at the last two conventions.

In all it was a very enjoyable time, a good reunion, But Above All Else, we were given the warmest "Welcome Home" by all we encountered. All the more reason to join the 2nd ADA Reunion with us in October 1984 in Palm Springs. CA

POST EXCHANGE

Andy De Biasse, Telephone 201-337-2938, of 58 Hillside Ave., Madison, NJ, 07940, has two sizes of the color photo of the "Witchcraft" painting which the 467th presented to the San Diego-Space Museum. Matted with Air Force Blue, ready to frame and hang, the cost is:

8" x 10" photograph with 12" x 14" matting -\$18
11" x 14" photograph with 15" x 18" matting -\$28
and remember, all profits go to the Group and the 2nd ADA.

Martin W. Bowman, 3 Armes Crescent, Norwich, NR2 4 EW England, asked me at Norwich to request all 467th photos you would send him for his forthcoming book about the 96th Combat Wing. If you don't let him borrow your memorabilia photos, there is going to be a disproportionate amount of the 458th and 466th in it. No harm is done to your photos, they will be returned without blemish or stain, ask me, ask Ed Hooten.

Peter E. Bond, 27 Ashbourne Tower, Hearts-ease Estate, Norwich, NR7 9TJ England, is in need of a photograph and/or description of "Little Pete", the P-47 assembly ship. Peter has made paintings of several 467th aircraft and would like to add a painting of "Little Pete" to his collection.

I still have 467th patches available at \$5 each and enough plaques for everyone on the 467th roster at \$10 each. The profit of either of these (and it is now all profit) goes to the fund for the memorial at Dayton and the remainder will be used to put out Poop From Group.

Vincent LaRussa still has six copies of Healey's The 467th Bomb Group at \$30 each.

This is one of the letters I've received and enjoyed reading. I hope you enjoy it also.

Dear Phillip:

Your note along with the "Poop From Group" sheets came yesterday. These were read completely and put me to reminiscing. Thanks for taking the extra time to bring me up to date on what has been happening. Almost forty years has passed and right now it all seems to run together. I was "over there" twenty months and right now there seems to be very little I can recall about it all. I will try to relay some of my thoughts which may or may not be of interest.

I was on the Queen Mary that sailed from New York in early Nov. 1943, I believe. It took us four days and 18 hours to get to "Firth of Forth" in Scotland. We went by train down to Rackheath and were given a couple of blankets, the cushion bed and the bolster pillow. Never got warm until Spring. Was a member of the Station Compliment Squadron. Rackheath Aerodrome was still under construction. We were impressed at the way the "limies" worked, reminded us of our WPA, and the time out for "tea" was our coffee break forerunner. We were anxious to get on with the war and get back home. Seemed like an endless wait for the airplanes to get there. Meantime I was assigned to "base defense". We later referred to the school as Kilkeel Tech.

The B-24s finally came and I was subsequently assigned to the control tower as a radio telephone operator. "Hello Decktray.. hello Decktray this is Shirtmaker G George. Request landing instructions." "Shirtmaker George, Decktray, landing on 21, 10 miles cross wind call on your final approach, over." Watching the missions take off, writing down the time with grease pencil. Watching them return, the sick feeling when one or more didn't make it back. The continuous roar overhead and then watching for the double yellow flares.

I remember too the 100 mission party, also the 200 mission party along with the air show and the disaster. How the beer was poured on the ground after the crash. The sick feeling. "Snoopy", "Witchcraft", "Bugs Bunny" and all the rest.

I remember the announcement about the war being over heard on the Tannoi standing in the rain by my bike. On my way to the village, the Rackheath dances. Dancing to the Gramophone. Songs like "My Heart Tells Me" and "Shinning Hour".

Names I remember besides Col. Shower, Lt. Galvin, "Corky" Cocran from Klamath Falls Ore, Sgt. Archie Wasden from Utah, Samuel A. Tarrent from Alabama, Sgt. Ira R. Fall from Miss., Ernest Silverburg from New York, Jack Thompson from Conn., "Nat" Dutro, Vince Conden. A Peterson from Pittsburg. Sorry I can't remember more right now. Isn't that pitiful?

Would like to go over there but not enough notice to make plans this time. Would like to look up the Wards. Ted was a Chef in the merchant Navy. His daughters were "Paddy" Hazel and Lorna. His wife's maiden name was Norton and her Brother Frank ran "the



(1) (L to R) Phil Baysey-Vice Chairman Parish Council
The Rev. Martin Benians- Rector, New Rackheath
All Saints Anglican Church

(2) (L to R) David Hastings, Marlene & Peter Bond



(3) Control Tower, incomplete but still recognizable
by all of us.

(4) The Veterans

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| (L to R Standing) | William L. "Bill" Dillon | 788th |
| | Nathan H. Snyder | Hdqtrs |
| | A. E. "Rocky" Rothchild | 790th |
| | E. W. "Bill" Clarey | 788th |
| | G. "Jeff" Gregory | 790th |
| | Joe L. Abernathy | 790th |
| | Phillip G. Day | 789th |
| 2nd Row | Howard W. Johnson | 790th |
| Kneeling | Harold Weeks | 788th |
| | John Balong | 791st |
| | Cecil O. Stanley | 789th |
| | James B. "Jim" Johnston | 789th |
| | William "Bill" Buchecker | 791st |
| Not Shown | George F. Church | |
| | Charles O. "Charlie" Finn | |
| | Edward F. "Ed" Mahoney | |
| | W. P. "Bill" McGovern | |



(5) The beautiful, lovely ladies, wives and daughters,
who accompanied us.

Witchcraft had her day at the San Diego Aerospace Museum, and grinning with approval are, (L to R), Col. Albert J. Shower, CO of the 467th BG, Crew Chief Joe Ramirez, and Assistant Crew Chief George Dong.

farm" in Salhouse. They had a little girl call Barbara. They helped us to have an occasional fresh egg. The Norfolk Broads, boating on the Bure at Wroxham. The little hair shop by the Wroxham Bridge (telephone Wroxham 92). Sunning on the Broads (only a few lovely days). The church bells of Norwich at Christmas time. The Salhouse Broad. Salhouse Church (All Saints). Horning Ferry, Woodbastwick. A bicycle ride to Mundsley-On-Sea and after the VE celebration ride to Great Yarmouth return trip by train. The bicycles rode in the baggage compartment. Norwich Cathedral, Norwich Castle. "My goodness, my Gueness." Thatch roofs, haystacks. "You silly little twirp, get you up them stairs." "Hostile Divers", V-IIs. Remember those about 10 in the morning and about four in the afternoon.

Finally closing the base and getting ready to be redeployed to the Pacific. Four days on the Firth loading back on the Queen Mary. Some say there were 22,000 aboard coming back. What a trip. The New York Harbor welcome. The Camp Kilmer Steaks and the 30 day furlough when the Japs surrendered. We visited the Queen Mary at Long Beach last summer. She wasn't as I remembered her. Probably never was.

Back to Alamogordo, New Mexico to await mustering out. B-29's, not much to do. White Sands, Carlsbad Caverns. Discharge in Nov. 1945. What a war! What a peace! University of Idaho - class of 49. Kaiser engineers, Yakima, Washington. Met and married Maxine Day from Iowa. Jefferson Chemical, now Texaco, six children, all graduated from college. After 27 years - retirement.

A trip to Canada last summer, gardening, singing in the church choir. Ringing hand bells, gardening. Just goofing around. Taking up jogging. Up to 3 miles per day.

Thanks for letting me stop by. Good luck on your trip and will be looking forward to hearing from you again. As well as any of the guys that I mentioned. Sincerely, James E. Branton, 2505 Hampton Lane, Port Neches, TX, 77651

RACKHEATH VILLAGE SIGN

The small panel on the left of the picture shows a Postmill to represent the one which once stood in the village. In 1268 in the reign of Henry III, Roesia de Blakenham granted by fine to Robert de Martham a windmill in Rackheath Magna paying one mark per annum for ever, Robert agreeing that she and her heirs and the whole family living in her court and belonging to her or her heirs should have the first grinding thereat and toll free as often as they sent any of their family to the mill.

In the background at the top of the main panel, the Parish Church of All Saints can be seen and next to the Church are two deer representing Rackheath Hall and its parkland.

More to the foreground is shown a river, being the nearby River Bure - or the water course 'Racu' from which the village may have taken its name. In front of the river is shown a man ploughing, using a Rackheath type plough.

Right at the top of the main panel a monk is reading from a prayer book representing the priory which is supposed to have stood in the village. To the right of the monk is a sheep to represent Rackheath Common and the law which gave the villagers the right to graze sheep on the common.

The small panel on the right hand side of the sign represents Rackheath aerodrome used by the USAAF during the war.

The spendrels below the name plate depict on the left the Pettus family coat of arms and on the right the Stracey coat of arms.

THE PHOTOGRAPHS

I apologize for the quality of the photographs. My camera malfunctioned soon after arrival in Britian, a leak of some kind and a malfunctioning light meter, so my B & W prints and eleven rolls of color slides are not too good.

As important, or more important, to the veterans of the 467th Bombardment Group (H) than the convention reunion in Norwich or who was there or what we did is shown in the Rackheath Village sign photograph.

Each village, town, city, in the United Kingdom of Great Britian has accepted the obligation of erecting a unique identity sign to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's ascention to the thorne.

Remembering, being reminded, that the area surrounding Rackheath has recorded history back to the middle 1200s, look at the right panel in the photograph of the Rackheath Village sign which was dedicated and unveiled while we were present on May 30, 1983; a B-24 Liberator bomber of the 467th BG is prominently depicted. I interpret this to mean that we, the 467th at Rackheath, was one of the most significant events in the over 700 years of this community. I, personally, find this very humbling, that in a little over a year, we, all of us, assigned or attached to the 467th, through no special effort of the majority of us, are so honored by these most wonderful people of the village and area, and that we, the 467th, through this recognition, will be remembered there, if no where else, as long as there is a community in Rackheath.

The people of Rackheath Village and the area displayed genuine affection to us, we represented the 467th BG. And it was not just those who knew us, were there when we were there, it was also the children and the grandchildren of our contemporaries, each pleased to meet us, anxious to meet us, to be with us, to show us genuine love and affection.

The only thing we were asked to do was to send the names of all of those who served at Rackheath to them so that the names could be inscribed in a book, a roll. I will do this by sending a copy of Healey's The 467th Bombardment Group, about 2500 names, and copies of all orders naming personnel that I have in hand. If you would like to participate in this effort, send me duplicate copies of orders in your memorabilia so that I can forward them also.

Frank, know it is a long way but join us in Dayton. You will enjoy the reunion and we will enjoy having you with us.

Shelly

Phillip G. Day
237 Pennsylvania
Shreveport, LA. 71105

467th
Bomb Group



FRANK S WATSON
7208 AZTEC RD NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM

87110 **

