



POOP from GROUP 467

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O F F I C I A L

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FROM YOUR VEEP

Jackie and I thank each of you who have phoned, written and sent us Season's Greetings since being elected your VEEP. It has been a busy time for me trying to get organized. I have a challenge to fill Jim Coffey's shoes. Jim did a superb job as our VEEP and we appreciate it.

Our efforts to continue increases in our Group's membership in the 2ADA is our number one priority. From the latest 2ADA roster (1-1-86), our group has 478 members listed. I don't know the increase in Group membership in 1985 but from June 29, 1985, we have a net gain of 24. There are bound to be a number of Vets who don't know about the 2ADA. Please help us to increase our 2ADA membership. You will be doing a great service to those who need to be in our fellowship.

Marshall Loftus recently wrote of an interesting experience. Six of his crew and wives, in reunion, attended the Air Force Academy vs San Diego State football game at the academy. Marshall gave a blurb to the press box with information as to who they were, where they were seated and of the 467th and Rackheath. An announcement during the game of the above resulted in William Manning and J. William Hillen, Jr. looking them up. The two Williams are now on the Group and 2ADA rosters. As Marshall says "It pays to advertise".

I challenge all to encourage folks you know to attend the 2ADA 1986 Reunion at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL., July 10 -13. We will especially recognize the flight crew with most members in attendance. And we want all of you ground crew members to be there. We would like to hear from more of you about your experiences at Rackheath, you played a most important role that we know too little about in the overall operation and success that our Group achieved.

These were several pilots, including yours truly, bombardiers, navigators and flight crew members who, prior to training at Mountain Home and at Wendover with the 467th, served in the Anti-Submarine Command. Those I knew were with the 7th Anti-Submarine Squadron and we were in Trinidad the first half of 1943. Jackie and I will be hosting a reunion at the 7th ARon in Memphis over the coming Memorial Day weekend. If any of you served with the 7th before your assignment to the Group, please write me and I'll give you details on this reunion.

After a month in Europe last fall, Jim Coffey wrote of his and Joan's visit to Cologne, which he recalled from his "Trolley Missions" on VE Day and VE & 1. I quote "From virtually complete destruction, 95% except for the Cathedral, the destroyed area has been rebuilt, virtually to original plans; the railroad

station, the bridge (which the Germans blew up) and all the rest. I had an odd sense of 'deja vu.'"

Is there anyone out there who knew (remembers) an Erwin Grant Rose at Rackheath? He fathered a son, Roy Grant Rose, who was born on August 22, 1945. Roy writes that his father and mother married on December 20, 1944, but that his father returned to the U.S. before his birth and he was attempting to, now, learn more of him. Roy wrote "He (Erwin Grant Rose) was based at Rackheath near Norwich in 1944-45. My mother thinks he was a gunner on a B-17. He came from Kentucky. She cannot remember his Dewire No. (ASN?)".

If his father crewed on a B-17 he would not have been at Rackheath. Roy wrote his father would be 79 years old and quite possibly has passed away.

In some records I have, I found a Sgt. Burt E. Rose who was on John Thompsons crew, one of the original 467th crews arriving at Rackheath in early 1944. Don't believe this is the same man.

Roy wrote that he had changed his name from Rose to Kirk, his mothers maiden name, in 1952. If you respond to this, write: Roy Kirk, Hollybush Lane, Flamstead North St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.

Until the next POOP!

Dave

FROM YOUR DEPUTY VEEP

I am the Dinner Chairman for the 3rd Annual Dallas/Ft Worth Southwest Regional Dinner/Reunion Get-Together to be held on 15 March 1986, at the Sheraton-Grand Hotel, Hwy 119, Dallas, TX, near D/FW airport (same place as last year).

The 467th lead in attendance in 1985 and I would like us to do so again this year. Write or call me at the address/phone number on the mast head. The full course roast beef dinner will be \$22.50 per person, payment in advance is required. Reservations for rooms at the Sheraton can be made by calling (214) 258-4900. Rates will be \$59.40/night, tax included, single or double for normally \$97.20/night rooms.

I look forward to seeing a great number of you there.

Sincerely, Jeff

LAST POST

I have received notification of the death of the following:

Allen Healy Stanley Spinweber
Robert C. Flagg Robert P. Walbridge
Arthur R. Kirsis

May they go from Strength to Strength in the Life of Perfect Service in God's Heavenly Kingdom.

WHO, WHERE, WHAT, WHEN, WHY

Since publication of POOP Vol 4, No. 4, the last issue, there have been received a number of letters that indicate a misunderstanding in the publication of POOP.

FROM THE VEEP is submitted by the Group Vice President, at present Dave Swearingen. His report is especially of those things that effect the Group in its association with the Second Air Division Association; and also generally with items of his knowledge that could be of special or general interest to all who receive POOP. His contribution is printed as the lead of POOP and over his name. The Deputy Group Vice President will also receive recognition for submittals and would be printed immediately following the lead article of the Group Vice President.

All following the above is by Phillip Day, as Editor, Publisher, Historian, whatever. Letters to him published in POOP are identified by the writer as a lead-in, but the remainder articles, notices, etc., unidentified as to author, are of his composition from numerous sources, including letters and notices received, that are incorporated in the various categories, LAST POST, LOST SOULS, FOUND SOULS, PX, etc. Generally he received much of his correspondence direct, however some is forwarded to him by others in the Group and, in turn, he forwards certain correspondence to others in the Group.

Phillip also updates the Group roster from letters and lists received from individuals and from the 2ADA, 8th AFHS and others, by addition, deletion and change cards sent by him to the service that provides the computer compilation of the roster and mailing labels for POOP.

Phillip is Treasurer also, maintaining a Special Account for the Group monies and makes a report of the Group's Funds on a quarterly basis.

So, in principal, if you have comments, suggestions, questions or input to POOP, unless it is for VEEP or Deputy VEEP, correspond with Phillip. Dave and Jeff's addresses are on the masthead, Phillip's is the return address.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on Hand 10/15/85	\$1353.78
Disbursements	
900 POOP FROM GROUP	90.00
US Postal Service	230.52
Computer Services	66.65
Telephone	4.10
Other Stationary & Supplies	3.75
	\$ 958.76
Dues & Donations	242.00
Cash on Hand 02/01/86	\$1200.76

(POOP Vol 4 No 4 cost \$387 to produce & mail out)

ROSTER ADDITIONS

Some new, some returned, some associates, but each a welcome addition.

Henry M. Bailey	Roseburg, OR
Benjamin H. Beard	Brawley, CA
Jack T. Beverly	Red Springs, NC
Frank H. Bruno	Belleville, NJ
J. Richard Buckley	Fairview Park, OH
Lewis W. Christie	San Antonio, TX
Paul W. Dicks	Wichita, KS
Thomas Dungar-A	Rackheath, Eng.
John N. Dunnana, Jr.	New Augusta, MS
Robert J. Fagan	Rush, NY
H. Louie Fason	Little Rock, AR
Don C. Fields	Lafayette, IN
Lloyd R. Harris	Ashland, OH
J. William Hillen	Monumnet CO
Max W. Hoffbauer	Englewood, CO
Arthur C. Jensen	Cincinnati, OH
Frank H. Johnson	Shrub Oak, NY
Robert E. Kaseman	Santa Rosa, CA
Leonard J. King	Los Angeles, CA
John M. Lifrey	New Braunfels, TX
Joseph H. Long	Allentown, PA
John M. Mudieros	Garden Grove, IO
William Manning	Denver, CO

Joseph Marnard
 Robert J. Nelson
 Alexander R. Noble
 Clecs Prere
 Arnold A. Pryor
 Leon Rothfeld
 Robert E. Rush
 Norman Sachek
 Robert E. Scott
 Wayne L. Strand
 Albert M. Taylor
 Walter W. Weaver

Green Bay, WI
 Clearwater Beach, FL
 Hohokus, NJ
 Portland, CT
 University City, MO
 Tampa, FL
 Austin, TX
 San Diego, CA
 El Sobrante, CA
 Minneapolis, MN
 Gustine, CA
 Savannah, GA

Don't let any of the above just sit out there. If you live near them, call them up and get together. If you know one of them write me for his address and start a correspondence.

If you correspond with anyone in the 467th or 2ADA send me their names, we can double the roster with your cooperation. A 14¢ post card and a few minutes of your time. Let me hear from you.

LOST SOULS

The following named persons mail was returned from the last POOP mailing.

Robert L. Brancato	Rochester, NY
Walter C. Colvin	Portland, OR
Andrew Csurney	Ambridge, PA
George Hanst	Bay City, TX
Dean H. Johnson	Concord, CA
Fredrick Meyer	Ambler, PA
Anthony F. Razzano	Cohoes, NY
Charles R. Reynolds	Minneapolis, MN
Emmet F. Spencer, Jr.	South Pasadena, CA

You who live in or near the above cities and towns, make inquiry of the above and see that they are returned to the roster. Do it now, don't put it off, we don't want to lose anyone.

PX

History of the 467th Bombardment Group

The third printing of "The 467th Bombardment Group, September 1943 - June 1945," 300 copies, was completed in November, 1985. Vince La Russo made the arrangements for this reprint and is handling the sale of it. The single copy, postage paid, price is \$30.00; multiple copy orders can be discussed with Vince. Write to him at 97 Grayton Road, Tonawanda, N.Y., 18150.

PATCHES AND PLAQUES

I still have patches and plaques for those of you who request them with your Group dues-donations.

The patch is a 4" diameter, royal blue background with Group shield in red and white over black letter LIBERAMUS on gold background and with 2ND AIR DIVISION upper arc, 467th BOMB GROUP lower arc, both in silver. \$5 due-donations goes to mail-memorial fund.

The plaque is 8-1/2" W X 11" H, multi-colored, featuring the Group shield, squadron and ancillary unit insignia. Quite well done and suitable for, should be, display by framing. \$10 dues-donations goes to mail-memorial fund.

CAPS

Jeff Gregory has had many requests for the cap he gave out at the Palm Springs Reunion and, depending upon response, will have more made. The cap is principally blue but with the forward crown quarter in white upon which is printed in red, 467th BG(H), above the red and white Group tail fin and below in red, Rackheath, England. The remainder of the crown is mesh. The cap is adjustable as to head size.

Send Jeff \$5, when (if) he gets enough orders, he'll have the cap manufactured and will mail it to you. If insufficient response, he will return your \$5. All profit will go to the Group mail-memorial fund.

MEMORIALS, MEMROBILIA, ETC.

Air Force Museum

Vince and Gloria LaRussa were through Dayton in the third week of January, 1986, and found the 467th Memorial in good order. The red oak tree appears to have grown half again as when planted and dedicated. Other organizations continue to dedicate memorials, most with trees also, in this AF Museum area, it is a very attractive area, becoming more so. Take the time, make the effort, to visit there. It will be well worth your while.

Rackheath

A wreath of poppies was placed at the Rackheath Memorial on Remembrance Day, November 11, 1985, by Tommy Dungan. Thank you so very much for doing so. I received a color photograph which will be included in the Group's photo-memrobilia album, maintained by Jeff Gregory, to whom has been sent the photo-memrobilia received by POOP in the last year.

There has been no word received from Rackheath concerning the display case (Adam Soccio Memorial) for the Group (1944-45) roster, to be installed in the vicinity of the Memorial Plaque and Bench.

Also, I have had no further word on the use of the monies, given for a suitable memorial at Rackheath, from Jim Coffey's crew from sale by them of the Witchcraft (painting) photograph.

Endowment

The \$4,000 Endowment, from our Dayton Reunion, continues to provide interest funds that are used by the Memorial Room Librarian to purchase additional books, each suitably identified by plate as a gift of the Group. When in Norwich, please identify yourself to Mr. Colin Sleath, Deputy Divisional Librarian. He wishes to thank each of us personally for this most generous gift. If you wish to contribute to this endowment, send your contribution to me and when a sufficient amount is accumulated or each six months, I will forward to add to our Endowment Fund.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION PROPOSAL

I asked William P. (Bill) McGovern of Oak Creek, WI, as a lawyer, to give me his opinion as to incorporating the 467th Bombardment Group as a non-profit organization. Bill wrote he believed it should be done and gave the following reasons.

(1) Tax exempt status could be sought so that those donating to the group would receive exemptions;

(2) The corporation would have the effect of insulating officers and directors from personal liability in claims or suits against the group;

(3) Reduced postal rates could be used;

(4) The corporate setup would be permanent in nature and would provide a more orderly procedure for the election of officers and directors and the handling of corporate assets and charities.

Bill wrote further "I believe that Wisconsin is as good a state as any in which to incorporate the group. Its laws provide that officers and directors may reside out of the State of Wisconsin and that meetings of members and directors may be held at any place which may be determined by the officers. The corporation will have to maintain a registered agent in the State of Wisconsin whose only duty would be to accept service of process in the event the corporation is sued. I could serve in that capacity for the present and the corporation trust company could at any time be retained to serve in such capacity. I would provide for the full incorporation without any cost to the group.

I recently organized the Vietnam Veterans in Wisconsin and am enclosing copies of the incorporation papers and also the Constitution and By-Laws. I believe that these By-Laws, with certain changes, would fit ideally into our type of situation.

I would be pleased to form this corporation at any time that you might so desire. Please contact me."

A copy of Bill's letter and attachments has been discussed with and sent to Dave Swearingen. In all probability this will be an agenda item at our reunion business meeting. If you have advice or input to this item, please write them to Dave as soon as practical.

BITS AND PIECES

I received much mail since last POOP but not many of you sent back the locator card information, fewer than 1 in 10. If you will fill in the card, from last POOP, it will make my job a little easier.

Thank you for the many greeting cards sent to Miss Cille and I. We appreciate you very much and proudly displayed all received in our Christmas decorated living room.

For the fourth time in the last five years I had to spend the principal part of the holidays recuperating, this time from surgery, abdominal for a blocked, twisted shut, intestine. I am mostly well, progress satisfactorily. This explanation as a reason, not an excuse, for being behind on replying to letters and cards. Bear with me, I'll catch up.

Special thanks to Ralph Anderson, NYC, NY for sending "full" copy of crew members in Flight Echelon from Wendover to Rackheath. Now, if I could get Ground Echelon as well it would aid materially in adding to our Rackheath roster. And also to Joseph N. Zbikowski for information that clears up KILOD (Dakar) casualties. He sent me Mosser's crew, correcting names, ranks and serial numbers. Needed and appreciated.

A long and a short story from Charles Russel. Have included the short one in letters, maybe the 9 page long one later. Chuck wrote further that he will be moving to Oklahoma, from Temple Hill, MD, shortly. I regret the circumstances of his move, his wife's illness, but look forward to his promised visit when he is settled in OK.

Bob and Rosemary (Rosie) Sheehan visited for an evening on their way from Tulsa to FL. Vince and Gloria LaRussa for a couple of days of sojourn on their trip from NY to CA, much enjoyed by Miss Cille and I. If you are traveling, detour this way, stay the night with us, we've plenty of room, and will bust a cap, eat a bunch and lie a lot.

Received letters from several of our British friends, Peter Bond, Martin Bowman, Tony North, Phyliss Smales, Tommy Dungan. Peter and Tommy continue their research of Station 145, taking pictures, interviewing, digging around and up, to reconstruct a word picture of the base which will be published by Peter in the future. Tommy wrote that the hardstandings to the west of the taxiway and south of the control tower, 791st area, are the only ones that are still intact. This was of special interest to me as the northern most of these four was that of "Lil Peach" which I flew on my first eleven missions.

One of the ground crew on one of the four hard stands at this location gave Tommy a "penny" match box with a coin in it back in early 1944. Tommy returned the box to me in 1983 at Norwich and I have it in the Group's memorabilia. Tommy can't remember the donors name only that he was called Pappy. The crew chief of "Lil Peach" was called Pappy. Walt Mitchell, I owe you the "Lil Peach" picture. I am attempting to get the 35mm slides enhanced before printing. Can you or Earnest Beasley tell me "Pappy's" name?

You will see from LAST POST that Allan Healy, 82, author of the history, died at his home at East Charlemont, MA on December 25, 1985. His obituary contained mention of his service in the 467th BG and also that, as an assistant federal prosecutor, he was on the team that prosecuted Al Capone. Allen also taught Political Science at William College and the University of Massachusetts. Thanks to Edwin Goldsmith for sending this information.

REUNIONS

2ADA Convention, 1986

The Second Air Division Association, will reunion at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL, July 10-13, 1986. Members of the 2ADA should send their reservation deposit (\$50.00) to Evelyn Cohen as soon as possible. If you are not a member of the 2 ADA, send Evelyn \$10.00 for your dues, your deposit, and a Memorial Library donation if you wish. Her address is 06-410 Delaire Landing Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114.

2ADA Convention, 1987

The 2nd ADA reunion, 1987, will be in Norwich, England, in late May, 1987. A non-returnable \$25 deposit per person is required to insure one of the 350 rooms available. Again, if you are not a 2ADA member, send your \$10 membership dues along also.

Five State Mini-reunion

Jeff Gregory, 467th Deputy VP, is ramrodding the 3rd Annual Dallas-Ft. Worth mini-reunion for Group(s) veterans from the Southwest which will be held March 15, 1986. See From your Deputy Veep for further details.

7th Anti-Submarine Squadron

Some 467th people first served with the 7th ARON. Your Veep and wife Jackie are hosting a reunion over Labor Day, 1986 for all former 7th people. Dave would like to hear from each of you. And you 22nd A-S Sqd people, give him a line also. Maybe he can work you into the plans. See From Your Veep above.

A Mission Report From Charles C. "Chuck" Russell

Mission to Lubeck - June 18, 1944

The group was scheduled to be part of a big strategic offensive operation into Northern Germany, the first since D-Day. These large raids meant a long mission because the assembly of the squadrons, groups, wings and divisions into the bomber stream required a lot of careful and physically demanding flying. Joining the

Squadron at the assembly point was no problem for me for I had been doing it so long it became very easy. Then it was just a matter of staying in formation while the circle of assembled groups widened to form into wings; wings into divisions; and the three divisions into a bomber stream. It was beautiful to observe. Someone had done a superb job of figuring out the timing so that everything came together with such precision. We headed out over the North Sea flying close enough to Helgoland to wake them up so they could throw up a few rounds of flak to let us know they were still there.

At briefing that morning I had been issued a pair of sunglasses and told to try them out. They were a different color from the usual green sunglasses we were used to. I think they were an amber tinted glass. I was supposed to report back how effective they were and how I liked them. I did not wear any sunglasses on missions for the bright sun and glare did not bother me and the glasses were just a nuisance. Sunglasses, to me, were just to be worn in to town when trying to impersonate a flyer. On this day I did wear the glasses they issued to me.

We were near the town of Lubeck when we started to receive very accurate flak. The bursts were close enough you could hear them. We received one burst very near that shattered the windshield on my side of the aircraft. The ship we were flying did not have bullet proof glass in the windshield and side windows as some did. The bullet proof glass was a comfort in the area where enemy action could be expected but a real pain when returning to base. At lower altitude the glass frosted over and it took a lot of scraping to keep it clear, then when the glass warmed up a bit the moisture condensation was so heavy it took a lot of wiping to have a peep hole and lots of time that's all you had. The chamois skin inside of the face masks the Red Cross knitted for us was a big help in keeping the glass clear after the condensation started.

Cold plexiglass shatters into a million little razor blades when struck with something like flak. My glasses were instantly coated with fine ground plexiglass. My jacket was cut by the flying pieces. My forehead between the helmet and the sunglasses was cut in several places. I yelled for the co-pilot to take over for I could not see. I removed the sunglasses, which saved my eyes, and they were pitted by the flying plexiglass. The radio operator brushed me off and found some rags to push into the hole to keep out part of the cold slipstream. That was the only damage we received and we flew the rest of the mission without incident.

Back at the debriefing, they said I hadn't bled enough to get a purple heart but I was sure thankful that I had worn the sunglasses for they saved my eyes that day.

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467th
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