



The 461st

Liberaider



Vol. 7, No. 2

DECEMBER 1990

SOMEWHERE IN THE USA



THE GROUP COLORS
PRESENTED AT REUNION 1990
TUCSON, AZ

“REFLECTIONS OF THE REUNION” BY MILLIE O’BANNON

Millie writes, “I’m not so sure I am the one to write this article. Frank and I were too closely involved. But I’ll say this, we had fun!!”

We drove to the Doubletree Hotel early Wednesday morning, October 3, 1990. It has always been our favorite hotel in Tucson, and they didn’t let us down. The employees worked very well with us. They tried very hard to make our reunion a success. I have decided that hotel work is like putting on a reunion every day.

Because so many members had already arrived, we knew immediately that we should have stayed in the hotel Tuesday night. Many willing hands from the early birds made the movement of our boxes, etc. easy. Don Lundberg was great on the ladder getting the posters up so that all of Tucson knew the 461st was in town!! The general meeting room was large and was more than adequate for our use. Out came the “goodie bags”, PX supplies and the help to man everything. Our hats are off to Katherine and Don Lundberg, Elaine Bro, Len and Grace Cole and many others that didn’t object to being “gofers”. I won’t say that we had slow sales in the PX department. Total sales exceeded \$800. The men wanted squadron pins, group and 15th Air Force pins, patches and whatever. After all, we are buying for our grandchildren, aren’t we? The new group caps were a big hit! Many a grandson is now wearing “grand pop’s” group cap.

Mementos were laid out on the tables. Even if you didn’t fight in the War, it is like reading history. We all enjoyed each other’s war experiences. It has just occurred to me that we should have interviews with the wives to see how they survived fifty missions. I will remember how mad my boss was at me when I got a

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The 461st LIBERAIDER
461st Bombardment Group (H)
Activated: 1 July 1943
Inactivated: 27 August 1945
Incorporated: 25 November 1985

CORPORATE HDQRS: 1407 W. 4th St. P.O. Box 5160, Spencer, IA 51301

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1991 Reunion: Lyman M Delameter, 42103 Agena, Temecula, CA 92390
1992 Reunion: Volunteers wanted
1993 Reunion: Volunteers wanted
Post Exchange: Wally Robinson, 3 E Ridgeway, PA 15853
Publicity: Looking for a volunteer!

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LIBERAIDER

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The LIBERAIDER is published twice a year on behalf of the members of the organization. Permission is granted to use articles provided source is mentioned.

NEW BOOKS

“CUCKOO OVER VIENNA”
By Claude L. Porter—756th Squadron

True story of Claude's experiences after he bailed out over Albania to the climactic conclusion in wartorn Budapest. \$19.95 including shipping.

Claude L. Porter
7960 W. Lakeview Road
Traverse City, MI 49684

“PLOESTI—GRAVEYARD OF BOMBERS”
By Ted Newby—460th BG, 763rd BS

This is Ted's second book on Ploesti. The first “Target Ploesti” was critically acclaimed. The book will contain photos and unique documents not previously published. A review states “He skillfully blends his own experiences with eye witness accounts by flyers and men on the ground.”

Autographed copy—\$17.95+\$1 postage.

Leroy W. Newby
346 Pineview Dr.
Venice, FL 34293

MAIL CALL

T.A Ross of the 765th asks “How many crews can spell Liberator using their last names?”

Gau L	*	Engineer
Yes I a	*	Ball Turret
Dei B ert	*	Top Turret
Do E	*	Nose Turret
Me R go	*	Tail Turret
Qu A lman		Navigator
Wes T	*	Pilot
Kas O ld		Co-Pilot
R oss		Radio Operator
Noe S ges		Bombardier

* Killed in action—the other four were POWs

On page 5 of the July, 1990 Liberaider your editor printed a picture of the Jones boys and Wilburn Thomas. The true story was requested. Here it is.

Henry Jones says: “I sent the picture to Frank O'Bannon after our first get together in 45 years. We had a ball!! We were the ground crew on #9 ‘Evil Weevil’ that, to my knowledge, was retired after Lt. Hefling's crew ‘flight stripped’ it to get home in one piece. Then we were sent to the 451st BG to pick up #16 ‘Myra G’, so named because my daughter was born about then. It was a mickey ship, one of our first. It was hit badly on a later mission and was no longer serviceable. Then came #7 (not ‘Lucky Seven’). It was a replacement plane that was flown to the States when the War ended. The ‘chief’ on ‘Lucky Seven’ was Bill Christie from Nyack, NY, I believe.

I don't notice a lot of difference in the three of us. We all talk and look the same (almost) but ‘Rebel’ Thomas has grown a foot.

That's the true story, George.”

Henry goes on to say that consideration should be given to writing a history of the 461st while there are a few of us that can still remember. Do we have any historians in the group willing to supervise the task? Let's hear from you. Both pro and con.

(Continued from page 1)

call that Frank was back in the States. I packed my desk and fled home.

Sitting at the PX table was a good spot. Sooner or later you saw everyone. It was more strenuous if you had Katherine and Elaine's job of scheduling banquet table seating (Katherine would have made a great top sergeant!). It is such a strenuous task that we are considering using the same approach we do at the Sunday breakfast. That is, stand in line with your friends, walk in and grab a table. At least, this year we had no arguments at the banquet on who was sitting where. The question is, Is the guff worth it?

On Thursday, the trip to Mexico gave us the first test of the system. The buses reached the hotel at the correct time, but we had neglected to tell them we would load in the front of the hotel. Based on the original survey of those who wanted to go to Mexico we planned on 188 seats. Guess what? We used 188 seats. On the drive to Nogales, the group stopped for a short tour of the San Xavier Mission. The buses arrived at Nogales on time and lunch was just about on the tables. Due to the size of the group, some members had to go to a sister restaurant and received the same menu. Frank thinks the short walk down the block was just a wee bit better. Shopping was the order for the hour. Seems everyone in Nogales was smiling when the buses returned to the U.S.A. Wonder why?



Touring San Xavier Mission

At night some went out to nearby restaurants with friends for dinner. Some just seemed to collapse. Others hit the nice bar in the hotel to talk and eat. You couldn't move two feet without finding someone to talk to. What a friendly group of people we have! It really didn't matter what squadron you had been in, or what your job was, you just talked! At the end of the day Frank complained that his feet hurt clear up to his knees!

After loading five buses for the trip to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and Old Tucson things got a little quieter around the hotel. The Desert Museum has been selected as one of the ten most outstanding museums in the world. I think our people felt that they were seeing something out of the ordinary. You just don't realize that our desert is such a green one and such a busy place. We never heard a coyote scream until we moved to Tucson but, if you live in the suburbs, you do in the night. Then it was on to Old Tucson and lunch. The weather turned out to be warmer than normal and the sun seemed to be trying to "outdo"

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itself. In fact, it was too darn hot for lunch outdoors. After lunch the group roamed Old Tucson trying to remember what movie they had seen this and that building in.

Then it was back to the hotel for the business meeting. The meeting was well attended, with very few taking a short rest. The meeting began with a "report from the President". Frank started with a short review of the searching he had done over the past eight years trying to find our original group flag. Failing to find the flag, he started to work on getting an exact copy made. While Frank was talking, Gail Peterson came down the aisle carrying the flag. Attached to it were the ten campaign streamers and one of our two Distinguished Unit Citation streamers (Ploesti). This was the first time that any of the members had seen the awards that they had worked so hard to earn. Without the help of Willie Gibson (764) and the heraldry section of the Air Force this project would still be in the searching mode. Frank acknowledged the help of the reunion volunteers and said that without his wife's help the members would still be back in their home towns.



Sunday Breakfast—Doubletree Hotel

The official attendance at the reunion was 387. The total number of men in the 461st Bomb Group was 5,420. At the present time, we can account for 38 percent of the total. So far this year we have found over 200 men and expect the total will be over 300 by the end of the year. Sad to say, many of the men in the memorial book did not know that we had formed this outstanding organization. We must make sure that the surviving members of the group do know about us. Paid memberships this year exceed 1225.

The business meeting was normal. The minutes of the last meeting and a report on the finances were approved. Under old business the matter of life memberships was again introduced. A motion was made and seconded that the group have life memberships at a fee of \$50. This motion was approved. There was no new business so the meeting was adjourned.

Those that were prisoners of war convened a special meeting.

On Saturday we ran "round robin" buses to the Pima Air Museum. Everyone enjoyed getting into the B-24 and having their picture taken outside with the aircraft tail markings of the 461st very much in evidence. Some men even made a second trip to the museum. Over 160 aircraft were on display, a great number of them from "our" day.

(Continued on page 6)

MISSION #6
12 APRIL 1944

On the 8th of April and again on the 9th, missions were briefed for the Marshalling Yard at Zagreb, Yugoslavia. Both missions stood down. On 11 April still another mission stood down. The target for that day was to have been the Marshalling Yard at Bologna, Italy.

After four days of inactivity, mission #6 was flown on 12 April. The target was the Marshalling Yard at Zagreb. Despite a four-tenths undercast and much flak, the crews did an excellent job.

MISSION #7
13 APRIL 1944

For the seventh mission, which was against the Duna Tokol A/C Components Factory at Budapest, Hungary, RDX bombs were used for the first time by the 461st. Major Burke, group operations officer, flew as group leader for the first time. On this mission a total of 58 enemy aircraft were seen. Several encounters were experienced. Three enemy airplanes fired rockets at the formation. Single engine enemy airplanes flew parallel with the group at a safe distance and radioed headings, altitude and air speed to their ground installations. Flak over the target was intense, accurate and heavy. Two planes were lost over the target. 1st Lt. Charles W. Bauman, flying the deputy lead position in "A" flight of the second section, had part of a wing shot off by flak. His plane fell into the plane in the number four position of the same flight, which was piloted by 2nd Lt. Paul S. Mowery. A third plane, flown by 2nd Lt. Kay B. Steele, which had come off the target with the formation, failed to return to the base. Col. Glantzberg, who was flying as co-pilot in a plane in the second section, led a small formation of planes in chasing attacking JU-88s away from this damaged plane. He was unable, however, to stay with the plane because of the undercast. Fifteen planes were damaged over the target.

Again the group turned in an excellent mission dropping 45% of their bombs within a 1,000 feet of the briefed aiming point which was a comparatively rectangular building well hidden in the woods.

COMMENDATIONS

From General Twining on the next day came the following TWX through channels:

“FROM: Twining CITE FAF ABLE 16

TO: CO 461st Bomb Group

It is desired that you express my appreciation to all participating personnel in yesterday's counter air force operations for doing an especially fine job. The 460, 461 and 483 Bomb Groups did especially good bombing although relatively inexperienced. The aggressiveness of the fighter units and their excellent escort work contributed immeasurably to the success of this outstanding operation.

PS: Keep up the good work.”

The 49th Wing adds its proud commendations to the commanding General's evaluation of your work.

(Continued on page 6)

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The following TWX was also received after this mission:

“FROM: Lee CO 49th Bomb Wing

TO: Commanding officer, 451st, 461st and 484th Bomb Groups

The following message from the Fifteenth Air Force is quoted for your information: CITE FAF Baker 13—I am happy to pass on the following message received from the commanding general, Eighth Air Force. ‘The Eighth Air Force joins me in congratulations on your recent operations. We of the Eighth fully appreciate the effect of these operations toward accomplishing our joint mission.’”

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On Saturday evening we had the usual group banquet and dance. Lt. Col. Johnson, Chaplain at the Davis-Monthan AFB, and his lovely wife were our guests. The food was great but as usual we seem to do more talking than eating. We were fortunate to have found Tony and his orchestra, they were great. We have many wonderful dancers in our group.

Well over 200 members attended our Memorial Service on Sunday morning. Lt. Col Johnson led the service aided by the color guard from the base. His speaking was as forceful as he was handsome (Editors note: Millie seems to think all Lt. Colonels are handsome). The Memorial Service is always important to us, not on as a way of remembering and honoring our fallen members but also as a way thanking God for how fortunate we have been.

Brunch was great! After the brunch we all went in different directions. Frank says that men came from the four corners of the United States (Maine, Florida, California, Washington and Alaska). 37 states were represented this year. Some took off for home, some went sightseeing and some collapsed in the bar-lounge. But whatever we did, we had wonderful memories of being with old and new found friends. Without a doubt, we are lucky to have known each other. We are a group of special people sharing a special time of our lives. See you next year!!

Editors note: Thanks Millie for taking the time to write this summary of the Tucson reunion. I agree, you were not the one that should have done it. Since I have had nobody volunteer in the past, I will initiate a rotating assignment to prepare a reunion summary for the “Liber Raider”. Next year it will be the responsibility of the director for the 461st Headquarters unit, Marion Pruitt, to find a “reporter” to do the job. The following year it will be the responsibility of the director of the 764 Squadron and so on. That will spread the work around a bit.

* * * * *

South Dakota here we come!!!

Mark your calendars now! Next reunion, Rapid City, SD August 28-31, 1991

THE WAY WE WERE



WILL IT FIT?
 767 Armament Section
 H.R. Miller J.E. Horn



READY TO GO



HOME SWEET HOME
 ITALY 1944



ISLE OF CAPRI—1444



S. Sklansky & S. Goodfriend (764)
 With house boy. Is this Matted
 Davenia? See letter, page 8 of
 The July, 1990 "Liber Raider".



R & R in Rome

- G.D Dickie (767)
- L.C. Gizelba (HQ)
- L.L. Crume (767)
- A. Labinsky (767)

THE WAY WE ARE



Wendover, Utah, revisited
July, 1989



Jack Baker's crew reunion (764)
Lester Emery, tail gunner
David Lane, ball turret
Bernard Cooney, co-pilot



B-24J
"Shoot, You're covered"
Pima Air Museum, Tucson, AZ



Don Ellis (767), Zephyrhills, FL
Operates radio net that gets
the 461st on the air.
Call letters K3LQQ

“SEARCH AND FIND PROJECT” (S&F)

A Report and appeal by your membership chairman, Ed Chan

I am happy to report that between the 1989 reunion in St. Louis and the end of October, 1990 we have located or accounted for almost 300 “missing” members of the 461st Bomb Group. About 200 of these are living while the remaining 100 have passed on (See TAPS list on pages 12 and 13). Credit for most of the “finds” goes to you members who actively participated in our S & F endeavors. Thanks to all of you for a job well done. The “missing” now stand between 2600 and 2700 men, which is about 50 percent of the men assigned to the 461st. Our goal is to find everyone!! Impossible? Not with a team like the 461st.

To accomplish this task, I need a lot of info which you members have access to from your “little black books”, your memories about your crew (ground and air), your roomates, postwar correspondence with names and hometowns from Christmas lists, etc. Information from 201 files or equivalent is very important. Such as:

1. Orders—shipping, special, rest and recuperation.
 2. Lists—promotion, awards, return to U.S. for reassignment, mustering out (separation)
 3. AAF specialist school graduation lists, orders and souvenir books.
- Any or all of the above with name, serial number and hometown.

If you have paid your dues, you should have a copy of the roster of your squadron. “Missing” men can be identified in the roster by the code number “3” under the heading “Mail”. A blank in this column indicates a deceased member. Known dead, not indicated in the roster, should be reported. All code “1” members are accounted for. Rosters for other squadrons are available at \$3.00 each. To get your squadron roster mail in your dues now!!

To cut down on correspondence, etc., I prefer “non-return” copies of just those portions of orders, etc. which cite the desired info. Please mail all info to me:

461st Bomb Group (H) Inc.
P.O. Box 117
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

I would like any information you have by the end of the year since much lead time is required to organize and get out the assignments.

Besides your help in supplying me with the above info, I may also call upon you to make local or adjacent zone phone calls to find the “:missing”. Detailed instructions will be given at that time.

With everyone getting into the act, hopefully we will be able to double or triple our “finds” by the next reunion. Please help!!

Ed Chan
Chairman, Membership

ATTENTION!! ALL ENLISTED PERSONNEL

The office of Air Force History, Washington, DC, is researching the history of enlisted Air Corps/Air Force personnel who served during the 1939-1973 period. They need to hear from one-term or career men, women and minority members to send them a questionnaire about their enlisted military experience. Please call (512) 652-6564, Autovon 487-6564 or write HQ ATC/HO, Randolph AFB, TX 78150-6001, and the questionnaire will be mailed to you. This will be a history of your story—help make it the best!

PX ITEMS

4" Group Decal— outside mount	\$2.00 ea
3" cloth Group patches	\$3.00 ea
1" Cloisonné Enameled pins	
461st Group	\$3.00 ea
461st Group tie tack	\$3.00 ea
461st—Headquarters	\$3.00 ea
764th Squadron	\$3.00 ea
765th Squadron	\$3.00 ea
766th Squadron	\$3.00 ea
767th Squadron	\$3.00 ea
15th Air Force	\$3.50 ea
Complete Mission Summaries	\$2.50
Hats—baseball type—silver B-24 with 461st tail markings	\$6.50 ea
Memorial Plaque photos—Air Force Academy cemetery	\$2.00 ea

Prices include postage

Make checks payable to 461st Bomb Group Inc.
Send order to

Wally Robinson
3 East Cardott St.
Ridgeway, PA 15853

TID BITSMEMORIAL SERVICE QUEST

Anthony E. Jacquez, brother of Bernard I. Jacquez (A/C and Eng. Mech. With the 766th Squadron, who died in 1981) was our guest at the Memorial Service in Tucson. He is interested in corresponding with anyone who knew his brother. Please write to Anthony at

7509 E. 42nd St.
Tucson, AZ 85730

"LIBERAIDER" TO BE SENT TO WIDOWS

At the suggestion of Jim Hardee (764) your board of directors votes to send copies of the "Liberaider" to widows of members of the group if they wish to receive them.

BERLIN AIRLIFT PARTICIPANTS

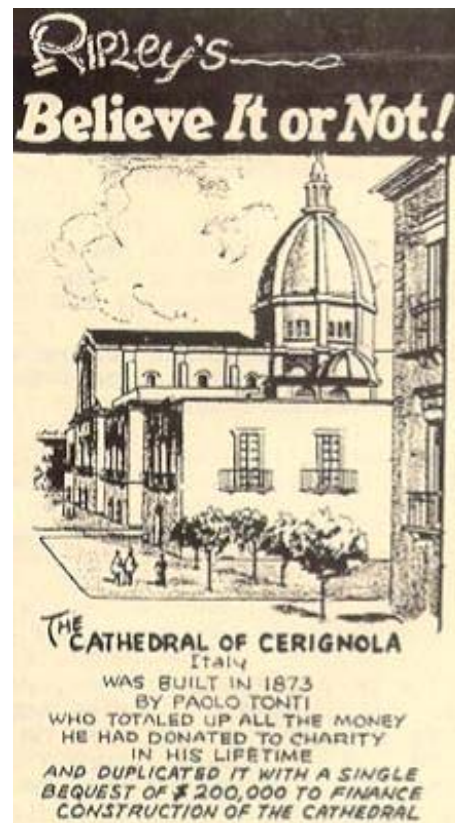
The Berlin Airlift Veterans Assoc. is looking for all former participants. Contact:

Raymond L. Tegtmeyer II
922 E. Loma Linda Place
Tucson, AZ 85749

YUGOSLAVIAN HELPERS

A reunion of all airmen who were shot down and rescued by citizens, partisans or Chetnicks in Yugoslavia is being planned for mid September, 1991. Contact:

John Rucigay
14 Ashley Drive
Ballston Lake, NY 12019
(518) 877-8131



THE 461ST BOMB GROUPFINANCIAL REPORT—JANUARY 1, 1990 to NOVEMBER 30, 1990

This is a general accounting of funds in the treasury of the 461st Bomb Group. The general fund was established to take care of dues and donations contributed by the members. Not everyone can attend every reunion so a separate account was formed to account for reunions. It is not mandatory that each member contribute to memorials so a third account was made for memorials. The funds in each of these three accounts are shown below.

General Fund

Balance January 1, 1990			\$9,996.39
Income	Dues and donations	\$10,807.07	
	Interest thru 11/30/90	466.60	
	Sub Total		21,270.06
Disbursements	Postage and office supplies	\$5,349.51	
	Printing directories	2,393.96	
	Liberaiders	1,433.89	
	Reunion books	2,929.02	
	Bank charges	35.15	
	Attorney fees	20.00	
	PX supplies	577.50	
	Loan to Memorial Fund	162.32	12,901.35
Balance as of August 31, 1990			\$8,368.71

Memorial Fund

C.C	(7.75% interest)	\$1,000.00	
Checking account	(5.00% interest)	5.76	\$1,005.76
Loan from General Fund		162.32	-162.32
Balance as of November 30, 1990			\$843.44

Reunion Fund

Balance as of January 1, 1990			\$4,678.30
Income	Interest on NOW account	\$166.78	
	Tucson reunion	\$4,599.63	\$4,766.41
Balance as of November 30, 1990			\$9,444.41

Signed Gail Peterson, Secretary, Treasurer

EDITORS COMMENTS

For the foreseeable future, your editor will publish two issues of the "Liberaider" a year (June and December). At my age, it is hard for me to get "psyched up" to put this thing together. The newsletter is for you!! I want and need your input but within my schedule. From now on I won't accept material for publication after May 15th and November 15th of each calendar year. Keep it coming!!

TAPSMAY THEY REST IN PEACE FOREVER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIED</u>	<u>HOME TOWN</u>	<u>MOS</u>
<u>461ST HEADQUARTERS</u>			
Ferguson, Frederick F.	1987	Columbus, OH	Clerk Typist
Kaiser, Bernard J.	1945	Newark, NJ	Clerk-Adm/Tech
Keeler, John D.	1971	Unk	Clerk Typist
Lampkins, Quentin C.	1984	Paris, AR	Armorer
Larsen, Avery C.	1976	Unk	Clerk-Adm/Tech
Lenjer, Walter F.	1987	Unk	Med Adm Spec-NCO
Lowery, Walter K.	1957	Unk	QM Sup Tech-NCO
Patterson, Roy H.	1958	Lawrenceville, IN	Clerk Typist
Van Orman, Robert E.	1990	Heath, OH	Unk
<u>764TH BOMB SQUADRON</u>			
Amspaugh, Charles F.	1986	Hebron, OH	Sheet Metal
Brownstein, Meyer	1990	Glendale, CA	A/C Armorer
Burton, George A.	Unk	Milwaukee, OR	Pilot
Comingore, Leonard O.	1990	Hanover, IL	A/C Armor Gunner
Hamm, Charles W.	1971	Gotha, FL	Radio Op/Gunner
Hefling, Robert J.	1990	Boulder, CO	Pilot
Howenstine, Richard A.	1980	Decatur, IL	A/C Mech/Gunner
Humphress, Charles A.	1976	Indianapolis, IN	Radio Op/Gunner
Hymbaugh, Homer E.	1990	Delavan, IL	A/C Mech/Gunner
Kennelly, Joseph F.	1989	Unk	A/C Mech/Gunner
Kieling, Maurice C.	1968	Portland, OR	Cook
Kiser, Willie F. Jr.	Unk	Honaker, VA	A/C Mech/Gunner
Kvedera, Joseph C.	1990	Cantonville, MD	A/C Mech/Gunner
McClelland, Kenneth E.	Unk	Unk	A/C Armor Gunner
Pusso, William J.	1988	Uniontown, PA	A/C Mech/Gunner
Rudel, Chester H.	1986	Bakersfird, CA	Pilot
Womble, Lewis C.	1950	Tucson, AZ	A/C Mech/Gunner
<u>765TH BOMB SQUADRON</u>			
Ecklund, Vincent O.	1958	Milwaukee, OR	Pilot
Esser, George	1989	Walterville, OR	Radio Op/Gunner
Estabrooks, Ivan F.	1985	Pavilion, NY	A/C Armor Gunner
Fitzpatrick, John J.	1990	Queens Village, NY	Control Tower Op.
Haberman, John C.	1980	Carnegie, PA	Unk
Heinze, Lloyd R.	Unk	Holyrood, KS	Pilot

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIED</u>	<u>HOME TOWN</u>	<u>MOS</u>
<u>765TH BOMB SQUADRON</u>			
Hurley, Hendon H.	1985	Unk	A/C Maint. Tech
Jackson, William M.	Unk	Unk	Bombardier
Jarmagin, Calvin E.	Unk	Colorado City, TX	Pilot
McCormick, John M.	1988	Oklahoma, City, OK	Navigator
Mitton, Walter G.	1987	Ansonia, CT	Supply-General
Moore, John B. Jr.	Unk	Chelsea, MI	Pilot
Mosiman, Frederick M.	1952	Chicago, IL	Med Adm Spec-NCO
Mustacchio, Samuel L.	1988	Louisville, OH	A/C Armorer
Procopio, Frank J.	1970	Unk	Unk
<u>766TH BOMB SQUADRON</u>			
Doran, Joseph M.	1965	Unk	A/C Armor Gunner
German, Joseph	1990	Boca Raton, FL	Navigator
Hall, Jack	1983	Unk	A/C Armor Gunner
Herder, James D.	1983	Hebron, OH	Auto Equip Messen.
Jacquez, Bernard I.	1981	Pittsburgh, PA	A/C & Eng. Mech.
LaValle, Donald O.	1981	Unk	A/C Armor Gunner
Morgan, William P.	1986	Pittsburgh, PA	A/C Armor Gunner
Overton, Frederick L. Jr.	1988	East Hampton, NY	A/C Armor Gunner
<u>767TH BOMB SQUADRON</u>			
Ballinger, Joseph A.	1985	Unk	Pilot
Boyd, Ralph	1988	Murfreesboro, AR	Ariel Gunner
Boyer, James J.	1990	Corpus Christi, TX	Radio Op/Gunner
Ferguson, Paul E.	1987	Aruada, CO	Navigator
Ferrara, Angelo O.	Unk	Essex, MD	A/C Armor Gunner
Fitzpatrick, John P.	1990	Spokane, WA	Pilot
Hill, Walter P. Jr.	1982	Thomasville, GA	A/C Armor Gunner
Horn, Joseph E.	1990	Ft. Madison, IA	Munition Worker
Ives, Oscar R.	1977	Diagonal, IA	A/C Maint Tech
Kaufhold, Robert E.	1971	Amarillo, TX	Navigator
Lelpic, Otto A.	1987	Iowa City, IA	Bombardier
Luebke, Robert J.	1951	Ft. Atkinson, WI	Pilot
Neel, Robert C.	1990	Pittsburgh, PA	Radio Op/Gunner
Neri, Anthony J.	1988	Youngstown, OH	A/C Armorer
Polakowski, Carl E.	1989	Berlin, WI	Teletype Mech
Pulk, Bernard Jr.	1989	Detroit, MI	Unk
Weber, Herbert S. Jr.	1990	Ocala, FL	A/C Armor Gunner
Yauger, Robert L.	1984	Pittsburgh, PA	Pilot

Shot down
6-26-44



Shot down
8-7-44

NOSE ART

The following excerpts were taken from a letter sent by Ray Bowden of England.

I am researching into named aircraft of the USAAG during WWII and their accompanying artworks, with particular interest in trying to identify and locate any of the artists that painted the images that have become known as "Nose Art"... There seems to be very little recorded about the activities of the 15th Air Force and consequently the nose art of it's various groups.

I am interested in contacting anyone who can give me any information at all about named aircraft in the 15th AF, anyone involved in naming or painting aircraft or anyone who has a listing of aircraft serial numbers to assist in positive identification of aircraft and nose art.

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