



The 461st

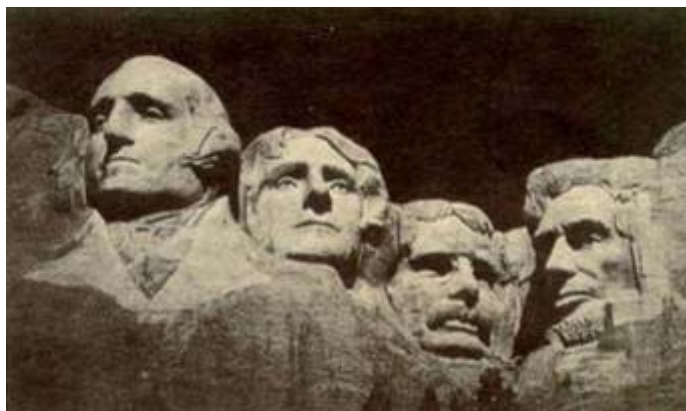
Liberaider



Vol. 8, No. 2

DECEMBER 1991

SOMEWHERE IN THE USA



Mount Rushmore at Night

A REUNION TO REMEMBER

Rapid City, South Dakota
August 28-31, 1991

The enthusiasm of members of the 461st Bomb Group (H) was evident as we met in Rapid City, SD for our fifth annual reunion. With the reunion scheduled to begin officially on Wednesday, August 28th, the O'Bannons arrived the preceding Monday expecting to be well in advance of reunion guests. Instead, they were greeted by a number of early arrivals, ready for the party to begin. At opening of registration on Wednesday morning nearly half of the participants had arrived. By the end of the day, only seventeen registration packets had not been claimed.

Participation was very high in all the activities planned by Lyman and Beverly Delameter (764th). Although temperatures soared in Rapid City, tour buses were comfortably air conditioned and the air naturally cooled at the higher elevations of the Black Hills. We were awed by Mount Rushmore in the bright sun of mid-day and inspired by the impressive nighttime lighting ceremony. We admired the Korczak family's tenacity in developing the Crazy Horse memorial, marveled at the skill of the bus drivers as they negotiated pigtail bridges and snaked through tunnels only inches wider than the bus as we traveled Iron Mountain Road and Needles Highway in Custer Park.

We enjoyed a night on the town, the historic town of Deadwood where poker, black jack and slot machines beckon from every doorway. Many of our group found those easy to ignore as they explored classic old hotels, some adorned with mounted wildlife, one with a mezzanine bordello scene, another with a display of

The 461st LIBERAIDER
461st Bombardment Group (H)
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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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John Trommershauser 764th Sqdn 2966 Golden Eagle Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32312
G. William Wilkins 765th Sqdn 820 Northborough, Lincoln, NE 68505
Theodore R. Ahlberg 766th Sqdn 8501 NW 9th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98665
Denothy R. Perkins 767th Sqdn 7128 Salizar St, San Diego, CA 92111

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS—1990/1991

Claude W. Hisey Hdqrs Sqdn 3057 N. 79th St., Milwaukee, WI 53222
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Robert V. Hayes 766th Sqdn 31 Grand St., New City, NY 10956
John Douglas 767th Sqdn P.O. Box 144, Cave-In-Rock, IL 62919

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Memorial: Edward Izzo, 296 Huntridge Way, Winter Springs, FL 32708
Membership: Ed Chan, 1065 N 5th St, New Hyde Park, NY 11040
1992 Reunion: Mairmac Corp., Dayton, OH (and the O'Bannons)
1993 Reunion: Volunteers wanted, Possible location, Fresno, CA
1994 Reunion: Volunteers wanted
Post Exchange: Wally Robinson, 3 E. Cardott, Ridgeway, PA 15853
Publicity: Looking for a volunteer!

LIBERAIDER

George D. Dickie—Editor—PO Box 615, East Sandwich, MA 02537
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.

fine art, some with live music and many had inexpensive food and drink offered to entice us to the spinning slots and green felt tables. We saw no one wearing a barrel on the trip back to Rapid City. It was a fun evening and totally unlike any other scheduled activity.

"Free ice water" is said to be the start of Wall Drugs famous store. We had the opportunity to explore this unique block-sized emporium and to eat in its western art gallery dining room (seating 520) after a sunset ride thru the jagged landscape of South Dakota's badlands. The scenery is so striking that it's frequently been used in the movies, most recently in "Dances with Wolves". But we didn't need any of that hype to appreciate the beauty of the sharp ridges, plunging canyons, soaring pinnacles with the setting sun as a backdrop.

The best tour for many of us was the excursion to neighboring Ellsworth Air Force Base, home of our nation's biggest B-1B fleet and the South Dakota Air and Space Museum. We were treated to a tour of the museum restoration hangar where we saw and were told about recently acquired aircraft in various stages

of restoration. The museum exhibited memorabilia and planes spanning many years of our country's history. The highlight of the day for many was the one-on-one talks with the B-1B pilots on the flight line. Our members had the opportunity to ask questions and compare their bomber and its four-man crew with their own experiences with B-24s. An attractive and satisfying buffet in the officers mess was part of our tour of the base.

There were many more activities, tours, shopping for black hills gold jewelry, the dinosaur park, Stavkirke Chapel, Minnilusa Pioneer Museum, the Passion play and as always the camaraderie of fellow members in the spacious Sheraton room at the hotel. Rosters of attending members, pictures and videos related to the group were available. The registration table and PX were in the care of Ernie and Betty Spirito (766th) and Frank and Millie O'Bannon (764th). They were helped by Marietta McCause, president of the Marimac Corp. who will be coordinating the 1992 reunion in Dayton for us. She's already selected a hotel, planned tours and a special activity for the ladies.

The business meeting is covered in an article by "Pete" Peterson following this reunion report. It was heartening to have so many members in attendance participating in the decision-making of the organization.

Laughter and lively conversation dominated the Saturday evening banquet. Introductions and greetings preceded the invocation by Chaplain Hansen of Ellsworth AFB. Live music during cocktails and dinner set the mood for an enjoyable evening of dancing to the mellow music of the Tones.

Farrold Stephens' (764th) singing was a perfect compliment to Chaplain Hansen's interesting and moving presentation at the Memorial Service Sunday morning. His message, parts of which are printed elsewhere in this issue, presented a review of the history of the 461st from its inception, as he mentally meshed our own experiences with those of the group.

A wonderful breakfast buffet followed the service. This was a time for farewells, for saying "Same time next year" and unabashed displays of affection be-

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(Continued from page 2)

tween friends, both old and new.

There were 380 attendees this year and we all owe special thanks to the O'Bannons who worked on this project the whole year; to the Delameters who surveyed hotels and researched each tour so we'd all have a good time; to Trefry and Nellie Ross who made all our name tags and the memorial program; to Ed Chan who works tirelessly to locate 461st men so that they too can enjoy the fellowship of our reunions; to the Spiritos who missed the tours in order to welcome new arrivals and tend the store (PX); to the many others who lent a helping hand to make this reunion the success it was; and to all of you who made an effort to befriend "first timers" and make them feel welcome.

You may be asking who more of your favorite reunion memories weren't included in this report. Well, next year it could be your turn to write the report of the reunion. This year the responsibility for the report was given to the Headquarters staff. Next year it will be the responsibility of the 764th Squadron. Hope to see you all in '92 at the sixth reunion in Dayton.

Len and Grace Cole
Headquarters

Editor's note: Thanks, Len and Grace for your report. Notice is hereby given to the director of the 764th Squadron, John Trommershauser, that you are responsible for finding someone to write the report on the Dayton reunion, 1992.

461ST BOMB GROUP BUSINESS MEETING 1991 Reunion, Rapid City, SD

President, Frank O'Bannon, opened the business meeting with a few points of interest to the members. He noted that nearly one-fourth of the men attending the reunion were there for the first time. He also noted the "chair" of past president had not yet been



As "scene" at the business meeting

filled and that he would be a candidate for that office. However, it was moved that the incumbent officers be re-elected, so he, along with V.P. Sammy West and Treasurer Gail Peterson, will fill the chairs for two more years.

Minutes of the 1990 business meeting at Tucson were approved. The July 1991 report of the Treasurer was approved as presented. The June, 1992 issue of the "Liber Raider" will contain a complete report for calendar year 1991.

The report on the enrollment of new members of the 461st given by Ed Chan was very encouraging. Just in the past few months nearly 200 men have been located.

John Underwood stated that the 50 in. TV screen purchased for the eyesight rehabilitation center at Hines, IL was proving to be a great help to the patients. It's used with VCRs for training the hard-to-see patients at the center. There are four more centers in the United States and it was moved to furnish large screen sets for these centers as funds become available.

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(Continued from page 3)

George Dickie, the "Liber Raider" editor, asks for your help in keeping your mailing addresses up-to-date. It costs quite a bit of money to pay for the return of undeliverable issues of the newsletter. Please send your "change of address" cards to Frank O'Bannon, Gail Peterson or George Dickie at addresses shown on page 2 of the "Liber Raider".

Hang on to your squadron roster. No new rosters will be published. Member information will be published in the "Liber Raider". If you have questions, contact your group officers shown on page 2.

The 4th grade class at Big Creek Elementary School, Fresno, CA has been researching the B-24 that was lost N. E. of Fresno early in December 1943. It was moved that the group check with the class to see how we might help.

Plaudits go to crew 25R of the 765th Squadron for having 7 members at the reunion. They were: Leonard Wojtkowiak, pilot; Fran Ditirro, co-pilot; William Showalter, engineer; William Kerlew, radio operator; Harold Hylton, ball gunner; Robert Dewell, turret gunner and Everett Tuttle, nose gunner.

The squadron caucuses elected these officers for 1992 and 1993:

DIRECTORS

HDQ	Nye E. Norris
764	John Trommershauser
765	Bill Wilkins
766	Ted Ahlberg
767	Denothy Perkins

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

HDQ	Claude Hisey
764	John Young
765	Gino Pischione
766	Bob Hayes
767	John Douglas

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Peterson, Sec'y/Treas



Col. Peter M. Hansen,
Chaplain, Ellsworth Air Force Base

Editor's note: At the request of many members who attended the reunion, excerpts from Col. Hansen's remarks are presented here.

INVOCATION AND BLESSING

Reunion Banquet

On our sorties through life, O Lord, we know it often becomes necessary to change our flight plan, to chart a new course, to refile via another route toward our ultimate destination. Forbid, O Lord, that any change of schedule should undermine our destination, to serve you and your people. Shield our eyes from superficial brilliance which might lead to broken dreams. Keep us in the flight path of duty, on a course which leads to fruitful achievements and which promises an ever abundant life. Grant to us clear minds, warm hearts and strong wills to obey the guidance of your spirit. Bless our fellowship together in this place as members, families and friends of the 461st Bomb Group—and bless the food which strengthens our bodies. May our minds and hearts be at peace and in fellowship one with another.

Amen!

AS PART OF THE MEMORIAL SERVICE ON SUNDAY
COL. HANSEN DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE

America was at war. “Nothing can be politically right, that is morally wrong....” stated Benjamin Rush in 1786. The world seemed to be turned upside down. America’s war machine needed large numbers of personnel fast. The call-to-arms was: “...be thou valiant... and fight the Lord’s battle.” (1 Sam 18:17)

The 461st Bombardment Group was activated in response to the call-to-arms. Men from all over the nation came together in response to General Order #78, dated 29 May 1943, issued at Hqtrs 2nd Air Force, George Wright, Virginia.

As Daniel Webster said it: “God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.”

The organizational home for the 461st was Wendover Field, Utah (or another wayt of saying it would be: Wendover Desert in western Utah). The structure of the group took on four (4) squadrons... the 764th, 765th, 766th and 767th. In July 1943 the group made an administrative move to Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho. Another desolate location in the intermountain west.

On 29 September 1943, the group returned to Wendover and began flight training with their first aircraft—the B-24 liberator—which holds the United States record of the greatest number of aircraft produced, at 18,479, from five manufacturing locations.

On 24 October 1943, Colonel Frederic E. Glantzberg was assigned to the group. The desolation of Wendover was no place for the Colonel. He went to General “Hap” J. Arnold, CINC of the Army Air Corps, in Washington. The result was a move on 28 October 1943 to Hammer Field, Fresno, CA. A desirable change of location.

The ground echelon made its move from Hammer Field to Camp Patrick Henry, Newport News, Virginia on 31 December 1943 and 1 January 1944. On 12 January 1944, these personnel departed Conus on four liberty ships for Naples, Italy. On 13 January 1944, the air echelon left Fresno for Florida. From there the air crews flew the southern route through Brazil and North Africa to Italy. Upon arrival the group strength was 376 officers, 1620 enlisted men and 51 B-24H airplanes.

Ten months after activation, on 1 April 1944, the 461st flew its first combat mission against enemy targets at Bihac, Yugoslavia. The motto of the day was to “Get your training in combat!” Col. Glantzberg whipped the 461st Bomb Group into shape. He led by example— - always flying the tough missions. During the first three months, the group maintained the highest average bomb score in the 15th Air Force. Their courage and valor won the group two Distinguished Unit Citations.

The stiffest aerial opposition took place on 25 July 1944 against the Herman Goering Tank Works, Linz, Austria. Approximately 150 crack “yellow nose” Staffel challenged the bombers. The enemy lost 36 fighter aircraft to our 15 B-24s lost.

The group participated in the southern France campaign and in D-Day—hitting gun sites and fortifications.

In thirteen months of combat, the 461st dropped a total of 10,885 tons of bombs in nine countries. The group losses were

Killed In Action	198
Missing In Action	93
Killed In Line of Duty	33

TAPS
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE FOREVER

<u>SOD</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DECEASED</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>	<u>DUTY</u>
HDQ	Clark, James C.	Unk	Wyncote, PA	Photo Interpreter
	Faloon, Raymond J.	1974	Chicago, IL	Am. Red Cross
	Hunt, Francia M.	1991	Muncie, IN	Auto Equip Mech
764	Blahous, Frank P.	1957	Chicago, IL	Mail Clerk
	Bowlsby, Clyde W.	1983	Osceola, FL	A/C Gunner
	Croon, Warren M.	1991	La Crosse, WI	A/C Gunner
	Driver, Boyd R.	1990	Ft. Worth, TX	Radio Op/Gunner
	Edmiston, Harry D.	1985	Denver, CO	Bombardier
	Feiler, Lawrence G. Jr.	1991	Marshall, MI	A/C Gunner
	Ferguson, Herman E.	Unk	Columbus, OH	Unk
	Fichter, Walter J.	1988	Niagara Falls, NY	A/C Gunner
	Forman, James H.	1950	Birmingham, AL	Bombardier
	Forster, John G.	1982	Waltham, MA	Radio Op/Gunner
	Gartman, Richard	1989	Unk	A/C Flt. Chief
	Gatz, John W. Jr.	1976	Unk	Crew Chief
	Hubbard, Franklin J.	1987	Buffalo, NY	Crew Chief
	Mandly, Frederick A.	1989	Windsor, CT	Radio Op/Gunner
	Martin, John P.	1944	Shebogan, WI	Radio Op/Gunner
	Obadowski, Standley R.	1990	New Britain, CT	A/C Gunner
	Olson, Dwight B.	1991	Richfield, MN	Pilot
	Rice, John W.	1989	Mt. Vernon, NY	A/C Mech/Gunner
	Rice, Marvin	1987	Louisa, KY	Pilot
	Zolenski, John J.	1969	Williamansett, MA	A/C Gunner
765	Ambrose, Robert J.	1988	Tucson, AZ	Navigator
	Anthony, Charles M.	1991	Warren, OH	Crew Chief
	Arbothnot, Robert E.	1988	Salina, KS	Operations Off.
	Bentel, Charles G. Jr.	1988	Pittsburgh, PA	A/C Mech/Gunner
	Blades, Paul J.	1955	Unk	A/C Gunner
	Brenzek, Edward I.	1974	Chicago, IL	Cook
	Chalmers, Robert T.	1991	Titusville, FL	Pilot
	Cofer, Clifford	Unk	Unk	Cook's Helper
	Demmond, Edward C.	Unk	Unk	Pilot
	Farino, Albert P.	1955	Unk	A/C Gunner
	Hamilton, Huell	1947	Gardena, CA	A/C Gunner
	Hartman, Edwin C.	Unk	Unk	A/C Gunner
	Jones, Garnet C.	1988	St. Albans, VT	A/C Gunner
	Kassler, Joseph V.	1981	Elizabeth, PA	Navigator
	Krawczak, Harry C.	1988	Chicago, IL	A/C & Eng Mech
	Lukasek, Herman J.	1990	Des Plaines, IL	A/C End Mech
	McClain, William C. Jr.	1951	Montgomery, AL	Navigator
	Moore, Orville S.	1990	Warner Robbins, GA	Bombardier
	Moss, Warren H.	1983	Ravenswood, WV	A/C Gunner
	Mowry, Frank W.	Unk	Unk	A/C Gunner
	Norton, Lawrence H.	Unk	Unk	A/C Gunner
	Schutte, Robert A.	1990	West Haven, CT	A/C Eng Repair
	Todd, George	1977	Unk	Line Chief
Veilleux, Phillip R.	1987	Bangor, Me	A/C Gunner	
Waldrum, Christopher C.	1987	Savoy, TX	Cook	

TAPSMAY THEY REST IN PEACE FOREVER

<u>SQD</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DECEASED</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>	<u>DUTY</u>
766	Dittrich, William G.	Unk	Davenport, IA	A/C Inspector
	Drury, Paul A.	1985	Somersworth, NH	A/C Armorer
	Fink, Francis X.	1991	Valley Stream, NY	Pilot
	Fontaine, Lionel J.	1983	Berlin, NH	A/C Gunner
	Fortuna, Salvator A.	1971	Philadelphia, PA	A/C Eng Mech
	Gould, Dwaine, E.	1991	Columbus, OH	Bombardier
	Hamrick, Myles Y.	1981	Greenville, SC	Radio Op/Gunner
	Hawkinson, Theodore E.	1983	Salina, KS	Line Chief
	Jeroski, John P.	1990	Monticello, IN	Radio Op/Gunner
	Layne, Ralph H.	1985	Ft. Worth, TX	Navigator
	Lowe, Samuel F. Jr.	1991	Atlanta, GA	Navigator
	Lubianetsky, Stephen	1973	Hudson, NY	A/C Gunner
	Lund, Verne S.	1975	Seattle, WA	A/C Mech/Gunner
	MacFarlane, Richard B.	Unk	Unk	Intelligence
	Munro, Jack E.	1990	St. Louis, MO	A/C Prop Mech
	Perkins, Kenneth E.	1991	Murfreesboro, TN	Pilot
	Piesens, Oscar A.	1991	Fox Lake, IL	A/C Mech/Gunner
	Ricca, Phillip	1953	Anderson, CA	A/C Mech/Gunner
	Stonestreet, Fred R.	Unk	Mooresville, NC	A/C Eng Mech
	Tidwell, William H.	1984	Montgomery, AL	A/C Flt Chief
Wieman, Ned W.	Unk	Arlington, MN	A/C Gunner	
Wilson, James H.	1991	Lafayette, LA	Bombardier	
Yienst, Lester F.	1985	Warnersville, PA	A/C Gunner	
767	Beversluis, Peter	1977	Wayne, NJ	A/C Mech/Gunner
	Bottiglia, Armand D.	1991	Basking Ridge, CA	Navigator
	Boyd, James M.	1980	Los Angeles, CA	Crew Chief
	Brown, Richard S.	1985	Duxbury, VT	Radio Op/Gunner
	Busbee, Wyatt L.	1991	Albany, GA	A/C Gunner
	Ekquist, Willard J.	1970	Detroit, MI	A/C Mech/Gunner
	Evans, Robert B. 3rd	1977	Knoxville, TN	Pilot
	Fitzpatrick, John P.	1990	Spokane, WA	Pilot
	Ford, Roscoe E.	1987	Anna, TX	Radio Op/Gunner
	Hampton, Maury M.	1978	Jasper, AL	A/C Gunner
	Johnson, Chester C.	Unk	Long Beach, CA	Bombardier
	MacCauley, Chester C.	1968	Ohio	A/C Gunner
	Rosecrans, Leonard T. Jr.	1957	Oklumgee, OK	Sheet Metal
	Roswurm, Robert U.	1990	Topeka, KS	Operations Off.
	Walters, Robert W.	1991	Miami, FL	Pilot

Editor's note: Mrs. Anne Bottiglia asked me to print the following obituary:

Armand D. Bottiglia, Navigator, 767th Squad. Died unexpectedly February 1, 1991. He was born in Bernardsville, NJ where he lived until he joined the service in February, 1942. He flew 35 missions with Robert Luebke's crew in Italy.

He was discharged from the Air Corps with the rank of Captain. He returned to his home town where he worked for 35 years as production manager for a firm which manufactured X-ray screens. He married Anne in 1961. He devoted his free time as an elder in his church, served as master of his Masonic lodge, loved plant life, classical music and was an ardent golfer. Poor health forced his early retirement. He devoted a lot of his time and energy during the last five years of his life to locating members of his crew. He found all but two.

(Continued from page 5)

On another battle field it was said, of those who had given their all, "... it is for us the living... to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought... have thus far so nobly advanced. It is ... for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us... that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion ... that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain." - Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address.

About 5300 men served in the 461st Bomb Group. Today, I say of those who have been called beyond ... "The Lord is your (his) memorial. Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep mercy and judgment, wait on thy God continually." (Hosea 12:5-6)

As I salute you who are present, I encourage you to reconcile your lives with those you are called to fight against. For once again there is a united Germany and many eastern European countries are obtaining their independence and freedom. The "gospel reconciles man to God..." (2 Cor. 5)

As President George Washington departed office on 4 March 1797, he walked to the Francis Hotel where Mister Adams was staying to congratulate him and wish him well. "Suddenly I realized I wasn't alone. People were following me. At first only a few, then a swelling crowd. When I reached the door of the hotel, there were so many that I could not just walk inside without some acknowledgement of their presence."

"For a long moment I stood face to face with them— they said not a word. I realized then with startling clarity that providence was giving me a vision of America, of what it will become. And instead of my having to say something to them, they were expressing it all to me. In those faces, in those hearts, abide the real strength and substance—the future—of our country. For if our experience in freedom succeeds, the people themselves will hold the ultimate authority in our land. I could feel assured that come what may—a government where free and god-loving men express their opinions—when all is said and done, our country rests in good hands, in those of its people."

You, members of the 461st, fulfilled President Washington's visions. You accepted the challenge. You served with honor and gave your all for the freedom and liberty this great land has enjoyed for the past 50 years. God bless each of you and God bless America. Amen.

BENEDICTION

An old English prayer—author unknown

Give us, Lord, a bit of sun,
 A bit of work, and a bit of fun;
 Give us in all the struggle and sputter,
 Our daily bread, and a bit of butter.
 Give us health, our keep to make,
 And a bit to spare, for other's sake.
 Give us, too, a bit of song,
 And a tale and book to help us along.
 Give us, Lord, a chance to be
 Our goodly best, brave, wise and free,
 Our goodly best for ourselves and others,
 'Til all men learn to live as brothers.

(Contributed by Richard E. (Robbie) Robinson)

MEN RETURNING FROM DETACHED SERVICE—SINCE JUNE 1991

<u>SQD</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>NAME</u>
HDQ	Hollinger, Victor R.	Rioux, Leroy	
764	Baker, Robert C.	Godfrey, David M	Maciarmid, Robert A.
	Baril, Donald J.	Green, Harris	Mizgalski, Joseph C.
	Bruin, Jack	Gulis, Alexander G.	Pearce, James F.
	Buswell, Lee H.	Hallauer, William L.	Sanders, William F.
	Crumby, Billy E.	Kuykendall, Victor A.	Todd, Floyd E.
	Cunningham, Robert R.	Kwoka, Michael	Troupes, Ernest C.
	Dorn, Dale A.	Lee, Robert E.	Whitley, Marvin A.
	Godfrey, David	Liehaber, Bernard P.	Zeldin, Bernard M.
		Loring, Joshua	
765	Alexander, Odie C.	Guest, Calvin W.	Schaffer, Paul D.
	Ambrose, Robert J.	Haberman, John	Schaffer, Paul D. Jr.
	Birmingham, John J.	Haelewyn, Rene	Schweisberger, Robert E.
	Blaney, John F.	Hall, Dwayne E.	Steineck, Raymond R.
	Boenisch, Henry J.	Hawthorne, Frank C.	Strauss, Edwin F.
	Broxson, Richard B.	Hulsey, Walter C.	Swanell, Edward F.
	Burdman, Morton	Kamps, Everett	Theuring, August J.
	Cole, Norman A.	Lynch, John P.	Turgeon, Armand, R.
	Conley, Frank G.	Mexera, John F.	Vale, Jack H.
	Curlin, James K.	Ormiston, Floyd R.	Wandrych, Richard A.
	Day, Clifford E.	Ormiston, Lloyd R.	Wariner, Eugene E.
	Derick, James T.	Phillips, Elbert E.	Wheelock, Carl B.
	Eaby, Donald C.	Procopio, Frank	Whitecotton, William L.
	Flaherty, Thomas A.	Raymond, Allen	Wnukowski, Raymond
	Flaim, Elmo	Robinson, James B. III	Zeisler, Edward A. Jr.
	Franks, James		Zendejas, Phillip E.
766	Blatz, Paul E.	Lower, Edward J.	Skinner, Noah M. Jr.
	Cancienne, Phillip J.	Lundgren, Timothy D.	Smith, Andrew T.
	Creech, Walter P. Jr.	Milby, Michael H. Jr.	Tenery, John W. Sr.
	Dumdei, Mervin A.	Oviatt, Winfield C.	Toth, Frank
	Duxberry, Ralph E.	Pelc, Howard J.	Valencia, Ramon P.
	Elsberry, Richard D.	Rivers, Raymond F.	Vallee, Robert D.
	Fordyce, Melvin F.	Royce, Harry C. Jr.	Walsh, Vincent A.
	Furrow, Howard R.	Sant, Robert L.	Whitham, Hugh D.
	Kupits, Julius	Sicilian, George	Zastoupil, William F.
767	Arrotta, Albert T.	Iubelt, George A.	Moore, Raymond A. Jr.
	Avedisian, John D. Jr.	Keily, Kevin J.	Pachar, Max A.
	Bonner, John J.	Kleeb, Warren W.	Parigian, Charles
	Bouffard, Gerald A.	Knox, Stanley	Pelzmann, Robert F.
	Brockelhurst, George L.	Kosten, Alexey J.	Perry, Frank J.
	Card, Keith B.	Long, Halsey H.	Ritch, Clason N.
	Caswell, Stanley E.	Lovin, Odess O.	Showker, Gene A.
	Clark, B. F.	Loyko, Edward A.	Stockton, Floyd
	Collins, John T. Jr.	Maggard, Oliver Jr.	Surber, Cecil F.
	Coomer, Charles W.	Maher, Donald K.	Waning, Leroy E.
	Couderc, Robert M.	McDaniel, James N.	White, Oliver
	Gilmer, Clarence L.	McGrady, William H.	Whitesell, Charles A.
	Hand, Edwin W.	Meyer, Eugene C.	Woodbury, Robert D.
	Hook, Raymond M.		Yates, Charles E. Jr.



Happy birthday, President
Frank O'Bannon
Ed Chan



Farrold Stephens (764th)
Thanks for singing for us!



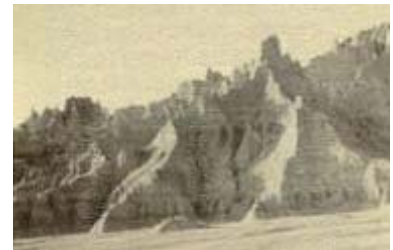
The tunnel through the needles



Model of Crazy Horse Memorial
The project of the Korczak family



The Bad Lands



The Bad Lands



Thanksgiving Dinner
Italy, 1944
765th Enlisted Men's Mess Hall



Christmas, 1943
Hammer Field, CA
Robinson Brothers
Don 764th
Wally 767th



Booth at Air Show to Raise Funds

The 4th grade class at Big Creek Elementary School, Fresno, CA has been investigating the crash of William F. Darden's B-24 in a lake N. E. of Fresno in December, 1943. Darden, Squadron Commander of the newly formed 766th Squadron of the 461st Bomb Group, was searching for another plane in his squadron that was lost. The class wants to place a Memorial Plaque at the lake near the crash site.



Painting of Darden's Plane



The Class at the Crash Site

ATTENDANCE LIST

1991 REUNION
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

HEADQUARTERS

Cole, Len and Grace	Mezzetti, L. J. and Marie	Pruitt, Marion and Dorothy
Hisey, Claude and Maureen with Michael Lane	Mullahey, Joe and Anne	Rioux, Roy

764th SQUADRON

Anderson, Sam and Beverly	Hardee, James and Mildred	Silva, Andy
Andruess, Andy and Helena	Henley, Lou and Lena	Souther, Bert and Ann
Arnholt, Bob and Kitty	Iconis, John and Irene	Spencer, Jimmy and Sue
Bella, Paul and Alvina	Javaruski, Tom and Marion	St. Yves, Alfred and Claire
Bensfield, Joe and Ann	Jennings, Bill and Kathryn	Stephens, Farrold and Alice
Blair, Marion and Imogene	Johnson, Don and Lorelee	Stillman, Dick and Ginnie
Carter, A. D. and Thelma	Johnson, James and Gladys	Stradley, T. V.
Casey, Bob	Kenny, William Angus	Szudzik, Ray and Martha
Chaklos, John and Polly	Kursawe, Jack and Miriam	Taphorn, John and Mildred
Clerke, Earl and Janet	Lazier, John and Norma	Thomas, Wally and Nadaline
Crowe, Bob	Lettenmaier, Jim and Eileen	Underwood, John and Betty Heather Underwood-Carr
Cullen, George and Maryann	Longino, Ted	Allyson Carr
Delameter, Del and Bev	Matheis, John and Betty	Kristen Carr
Durand, Richard and Dorothy	Nelle, Vernon and Gwen	Verner, Bob and Dorothy
Frank, Herb and Lanise	O'Bannon, Frank and Millie	Vest, Bill and June
Freeman, Dick and Jimmy	O'Keefe, Arthur	Waddell, George and Polly
Green, Dwyer and Kathryn M.	Priest, Tom and Margie	Young, John and Betty
Hanson, Elmer with June Stuart	Redger, Cecil with Joan Hartman	Zobal, George and Doris

765th SQUADRON

Abel, Alvin and Marian	Githens, Kenneth and Wanda	Persico, Frank and Louise
Andersen, Andy and Margaret	Gunn, Jack and Augusta	Peterson, Pete and Vernie
Angaroni, John and Lillian	Harrison, Kermit and Christina	Pishione, Gino and Nadine
Barkdull, Earl and Bonnie with Hugh Barkdull Toni Barkdull	Hoermann, Fritz and Judy	Presho, Burnie and Bonnie
Blaire, George and Maxine	Horacek, Bill and Val	Rice, Earl and Janet
Blaney, John F.	Hylton, Harold and Wanda	Ross, Trefry and Nellie
Brugger, Leon and Margaret	Kerlew, William and Marion	Russell, Arch and Edie
Cipriani, Vito and Pierina	Klements, Joseph H.	Shordt, Richard and Evelyn
Coate, Bill and Donna	Koenig, Bob and Esther	Showalter, William and Erla
Currier, Arthur	Krause, Dave	Sipple, Jim and Jane
Dewell, Robert and Helen	Kushner, George and Leona	Steineck, Raymond
Di Tirro, Frank and Anne	Leibe, Ed and Margaret	Strano, Jim and Philomena
Dietrick, Bill and Lois	Lemanczyk, Bob and Edith	Tampas, Peter and Dorothy
Donaldson, W. D. Chris	Lewandowski, Murphy and Lucille	Tuttle, Tut and Joyce
Doud, Robert	McCann, Mac and Marie	Van Norstrand, Jim
Eggers, Norman	Miller, Johnson and Bess	Ward, Elmo E. and Dora E.
Farr, Howard and Lois	Miller, Val R. and Iris	Wilkins, Bill and Muriel
Fox, John and Frances	Moss, Tom and Margie	Winham, Cliff and Corinne
Fries, Walter and Lorraine	Ormiston, Floyd and Marian	Wiseman, Norman and Mary
	Ormiston, Lloyd and Verna	Witt, Marvin C.
	Pasiuk, Ted and Helenore	Wojtkowiak, Len and Elinor
		Yount, John and Betty

REUNION ATTENDANCE LIST (CONT.)766th SQUADRON

Baker, Henry	Flynn, Daniel and Doris	Mooring, Bob
Barks, John and Jean	Franklin, Bill and Sam	Nicholas, Paul with Elaine Shevin
Battaglia, Rus and Sally	Furrow, Howdy and Lillian	Prendeville, Ed and Eileen
Brock, Gene and Jeanie	Garner, Jay M. with Barbara Alden	Shields, Howard O.
Burke, Bill and Josephine	Linda Titus	Spirito, Ernie and Betty
Burrell, H. B. and Maxine	Hayes, Bob and Peggy	Stemple, Glen and Lucille
Calandrillo, Gerald	Holmes, T. M. Jim and Anna	Sterrett, Gene and Myrt
Chan, Ed and Mabel	Huizenga, Gerald and Ann	Thomas, Gene and Connie
Donnelly, Joe and Jean	with Bill Huizenga	Watson, Hal and Dorothy
Dooley, James	Kuhlman, Roy and Mollie	Whitham, Hugh D.
Ehrlich, Harold and Grace	McKnight, Dick and Lola	Wood, Ernest and Jackie

767th SQUADRON

Ambrozich, Ed and Dolores	Ferguson, Paul and Betty	Lung, Raymond and Glenda
Andrews, Andy and Ann	Fletcher, Gene	McGarr, John and Jean
Berumen, Fernando and Nini	Fox, Jerome and Marion	McGinnis, Dave and Joan
Breland, Rufus and Kate	Hansen, Bob and Lois	McQuillan, Dave and Sally
Bush, Kelton	Haynes, Harry and Dorrace	Moore, Tom and Ellen
Chema, Frank and Regina	Henspeter, Peter and Virginia	Mort, Dick and Marilyn
Dahlen, Graydon and Irene	Huggard, Harry and Ruth	Oglesby, Harry and Alice
Delcollo, Tony and Connie	Iubelt, George and Jeanette	with Margaret Crawford
Delianedis, Socrates with Virgil Moore	Kerth, Bob with Mike Patterson	Peter, Carl
Dickie, George and Barbara	Kimball, Wally and Doris	Roberts, Bill and Irma
Dietrick, Vince and Jean	Knapp, Jim and Mary Emma	Robinson, Wally and Marge
Douglas, John and Gladys	Latal, Ed and Edith	Roemer, Bob and Alice
Dwyer, Joseph with Florence Taylor	Lima, Jack	Smith, Al and Blanche
Echternacht, Norris and Scotty	Love, James and Dolores	Snively, Dale and Alvera
		Storts, Buren and Ida Mae
		Young, Ross and Erma

* * * * *

Editorial comment: I BELIEVE FRANK AND MILLIE NEED A BREAK!!!

At the business meeting Frank O'Bannon commented that the office of past president had not been filled and that he was a candidate. I have not discussed it with Frank, but I believe that this was a plea from Frank to be relieved of the responsibility of the office of President. Further, I believe he has served us well and deserves to be relieved. After all, we rotate our directors every two years and I think we should consider doing something similar with the office of President. Frank and Millie will still be around to "do their thing", but would not feel the pressure of the Presidency. Remember, Frank suffered a severe medical problem recently and could use a reduction in work load.

We have a strong organization with several hundred members due to the dedication of Frank and Millie. There has to be a number of members qualified to carry on the work that Frank has nursed over the last seven or more years. I challenge the officers and directors of the organization to find a candidate for President that can work with a worthy "past President" to continue the job so ably initiated by Frank O'Bannon. I heard a call for help. Let's respond!! P. S.: Frank, I don't think I'm wrong, but if I am, please let us know.

DESERVING LETTERS TO FRANK AND MILLIE

“Thanks so much for helping us have a wonderful time at the reunion. Whereas we never got to go to the others, we are already looking forward to going to Dayton, Ohio next year.... The banquet was superb.... Even the band fit our foot work for dancing. Thanks so much for all.”

Bob McGinnis (767th)

“First, I want to thank you and Millie for putting together another great reunion for the 461st BG. Alos your “legman” there who made the local arrangements deserves our thanks (Lyman “Del” Delameter). We all greatly enjoyed the trip to Ellsworth Air Base and seeing the B-1 bombers.... The commentary to our small groups by those sharp young flying officers.... I listened to young Paul Tibbetts, whose name made us all straighten up a notch....”

Jim Van Norstrand (765th)

“B. J. and I will not forget our first 461st Bomb Group reunion. We do thank you for being so nice and making us feel so welcome. We were able to renew an old acquaintance in Grady Dahlen whom I had not seen since 1945. Grady and I will work very hard to get some more members of our crew to Dayton in 1992....”

George Iubelt (767th)

* * * * *

MAIL CALL

Dear George,

In regard to ship 29 on page 1 of the June 1991 Liberaider, our crew, piloted by Leo Cooper and co-pilot, Vincent Ecklund, never flew ship 29 but I know she was flying on 10-7-44.

On this mission to Vienna in ship 23 we came out of heavy clouds just before the target. There was the tail gunner of No. 29 almost in my lap. From my nose turret it seemed I could have reached out and shook hands with him. Needless to say I started hol-

lering for Leo to pull up. I don't know if I even had my mike button down. I never knew who the tail gunner was.

John F. Toney (765th)

Dear George,

I was pleasantly surprised to see my picture, “Hay, who are these guys?” on page 8 of the June 1991 “Liberaider”. The original appeared in the “Stars and Stripes” and our local newspaper “The Bethlehem Globe Times” on April 16, 1945. We are, L to R: Jay Sturgis, George Winslow and Walter Fries.

Walter D. Fries (765th)

Editor's comment: In the December 1990 issue of the “Liberaider” T. A. Ross, 765th, showed that he could spell “Liberators” using the last names of his crew. He asked how many other crews could do this. As it turns out, there are quite a few of them. I won't show their solutions but will provide excerpts from two letters I received:

“.... We were crew 27-1 of the 765th and were shot down over Munich on Oct 4, 1944. Eight of us are still living.”

Paul Shaffer

“ I was also interested in the T. A. Ross question and found that our original crew names fit into this set for both “Liberators” and “Liberaider”. So you can add replacement crew 21 of the 765th Squadron to the list.”

.... I might also say that those of us (crew members) plus some replacement members on the Linz mission became POWs. However, we were very fortunate in that all 10 of us survived.”

Jim Sipple

Hi, George,

Want to tell you what a “bang up” job you're doing on the 461st Liberaider. Congratulations. I, for one, really appreciate each new publication, read and re-read each one. Thanks for the articles about Frank O'Bannon. Sent him a get well card when I read about it.

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

This is not a “crying-towel” letter. Call it an update. I am handicapped with chronic M. S. and don’t go to any reunions for that reason plus incontinence.... And my legs are dying on me. I don’t leave the house much but I have a tricycle for exercise, air and environment. When I can, I tour 20 blocks around here.

I thought my time in Europe was rough until I read some other stories and articles.

With regard to page 13 of the June 1991 issue “Men Returning from Detached Service”, I was M.I.A. in Odessa, Russia with Donald R. Hall but had lost track of him and many others as well. We have all moved many times over the years.

Thanks again “Mr. Editor”. Hats off to you for your efforts.

Best wishes for good health to you and yours.

Emma and Fred McGrath
1645 Joffre Rd.
Forked River, NJ 08731

Editor’s note: Thanks Fred for your kind words. Sounds as though you, Don Hall and members of crew 4/16 of the 766th Squadron should correspond. I don’t have addresses for them but now they have yours so I hope you hear from them.

Dear Frank,

“This is to inform you of the death of one of our 765th men, and how I got the information. In going over a directory list of the 765th I noticed the name of Charles M. Anthony... living in Warren, OH. He was a crew chief in our squadron. Warren is only about an hours drive from my place. Well, I went to a regional public library... and looked up his name in the telephone book. There were two Charles Anthonys listed. So I wrote down both phone numbers and, after a few days, I decided to take a chance and called the first number. It happened to be the daughter-in-law of Charles M. Anthony. Her husband is our member’s son.

I told her who I was— etc, and why I called, trying to get some of the fellows together for our 461st Bomb Group reunion. Then she told me that she was sorry—her father-in-law had died the day before.... Boy was I surprised! I’m sorry that I didn’t try to look him up sooner—being only an hours drive from my place....”

Vito Cipriani (765th)

Editor’s note: How often this happens! Through procrastination we keep delaying a phone call, visit or letter only to learn we have missed a cherished opportunity to bring a bit of happiness to someone’s life. Please help our membership chairman, Ed Chan. When you hear of or read about a fellow member in your area, take that extra step, make that extra effort to contact them. It will make both of you feel good and help the 461st Bomb Group.

I have a confession! Would you believe that Doc Koenig, flight surgeon of the 764th Squadron, lives within 3 miles of me and I have not been over to see him even though I have known this for three years. I am going over to see him tomorrow!

Dear Frank and fellow Liberaiders,

I was greatly moved to hear from you after these many years and to realize how strong are the ties to our beloved comrades of old. I am pleased also to remove my name from your “deceased” files. The old bombardier lives.

The data you have on the status of my fellow flight crew members is correct to my knowledge. Our pilot, Edward C. (Doc) Demmond, is one of the deceased.

As you know, our crew was assigned to the 765th Squadron only briefly—just long enough, in fact, to record two combat sorties before the war ended in Europe. We were among those crews who were transferred from the 376th Bomb Group (Liberandos) of the 47th Wing, based farther south in the Leece Manduria area.

The 376th, which at the time had flown well over

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

400 missions, packed up before VE Day and was sent back to the United States as a unit with the intention (if I recall) of retraining as a B-29 group. The young crews, and those crew members who had just a few missions remaining, shipped out with the group. The rest, who had completed more than half of our sorties, were reassigned to the 49th Wing to complete our tours.

We had hoped to ship out with the Liberandos but were gratified to be assigned to fly with such a highly skilled and professional group as the Liberaiders. We were warmly welcomed and immediately made to feel at home. (Oh, the tents were a bit drafty and the C-rations a trifle over-spiced, but what the hell—there was still a war to fight.)

Our sojourn with the 461st, however brief, was not uneventful. Let me bring you back to April 25, 1945. We knew it was all over in Europe, and couldn't conceive that the Air Force would schedule another mission. There simply wasn't anything left to hit. But those fools in charge did just that!!

You'll recall all the agonized groans (mine included) in the briefing room when the target was announced: The Marshalling Yards at Linz, Austria!!

Linz, if memory serves, boasted something like 600 heavy anti-aircraft guns, in the hands of sharpshooters. However, with the fall of Vienna, the Nazi hauled hundreds of guns from Vienna to bolster the batteries at Linz.

Need I remind you that the flak on that day over Linz was heavy, accurate and intense? The fates, I was convinced, had finally caught up with the Green Hornet crew. It seemed impossible that anyone could escape that maelstrom. A pity, to, after we had survived all those flaming engines, and hung-up bombs, and that wild crash at Falconara and

A lone B-24, not in our squadron, but flying parallel to us at four o'clock high and about 300 yards distant, apparently took a direct hit. It flipped over on its back and you could see

flames shooting from its seams. Suddenly it disintegrated.

We got off the target and, miraculously it seemed, had sustained no damage. With mounting elation we returned and were over the base when Doc lightheartedly lowered the landing gear. I was seated in the waist, watching the burly tail gunner as he looked out the left waist window to check that the gear was down and locked.

"Sweeney's" jaw dropped and his face turned white. The roar of the engines drowned out his voice, but I could read his lips as he shouted into the intercom: "Don't land, for christ's sake. Don't land!" I flew to the window and followed his gaze. Our left wheel had dropped off when the gear was lowered.

The tower advised Doc to put her on autopilot, head her toward the Adriatic and bail out. Doc thought that was a good idea, but he said that if any of us didn't want to jump, he felt he might bring her in on her belly.

Now, none of us would deny Doc's remarkable skill with the ruptured duck or his extreme coolness under fire, but we were too close to getting out of this lousy war alive. A frightened little group, not including the pilots or engineer, gathered in the waist. All eyes were on me. "What are you gonna do?" "Jump!" I croaked through parched lips, startling myself.

To shorten a long story, I'll omit the hilarious details of how seven of us hit the silk (or nylon).

Frank Procopio, our inspired engineer, cleverly contrived to bring up what was left of the main gear but leaving the nose wheel down, hopefully to take the initial shock of a belly landing. This took time, which also served to use up gas to make the plane lighter.

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

I was at the landing strip along with some of the brass, including a brigadier, when Doc and copilot Jim Franks made their approach. Heads were shaking as if no one gave the intrepid but foolhardy trio much of a chance. I turned away. This I couldn't look at.

Doc greased that baby in with consummate skill on the grass next to the steel landing mat. The only glitch occurred when they hit that drainage ditch about two-thirds of the way, if memory serves, but they slid on undaunted.

I checked the plane out a couple of days later when the mechanics were running stress tests on the frame. There was a bent prop or two, but even the flimsy bomb bay doors were intact. Taxpayers, the flying coffin would fly again!!

.... Like some of you, I returned to my old base in 1981, but it was to the 376th at San Pancrazio. The stone farm buildings were still there. Our old, pitted concrete strip was resurfaced with macadam but there were no aircraft visible.

I regret that I can't make this reunion, but of course I'll be with you in spirit.

God bless you,
John C. Haberman
Bonita Springs, FL



The cold drafty tents of the 461st crew #72 of the 767th (contributed by Wally Robinson)

Editor's note: I ran across this letter in a batch of stuff I was sent a long time ago. It is dated Sept. 17, 1987.

Dear Frank,

I'm certainly enjoying the 461st Liberaider publications you are assembling with news of our days in Italy.

One of the news items that caught my eye was on page 9 of the July, 1987 issue. The story was titled "Bridge Busting Gets Commendation". It so happens that I was on that mission on August 2, 1944. I was navigator on John Moore's crew and Lt. Jackson was our bombardier at test time. The story I have been telling for 40 years goes like this.

When Lt. Jackson went to release our plane's bombs, they hung up and were released late. This was one of the first missions we flew and were eager to see where the bombs landed. Well guess what, all of the groups bombs dropped short of the bridge and our load was late but hit the bridge "on target". The only problem was, when we got back to the area for debriefing, we got "chewed out" for ruining the bomb pattern by the group bombardier. I'm sorry General Twining, but this is the way it was.

Sincerely,
William F. Dietrich
Reading, PA



Who is this fine looking private? He is probably from the 767th. We were all fine looking!



I LOVE THIS AIRPLANE!!!

#67 767th Squadron

She, and Lyle Crume, brought us through our missions safely

Question: We flew our last mission in #67 to Vienna on Nov. 6, 1944. Can anyone tell me what happened to her after that? Editor.

MISSION #11

20 April, 1944

Target: Tagliamento Casarsa Railroad Bridge, Italy

Reconnaissance photography having revealed that the enemy had partially repaired the damage this group had done to the south marshalling yard at Ferrara, Italy on 7 April, the group was reassigned to hit another section of the same target. Because of bad weather over the primary target the group went on to bomb the first alternate, the Tagliamento Casarsa railroad bridge at the head of the Adriatic in Italy. This was the first attempt of the group to bomb a bridge. The cloud coverage was seven-tenths. Coming down the river and hitting the target at right angles, the group made several hits on both the railroad bridge and the highway bridge beyond. Fifteen percent of the bombs dropped were plotted within 1,000 ft. of the aiming point. Thirteen enemy aircraft seen by the group made no passes at the formation.

MISSION #12

21 April, 1944

Target: Chitila Marshalling Yard at Bucharest, Roumania

Again the target was the Chitila M/Y Bucharest, and again the weather was bad. A solid undercast prevented bombing the result that all bombs were jettisoned in the Adriatic. Forty enemy aircraft were seen, several were encountered and one was shot down. A nose gunner, Sgt. W. G. Rollins, became the first casualty on a crew when his face was cut by shell casings from another plane.

MISSION #13

23 April, 1944

Target: Bad Voslau Airdrome, Austria

When the crew members learned at the briefing that they would attack their first target in the Vienna area, they fully realized that they were now in the big

time. Before our group hit its target the 304th Wing had performed an outstanding job in practically demolishing the airdrome buildings. Uncovering the three flights of each section in approaching the target, the group, led for the first time by Capt. Dooley, completely sprayed the landing field with fragmentation bombs. The bombing pattern was one of perfection. The returning crews doubted if it would be necessary to return again to that target. Several encounters were had with twenty-three enemy fighters, two of which were probably destroyed. Fourteen planes over the target were hard hit by flak.

There were two casualties as a result of this mission. Bombardier, F/O R. B. Stewart and ball-turret gunner, Sgt. P. N. Godino, both on 2nd Lt. G. Fulks' crew, were hit in the foot by flak.

COMMENDATION

From: Operations Office, 49th Bomb Wing

To: Commanding officers, 451st, 461st and 484th Bomb Groups

The bombing of Bas Voslau, 23 April, by the 49th Wing was excellent. Please pass to all participating my commendation and appreciation for a job well done.

Lt. Col. Lee

* * * * *

461st BOMB GROUP PX ORDER FORM

NAME	_____	SQUADRON	_____
ADDRESS	_____		
<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
PINS: 461st Group Headquarters	\$3.00	()	\$ _____
764th Squadron	3.00	()	\$ _____
765th Squadron	3.00	()	\$ _____
766th Squadron	3.00	()	\$ _____
767th Squadron	3.00	()	\$ _____
15th Air Force	3.25	()	\$ _____
B-24	3.25	()	\$ _____
Group Shoulder Patch	3.00	()	\$ _____
4 in. Group decal, outside mount	2.00	()	\$ _____
8x10 photo-memorial plaque-AF academy	1.50	()	\$ _____
Baseball type cap with 461st B-24	6.50	()	\$ _____
		Total Order	\$ _____

Make checks payable to: 461st BG (H) 43-45 Inc. Postage included
 Send to: Wally Robinson, 3 E. Cardot Street, Ridgeway, PA 15853

MISSION #14
 24 April, 1944

Target: Chitila Marshalling Yard at Bucharest, Roumania

For the third time during the month the group went to Chitila M/Y. This time the weather was CAVU with haze. The target was picked up by the lead plane, but unfortunately a bomb rack malfunction temporarily held up the bombs, which overshot the target. This was also true of most of the planes in the first attack unit who were dropping on the section leader. The second section saved the day for the group by getting 11 percent of all the bombs dropped by the group on the briefed aiming point. The falk was intense, heavy and accurate. Of the twenty-five enemy fighters seen, several were encountered, one was destroyed, and one was damaged.

MISSION #15 HAD TO BE CANCELLED FOR EACH OF THE NEXT THREE DAYS

25 April—Wiener Neustadt, Austria Nord Airdrome

26 April—Wiener Neustadt, Austria Wollersdorf Airdrome

27 April—Wiener Neustadt, Austria Wollersdorf Airdrome



PRISONERS OF WAR, ODESSA, RUSSIA

766th Squadron

L to R: S/Sgt. Fred McGrath, can't remember,
Cpl. Don Hall, T/Sgt. Tom Reiland

(See letter on pages 14 and 15 from Fred McGrath)

Editor's comments:

In the last issue I asked you for material. I got a lot but because of the reunion material I couldn't print it all. This is the biggest issue I have put out. I'm told I can make it as big as I want, damn the cost (almost). You are the ones that control the size, so keep it coming.

A lot of members told me at the Rapid City reunion that it was great that I published the camp ground where some of the RV members were staying. They asked me to do the same for the next reunion in Dayton.

ALERT!!!! Someone please send me the name of a good campground in the Dayton area. I'll publish it in the next issue. Marimac Corp, take notice.

* * * * *

461st BOMB Group (H) 1943-1945, Inc.

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