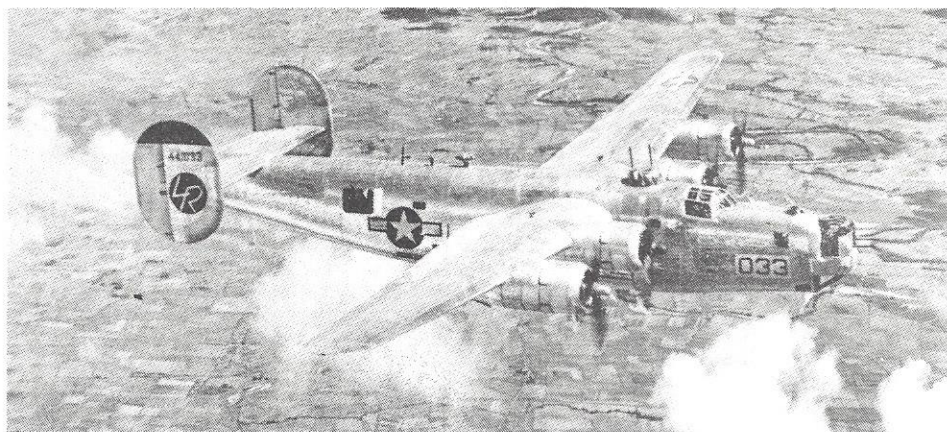




370th



371st



372nd



424th

307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HV) ASSOCIATION - THE LONG RANGERS - 13TH AIR FORCE

2002-3

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2003

QUOTES OF NOTE:

"Give me a man with wrinkles on the back of his neck from looking up rather than under his chin from looking downward."

- Maurice Davis

"Life was meant to be lived, and curiosity must be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn back on life."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

"A reputation once broken may possibly be repaired, but the world will always keep its eye on the spot where the crack was."

- A.H. Brown

"Peace of mind; the contentment of a man who is too busy to worry by day, and too sleepy to worry at night."

- Woodrow Wilson

"Never throw away hastily any old faith, tradition of convention. They may require modification, but they are the results of experience of many generations."

- Oliver Lodge

"I have always been delighted at the prospect of a new day, a fresh try, one more start, with perhaps a bit of magic, waiting somewhere behind the morning."

- J.B. Priestly

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY:

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY NEW YEAR,
AND A WONDERFUL EASTER!

If it takes me much longer to get this "Newsletter" out we will be celebrating "Christmas in July"!

I must apologize for the long delay in getting the 2002-3 Newsletter out. I have had quite a struggle with my hands. The tips of my fingers and both thumbs have split with psoriasis or some kind of virus. I have about decided the Dr. doesn't know just what it is. Have tried several prescriptions and believe it or not I get the best results from using an over the counter remedy "Bag Balm". I think they used to use that on cows. It is a greasy remedy so my fingertips are either covered with bandaids or a pair of cotton gloves. All I know it has been miserable for me the last couple of months.

My granddaughter is coming from Salt Lake to help me with stuffing the newsletter into the envelopes. That will be a great help.

Have had quite a number of requests for "Up The Slot, The Long Rangers, and We'll Say Goodbye," as well as orders for the 307th jacket. E-mail requests from a number of children or relatives of 307th members have also come in. Am hoping these requests will result in more of the children joining the group.

Cena

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AIR FORCE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

October 4, 2002

SMSgt Claude Jordan, USAF (Ret)
307th Bombardment Group
HV - Association
510 Battery Pl
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

Claude
Dear Sergeant Jordan:

On behalf of the entire Air Force family, I want to thank you and the 307th Bombardment Group Association for their generous donation of \$2,500.00 to the Air Force Memorial Foundation. We were very pleased to see you and your family at our recent Board of Trustees meeting.

With the war on terrorism and the men and women of the Air Force once again serving on the front lines, our goal of completing our memorial is even more important than ever.

One of the greatest gifts we can give our nation is to honor those that have served, those that are serving, and inspire those yet to serve. Thank you so much for your friendship and support.

With warm regards,

Edward F. Grillo, Jr.
Edward F. Grillo, Jr.
Major General, USAF (Ret.)
President

P.S. The AFMF is an authorized 501 (c) (3) foundation. The contribution is deductible to the full extent of the law.

Claude - the 307th has superbly supported the AFMF. Please thank all your members for me.

News from the President:

Seasons Greetings,

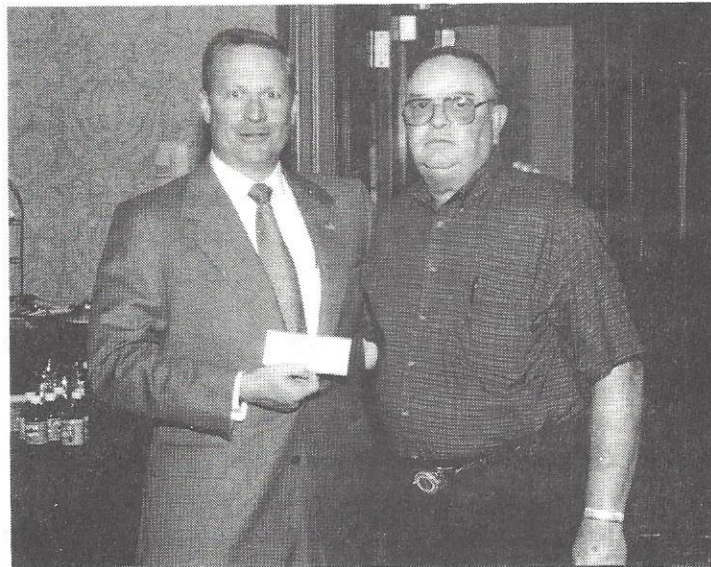
Wow! It's hard to believe that the holidays are here again! How quickly the time does fly.

Plans are well underway for the next reunion in Nashville, TN. I have been in touch with Jim Walsh and he has already secured the Opryland Hotel for us at a great rate. The contract is ready to be signed and then we will be set. This is very exciting news. Another fabulous reunion waits on the horizon for us all. Please, lets all try to make plans to attend.

If you have any concerns or requests that I may be able to assist with, please feel free to contact me and I will have Cathy take care of it. HA! HA! Seriously, we will both do our best to help you with anything we can.

On behalf of my family, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and the very best of New Years.

*C. E. Jordan
President*



Presentation of \$2500.00 donation to A.F. Memorial Foundation
Rep. Ross Perot, Jr.m by C.E. Jordan, 307th President.

FROM YOUR HISTORIAN

Early in the summer your Historian and wife Dottie drove from Michigan to Spokane, Washington to attend a church meeting. On the way to Spokane we visited Sioux Falls, South Dakota where I had my radio operator training. The town has grown tremendously and no trace was found of the old radio school; however the falls for which the town was named have become part of a large city park. We then visited Mount Rushmore, Yellowstone, the Tetons and Glacier National Parks. (Dottie slipped on a wet rock in Glacier and dislocated her elbow, causing the abortion of our visit to Glacier.) Following our Spokane meeting we returned home via the coast highway, stopping to visit Tom Harris, my 307th pilot, and his family. Then on to San Diego to visit one of our daughters and her family; then to Tucson, where Tom Wiley whose brother, Richard D. Wiley,

was MIA with the 307th, gave us a great tour of the Pima Air Museum. After driving through the Saguaro National Parks, Guadalupe National Park and Carlsbad Caverns, we visited old friends in Arkansas and former assistant historian Harry Sterkel and his wife, in St. Louis. Three weeks later we left for Salt Lake City and the Reunion, driving again (!). On the way we visited 307th member, Joe Johnson and his wife on their Wyoming cattle ranch. Joe has thousands of acres and 22 "irrigation circles" (those green circles you see from the planes as you fly over). Returning home this time we visited with Cena and some of her family, then on to Arches National Park, Bryce and Zion National Parks, the Glen Canyon Dam, the Grand Canyon, and a visit with relatives in Albuquerque. All in all, we had a wonderful time during those 13,000 miles! .

More Memories of Truk

The article by Bob King which was carried in Reunion Book #13 brought the following response from Rock Daigle:

"The story written by Bob King was particularly interesting because I was also involved in that first DUC mission, which leads me to writing you now. I would like to add to that story. Not to criticize, but to add to it with a couple of stories bordering the original.

The 29th of March 1944 saw the first daylight raid on Truk. A few days before, on what was to have been the first daylight bombing of Truk by land based bombers, the 307th left Munda with more than 20 Libs and landed on Piva air-strip on Bouganville where we stayed the night with the Marines. Our tanks were topped-off and early the following morning we took-off for Truk. We carried two 750 gallon bomb-bay tanks and a half load of 500 pound bombs. The lead Navigator erred and we missed Truk by 200 miles. About

7 or 8 hours out, we salvaged our bombs near a small deserted island near which a Japanese float-plane lay upside down under water, and headed for home.

Due to the criticality of our fuel supply, we headed for Green Island, an advanced Marine and Navy fighter, dive and torpedo bomber base near Rabaul. The island was very small and the runway ran from sea to sea. One by one the B-24's landed and used a lot of brakes on the run-out because of the short runway. The fuel situation was so critical that some planes ran out as they were taxiing to park and had to be towed to make room for others. The revetments were filled with fighters, and dive and torpedo planes. Because the taxi strips were filled with B-24's no Navy planes could get out of their revetments.

Colonel Burnham, our Commanding Officer and a Marine Colonel (island commander) got together to set up for our refueling. The Marine colonel asked Burnham how soon they would like to leave. Burnham told him "As soon as

you refuel us". The Marine said that was fine; how much fuel will you need? Burnham told him that 750 gallons per plane should get us back to Munda. I thought the Marine was going to lose his teeth. He had two 800 gallon trucks for refueling. These would have to be filled down at the docks, which would be accomplished by hand-pumping the fuel from 55 gallon drums into the trucks. Needless to say, it took all night. We spent another night with the Marines and returned to Munda the next day. If the enemy had been aware of the situation they would have had a field day because no planes could have left Green Island.

On March 29th we went through the same exercise: Munda to Bouganville, overnight with the Marines and an early morning take-off. Only this time the Army sent a "Snooper" plane along to navigate to make sure we got to our target. An hour from our destination the Snooper radioed to our leader that our target was straight ahead, an hour away. The enemy, monitoring the radio-beams, intercepted the message and had a nice reception committee waiting for us. After sending the radio message the Snooper left the group and returned to Bouganville.

Our crew joined the 370th in mid '43. We were flying out of Guadalcanal and later moved to Munda. We flew about 20 missions without any flak-suits or vests because 307th Supply hadn't received any. Finally, one day we received our first shipment of flak-vests Just in time for the mission on which Captain Elliott received his flak hit. If we had flown that mission a day or two earlier the Captain would not have been so lucky!

Search for Information on S/Sgt Earle Painter

Recently Association member Buck Harmon sent me a copy of his response to a request from Mr. John W. Painter for information about the death of his uncle, Earle Painter. Buck's reply, drawn from his personal WW II notes, was unable to supply details of the loss of Sgt. Painter's plane and its crew.

Further research shows that Painter was flying with Lt. Edward Rice's 371st crew on the Yap mission of July 5, 1944. The Rice plane was seriously hit over the target but the squad-

ron stayed together until the Jap fighters retired. At that time the Rice plane, burning fiercely, dove into the water. There were no survivors.

As to Painter's crew position, our planes flew with ten man crews, six of whom were enlisted men. Rice's crew, on the day they were shot down, carried seven enlisted men. When a crew carried an extra enlisted man, he was almost always a photographer. In their case, Painter's name was at the end of the list so it is a good bet that he was a photographer whose duty was to photograph bomb hits. Photographers seldom flew exclusively with any particular crew. Until I can verify my belief I would guess that Painter was a 371st squadron photographer.

I will send Mr. Painter more information not already given him by Buck Harmon. Meanwhile, Painter would greatly appreciate any word from anyone who knew or remembers S/ Sgt Earle Painter. If you can help, please contact John Painter at 100 Johnson Dr, Stuarts Draft VA 24477, OR, gandolf@ntelos.net.

More on Tarakan —5/21/45

Here is another facet to the same 307th mission to Tarakan, Borneo, discussed by Ed Nowak in his article in Newsletter 2002-2. This story of his memories of that mission was sent by member Bill Holston.

With reference to the May 21, 1945 mission to Tarakan on the Northeastern coast of Borneo, as detailed by Ed Novak in the October Newsletter, Lt. Mattick's crew was also on that mission. I believe we had three 1000 pound bombs aboard for the purpose of destroying a gun emplacement which the Japanese had mounted on a rail inside a cave.

Lt. Robert H. Nelson, our bombardier, was able to drop only one of the bombs because of a malfunction in the bomb bay; however that bomb hit the center of the area targeted by the smoke shells, and that one blew up the whole mountain! Of course, there was a large jolt at 5,000 feet from the explosion of the bomb, but it was followed by a much larger explosion from the ammunition dump inside the mountain. Naturally the Aussies were overjoyed at our success in destroying that point of opposition. My thanks to all you folks for carrying on the story for all of us!

A couple of years ago I heard from a friend and fellow 307th member, Jim Frazier, about Bruce and Barb Hazelton who were working on Yap Island. Yap was a target of the 307th during June and July of 1944. After several email letters back and forth, Bruce sent this letter covering his impressions of Yap as he saw it. We thought his entire letter would be of interest to those of you who sweated out fighters and flak over Yap so long ago. The Hazeltons have since returned to the states.

Adventures in Yap.

March 22nd 2002.

Exploring the Island.

For the past few weeks Barbara and I have had fewer obligations with the hospital. We continue to work weekends but are no longer teaching classes during the week, as such we have had more time to do exploration. Barbara frequently rides her bike while I act as her support crew meeting her at various locations along her path. We have also been taking more hikes than usual exploring old stone paths some of which are now no more than overgrown trails.

Recently, I had an interest in a path we had discovered some time ago and so when Barbara decided she wanted to take a hike I requested we follow this path and see where it led to. We headed off from our home on the east side of the Island. The path I had chosen headed west and appeared to go over the Island to the West Coast a distance of about three miles. As we started out it was a relatively easy walk utilizing an old dirt road. Before long the road ended and we started climbing more steeply upward on what appeared to be a very old stone path. There are a great many stone paths on the Island built many many years ago, before roads ever existed. The stone paths were the major thoroughfares for the Islanders. It took about an hour and a half to climb over the hills in the Island's center, upon reaching the highest point we found another old road and followed it the remainder of our way to the western side of the Island. From there we were able to follow a major dirt road back home another hour or so. In all our hike had lasted about three and half to four hours and covered about five or six miles.

Overall it doesn't sound like anything terribly unusual or exciting until you began to analyze the walk, the vegetation, the terrain, and the history it has covered. Recently I received an e-mail from a gentleman in Michigan his name is James and he was a member of the 307th Bomb Group. James apparently was a member of the American military who had at one time dropped bombs on the Island of Yap. During World War II Yap and many of the Island's in Micronesia were considered strategically valuable and therefore important to control. The Japanese had occupied Yap since about 1908 when a major trading company was established in this area. The U.S. controlled Guam and a few other small islands. Micronesia laid between Guam and the Philippines and as such was strategically valuable.

The first bombing of Yap by America was done in March of 1944, according to Yapese history, the bombings continued for almost a year until the Japanese finally surrendered. And although the Japanese greatly feared an invasion by naval vessels, this never occurred until after Japan's surrender.

The letter I received from James was I felt significant and deserved an appropriate response. As such I recently reviewed the one and only Yapese history book we have located. The book was written in the early '90s and published by the Department of Education around 1994. As far as I can tell no other book has ever been published about Yap's history. I received a copy of this book from some friends and have never seen another copy anywhere. I was told it was intended for seventh grade students. Occasionally I have taken the book to work with me and have found few of the Yapese are even aware of its existence. Indeed many of them find it fascinating as they have very little knowledge of their own history.

The Yap State History book has proven to be a valuable source of information about Yap's development, according to this book Yap was first inhabited by spirits around 500 AD. Since then the Spanish, the Germans, Japanese and finally the Americans have all at one time or another influenced Yapese culture and development.

In returning to our exploration, I have often mentioned the stone pathways, they are truly engineering works of marvel. These pathways were constructed well over a 100 years ago a few of them are still maintained in excellent condition today. It's difficult to describe them, I'm sure most people have the vision of a few rocks lined up forming a path, on the contrary stone pathways are intricately designed walkways. They are often elevated above the surrounding terrain and have drainage canals on either side. They incorporate numerous small bridges again allowing for drainage and intersections are frequently marked with upright stones denoting importance. The stones themselves are laid specifically for the terrain. Hillsides or steep slopes require a specific pattern of stone work to prevent erosion, occasionally steps are built and flat terrain requires a different pattern of stone work. Low-lying areas may require the stones be cut to create a protective curbing along the edge. What's even more remarkable is that the stone used in constructing these paths almost always came from one central location on the Island. This meant the stone had to be transported frequently many miles to the construction site.

At various locations along the stone paths elevated stone platforms can be found. Upon these platforms homes would have been built and in major village centers large platforms with large meeting buildings were constructed. Surrounding these meeting facilities there are often very large stone covered patios. Large flat rocks can be seen standing upright on these patios and would've been used as leaning rocks or back rests for sitting against. Today most of these stone platforms are in disrepair covered with vegetation or broken by the roots of large trees and palms. Occasionally, a village will continue to use the old platforms and maintain their integrity, but this requires a great deal of labor and unfortunately has been abandoned by most of the Yapese. Frequently major village centers will incorporate stone money banks around the village center. The stone money banks are simply large collections of the very old wheel shaped stone money. According to history the value of the stone money played a significant role in the village's prestige and warranted major respect.

When the Japanese first arrived in Yap their initial intention, again according to the history book, was for expansion of the Japanese culture. Shortly after they moved in changes were initiated. The Yapese were required to spend a great deal of time working on projects the Japanese deemed as valuable. This included road construction and the building of more modern structures for the Japanese government. As the years progressed under the Japanese rule and they required more and more of the Yapese time to work on their projects, this resulted in less time to be devoted to traditional cultural needs. Less time was available for teaching Yapese children about their history by the elders and less time was available to maintain traditional homes and meeting halls. Eventually a lot of the Yapese culture was lost and forgotten.

The Japanese built many "modern" structures including water towers, roads, and military facilities. The most significant being a large runway constructed with the use of forced labor. A great many Yapese apparently spent many hours constructing the runway and preparing the surrounding terrain to accommodate many Japanese war planes. Virtually all of the labor was done by hand.

As the Japanese presence's on the Island grew their support became more and more difficult. Providing food for the Japanese became a major undertaking and required many hours of the Yapese working in gardens specifically to feed the Japanese. The Japanese also established additional bases on many of the outer islands. The small islands had few options when it came to producing sufficient food for the inhabitants, as a result many of the Japanese died from starvation and unfortunately so to did the outer Islanders and Yapese.

In March of 1944 when the Americans first started bombing Yap; few of the Yapese or Japanese were killed as a result of the numerous attacks. For example, as one Yapese recalled on the first day of bombing, he was working on the Japanese runway. He and a few others heard the planes approaching and saw the first bombs dropping. Fearing for his life he began running through the jungle heading north away from the airport, a few others ran with him. As they reached the far end of the Island they reported to the villagers that no one could have survived behind them and that many people had been killed. In the days that followed it was learned only two people had died and they were not Yapese.

The Japanese who had long known that the U.S. might eventually attack moved most of their weaponry away from strategic points. Ammunition was moved away from the airport and other structures, subsequently stored in bunkers along the beaches. Recently Barbara and I came across one such bunker built from coral rock and cement. The entire structure, dome shaped, could easily be seen to blend in with it's surroundings especially when viewed from a plane flying overhead. It stands today damaged only by the environment. We have also come across large gun structures, the most significant being located on a very high hilltop offering an excellent view over the old Japanese runway. On this hilltop we found indications of a large anti-aircraft gun that could be rotated in 360 degrees. Surrounding this were stone bunkers and trenches suitable for protecting many occupants. Near the old runway itself Japanese fighters and a large Japanese bomber lay in ruin either destroyed by bombs or by failed attempts to evacuate them from the Island.

It is also documented in the history book that many of the Yapese were forced to construct barricades against sea invasion and landing craft around the Island. Trenches were dug and palm trees were stacked to create barricades against tanks and other vehicles. None of these were necessary as the U.S. never invaded. On September 5th 1945 the Japanese surrendered Yap to the Americans. Not until then did a single American soldier set foot on Yapese soil.

The Americans arrival brought many changes to the Island. One of the first things they did was try and restore the Yapese culture. To do so all signs of war were removed, all types of military equipment was hauled off of the Island and dumped in the ocean. The original Yapese government was restored with its tribal chiefs given back their powers. Unfortunately a population that once reached nearly 50,000 people before outsiders had intervened had been reduced to just a little over 2,000 Yapese inhabitants. Many Yapese had died from starvation and illnesses brought in or caused by outsiders, others had been forcibly removed from the Island and would never return. The Yapese culture had unfortunately been virtually eradicated.

The Americans, with their western ways attempted to restore Yap to its prewar conditions. This however was virtually impossible. The Americans donated food and assisted with reconstruction using American materials all of which were foreign to the Yapese. The original Yapese culture was a very labor-intensive society. Thatched buildings require continuous maintenance and upkeep, the stone pathways and village platforms also require tremendous maintenance to maintain them. Having very limited manpower resources these cultural developments could not be maintain and today the Yapese have become more and more reliant on Western construction materials for building their homes and other structures. Unfortunately even though these materials require less in the way of upkeep they are extremely expensive. The lack of sufficient funds and manpower has inevitably resulted in property like conditions. During the war many of the Yapese gardens and food sources were destroyed on the outer islands, entire coconut grove's were flattened, taro patches could no longer support the Islanders and soon a dependence on Western food supplies were established. The Americans constructed stores providing C-rations that consisted of canned meats and bread products. All of these were foreign to the Yapese culture. Today many Yapese continue to depend on such items.

As Barbara and I hiked through the old villages and follow the old stone paths where often surrounded by silence and frequently remark about how few people and villagers we encounter. It is obvious there was a time when the Yapese were a much more prosperous and thriving society. If you listen carefully there are times when the old stone platforms will tell you stories of the past.

It's difficult today to say whether or not America has done much to help the Yapese. When you look at the society they once were then consider the amount of work that must have been involved to maintain their villages and communities we have to ask have we really improved their lives. There was a time when the Yapese obviously were required to work together, today Western influence seems to be promoting independence not only from outside assistance but among the Yapese themselves. Villages no longer appear to share common interest, individuals and individual families survive alone.

This morning Barbara and I took another hiked this time we chose a path we had only recently discovered. The stone path was in remarkably good condition and had been lined with cuttings from beautiful tropical plants. The cuttings had quickly taken root and grown into colorful hedges. At one point we came across to a young woman using a locally made hand broom. She was diligently sweeping away leaves that had fallen on the path. As we continued on we past many old stone platforms and

A little help, please

BY BOB GREENE

Someone from the 3rd Infantry Division got in touch and said he thought I'd want to know. He said it was about Bill Mauldin. What followed was not so good. I'll get to that in a moment. For those of you too young to recognize the name: Bill Mauldin, who is now 80 years old, was the finest and most beloved editorial cartoonist of World War II. An enlisted man who drew for *Stars and Stripes*, he was the one who gave the soldiers hope and sardonic smiles on the battlefields; Mauldin knew their hearts because he was one of them. Using his dirty, unshaven, bone-weary infantrymen characters Willie and Joe as his vehicle, Mauldin let all those troops know there was someone who understood. A Mauldin classic from World War II: an exhausted infantryman standing in front of a table where medals were being given out, saying: "Just gimme th' aspirin. I already got a Purple Heart."

Baby-faced and absolutely brilliant, Mauldin became a national phenomenon. Talk about a boy wonder: By the time he was 23 years old he had won a Pulitzer Prize, been featured on the cover of *Time* magazine and had the country's No. 1 best-selling book, "Up Front." Yet he remained the unaffected, bedrock genuine, decent and open guy ... his fellow soldiers loved him.

And he stayed that way — right down to the baby face — all the way into his 50s and beyond. I was brand-new in Chicago, 22 years old and a beginning reporter, when I walked by the old Riccardo's restaurant one night, and there was Mauldin having a drink at one of the outside tables with his friend Mike Royko. Mauldin had seen me around the hallways; he motioned me over and invited me to join them. I sat down and

tried to act as if this was nothing exceptional at all, as I looked around me at the table and thought to myself: You're six weeks out of Bexley, Ohio. That's Bill Mauldin. That's Mike Royko. This is a dream.

He was always so nice to me; he volunteered to write the foreword to one of my first books. We sort of lost touch after he moved to the Western part of the U.S. full time, and I guess that when I thought of him it was still as the eternally boyish, eternally grinning, eternally upbeat Mauldin. And then the message came the other day from the 3rd Infantry man.

Bill Mauldin needs help.

He suffered terrible burns in a household accident a while back; his health has deteriorated grievously, and his cognitive functions are barely working. He lives in a room in a nursing home in Orange County, Calif., and sometimes days at a time go by without him saying a word. He was married three times, but the last one ended in divorce, and at 80 in the nursing home Mauldin is a single man.

I spoke with members of his family; they said that, even though Bill hardly communicates, the one thing that cheers him up is hearing from World War II guys — the men for whom he drew those magnificent cartoons.

Which is not what you might expect. Mauldin was not one to hold on to the past — he did not want to be categorized by the work he did on the battlefields when he was in his 20s. He went on to have a stellar career in journalism after the war, winning another Pulitzer in 1959. Many Americans, and I'm one of them, consider the drawing he did on deadline on the afternoon John F. Kennedy was assassinated — the drawing of the Lincoln Memorial, head in hands, weeping — to be the single greatest editorial cartoon in the history of newspapers.

But it's his World War II contemporaries he seems to need now. The guys for whom — in the words of Mauldin's son David — Mauldin's cartoons "were like water for men dying of thirst." David Mauldin said his dad needs to hear that he meant something to those men.

He needs visitors, and he needs cards of encouragement. I'm not going to print the name of the nursing home, so that this can be done in a disciplined and scheduled way. A newspaper colleague in Southern California — Gordon Dillow — has done a wonderful job organizing this, and he will take your cards to the nursing home.

You may send them to Bill Mauldin in care of Dillow at the Orange County Register, 625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92701.

What would be even better, for those of you World War II veterans who are reading these words in California, or who plan on traveling there soon, would be if you could pay a visit to Mauldin just to sit with him a while. You can let me know if you are willing to do this (bgreene@tribune.com), or you can let Gordon Dillow know (gldillow@aol.com).

Bill Mauldin brought hope, and smiles in terrible hours, to millions of his fellow soldiers. If you were one of them, and you'd like to repay the favor, this would be the time.

Bob Green is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

Bill Mauldin's cartoons from World War II earned him his first Pulitzer prize in 1945. He joined the staff of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in 1958 and a year later won his second Pulitzer prize for editorial cartoons. After he went to work for the Chicago Sun-Times in 1962, his cartoons appeared in 250 newspapers.

Late Arriving Requests for Information:

Glenn P. Burdette

"I am trying to research my uncle, Glenn P. Burdette, who served in AAF during WWII. I believe he may have served in the 307th BG, perhaps the 370th squadron. I do know he was in the 7th AAF and was stationed at Hickham field in 1941, but I don't have more info than that. Do you have a roster of the Group or know how I can locate his unit? Since Glenn had white hair he seems to have been best known as White or Whitey."

Harold C. Goettner
4101 E. Main Street
Lineboro, Maryland 21102
Email: Yancy97@aol.com

Since Burdette was in Hawaii in 1941, he may have been in the 5th Bomb Group which was there at that time. The 307th did not arrive in Hawaii until 1942.

Don Apley

"I am looking for information on Don Apley who was a NCO crew chief who was at Morotai. I don't have a lot of information other than that since most of the family is gone. Just wondering if you could help guide me in the direction of where to start."

Chris Apley
Email: capley@hartel.net

This is a "shot in the dark" because there were several fighter and other groups based on Morotai. Apley could well have been a crew chief in any of them. However, we may be lucky enough to find him somewhere in the 307th.

John (Jack) Raymond McCullough

"Hello, my name is Pat Ranfranz. I am the owner and developer of the www.CharlesLindbergh.com Web site. I am trying to help my mother locate information about her brother, John Raymond McCullough. John was listed as MIA/KIA after his B-24 was shot down near Yap Island on June 25, 1944. My mother's family (13 other brothers and sisters) have never found out what happened to John. I would welcome any help through your organization to gather information about John, his crew, the plane, his squadron, his group, and/or anyone still living that had contact with John or may have been on that fateful mission. To this point we know that Jack was radio operator on the 372nd crew of Gerald Coleman and have a Missing Air Crew Report which gives a pretty graphic picture of what happened to their plane. If you can help please contact me.

Patrick Ranfranz
3165 Victoria St. N.
Shoreview, MN 55126
1-651-490-9720 (H) or
1-800-328-2460, Ext 7610 (O)
Email: Webmaster@CharlesLindbergh.com

Editor's Note:

As noted above, Mr. Ranfranz has put together a Website on Charles Lindbergh, a particular hero of his. Lindbergh's stay with the 475th fighter group during the summer of 1944 was very meaningful to the 307th BG. During many fighter sweeps with the 475th Lindbergh taught its pilots engine settings that doubled the range of their P-38's. You will remember unescorted 307th lost seven B-24's over Balikpapan on Oct. 3rd. Leaning heavily on Lindbergh's lessons, P-38's and P-47's were able to reach Balikpapan on the next bombing mission flown on Oct. 10th. No B-24's were lost on that mission. You might want to check out the Charles Lindbergh website. It is very interesting and will continue to grow.

307th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HV) REUNION HEADQUARTERS

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

31 August 2002

MINUTES

On Saturday, August 31, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. members of the 307th Bombardment Group (HV) Association convened in the Wasatch Ballroom at the Wyndham Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah for the 14th Annual Meeting of the Membership.

Meeting called to order by C.E. Jordan, President presiding.

C.E. welcomed the 307th Members to Salt Lake noting that there were more second generation members at this meeting than any other we have held.

First Order of Business - Introduction of Board Members

C.E. Jordan	- President
Frank Qualia	- Vice-President
Jim Kendall	- Historian
Cena Marsh	- Secretary/Treasurer

Second Order of Business - Approval of the 2002 Annual Meeting Minutes

C.E. Jordan, President requested a motion from the Membership to accept the 2000 Annual Meeting Minutes as printed in the 307th Reunion Book Number Thirteen.

Motion by Wm G. Dodd, 372nd to accept the 2000 Annual Meeting Minutes as printed in the 2000 Reunion Book
Seconded - Jake Shoifet
Motion Carried

Third Order of Business - Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report has not been completed due to the work on preparing the 14th Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City. Report will be printed in future newsletter.

Fourth Order of Business - 2002 - 2004 Proposed Budget

Reunion Book	\$12,000.00
Reunion	2,000.00
Newsletters	3,000.00
Postage	2,000.00
President	200.00
Historian	3,000.00
Operating supplies	3,000.00
Site Committee	200.00
Nominating Committee	200.00
Total Proposed Budget	\$26,000.00

Proposed Budget - continued

Motion to accept budget by Julian Moss, 372nd
Seconded - Harry Sterkel 370th
Motion Carried

Fifth Order of Business - Site Selection

Dan Cauffiel was serving as our Site Committee Chairman but due to his death just before the reunion, no information on sites selected was forwarded to C.E. Jordan. We knew he had been working with a brother of one of a 307th member in Tucson. That is the only site we were aware of. C.E. Jordan asked for site recommendations from the floor.

Sites named are:

- Tucson, Arizona
- Hampton, Virginia
- Nashville, Tennessee
- Omaha, Nebraska
- Baltimore, Maryland

Membership discussion - do we have a site chairman available at each city named? What are the advantages that each site has for holding a reunion there? C.E. Jordan mentioned how many of the younger generation were attending this reunion and maybe we should use their help.

Motion by Bill Brown, 371st that the young people should coordinate the next reunion.
Seconded - Dave Owens 424th
Motion Carried

Motion by John Reeves, 424th to vote on named sites
Seconded by H. Williams, 424th
Motion Carried

Of the two sites selected, Tucson and Nashville, motion by David Cox 370th to have a runoff vote.
Seconded by R. Robinson, HDQTR
Motion Carried

Nashville, Tennessee was selected as the site for the year 2004 370th Reunion. James Walsh will act as site coordinator and the exact date of the reunion will be selected as soon as possible and the membership will be notified of the choice.

Sixth Order of Business - Election of Officers

C.E. Jordan reports that he was unable to get any member of the 307th to work as a Nominating Committee. The nominations for the position of President and Vice President will be made from the floor.

Motion by Jake Shoifet, 370th to accept C.E. Jordan as President by acclamation
Seconded - Ike Ayala, 371st
Motion Carried

Election of Officers - continued

C.E. Jordan elected by acclamation

Motion by Harry Sterkel, 370th that Jim Walsh be noninated as the Vice President

Seconded - Wallace Blankenship 370th
Motion Carried

Motion by Dave Owens, 424th to elect Jim Walsh as Vice President by acclamation

Seconded - John Reeves, 424th
Motion Carried

Request by C.E. Jordan that a motion be made by the membership to re-instate Jim Kendall as Historian and Cena Marsh as Secretary/Treasurer of the 307th Bomb Group Association.

Motion by John Reeves, 424th that Jim and Cena continue in their present positions

Seconded - Dave Owens, 424th
Motion Carried

307th Association Officers for 2002 - 2004

C.E. Jordan	- President
James Walsh	- Vice President
Jim Kendall	- Historian
Cena Marsh	- Secretary/Treasurer

Seventh Order of Business - New Business

- 1) Donations: Motion requested by President C.E. Jordan for one of our 307th Member to recommend the Association donate \$2500.00 to the Air Force Memorial Foundation. Jordan also requested that the Association donate \$2000.00 to Dr. Pat Scannon for his continued re-search of lost 307th aircraft and crews in the South Pacific during World War II.

Motion by A.J. Evans, 424th that \$2500.00 be donated to WWII AF Memorial

Seconded - Dave Owens, 424th
Motion Carried

Motion by Bob Bonham, 424th to donate \$2000.00 to Dr. Scannan for use in his continued search of missing 307th aircraft of WWII.

Seconded - Herb Williams, 424th
Motion Carried

- 2) Membership Dues:

Motion by D. Calarco, 424th that the membership dues be raised to \$25.00

Seconded - Jake Shoifet, 370th

2) Membership Dues - continued

Discussion on pros and cons of raising the membership dues. Loss of members, postal rates, printing costs, the possibility of setting up a website, etc. At present time we are holding our own but the increase of operating costs are going up and we do not know what another two years will hold.

Motion again by D. Calarco, 424th that we raise the membership dues to \$25.00

Seconded - Jake Shoifet, 370th

Motion Carried

Membership dues will increase to \$25.00 on January 1, 2003

3) Parliamentarian -

C.E. Jordan asked again if there was anyone in the 307th Association that would act as our Parliamentarian. We have not been able to locate anyone to take on the task since Anita Sporn died in 1990. We need someone to keep us straight on Roberts Rules of Order.

Jack Palmer, 424th has agreed to act as the 307th Parliamentarian

4) A Big Hand For Cathy

Before we close the 14th Annual Meeting Julian Moss recommended we give a big hand to Cathy, C.E. Jordan's daughter for her efforts in working with the 307th Bomb Group.

A big hand she got!!

- 5) C.E. Jordan announced that the carved plaque that Bill Adams had brought from England was to be raffled off at the Saturday evening banquet. The funds raised on the raffle are to stay with the 307th Bomb Group. Our many thanks to our friend from England.

No further business.

Motion by Dave Owens, 424th that the 14th Annual Meeting of the 307th Bombardment Group be adjourned

Seconded - Harry Sterkel, 370th

Motion Carried

14th Annual Meeting of the 307th Membership adjourned.

* * * * *

REQUEST FOR HELP

I received the following letter a few days ago and thought someone out there might be able to help this man with his request.

"Letter dated 30 Jan. 2003

Dear Mrs. Marsh,

Your name and address was given to me by a friend with whom I have been corresponding in regards to the 307th BG in WWII.

Col. Martin Sporn from Satellite Beach, FL suggested I write to you in regards to my search for wartime 307th GB Sqdn. patches.

I have been trying to put together all five of the wartime 307th Group, 370th, 371st, 372nd, and 424th Squadron patches.

At present I have the following from the group.

1. 13th AF large 5 inch A-2 jacket patch
2. 370th Sqdn - hand made of pieced cloth
3. 424th Sqdn - hand made of pieced cloth

I am most interested in those patches that were made of pieced wool or felt in Australia. I am looking for the following three...

1. 307th Bomb Group patch
2. 371st Squadron patch
3. 372nd Squadron patch

I do have an original wars end publication printed in Australia of "We'll Say Goodbye" history of the 307th Bomb Group to swap, if possible for one of the 372nd Squadron patches of Scotty Dog...

I would appreciate it so much if you might be able to run a notice to this affect in the 307th newsletter as there just may be someone who is now looking for a 307th history.

Thank you so much in advance for any help you may be able to give me on my project.

All the best,

Jim

P.S. I am also a ret M/Sgt
USAFR with 24 years"

James G. Young
221 Ramsey Ave.
Bridgeville, PA 15017-1968

I have sent a short note to Jim as apparently he does not know that Marty Sporn died last May.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please note: Membership dues were raised to \$25.00 yearly as noted in the Annual Meeting Minutes.

A number of members have already sent in their dues for 2003 and as this newsletter is so late in getting out we will let that rate stand for this year.

THE LAST FLIGHT

We have quite a list of names to add to the "Last Flight". Because I do not have dates on many of the men we are not going to publish the list in this newsletter.