



# 307th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HV) ASSOCIATION

## "THE LONG RANGERS"

### Newsletter 2000-1

APRIL 10, 2000

#### QUOTES OF NOTE:



*"A prudent person profits from personal experience, a wise one from the experience of others."*

- Joseph Collins

*"The greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."*

- Confucius



*"Yesterday is a cancelled check; tomorrow is a promissory note; today is the only cash you have, so spend it wisely."*

- quote



*"What a man can imagine or conceive in his mind he can accomplish. Impossibles are impossible as thinking makes them so."*

- Henry J. Kaiser

*"I am always ready to learn, although I do not always like being taught."*

- Sir Winston Churchill



*"There aren't twelve hundred people in the world who understand pictures. The others pretend they don't care."*

- Rudyard Kipling



*"It is good to obey all the rules when you are young, so you'll have the strength to break them when you're old."*

- Mark Twain

#### ATTENTION

PLEASE READ AND REVIEW THE 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HV) ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

These BY-LAWS need to be reviewed by the Membership. Should there be questions, corrections, or changes please notify the secretary (Cena) as soon as possible.

Final review and ratification of the BY-LAWS will be made by the 307th members attending the Sept. 30, 2000, 14th Annual Membership meeting being held in San Antonio.

#### HELP - VOLUNTEER ANYONE?

To ensure the 307th Bomb Group will continue, we do have to have a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Historian and a Parliamentarian. Right now, Lynch Christian is looking for members to act on the Nominating Committee. He has a couple of names, but could use some volunteers.

Next, John Reeves could use a bit of help in selecting the next reunion site. Any volunteers for the Site Committee?

## HELP - Continued

With the untimely death of Anita Sporn, the 307th lost their very capable Parliamentarian. This position has not been filled -- so if any of you out there have experience along this line, please let us know.

Lynch can be reached at:  
206 Oakwood PL  
Lynchburg, VA 24503  
(804) 384-8741

John can be reached at:  
3460 Four Mile Rd, NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
(626) 365-1228

E-Mail RANGER1ABLE@Juno.FW

\* \* \* \* \*

## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

Due to the extra material we have had to send in this newsletter (By-Laws, material necessary for the 2000 reunion; registration forms, hotel registration, and agenda.) we haven't included any stories this time. However, every once in a while when I am scanning the pages of different Air Force publications, I run across an article that really touches the heart. Such is the following.

### MOMENTS OF VALOR

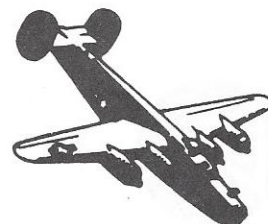
"The tumult and shouting have died away. The B-17s and B-24s will never again assemble into strike formation in the bitter cold of the embattled skies. Never again will the musical thunder of their passage cause the very earth to tremble, the source of sound lost in infinity and seeming to emanate from all things, visible and invisible. The great deep-throated engines are forever silent, replaced by the flat, toneless roar of the jets and rockets. But, on bleak and lonely nights, ghosts of squadrons take off silently in the whirling mist of the North Sea from the ancient weed-choked runways and wing away towards the east, never to return. On other nights, the deserted woodlands ring with unheard laughter and gay voices of young men and women who once passed that way. Recollections

of all these fade a little with each passing year until at last will finally remain only indelible records of the all-seeing master of the universe to recall the deeds of valor excelled by no other nation, arm, or service. These sacred scrolls will remain forever the heritage of the free and untrampled people on this earth.

By - Colonel Bud Peaslee, 384th Bomb Group: 1st Scouting Force in "Moments of Valor"

\*\*\*\*\*

*Taps*



### THE WINDS OF FATE

One ship drives east and another  
drives west  
With the selfsame winds that blow.  
'Tis the set of the sails  
And not the gales  
Which tell us the way to go.

Like the winds of the sea are the  
ways of fate,  
As we voyage along through life:  
'Tis the set of the soul  
That decides the goal  
And not the calm or the strife.

- Ella Wheeler Wilcox

### THE LAST FLIGHT

Time seems to be slipping away and with each passing year we say goodbye to more old friends. To the families of these men we extend our sincere sympathy.

Adam, George R.	424th	02-06-2000
Carson, Leslie J.	372nd	05-20-1998
Dirnbaauer, Carl A.	371st	02-16-2000
Gentry, Vernon	424th	01-19-2000
Maddox, Dexter A.	370th	01-25-2000
Nowell, John M.	?	01-19-2000
Teichman, Herman A.	372nd	07-18-1998

\*\*\*\*\*



## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2000 reunion is now less than six months away. The arrangements are all firmed up. Events and schedules are enclosed with this newsletter. Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. is handling all of the scheduling and logistics details. We have had lots of communications back and forth between Jen Cashet of AFR, Cena and Walt, Jim Kendall and Lynch Christian. Marty Sporn has lent his assistance, and SSgt Kellie Brisse of Kelly AFB (granddaughter of the Late Homer Bryant of the 424th ) has been invaluable in being the local contact relating to activities at Lackland AFB and in lining up a 40s dance band. Thanks to you all! Cliff Neve, our Balikpapan speaker , and Dr. Pat Scannon our Palau speaker will present their stories and documentation at either the Luncheon at Lackland AFB and/or at the Banquet. We don't know who will speak at which event yet, but we will hear from both. These will be very interesting presentations.

I have received many interesting e-mail and snail mail letters from many of you, I find it much easier to get off a timely reply with e-mail. I have always been a procrastinator with writing regular letters. Don't let it discourage you, keep them coming anyway.

I hope to see you all at the reunion.

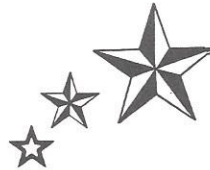
John T. Reeves

### ANOTHER PERSONNEL SEARCH:

A couple of months ago I received a phone call from a Sgt. Waide of the Tempe AZ Police Dep't. They had found a tombstone in an abandoned apartment. They do not know where the tenant moved to or where to find him. They don't even know if he had any thing to do with the tombstone or how it

got there. The name on it is Lt. Robert H. Lester, O- 762787. 307th BG. Three Air Medals and a Purple Heart. Born 29 June 1924, died 15 Mar 1946. The police would like to see that this tombstone is returned to the grave sight. Does any body recognize this person and do you have any orders such as the Air Medal orders that would give his original home address? Does anyone know of any of his crew members? If you have any information , please contact me. We are also checking with the Air Force Records Center and Graves registration.

John T. Reeves



### NOTE

FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, IT WOULD BE WISE FOR YOU TO MAKE COPIES OF YOUR FILLED OUT HOTEL RESERVATION CARD AND YOUR REUNION REGISTRATION FORM BEFORE YOU MAIL THEM TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON EACH FORM.

\* \* \* \* \*

The following pages cover the agenda for the reunion. The forms are not attached to this newsletter for your convenience. Should you have any questions do not hesitate to call or write either Cena or me. We will be happy to help in any way we can.

John Reeves



**307th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION REUNION**  
**SEPTEMBER 27 - 30, 2000**  
**SHERATON FOUR POINTS, SAN ANTONIO**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

- 12:00 Registration until 7pm. Hospitality room open.
- 1:00 Board of Directors Meeting.

**CASA RIO RIVER BARGE CRUISE**

- 5:00 Board bus for the Casa Rio Restaurant.
- 6:00 Board barges for a narrated cruise of the beautiful San Antonio River. Each barge holds forty people, so please remind your friends to board the bus and barges together.
- 7:00 Arrive back at the restaurant where you will enjoy an authentic Mexican Feast prepared by the Casa Rio, the first Mexican Restaurant on the river, and a local favorite. Dinner includes guacamole salad, chips and salsa, taco, tamale, dessert, and a beverage.
- 8:30 Board bus to return to hotel by 9pm.

*\$40/Person includes bus, escort, dinner and river barge cruise.*

*Note: Tour has a maximum of 120 people. Reservations will be accepted on a first come first served basis.*

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

- 7:00 Breakfast buffet until 8:30am.
- 7:30 Registration continues until 8:30am.

**CITY TOUR**

- 9:00 Board bus for a fully narrated tour of San Antonio. Visit the San Jose Mission, and continue on a driving tour past the Alamo, the Riverwalk, Hemisfair (the site of the 1968 World's Fair), Brackenridge Park and Zoo, Fort Sam Houston, and more.
- 11:00 Lunch on your own and shopping at El Mercado, a unique Mexican Market.
- 12:45 Reboard bus for a tour of the San Fernando Cathedral made famous by Santa Ana as he directed the Mexican troops in the battle of the Alamo.
- 3:00 Back at the hotel.

*\$23/Person includes bus, and guide. Lunch is not included.*

**CASA RIO RIVER BARGE CRUISE**

- 5:00 Board bus for the Casa Rio Restaurant.
- 6:00 Board barges for a narrated cruise of the beautiful San Antonio River. Each barge holds forty people, so please remind your friends to board the bus and barges together.
- 7:00 Arrive back at the restaurant where you will enjoy an authentic Mexican Feast prepared by the Casa Rio, the first Mexican Restaurant on the river, and a local favorite. Dinner includes guacamole salad, chips and salsa, taco, tamale, dessert, and a beverage.
- 8:30 Board bus to return to hotel by 9pm.

*\$40/Person includes bus, escort, dinner and river barge cruise.*

*Note: Tour has a maximum of 120 people. Reservations will be accepted on a first come first served basis.*



**307th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION REUNION**  
**SEPTEMBER 27 - 30, 2000**  
**SHERATON FOUR POINTS, SAN ANTONIO, 2000**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

- 7:00 Registration continues until 7:30am.
- 7:00 Extended Continental breakfast until 8:30am and will include assorted breakfast breads, juice, milk, cold cereals, fresh fruit, yogurt, coffee, and tea.

**LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE**

- 8:00 Board bus for Lackland Air Force Base.
- 8:30 Arrive at the base.
- 9:00 Enjoy the Training Graduation Parade. Afterwards, take a stroll along the parade grounds and view Lackland's static display of vintage and modern aircraft. Included in the display is the B-17, P-38, F-82, C-47 and many others.
- 10:00 Reboard bus and begin a guided windshield tour of the facility, and a tour of the History and Traditions Museum, which houses a collection of rare aeronautical objects. The museum's aircraft, engines, instruments, and air weapons span the years of aviation development from its origin to the aerospace age.
- 11:45 Reboard bus and head to the Gateway NCO Club for lunch.
- 1:15 Reboard bus to return to the hotel by 1:45pm.

*\$33/Person includes bus, escort, and lunch.*

- 12:00 Registration continues until 4pm.

**DIAMOND W RANCH**

- 6:15 Board bus for Diamond W Ranch.
- 7:00 Arrive at the ranch, site of San Antonio's best chuck wagon supper and cowboy show. Your dinner includes Bar-B-Que brisket and your choice of smoked turkey or sausage, beans, salads, biscuits, dessert, and a beverage (beer and wine are available at the cash bar). After dinner, sit back and enjoy the entertainment. Cowboy humor, poetry, and songs are all part of the show, including the band.
- 9:15 Reboard bus to return to the hotel by 10pm.

*\$44/Person includes bus, escort, and dinner show.*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

- 8:00 Continental breakfast until 9:30am.
- 9:00 Group Business Meeting.  
Free day to explore on your own.
- 6:00 Cash bar begins.
- 7:00 Banquet dinner.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1**

- 8:00 Farewell breakfast buffet until 9:30am.

*Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the above tour prices.*

**FOUR POINTS RIVERWALK NORTH BY SHERATON HOTEL**  
**SAN ANTONIO**  
**(210) 223-9461**  
**2000**

**HOTEL LOCATION**

The Four Points Hotel is located at 110 Lexington Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78205-1313. The hotel sits right on San Antonio's famous Paseo del Rio (Riverwalk). All the unique attractions of San Antonio, The Alamo, Hemisphere Plaza, Rivercenter Mall, and the Alamodome are within easy travel distance. San Antonio Municipal Auditorium is just across the street, and a short stroll along the River Walk brings you all the dining and shopping experiences of this singular waterway.

**Directions:**

*From the Airport:* Take 281 South to I-35 South and exit Brooklyn Avenue. Go to second light and turn left on McCullough Avenue. Go five blocks to North St. Mary's Street. Take a right onto Lexington Avenue, and then turn left. Hotel is on the left.

*From I-35 North:* As you approach downtown, take lower level of I-35 on the left side. Exit on Lexington Avenue. Turn left and go five blocks. Hotel is on the left at the corner of Lexington and St. Mary's (Exit 157A).

*From I-35 South:* As you approach downtown, take lower level on left I-35. Exit on Lexington. Turn right. Go four blocks. Hotel is on the left. (Exit 157A)

*From I-10 East:* As you approach downtown, take 37 North. Exit Commerce. Turn left on Commerce and go down two blocks to Bowie. Turn right on Bowie. Continue on Bowie, which turns into 4th Street, and then Lexington. Hotel is on the right.

*From I-10 West:* Take I-10 East to I-35 North and exit McCullough Avenue. Take a right and go five blocks to North St. Mary's Street. Take a right to Lexington Avenue. Turn Left. Hotel is on the left side.

**HOTEL EXTRAS**

The Four Points Hotel has 324 rooms and suites. The rooms and suites overlook the River, swimming pool, or the downtown skyline. All guest rooms are equipped with coffee makers, hairdryers, irons and ironing boards. The hotel offers complimentary morning newspaper and coffee. Blow off steam in the exercise room or buy that special someone a gift in the gift shop.

Handicapped and non-smoking rooms are available upon request. Please request these special accommodations when making your reservations. Valet parking is currently available for \$10 per night and self-parking is \$5. Check-in time is 3pm, and check-out is 12noon.

Hotel dining facilities:

*The Riverside Cafe:* Offers American regional cuisine and seasonal specialties with a Southwestern accent.

*Rapids on the River Lounge:* Savor your favorite cocktail while enjoying the view.

Room Service hours are: 6am - 10pm

**AIRPORT SHUTTLE**

SA Trans provides airport transportation to the hotel. You will find the booth in the baggage claim area of the airport. Purchase your ticket (currently, the fare is \$8 per person one way) at the booth. The shuttle leaves every 10-15 minutes. There is no need to make advance reservations. Should you need any additional information, call 210-281-9900.

**NEARBY RV PARK**

Should you require full hookup service while at the reunion please call one of the following campgrounds, Alamo KOA (5 miles from downtown) at 800-833-5267, or Travelers World (3 miles from downtown) at 210-532-8310 for information, reservations, and directions.

**WHEELCHAIRS**

Should you need to rent a wheelchair while at the reunion, Pillbox Pharmacy rents standard wheelchairs by the day and week. A refundable deposit is required, and reservations are recommended. Please call 210-222-2552 for information.