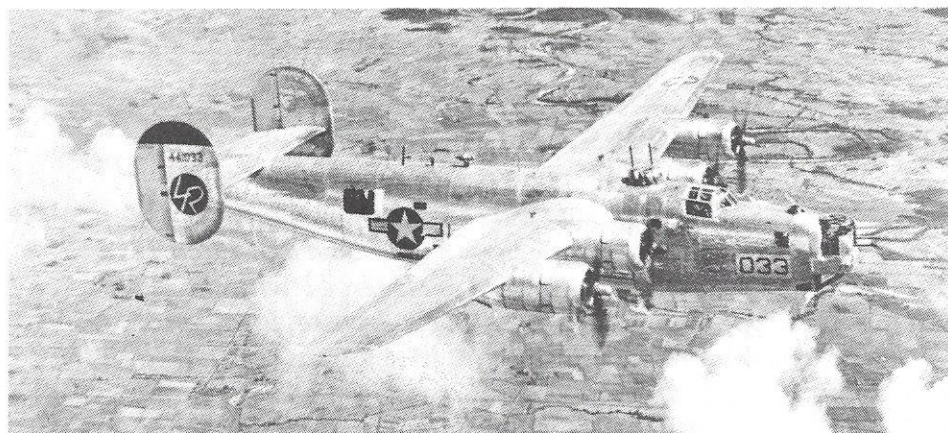




370th



371st



372nd



424th

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

2001-1

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2001

### QUOTES OF NOTE:

"The most glorious moments in your life are not the so-called days of success, but rather those days when out of dejection and despair you feel rise in you a challenge of life, and the promise of future accomplishments."

- Flaubert

"Generosity is giving more than you can; pride is taking less than you need."

- Kahil Gibran

"It is some commercial stake or ambition that makes all wars, and we haven't got enough commercial stake or ambition in the whole of Europe to be worth the life or heart's blood of one single mother's son."

- Hugh S. Johnson, radio broadcast for "World Peaceways" (1935)

"Instinct guides the animal better than the man. In the animal it is pure, in man it is led astray by his reason and intelligence."

- Denis Diderot

"The perils of duck shooting are great, especially for the duck."

- Walter Cronkite

"I think the reporter should get his facts straight before distorting them."

- Fiorello LaGuardia

"If men talked about only what they understood, the silence would be unbearable."

- Gene Brown

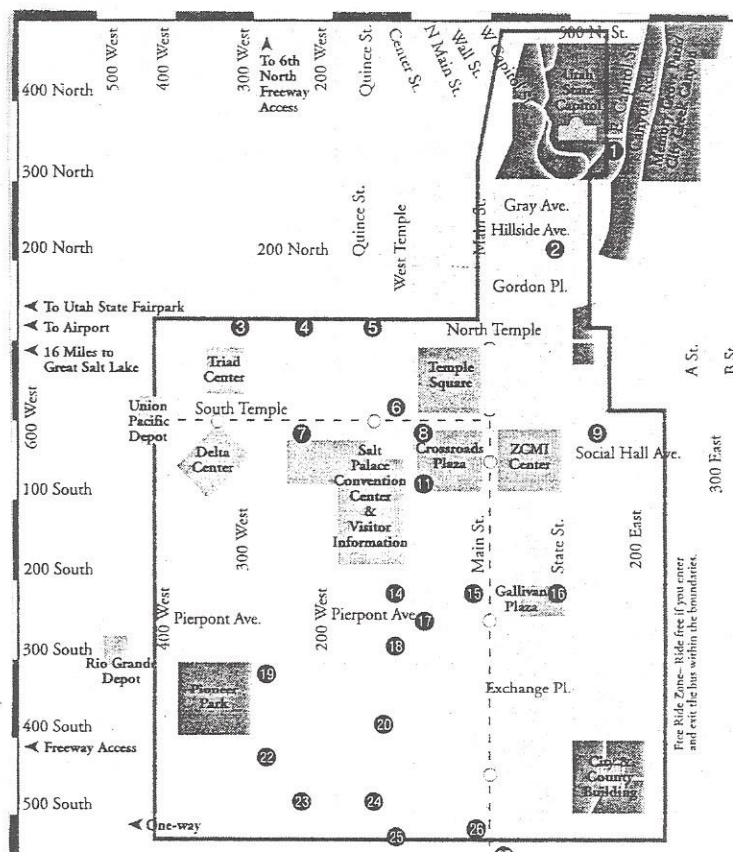
"It's no compliment to greet an old friend with, 'You haven't changed a bit', he should have."

- Quote

### REUNION UPDATE

Plans are progressing well for the 2002 307th Reunion in SLC. With two Jewish Holidays falling in September and the fear that some of you expressed about having snow here in October, seemed the best date to hold the reunion was the last week in August. The reunion dates are 27 August through 1 September 2002. A full schedule of events will be printed later.

The reunion will be at the Wyndham Hotel. I have checked the facility out and am very pleased with the accommodations. The Wyndham Hotel is #7 on the map below. The map is of the SLC downtown area.



## **NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*However late in reporting, it my sad duty to inform you that our comrade Walt Marsh passed away peacefully at home on March 12, 2001 surrounded by his family. Although Walt served with the 398th Bomb Wing in Europe during WWII, he was a devoted, loyal, and hardworking member of the 307th since he joined us at our inception. We all send our heartfelt sympathy and love to Cena and her family during their time of grief. Cena if you need us, don't be afraid to call on us. We are all here for you. Walt's devotion to our organization will be greatly missed, but he will never be forgotten.*

*In our last newsnotes, the information and ballot for the Air Force Memorial in Arlington were included. We asked the membership to vote on the donation amount that the 307th should make. We had a disappointing 42 responses to this request. Of the 42 responses these are the results:*

|                   |                   |                   |                   |              |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| <i>\$1,000.00</i> | <i>\$1,500.00</i> | <i>\$2,000.00</i> | <i>\$2,500.00</i> | <i>Other</i> |
| <i>5</i>          | <i>6</i>          | <i>7</i>          | <i>19</i>         | <i>5</i>     |

*It appears that the majority of those voting voted for \$2,500.00, therefore a check in that amount will be forwarded to the Air Force Memorial Association from the 307th Bomb Group/Wing.*

*The nomiating committee for the 2002 reunion in Salt Lake City has been formed. They are as follows:*

*Sam Britt (372nd) 1-225-343-9783  
Dan Cauffiel (370th) 1-909-689-0980  
Russ Doyland (424th) 1-559-226-2474  
Marty Sporn (371st) 1-321-777-1554*

*If you have any suggestions for them, feel free to contact any one of them and let them know. Thank you, Frank Qualia for taking the time from your busy schedule to get this committee set up.*

*Don't forget to be making plans to attend the 2002 Reunion in Salt Lake City. It promises to be a great time.*

*Here's wishing you and yours clear skies and smooth flying!!!!*

*C. E. Jordan*

307th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (HV) REUNION HEADQUARTERS

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

30 September 2000

MINUTES

On Saturday, September 30, 2000 at 9:00 a.m., members of the 307th Bombardment Group (HV) Association convened in the TAOS Room at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, San Antonio, Texas for the 13th Annual Meeting of the Membership.

Meeting called to order by John Reeves, President presiding

First Order of Business - Introduction of Board Members

|                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| John Reeves     | - President           |
| Lynch Christian | - Vice-President      |
| Jim Kendall     | - Historian           |
| Cena Marsh      | - Secretary/Treasurer |

Noted: Harry Sterkel - Asst. Historian had resigned and the untimely death of Anita Sporn, the 307th Parliamentarian.

Second Order of business - Approval of the 1998 Annual Meeting Minutes

John Reeves, President requested a motion from the Membership to accept the 1998 Annual Meeting Minutes as printed in the 307th Reunion Book Number Twelve.

Motion by Bob Bonham, 424th to accept the 1998 Annual Meeting Minutes as printed in the 1998 Reunion Book.

Seconded - Dave Owens, 424th

Motion carried

Third Order of Business - Treasurer's Report

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Balance on hand 10-1-98       | \$23,055.83      |
| Dues/Donations, etc. 98/99/00 | 30,016.78        |
| Operating Expenses            | \$21,663.17      |
| Balance on hand (bank)        | 9,608.20         |
| (T-Bill)                      | <u>21,801.28</u> |
| Total on hand                 | \$31,408.48      |

(An itemized list of expenditures will be printed in the 13th Reunion Book.)

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report - Julie Moss, 372nd

Seconded - Herb Williams

Motion carried

#### Fourth Order of Business - 2001-2002 Proposed Budget

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Reunion book          | \$12,000.00 |
| Reunion               | 2,000.00    |
| Newsletters           | 3,000.00    |
| Postage               | 3,000.00    |
| President             | 200.00      |
| Vice-President        | 200.00      |
| Historian             | 3,000.00    |
| Operating Supplies    | 3,000.00    |
| Site Committee        | 200.00      |
| Nominating Committee  | 200.00      |
| Total Proposed Budget | \$26,800.00 |

Motion to accept proposed budget by Harry Sterkel, 370th  
Seconded - Ed Jurkens, 370th  
Motion carried

#### Fifth Order of Business - Site Selection

Site Chairman C.E. Jordan listed the following sites submitted to him by the membership.

Salt Lake City, Utah  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Branson, Missouri  
Spokane, Washington

Membership discussion - Jack Sneed mentioned easy access to the reunion site. Clarence Baker - Check for good airfare prices. Select a site that would have a 307th member as reunion chairman. John Reeves presented some of the advantages of Spokane and Cena Marsh covered the Salt Lake City possibilities.

Jim McCloskey moved to select either Salt Lake City or Spokane as the site for the 2002 307th reunion.  
Seconded - Ed Farley, 371st  
Motion Carried

John Reeves asked for a vote from the membership on Salt Lake City, Utah or Spokane, Washington for the site for the 2002 307th Reunion. Membership selected Salt Lake City as the 2002 site.

Motion by Arthur Weisleder, 424th, that the 2002 307th reunion be held in Salt Lake City  
Seconded - Lewis Wilkins, 424th  
Motion carried

Salt Lake City, Utah has been selected as the site for the year 2002 307th Reunion. Cena Marsh will act as site coordinator and the exact date of the reunion will be selected as soon as possible and the membership notified of the choice.

#### Sixth Order of Business - Election of Officers

In the absence of Nominating Committee Chairman, Bob Raya (due to illness), Lynch Christian, Vice-President presented the following 307th members to fill the positions of President and Vice-President.

C.E. Jordan - President  
Frank Qualia - Vice-President

Nominations requested from the floor for the positions of President and Vice-President of the 307th Bombardment Group Association. No response.

Motion by Julian Moss, 372nd to accept C.E. Jordan, President and Frank Qualia, Vice-President

Seconded - Herb Williams, 424th

Elected by acclamation

Carried.

Motion by Kurt Patzlaff, 371st that Cena Marsh continue to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the 307th Association

Seconded - Dave Owens, 424th

Elected by acclamation

Carried

Position of Historian appointed by President  
Jim Kendall remains as 307th Historian

#### Seventh Order of Business - Reunion Report

John Reeves stated "due to not having a site chairman for the 307th 13th Annual Reunion this report will be short."

A total of 273 registered for the reunion.

370th - 43 attended                      372nd - 53 attended

371st - 70 attended                      424th - 84 attended

Headquarters - 2 attended

#### Eighth Order of Business - By-Laws Approval

John Reeves requested a motion from the membership to ratify the By-Laws as amended and furnished to the membership for review in the 2000-1 Newsletter.

Motion by Julian Moss, 372nd to accept the By-Laws as printed

Seconded - James Walsh, 372nd

Carried

#### Ninth Order of Business - New Business

- 1). Donations: Motion requested by President, John Reeves for one of our 307th member to recommend the Association donate \$2000.00 to Dr. Pat Scannon for his continued research of lost 307th aircraft in the South Pacific during WWII.

Motion by Dave Owens, 424th to donate \$2000. to Dr. Pat Scannon for use in his continued search of missing 307th aircraft of WWII.

Seconded - Dave Matthews, 370th

Carried

Donations: continued

Motion by Dan Cauffiel, 370th that the 307th donate \$500. in memory of our fallen comrades to the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Seconded - Clarence Baker, 372nd

Carried

- 2). 13th Air Force Discussion on holding joint reunions: Discussions with membership on whether to hold our 307th reunion with other groups under the 13th AF umbrella. Pros and cons of this type of meeting discussed. Will continue research.
- 3). Archives - Deposit of the 307th History Material: Should we donate money for upkeep of our material? Have we located a spot to store our history material? Jim Kendall says we need to have the material in an area where it is available for research by an individual. Maxwell AFB may be a good source for storage. National Archives is not the best place to store our history. Additional research will be done on locating a suitable site. Talk of setting up a website where 307th material could be researched. Forrest Phibbs is working on a system. Research will continue on ways to save the 307th history.
- 4). Books: Those available and ones needing to be reprinted. "We'll Say Goodbye". Have plenty of reprinted copies available at \$20.00 each. "The Long Rangers, A Diary of the 307th Bombardment Group", by Sam Britt. Sam Britt has given the 307th permission to reprint his book. We have no idea what the costs would be, but expect it would be high. Will depend on the number of copies printed. "Up The Slot", by Sam Walker can also be reprinted. Ruby would handle any reprint of the book. We need to find what the cost per copy would be based on the number of copies printed. More research will be done on this project and information furnished at a later date.

No further business.

Motion by Dave Owens, 424th to adjourn meeting

Seconded - James Walsh, 371st

Carried

\* \* \* \* \*

## FROM YOUR HISTORIAN

### **Pat Scannon's New Website: [www.bentprop.org](http://www.bentprop.org)**

Our readers have become familiar with Dr. Pat Scannon and his efforts to locate and identify U.S. aircraft lost over the Palau Islands during World War II. Those of us who attended the San Antonio Reunion saw a great slide presentation by Pat covering his team's several expeditions to our old target, the Palau Islands and of special interest to us, the search for downed 307th aircraft. A recent e-mail from Pat brought the announcement of a new website on which those of us who are on the Internet can see the latest activities of the P-MAN team. Pat writes:

2/16/01

*Dear All,*

*Over the years, many of you have asked for more information concerning our efforts to find missing airmen and their aircraft in the Palau Islands. Over the past few months I have had the good fortune to work with one of the P-MAN (Palau-Marine-Army-Navy) team members who graciously has volunteered to create a web site for this growing body of data. Reid Joyce, from Pittsburgh, PA, has worked tirelessly to assemble this site and bring to-*

*gether eight years of ongoing research into one convenient and user-friendly location.*

*From all of us (namely, Chip Lambert, Pam Lambert, Greg Kovacs, Reid Joyce, myself, and the many others who have helped so much over the years), we bring you*

***[www.bentprop.org](http://www.bentprop.org)***

*You will find a lot of terrific stuff: background information concerning Palau during WW II and today, crash site investigations, expedition summaries, lots of photos, contact information, new links and much more. The web site is planned to be evolutionary, so we appreciate your input. We have many plans for using this site, so check in every now and again and get updated. You can also follow our expedition plans as we generate them (our next expedition—P-MAN III—is March 2001.*

*If you feel so inclined, please pass this web site address on to others. One last thing: many of you have contributed all kinds of information in such huge quantities that, as big as this site is, we could not put all of it here—at least for now. We all thank you for your interest and help so stay tuned—we have not put away any project in this area—so you may see your special topic arise later.*

*Sincerely,  
Pat Scannon*

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### **Scannon Summary of P-MAN II October, 2000**

The primary purpose of this expedition was to continue searching for and documenting crash sites and associated crew member remains from US aircraft lost and reported as missing over Palau during WWII. The trip was a success in that the P-MAN team found, both on land and in the ocean, three previously undocumented aircraft crash sites. All newly discovered sites found were photo- and video-documented, and located for future reference

by GPS. On this trip, we evaluated a state-of-the-art underwater magnetometer method for more sensitive/efficient identification of sunken aircraft. This endeavor proved unsuccessful (at least for this trip) because the magnetometer did not lead us to aircraft thought to have crashed in several known locations. The reasons included 1) software problems which hindered interpretation, 2) detection of true positives that were not aircraft positives (eg. fuel bunkers, marine engines and other iron-containing debris and 3) detection of false positives.

In an ongoing effort to track down WWII airmen lost over Palau but never recovered, during this trip we met and collaborated with Professor Don Shuster from the University of Guam and members of the US Army Central Identification Laboratory from Hawaii (CILHI). Based on research initiated by Professor Shuster and supplemented by team member Pat Scannon, a CILHI recovery team went to Palau to search for a burial site on the Island of Babeldaob. This site may contain up to 3 US airmen and 10 missionaries and priests executed by Japanese military in September 1944, just prior to the American invasion of southern Palau. Although the CILHI ground team did not locate the actual burial site, much progress was made in narrowing the location as a result of extensive fieldwork and interviews of the local chiefs and elders. Information gathered on this trip set the stage for a probable return by CILHI in early 2001. In recognition for their efforts, Don Shuster and Pat Scannon received Certificates of Appreciation from the CILHI team while in Palau. As a continuation of our efforts in finding remains of lost US Airmen, and based on stories members of our team heard while in Palau, three members of P-MAN II met with tribal chiefs on Babeldaob to discuss possible Japanese jungle military positions where US airmen may have been held as prisoners and possibly executed. Through aid from these chiefs, a local hunter guided our team to what we believe is the previously undiscovered jungle combined headquarters of Lt. General Sadee Inoue, commander of all Japanese Imperial forces in Palau. Amid an extensive network of caves and other structures, team member Pam Lambert found an area characteristic of a large gravesite. This information has been photo- and video-documented and is in the process of being assembled for forwarding to CILHI for further evaluation.

On our way back to the United States, Pat Scannon made a presentation of our efforts in Palau to members of the Micronesian Area

Research Center at the University of Guam.

Finally, multiple interviews conducted during Project P-MAN II (between team members and Palauans) along with recently received new archival information have resulted in our team now being aware of at least eight new aircraft crash sites to explore on our next expedition. As part of this, we have recently made connections, for the first time, with Japanese living in Japan who were either participants or observers during WWII in Palau. These individuals may be willing to assist in locating sites of fallen aircraft or missing American airmen.

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*Pat Scannon and the dive team have been working on Ulithi Island as this is written. See the news release printed below which we feel has enough interest to our membership to justify including it here. Another expedition to Palau is scheduled for the fall of 2001.*

### **Only US Naval Ship Sunk by Jap Kaiten Suicide Sub Located by California Dive Team**

**Falalop, Micronesia:** April 9, 2001. On April 6, 2001 at 12:10 pm (local time) in Ulithi Lagoon, an independent team of three divers from the San Francisco Bay area located and were the first to dive on the wreck of the 553-foot Mississinewa AO-59, the only American naval ship sunk by a kaiten, a one-man Japanese suicide submarine. Since WWII, the ship's exact position has been in question, despite numerous prior attempts by both American and Japanese dive groups to find the wreck. The dive team consisted of Lewis "Chip" Lambert, his wife, Pam Lambert, both of Fremont, California, and Pat Scannon from San Francisco, California. Using photographs taken from a rescue tug at the time of the sinking on November 20, 1944, Chip Lambert narrowed the search area to 5 square miles. After seven straight days of searching in a small

dive boat using a portable sonar unit, the team, working with Ulithians, located the tanker on a sandy bottom in 120 feet of water. The USS Mississinewa was at berth at this key WWII US Navy installation when the kaiten, probably released by Japanese mother sub I-36 just outside Ulithi Lagoon, crept into the harbor and struck the tanker on the starboard bow, taking the lives of 50 American officers and sailors. The dive team, respecting the ship as a gravesite, elected not to enter the ship. The team coordinated its efforts with the people of Ulithi, first gaining permission to search for the ship from both Chief Pisente Talugyar, the hereditary owner of these waters, and Senator Anthony M. Tareg, local representative for Ulithi in the Fifth Legislature of Yap State. Immediately after the search team radioed news of the find to shore, Mr. John Rulmal, chief administrator of Ulithi, contacted Senator Tareg by radio in Yap, 100 miles to the southwest, as Ulithi has no other means of communication with the outside world. With the discovery of the exact location of the Mississinewa, and in recognition that the ship is a gravesite, Ulithian leaders have met and closed the site to all sport diving, pending discussions and coordination with the US Navy. The California team, working with key Ulithians, is in the process of notifying the US Department of Navy of their findings.

In the United States, forty-eight surviving crewmembers have stayed in close contact with each other through the USS Mississinewa AO-59 Reunion Group. The California dive team hopes to present documentation of the Mississinewa's final resting place at the next reunion meeting of the Reunion Group.

Lewis "Chip" Lambert, MA, an owner of Pacific Offshore Divers, Inc. (PODI), is the Director of Medical Microbiology at XOMA, Ltd., Berkeley, CA. Pam Lambert, MS, also an owner of PODI, is Director of Project Management at Affymetrix, Santa Clara, CA.

Patrick, J. Scannon, MD, PhD, is founder and Chief Scientific and Medical Officer of

XOMA, Ltd, Berkeley, CA. All three are members of the Explorers Club and have individually and together researched, located and documented other ships and aircraft lost during WWII in Palau and other parts of Micronesia. In 1993, they were part of the dive team that found the armed Japanese trawler sunk in July, 1944 in northern Palau by then Ensign George Herbert Walker Bush.

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### **More on the 6th Combat Camera Unit**

John Bills request (see Newsletter 2000-2) for information about his uncle, Sgt. Richard Hershey, a 6th Combat Camera Unit photographer, caught the attention of Association member Bill Rogester who was also a member of the 6th Combat Camera Unit. Good friends, both men were assigned to 13th AAF HQ. Rogester phoned John Bills and they have spoken several times. The 6th CCU was formed at the Hal Roach Studios to do photography work for the AAF, beginning with training films in Culver City. Members of the group were inducted into the Army and a small group of 34 people which, with replacements, eventually came to a total of 41, were sent overseas. As of today only 9 of them are still alive. Several teams composed of one officer and two men were attached to the 13th AAF HQ. Their job was to photograph the hottest missions. Though armed with a "MacArthur Pass" and much photo equipment, including both still and movie cameras, Rogester had to talk his way aboard planes flying the desired missions, including many 307th flights. In all he flew 77 missions, 62 of which were bombing and strafing jobs, both B-24's and B-25's. A member of the very active International Combat Camera Association which was founded in Hollywood during the mid-80's and boasts worldwide membership of combat photographers, Bill Rogester expresses appreciation for the Newsletter article about Richard Hershey and the 6th Combat Camera Unit.

## Another Website of Interest to 307th Members

[www.ameritech.net/users/blryan/eePATRYAN.html](http://www.ameritech.net/users/blryan/eePATRYAN.html)

Bill Ryan is the son of Pat Ryan, who was a bombardier in the 370th and 424th squadrons from June of 1944 through March of 1945. After Pat passed away in 1981, Bill became the keeper of his father's diary and mementos, which included photos, maps and accounts of his father's 41 missions. As is usually the case, Bill had never discussed his father's war experiences with him and Pat probably never brought the subject up. Recently, however, his interest has been renewed and among other research activities Bill has created what he calls a "rough web page" (see the address above) on which he will post much of the material his father left him. Content of the site will be added to and changed from time to time. Those of you who are on the internet should enjoy visiting this website.

Bill tells an interesting story about his hitch in the Air Force as crew chief on a C-130 at Clark AFB in the Philippines:

*Part of my duties included flying with my plane all over the Pacific providing maintenance support. One of my trips was to Palau. It was to be a one hour stop on Babelthaup (today called Babeldaob), unload our cargo and leave. However, when we started engines we had an overtemp and ended up in a resort on Koror Island for two days waiting for parts. This was after my Dad had passed away, but before I'd read his diary, so I had no idea he had "visited" Palau himself forty years earlier, dropping bombs on Koror Island. Small world!*

## Future 307th Website Planned

Work proceeds slowly on a website where we can share material from our 307th Association files. Your Historian's lack of understanding of computers results in some foot dragging that does slows things down. Stay tuned!

## To Request Your Military Medals and Decorations

Recently both Jack Sneed and Ray Pruett sent us copies of the same newspaper article regarding the increasing numbers of requests for medals and decorations being made by veterans and their families. It seems that it took 55 or 60 years for nostalgia to set in and now the vets want those medals. And why not?

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a copy of Standard Form 180 which can be filled out and sent with your request to the address listed on the Form. Send a **copy** of your Discharge papers and **copies** of any orders in your possession that would verify that you are entitled to your medals. If you received a Letter of Commendation signed by a General, as did many of our members following the first series of five missions against Balikpapan, you are entitled to the Army Commendation Medal - so also send a **copy** of that Commendation Letter with your request.

## Memories of Kahuku

Maurice "Buck" Harmon recently forwarded a newspaper clipping telling of the recent loss of two Army Black Hawk helicopters during a nighttime exercise ferrying 1000 soldiers from Wheeler Army Airfield to a base in Kahuku on the North Shore of Oahu. Buck writes: *Every now and then I'll see a dateline from someplace like Guadalcanal, Morotai, New Guinea, etc. so I don't get much of a surprise from it any more; but I must admit when I saw Kahuku in the enclosed item, I really got a thump inside of me somewhere. Kahuku was a new strip, created in October, 1942, and the 372nd was placed there during our Hawaii period. That is where the squadron was based at the time of the famous mission to Wake Island via Midway and also when we flew to Funa Futi where we were bombed and beat up by Jap bombers. We were still at Kahuku when our Squadron Commander, Major Gene Coxwell,*

*and his entire crew were killed on a training mission, a great loss. In Coxwell's memory the 372nd emblem depicting his Scotty dog was created. Major Lippincott, also a good man for the post, succeeded Coxwell. So it was meaningful to me to read the word Kahuku when I had not seen it for some 49 years.*

## **Pacific Bomb Groups on the Web**

Those of us familiar with computers, the Internet and websites are already familiar with the vast amount of information at your fingertips. One site is **heavybombers.com** printouts of which Marty Sporn recently sent us. This portion of the website contains requests for information, many regarding the 307th Bomb Group. You must be on the Internet to reply to some of the requests. Others, reprinted here, include a street address, phone number or e-mail address whereby an answer, if you have one, could be returned to the writer. Here is an idea of what you can find, and learn, on the Internet.

### **Warren McMillan**

*My father, Warren McMillan (deceased Feb, 1975) piloted a B-24 from 1943-1945 in the 13th AF, 424th Bomb Squadron, 307th bomb Group. I'm looking for information about his squadron and crew mates. Can anyone help?*

If you have any information, please contact Scott McMillan at [scott@allsam.com](mailto:scott@allsam.com)

### **Tom Silko**

*My uncle, Tom Silko, served with the 13th Air force, 307th Bomb Group, 371st Bomb Squadron as a Radio/Gunner. Tom was on plane #065, a B-24 that was shot down on July 5, 1944. Please contact Kathy Dunn at [finztotheleft@mediaone.net](mailto:finztotheleft@mediaone.net) if you have any information about Tom Silko.*

### **Patsy Pantano**

*My Dad, Ray Pruett (370th), is searching for anyone who remembers Patsy Pantano, 307th Bomb Group. He would like to find Pantano's pilot's name and squadron and any of his crew. Patsy was on Morotai from July 1944-April 1945. He may have been a radio operator. If you can help please contact Ray at **313-882-9913** or write 459 Shelbourne Rd, Grosse Point Farms, MI 48236.*

### **Donald Robert Shilling**

*Does anyone remember bombardier Donald Shilling (307th Bomb Group, 424th Bomb Squadron) whose pilot was J.M. Thrasher? Donald passed away in June, 2000. I have his uniform, A-2 jacket and all his school records. I would like to contact anyone who knew Shilling or who has 424th B-24 photos. Please call Mark Eaton at **1-509-924-4241**.*

### **Ray Foreman**

*My Dad, Ray Foreman, was bombardier on 372nd B-24, #599, "Bitchurquichen". His plane collided with another B-24 during action against Yap on 8/25/44. I don't know the identity of the other Liberator. I believe no one from either bomber survived. The pilot of #599 that day was not the regular pilot, who survived the war and visited my Mom after the war. I hope to contact anyone familiar with this incident. Stanley Foreman, at [sforeman@highfiber.com](mailto:sforeman@highfiber.com)*

### **"Children of the 307th"**

*My Dad, Chuck Qualia, current vice-president of the 307th Association, was a navigator in the 307th BG, 424th BS in the Pacific. I am starting a "Children of the 307th" group. Children of 307th men who would like to join can contact me, **Mary Ann Qualia**, at [qburrq@aol.com](mailto:qburrq@aol.com). We, as children of WWII heroes, need to preserve their stories and their memories.*

#### TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The last four months have been very trying for me so I hope all of you will forgive my not being able to list the "Last Flight" names in this newsletter. Between trying to sort through my own paperwork as well as the 307th material, I am at a loss. Walt had always been the one to handle the inputting of dues and the recording of our losses in the 307th. I'm learning.

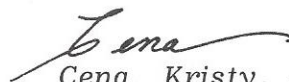
Twas a sad day for me on the 12th of March when Walt slipped out of my life. I am so grateful that his suffering is over - it was a long, hard battle, and I do miss him so. To all of you who have sent comforting words to me and my family, I gratefully thank you. Walt and I had so many wonderful times over the past fifty-five plus years. Should one ask for more?

The support I have been offered from several 307th members or their children is very much appreciated. My plans are to take advantage of their offers and have them help me. The next few weeks should see a light in the window.

We have received a number of death notices in recent months and they will all be listed in the September newsletter. Those I do have on record now are William Waid Blair and James Scritchfield. Jim Scritchfield was one of the original 307th members to attend our first reunion in SLC twenty-six years ago. It is always sad to lose an old friend.

Many thanks for the sympathy, flowers, support, and love you have expressed to me and our family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cena".

Cena, Kristy, Susan, and Kevin