



# The Ragged Irregular

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

Vol. 2 No. 3

April, 1969

## Long Beach Rally Round Scores Big Hit

Matching their record-shattering get-together of 1968, the Long Beach Area Rally Round of February 15 set a high standard for other 91st areas to shoot at. Approximately 60 members, wives and guests met at Rochelle's Motel and Restaurant for a day (and night!) of fellowship and reminiscing under the guidance of area flight leader Doug Gibson.

Although it was primarily an area affair, some members came from every part of the state, some driving as much as 1,000 miles round trip to take part.

Flying out from the Eastern Division to participate were Maj. Gen. Stanley T. Wray, association president; Paul Chryst, Eastern Division co-chairman and Mrs. Nancy O'Conner, the travel agent who is handling "Op-

eration Return" for the group.

A feature of the Rally Round banquet was the presentation of a hand-painted plaque of the group and squadron's insignia to the Museum of the Sea, which is located aboard the Queen Mary. The ship is being converted into a convention headquarters and tourist attraction at Long Beach, and one of its chief features will be the museum. The 91st plaque will hang there to commemorate the ship's use as a transport to carry the group to England in 1942. The Memorial Association is considering the possibility of a 1971 national reunion aboard the Queen Mary, but no positive steps have yet been taken.

The plaque was received by Walter B. Voll, exhibits coordinator for the Museum, from Gen. Wray.



Walter Voll of the Museum of the Sea and Maj. Gen. Wray happily hold the plaque of the group and squadron insignia, which was presented to the Queen Mary by the

91st Bomb Group Memorial Association as a memento of the days when the ship transported 91st-ers to England. The plaque will be hung as a permanent memorial.

## Lots of Fun and Frolic at Long Beach...



Above, M/Sgt. George Parks, "Tony" Starcer, and Paul Chryst look over Chryst's A-2 jacket with the "Time's Awastin'" insignia painted by Starcer in 1944.

Starcer has just been "found" by the group.



Mrs. Earl F. Riley has just presented the General with a lovely floral arrangement of his favorite flowers—brussels sprouts! Fortunately, the hardly edible exterior is built around a center "stalk" of rare old Scotch.



Seated, left to right: Col. Chauncey H. Hicks, Jack Gaffney, SMS Louis R. Holland, Evelyn Ritscher, Joan Johnson Fewsmith, Harold A. Packard, Ken Cochran, and Capt. Frank S. Ripa, USMC.

Second row: Doug Gibson, Maj. Maurice J. Herman (Ret), Donald E. Sheeler, Col. Paul L. Fishburne, M/Gen.

Stanley T. Wray, M/Sgt. George W. Parks, Phillip R. Taylor, Mike Fenchak, Paul Chryst.

Third row: Robert A. Ortega, Anthony L. Starcer, Frank B. Kaufman, M/Sgt. Edward F. Jackman, Robert G. El-Roy, Robert M. Paulson, Earl F. Riley, Robert Wright, Chris Christensen, Aubin Pene, and Raymond Parks.



## Operation Return Assured Of 'Tremendous Success'

Response to the "Operation Return" flight to Bassingbourn on June 15 has been "tremendous," exceeding even the most optimistic expectations, Memorial Association headquarters report.

A check on reservations at the end of March showed the Super DC-8 "almost full," though a few seats for latecomers were still available.

A final letter of details is being mailed directly to all passengers. For those making payments for the trip in installments, the Eastern Division secretary, Bob Gerstemeier, points out that final payments are due April 15.

In the January issue of The Ragged Irregular a list of those registering before December 1 was carried. Additional registrants since that time include:

- \*Velma Bridges
- Joseph Kardos & son
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lackey & son
- \*Armand Hilburger & daughter
- Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Tegler
- Mr. & Mrs. Clarence W. Bishop & son
- \*Clarice Rohweller
- \*Barbara Walz
- Mr. & Mrs. David A. Bramble
- \*Mr. & Mrs. Wm T. Fitzgerald
- Mr. & Mrs. John A. Fearheller & family
- Mr. & Mrs. Norman E. Witman & children
- \*Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Kustin
- Mr. & Mrs. Franklin G. Huddleston
- Mr. & Mrs. Stanley F. Waslaski
- \*Ralph Seeley
- \*Mr. & Mrs. John Kleis
- Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Guzek & family
- Mr. & Mrs. John Carlstrom, Jr. & family
- Mr. & Mrs. Arnold W. Brown & daughter
- Clifford O. Pierce
- Mr. & Mrs. Edward F. Jackman

- Mr. & Mrs. Gerald J. Peters
- John A. Evans
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Simmers, Jr. & son
- James F. Cardin
- Vernon L. Dion
- Mr. & Mrs. Emil M. Yezdimir
- Mr. & Mrs. James O. Bedwell
- Mr. & Mrs. Howell B. Loper
- Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Bankovsky
- Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd J. Mahan
- \*Mr. & Mrs. John P. MaCann
- Mr. & Mrs. John A. Hassler
- \*Lynn Saville
- Dr. Immanuel J. Klette & son
- Mr. & Mrs. David E. Calvert
- Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Steele
- Mr. & Mrs. Randolph Shook
- \*Mr. & Mrs. Gerrold Ewing
- Mr. & Mrs. Vern Clabaugh
- Mrs. Lauraine Lafferty & family
- \*Rosemary Kendall & son
- Mr. & Mrs. Donald T. Ballou
- \*Mr. & Mrs. Larry M. Knight
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Smith
- Mr. & Mrs. Donald Fred Pilcher
- \*Mr. H Mrs. Lloyd M. Aller
- Abraham S. Homar
- Mr. & Mrs. Harry E. Hovermill
- \*Mrs. J. Cleaver
- \*Robert J. Charters & daughters
- Philip O. Swanson
- Edward J. Kriegel
- James A. Harrison & wife
- John Carl Chryst
- \*James Broderick
- Herman H. Moser
- \*indicates associate member

## PAID YOUR DUES YET?

It's an easy thing to overlook, but if our 91st Bomb Group (H) Memorial Association is to continue to flourish we need YOUR help.

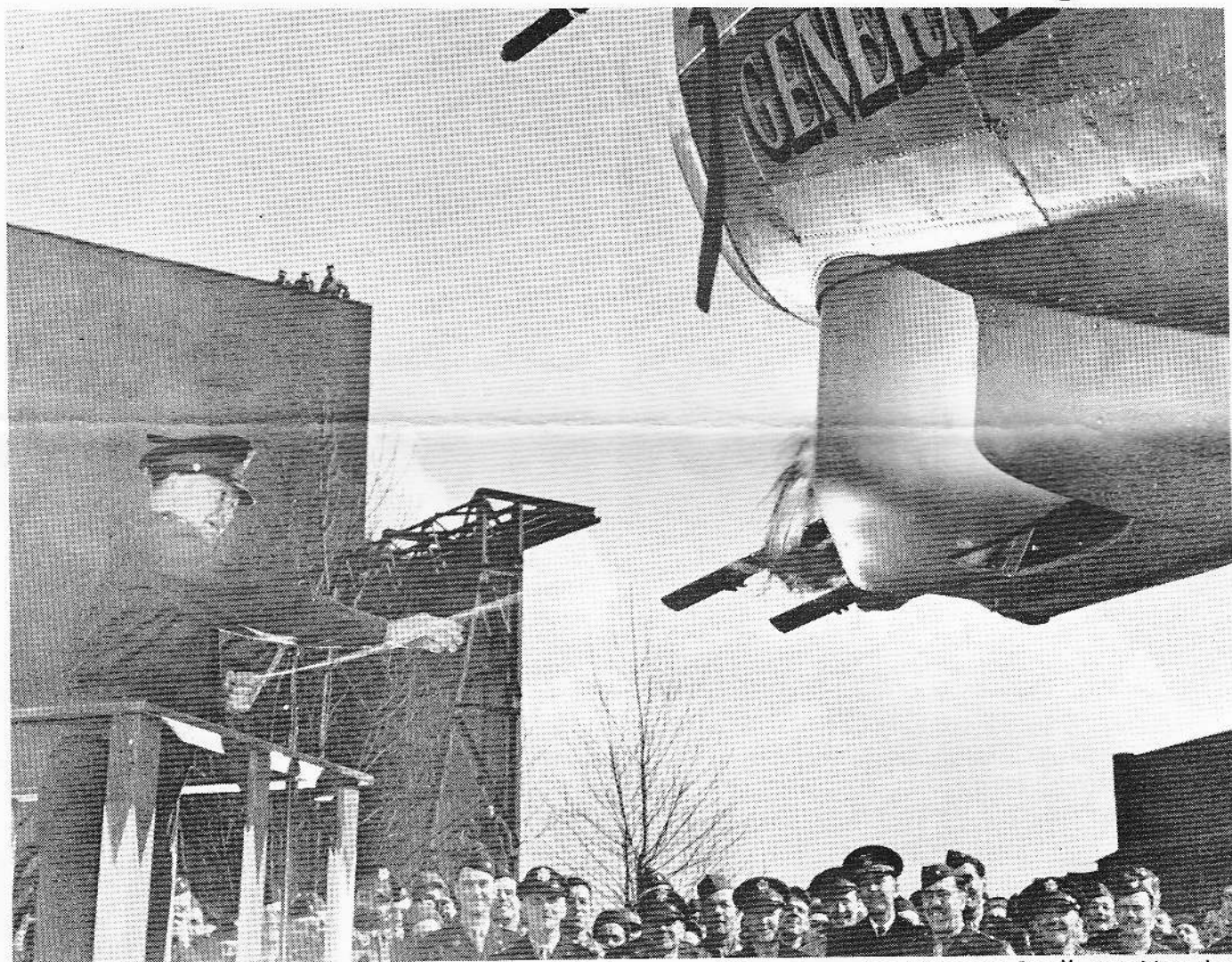
The Ragged Irregular, the directory, compiling historical files, and tracking down 'lost' members take more than the hundreds of hours of donated time by Association officials - IT TAKES MONEY! SO DIG DOWN AND SEND ALONG YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

Eastern Division Members (from the Atlantic to the Mississippi) mail dues to:  
Joseph M. Giambrone 303 Brooksdale Ave. Glenside, Pa. 19038

Western Division Members (from the Mississippi to the Pacific) mail dues to:  
M/Sgt. George Parks 109 Wilshire Ave. Vallejo, Calif. 94590

Make checks payable to 91st Bomb Group (H) Memorial Association

# In Memoriam - When 'Ike' Visited Bassingbourn



On April 11, 1944, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower visited a new 401st plane, the "General Ike," smashing the Bassingbourn to inspect the 91st. Here "Ike" christens traditional bottle of champagne against the chin turret



Here, Gen. Eisenhower inspects planes from the 322, The group is examining "Just Nothing," a B-17G with 323, and 324 squadrons, with Hangar A in the background. the chin turret blacked out in the photo.





"Tony" Starcer, of the 441st SD, puts the finishing touches on the artwork of the "General Ike."



Meeting the crew of the new plane. Col. Putnam attending.



Examining damage caused by a lost prop following a combat mission in "General Ike."

# 'Jack the Ripper,' The First Crew Home

The return of "The Memphis Belle" and crew to the United States for a war bond selling tour following the completion of 25 missions is a story well known to almost every veteran of the 91st. Less well known, except to original members, was the FIRST 91st combat crew to return to the States, that of the 324th squadron plane "Jack the Ripper," with Bill Crumm as pilot. The crew was not only the first from the 91st but the first from the entire 8th Air Force to return, and their experience and advice served as the foundation for training the replacement combat crews that came flooding into England in the succeeding months.

"Jack the Ripper," B-17F No. 41-124480, was one of the original ships assigned to the 91st, and flew overseas with the 324th from Gander Lake, Newfoundland on Sept. 27, 1942.

With a combat crew of William J. Crumm, pilot; Mark H. Gilman, co-pilot; William C. Leasure, navigator; Robert L. Kleyla, bombardier; Karl L. Masters, engineer; Peter F. DeBoy, radio operator; Andrew Markle, ball turret gunner; Rufus W. Youngblood and J.B. O'Donnell,

waist gunners, and G.F. Wilson, tail gunner, "Jack the Ripper" was a wing ship to "The Bad Penny," in which Col. Stanley T. Wray led the first bombing mission of the 91st to Brest on November 7, 1942.

In the next few weeks the crew flew missions to Abbeville, La Pallice, Lille, Romilly Sur Seine, Lorient, Wilhelmshaven, Hamm and Emden.

In the United States there was a desperate need for a combat-experienced crew to set up training techniques and to pass along the knowledge that only experience could give, and when the crew had completed 11 missions in February, 1943, they were chosen as the crew to return. With them went a B-17F modified to meet combat needs which was to serve as a model for modifying future planes sent overseas.

They flew the southern route, across from Africa to Brazil, and on to Washington, D.C. After a short leave they reported to Orlando, Florida, where the crew was questioned day after day on combat techniques and experiences. The result was an instruction manual pre-

(continued on page 7)



Here is the crew of "Jack the Ripper," a 324th plane. The crew was the first 8th Air Force crew to return to the U.S. in WWII. From left to right, first row, 1st Lt. Mark H. Gilman, co-pilot; Capt. William J. Crumm, pilot; 1st Lt. William C. Leasure, navigator; 1st Lt. Robert L.

Kleyla, bombardier. Standing, Staff Sgt. Andrew Markle, ball turret; Tech. Sgt. Karl L. Masters, engineer; Staff Sgt. Rufus W. Youngblood, waist gunner; Tech. Sgt. Peter F. DeBoy, radio operator; Staff Sgt. J.B. O'Donnell, waist gunner, and Sgt. G.F. Wilson, tail gunner.



## 'Jack the Ripper'...

pared by the Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, called "Bombing the Nazis, by the crew of 'Jack the Ripper.'" The book, which was published in April, 1943, served as procedures handbook for future combat crews.

In March, April, and May the crew made a cross country tour of more than 30 cities, talking to combat crews in training and addressing civilian groups to promote war bonds sales. Following the tour the crew continued to train combat crews through November, 1943, when it was reassigned to individual duties. Bill Crumm, who

## Arthur MacLemore, 91st Trustee, Dies In Fire

Arthur B.B. MacLemore, one of the three trustees of the 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association, Inc., and a representative to the 1963 Operation Return, was killed in a fire which gutted his home in Dayton, Ohio, on March 6. He was 54.

For the last 10 years Mac ("Bart" to many older friends from his middle names, Barlow Bartholomew) had been in poor health from his war injuries and other illness. Following recent surgery he was bedridden and walked only with the aid of crutches. Nevertheless, he and his British wife Valmai had made reservations for the June Operation Return.

The blaze apparently started about 4 a.m. in his bedroom from a cigarette and spread rapidly throughout the house.

MacLemore learned to fly in Germany before World War II, when he was attending medical school there. On the outbreak of war he joined the RAF, and went to England in 1940 after service in Canada. He joined the U.S. forces after America got into the war and was as-

signed to the 91st. He rose to the rank of captain. During his service with the RAF and the AAF he survived 7 plane crashes, including 3 ditchings in the English Channel and the North Sea.

Mac's ditching on his first mission with the 91st after his transfer from the RAF was the first successful ditching of a Bassingbourn plane. Though the British had briefed the group on water landing technique during the pre-combat training period, none of the early attempts at ditching had succeeded. It was not until he passed on the practical details of ditching procedure that the group learned the proper technique.

He held B.A. degrees from the University of Maryland Marietta College, and a Master's degree from Kenyon College.

He was the author of several books, and was largely responsible for the organization and publication of Bert Stiles' book, "Serenade to the Big Bird."

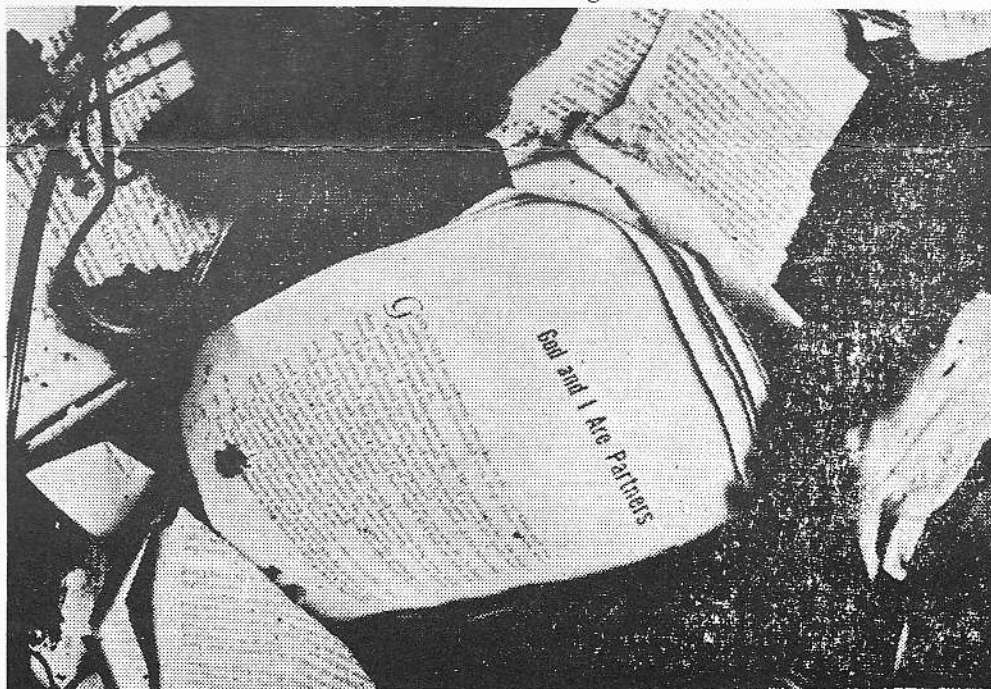
He is survived by his widow; a daughter, Mrs. Nicolette Branum, and three grandchildren.

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Arthur B.B. MacLemore



Burned pages of a book outside the bedroom where MacLemore died.

# New Members and Changes of Address

Since the deadline for the 1969 directory a number of new members have been added to the Memorial Association rolls, along with changes of addresses by old members. In order to keep our records as up-to-date as possible we are including the new names and changes in The Ragged Irregular.

## New Members - Eastern Division

Baldwin, Charles E. Jr. Col.-4 Rue De La Science, Brussels 4, Belgium  
 Gage, Avery-3410 Latham St., Rockford, Ill. 61103  
 Gouge, Bradley K. Lt. Col.-25 Shellflower Rd., Levittown, Pa. 19056  
 Kerr, Joseph R. Jr.-35 New York Ave., Flemington, N.J. 08822  
 Knapp, Don-LaCrosse, Ind. 46348  
 Lipschutz, Martin-3954 Conshohocken Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19131  
 Marlatt, L.R. Maj. (Ret.)-CMR Box 1932, APO New York 09009  
 McVay, Harley-R D #2, Box 317, Dover, N.Y. 07801  
 Perlman, Charles S.-429 Fourth St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219  
 Rudolph, Donald H.-CMR, Box 1076, APO New York 09009  
 Simmers, Robert L. Jr.-11400 Brookfield, Livonia, Mich. 48150  
 Sticklen, William E.-1844 Loudon Heights Rd., Charleston, W. Va. 25314  
 Wilkinson, Don-Box 117, Prairie Du Sac, Wisc. 53578

## Changes of Address - Eastern Division

Miller, Robert-%Edna Weiner, Box 48 B, R D # 1, Orvigsburg, Pa. 17961  
 Klette, Immanuel Dr.-1164 Airendel La. Columbus, Ohio 43221  
 Kline, Harold-314 East 3rd St., Boyertown, Pa. 19512  
 Besler, Hugo-Deceased  
 Harrison, James A.-410 Park St., Cumberland, Md. 21502  
 Cox, J. Stuart-46 Edward VII Ave., Newport, Mon., England  
 Brigman, James-414 Denham St., Rt. 1, Thomaston, Ga. 30286  
 Murdoch, Jullian A.-3101 Meadowood La., Chamblee, Ga., 30341  
 Phillips, Charles R.-53 Hillcrest Rd., Glastonbury, Conn. 06033  
 Renz, Wilbur-R R 1, Box 73, Muncie, Ind. 47302  
 Dewhurst, Phillip-4 Marie Ave., Salem, N.H. 03079  
 Berry, James F. Col.-710D Crown Court, Raleigh, N.C. 27608  
 Hoots, William L. M/Sgt.-P.O. Box 97, Patterson, Ill. 62078  
 Hare, Robert P. III Col.-67 Ocean Shore Blvd., P.O. Box 2225, Ormond Beach, Florida 32074

## New Names - Western Division

O'Leary, John B. Dr.-406 Cedar St., Brainerd, Minn. 56401  
 McCallum, Clyde P.-2512 Pittsburg St., Spokane, Wash. 99207  
 LaCassee, M.P. CMS (Ret)-1602 Happiness Dr., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909  
 Platt, A.B.-23792 So. Wilma Ave., Ripon, Calif. 95366  
 Zebrowski, George J. Col. (Ret)-23986 Hemlock, Sunny-mead, Calif. 92388  
 Ripa, Frank S.-1206 So. Kathy Lane, Santa Ana, Calif. 92704  
 Seeley, Ralph-Langdon, N.D. 58249  
 Golightly, William H.-6754 So. 43rd 45th East, Salt Lake City, Utah  
 McNeil, William R.-1005 East Beacon, Alhambra, Calif. 91800  
 Parks, Raymond-442 West Ave, Apt. D. Fullerton, Calif. 92631  
 Everett, LeRoy B.-484 Irving Court, Tiburon, Calif.  
 Donohue, Hubert F.-RFD #2 Box 13, Dayton, Wash. 99328  
 Manning, Norman-P.O. Box 245, Vallejo, Calif. 94590  
 Ballard, James A.-1125 Wichita Plaza Bldg., Wichita Kan. 67202  
 Dandoy, Robert - 1728 S. Clinton St., Souix City, Iowa  
 Danekas, Ralph - 302 E. Broadway, Ritzville, Wash. 99169

## Changes of Address - Western Division

Darnell, Marion J.-656 Russel Dr., Brawley, Calif. 92227  
 Christiansen, Chris-1100 E. 13th St., Upland, Calif. 91786  
 Kaech, Del E. CMS (Ret)-336 Old Orchard Circle, Creekwood Addition, Arnold, Mo. 63010  
 Ralston, Joseph M.-2324 Kinsington St., West Sacremento, Calif. 95691

## From the Editor's Desk...

On hand is a group picture of the First Station Complement which the editor wishes to run in The Irregular, but there is no identification of the members. Has anyone a copy of the picture in his files with the names attached? While we're on group pictures, anyone with any group pictures of Bassingbourn days complete with identification please pass them along for our use. We'll return your original unharmed!

For those of you who have been awaiting the publication of Carlton Brechler's book, "Wray's Ragged Irregulars," which we have been mentioning for many months now, it should be forthcoming in early fall. Typesetting has been completed, and the big job still remaining will be getting a multitude of pictures together. Our goal is to have a picture of all of the hundreds mentioned in the book, plus group shots of units, if possible. We have many on hand, but there are still many that must be tracked down.

Don't Forget -- Send Your Dues Now!





If the old lady above looks both familiar and strange, you're right on both counts! What you see here is none other than our January bird—ol' Shoo Shoo Baby, just (almost) as she sits today on an airfield in France.

Steve Birdsall, the Australian air war author, tracked her down after years of diligent detective work. The plane was taken over from Paul McDuffee by Bob Guenther, and somewhere along the line picked up another "Shoo," to become Shoo Shoo Shoo Baby. (Who knows the answer to this one?) The plane force-landed in Sweden after the May 29, 1944, Posen raid. She was given to Sweden, where she was modified into a transport by

SAAB. As a transport she served with Danish Air Lines, and then with the Royal Danish Air Force.

In 1954 she was sold to the Babb Company, and then to the Institut Geographique National in France. There she sits at Creil airport, minus engines now, and with no air time since 1961.

As Birdsall points out, this veteran was the last combat B-17 to fly, and it is only fitting that every effort be made to save her from the scrap heap. The Memorial Association committee is currently giving the project much study, to see if there is any possible way she can be returned to the United States and preserved as an Eighth Air Force-91st memorial. Raising the necessary funds is the big obstacle, unless some museum, foundation, or big-spending former 91st-er comes to the rescue!

### 'Air Classics' Features 91st Planes

A picture spread of B-17s from Steve Birdsall's new book "Hell's Angels" which includes a number of 91st aircraft is a feature of the April issue of Air Classics magazine.

Highlighted by a two-page center spread full color picture of a B-17F, there are shots of eight planes from the old Triangle A. Shown in the article are: Delta Rebel No. 2; Qualified Quail; Shoo Shoo Shoo Baby; The Sad Sack; Rebel's Revenge, Hikin' for Home; Evenin' Folks! How Y'all and The Eagle's Wrath.

The complete book, which contains more than 100 shots of combat B-17s, can be ordered at a special pre-publication price of \$4.95 from Grenadier Books Inc., 7805 Deering Ave., Canoga Park, Calif. 91304. California residents must include 5% sales tax.

### From the Editor's Desk...

For an upcoming book being written about the 91st we are trying to trace the history of each of the original planes assigned to the group. We have obtained the overseas flying orders of the 322 sqdn. and the 324 sqdn., which list the serial numbers and crews of their planes. Bob Abb has forwarded a list of the original 323 planes and what happened to them, but we are still looking for the overseas flying orders of the 323 and the 401 sqdns. Anyone with a copy please send us along a Xerox. We need the names of the planes, too, if you can supply them.



A former 91st-er, Sidney Maxwell, is shown above taking part in the presentation of a plaque presented to the 88 Aerial Port Sqdn. at McGuire AFB, N.J. Presenting the award is B/Gen. Herring, 438 MAW commander; M/Gen. William Brandon, 21st AF commander; Col. Sidney Maxwell, commander of 438 Aerial Port Sqdn., and Maj. Robert Swoger, commander of the 88th.

Col. Maxwell was with the 91st for two consecutive tours, from February, 1944 through January, 1945, with the 324 sqdn. and then with the 323. He flew 58 combat missions, first in "Little Patches," and then in a variety of ships.

Col. Maxwell is becoming deputy director of traffic and transportation for the 21st AF. He expects to retire in June, perhaps to the Orlando, Fla. area.

## The Ragged Irregular

These news letters are published quarterly in October, January, April, and July, in an effort to keep alive the spirit of the 91st Bombardment Group (H) and to maintain the fellowship of those who fought together in World War II from AF Station 121, Bassingbourne, England, 1942-1945.

Material for publication should be sent to the editor, Paul C. Burnett, Box 909, Auburn, Alabama 36830, not later than two weeks before the first day of the month of publication.

### President

Maj. Gen. Stanley T. Wray (Ret)

### Public Relations

C. Carlton Brechler  
5011 Elmgate Drive, Orchard Lake, Mich. 48033

### East Coast Division (from the Atlantic to the Mississippi River)

#### Chairmen

Paul Chryst  
1494 North Adams St. Pottstown, Pa. 19464

Joseph A. Camelleri  
314 South 7th St., Reading, Pa. 19602

#### Secretary

Robert Gerstemeir  
Kerr Road, RD #1, Lansdale, Pa. 19446

#### Treasurer

Joseph M. Giambrone  
303 Brooksdale Ave., Glenside, Pa. 19038

### West Coast Division (from the Pacific to the Mississippi River)

#### Chairmen

Phillip R. Taylor  
3211 Eichenlaub St., San Diego, Calif. 92117

Maurice J. Herman  
2821 Pruneridge Ave. Santa Clara, Calif. 95051

#### Secretary - Treasurer

George W. Parks  
109 Wilshire Ave., Vallejo, Calif. 94590

Dues are \$3 per year, payable to the Division Treasurer. Get Your Buddies Back With Us. Send current addresses of former 91st-ers to the proper Division Secretary.

## Membership Data Forms

We need data forms on ALL former 91st-ers. If you haven't sent

one in, please do so today. If you need the data form,

contact your division secretary.

**NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE**

## From the Editor's Desk...

A note from Col. Robert P. Hare III, Group Exec. officer for the 91st from 1942-45, changing his address from Washington to his new home, 67 Ocean Shore Blvd., P.O. Box 2225, Ormand Beach, Fla. 32074 brings to mind one of the more intriguing orders issued at Bassingbourne. Here is a true copy:

### HEADQUARTERS

ARMY AIR FORCE STATION 121  
Office of the Station Commander  
APO 634

7 April, 1943

### SPECIAL ORDERS) NUMBER 200)

1. Due to the exigencies of the Service, in consideration of the fact that the Sap is beginning to rise, reflecting with candor on the thought that in the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love (or something), and by the authority invested in the undersigned, LT. COL. ROBERT P. HARE III 0398992, Hq, 91st Bomb Gp (H), is hereby appointed STATION MATERNITY OFFICER and MID-WIFE, effective this date, in addition to his other duties.

By order of the Baron of Bassingbourne:

NATHAN L. ROBERTS  
Major, A.C.  
Grand Executor

Sqdn. Ldr. J. Stuart (Jim) Cox, one of the British complement at Bassingbourne, sends along this note: "Thanks for keeping me posted with the activities of the 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association. I find it wonderful to follow them up and to see photographs of so many of my old friends. In fact I sometimes think that I had more friends in the 91st than in the RAF."

"I still exchange letters and Christmas cards with a number of Bassingbourne friends and have done so ever since the war, but unfortunately the number gets less each year. I am afraid that I am now past the three score years and eleven, but being retired I am able to devote a lot of my time to the charity side of the Masonic movement in which I hold a high rank."

He has a new address: "Headingley," 46 Edward VII Ave., Newport, Mon., England.

Distribution of the 1969 Membership Directory will begin very soon. Printing difficulties have necessitated some delay beyond the anticipated date, but these have been overcome and the book may be off the press even before this issue of The Ragged Irregular reaches members. The directory, which contains more than 1,400 current addresses of former 91st-ers, may be obtained from the division secretaries for \$1.



## From the Editor's Desk...

Not only will former 91st-ers be making "Operation Return" in June, but also some of the "original money" that was with the group, when E.R. "Rudy" Steele and his wife Eunice make the trip back to Bassingbourn.

Rudy, who did battle damage repair for the 322 squadron, made regular purchases of war bonds through the Victory Squadron at Bassingbourn and had them sent to his bank at home. When he returned to the States he discovered that a bond was missing. A number of bonds had been taken from the group somewhere along the line, and thinking this had probably happened to Rudy the group repaid the \$18.75.

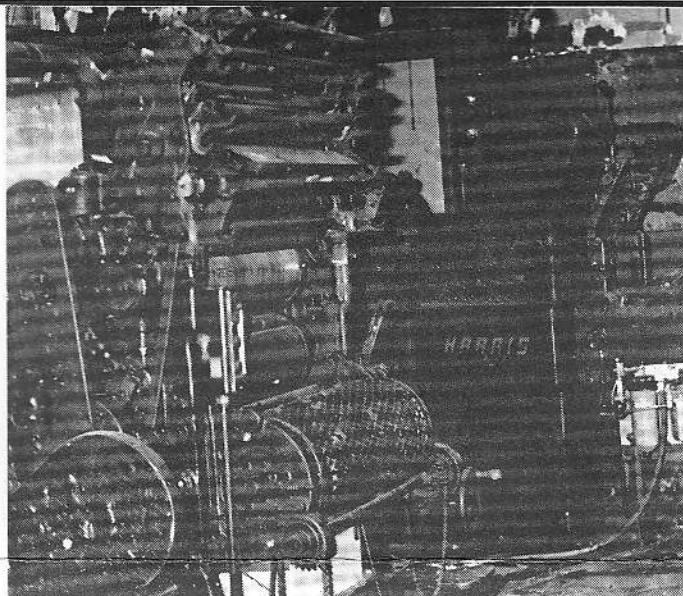
Some years later the missing bond was discovered, but he determined never to cash it in. However, last summer, after attending the Denver Reunion, Rudy says "I knew right then that the bond had to be cashed. So in August, 24 years later, I cashed the bond and received \$40.16. The money was sent in to the Memorial Association, to be added to the 322nd's part in the purchase of the fountain memorial at Royston."

One of our newly found members, Dr. John B. O'Leary, (a navigator with the 401st) now an associate professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School, reports that they are trying to locate the co-pilot of their crew—John Green. Anyone knowing his whereabouts should pass along the info to The Irregular.

A note from Chuck Galian, of the 323 squadron. He and his English wife are returning to England for a visit with her folks, and also with Sam Digristina, who is "over there" with the 48th Combat Support Group. Chuck reminds us of the time old "Stupantakit" was out with a difficult-to-find oil pressure gauge problem. After some days, Tony Ryan, the instrument man, got the job done. When the engineering officer asked what had been the trouble, Tony replied, "An air bubble in the electrical system, sir." The relieved officer beamed with pleasure. "Oh...well, I'm sure glad you found the trouble." Then as the light dawned he thundered, "A WHAT!" By that time Tony was well on his way to being the first man to run the mile in four minutes.

The 98th Bomb Group, who were our guests at the Denver reunion, are making great progress in their efforts to get their old group reorganized. A note from the ramrod, Rudy Schmeichel, points out that they now have 400 on the mailing list and "more coming in every day!" They have a reunion set for Hot Springs, Ark., July 15-17.

The Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson has asked for a complete file of back issues of The Ragged Irregular, and will keep each issue in their records for future researchers.



Your Ragged Irregular is late this quarter, and the picture above shows the culprit—two burned out presses in the plant which prints the newsletter. A \$75,000 fire badly damaged the printing plant and presses, one day before The Irregular was scheduled to go to press. Fortunately for the editor, he had held up delivery of the camera-ready copy while waiting for some pictures to arrive. If we had been on time the entire copy would have been destroyed (10 waiting publications were!) and it would have been virtually impossible for the April issue to come out at all. Publication has had to wait the installation of new presses.

A Dutch writer working on a book covering the air war in Europe needs help from 91st-ers in gathering information on some of their activities. In a recent letter to The Irregular he has these questions:

a. What unit and officer lead the following raids?

4 Feb. 43	8 Oct. 43
21 May 43	26 Nov. 43
25 June 43	13 Dec. 43
26 July 43	22 Dec. 43
28 July 43	11 Jan. 44
27 Sept. 43	24 May 44

b. Can you tell me what the 91st's losses were on these dates?

c. When did Bomb Boogie go down?

d. What are the names of 91st Bomb Group ships that flew the missions of 8 October 43, and 26 November 43 to Bremen. I have rather extensive accounts on these dates and should like to include some material on the famous 91st.

e. I would like to hear from any survivors of the B-17F No. 124589 that went down 4 Feb. 1943 on the Frisian isle of Terschelling, and B-17F No. 23111 that went down on the Emden raid of 27 Sept. 1943, piloted by W. G. Pegram.

Anyone who can help with these questions can write to: Ab A. Jansen, Kamerlingh Onnesstraat 96, Groningen, Holland.

Here is the continuation of the mission log begun in the July, 1968 issue. The left-hand numbers represent completed missions; the next row represents the alerts, and then the date is shown, by day and month.

Alert		1943							
	151	11-10	Emden	Cancelled		199	31-1	Frankfurt	Scrubbed
	152	13-10	Emden	Recalled		200	1-2	Frankfurt	Scrubbed
82.	153	14-10	Schweinfurt	Completed	107	201	3-2	Wilhelmshaven	Completed
	154	17-10	Duren	Cancelled	108	202	4-2	Frankfurt	Completed
	155	18-10	Duren	Recalled	109	203	5-2	Avord A/D	Completed
83.	156	20-10	Duren	Abt Sortie	110	204	6-2	Nancy/Essey	Abt. Sort
	157	21-10	Gennevilliers	Scrubbed		205	9-2	Leipzig	Recalled
	158	30-10	Gelsenkirchen	Recalled	111	206	11-2	Frankfurt	Completed
84.	159	3-11	Wilhelmshaven	Completed		207	17-2	Nr. Abbeville	Cancelled
	160	4-11	Gelsenkirchen	Scrubbed	112	208	20-2	A-Leipzig	Completed
85.	161	5-11	Gelsenkirchen	Completed				B-Aschersleben	Completed
	162	6-11	Emden	Cancelled	113	209	21-2	Achmer	Completed
86.	163	7-11	Wesel	Completed	114	210	22-2	Bunde	Completed
	164	8-11	Neuss	Scrubbed	115	211	24-2	Schweinfurt	Completed
	165	10-11	Bremen	Cancelled	116	212	25-2	Augsburg	Completed
	166	11-11	Wesel	Recalled		213	29-2	Jever	Cancelled
	167	13-11	Bremen	Recalled	117	214	2-3	Frankfurt	Completed
87.	168	16-11	Knaben	Abt Sortie	118	215	3-3	Wilhelmshaven	Completed
	169	23-11	Bremen	Scrubbed	119	216	4-3	Koln Area	Completed
88.	170	26-11	Bremen	Completed	120	217	6-3	Berlin	Completed
	171	29-11	Bremen	Recalled		218	7-3	Gutersloh	Scrubbed
	172	30-11	Solingen	Recalled	121	219	8-3	Erkner (Berlin)	Completed
89.	173	1-12	Leverkusen	Completed	122	220	9-3	Oranienburg	Completed
90.	174	5-12	Paris	Abt Sortie		221	13-3	Nr. St Omer	Cancelled
91.	175	11-12	Emden	Completed		222	14-3	Nr. St Omer	Cancelled
92.	176	13-12	Bremen	Completed	123	223	16-3	Lechfeld	Completed
	177	14-12	Berlin	Scrubbed		224	17-3	Augsburg A/D	Cancelled
93.	178	16-12	Bremen	Completed	124	225	18-3	Oberphaffenhofen	Completed
94.	179	20-12	Bremen	Completed	125	226	20-3	Frankfurt	Completed
95.	180	22-12	Osnabruck	Completed	126	227	22-3	Berlin	Completed
96.	181	24-12	Andres	Completed	127	228	23-3	Hamm Area	Completed
97.	182	30-12	Ludwigshaven	Completed	128	229	24-3	Schweinfurt	Completed
98.	183	31-12	Cognac	Completed		230	26-3	Bohlen	Cancelled
					129			Marquis	Completed
					130	231	27-3	St Jean D'Angely	Completed
99.	184	4-1	Kiel	Completed	131	232	28-3	Rheims/Champagne	Completed
100	185	4-1	Tours	Completed	132	233	29-3	Brunswick	Completed
	186	6-1	Ardres	Scrubbed		234	31-3	Ludwigshaven	Cancelled
101	187	7-1	Ludwigshaven	Completed		235	6-4	Oberphaffenhofen	Scrubbed
102	188	11-1	Oschersleben	Completed		236	7-4	Oldenburg	Cancelled
103	189	14-1	Croisetter	Completed	133	237	8-4	Oldenburg	Completed
	190	15-1	Gotha	Scrubbed		238	9-4	Gdynia	Recalled
	191	18-1	Frankfurt	Scrubbed				1 A/C Marienburg	Completed
	192	19-1	La Glacerie	Scrubbed	134	239	10-4	Brussels	Completed
	193	20-1	La Glacerie	Scrubbed	135	240	11-4	Stettin	Completed
104	194	21-1	La Glacerie	Completed	136	241	13-4	Schweinfurt	Completed
	195	24-1	Frankfurt	Recalled		242	17-4	Laon	Cancelled
	196	26-1	Frankfurt	Scrubbed	137	243	18-4	Oranienburg	Completed
105	197	29-1	Frankfurt	Completed	138	244	19-4	Eschwege	Completed
106	198	30-1	Brunswick	Completed	139	245	20-4	Croisette & Beauvoir	Comp.