



The Ragged Irregular

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

Vol. 15

No. 2

July, 1982

It's Going To Be Great In Dayton

From the response to date it appears certain that the 1982 National Reunion in Dayton Sept. 2-3-4 will be the best attended 91st get-together yet. Requests for the reunion information packets and Imperial House reservation cards indicate an attendance well over 300, with an unusually high number coming from members making their first Group meeting.

So if you haven't made your move yet and contacted all your old buddies to be sure they will be there too -- now is the time!

Headquarters for the reunion will be the Imperial House North, Needmore Road and I-75, Dayton, Ohio 45414.

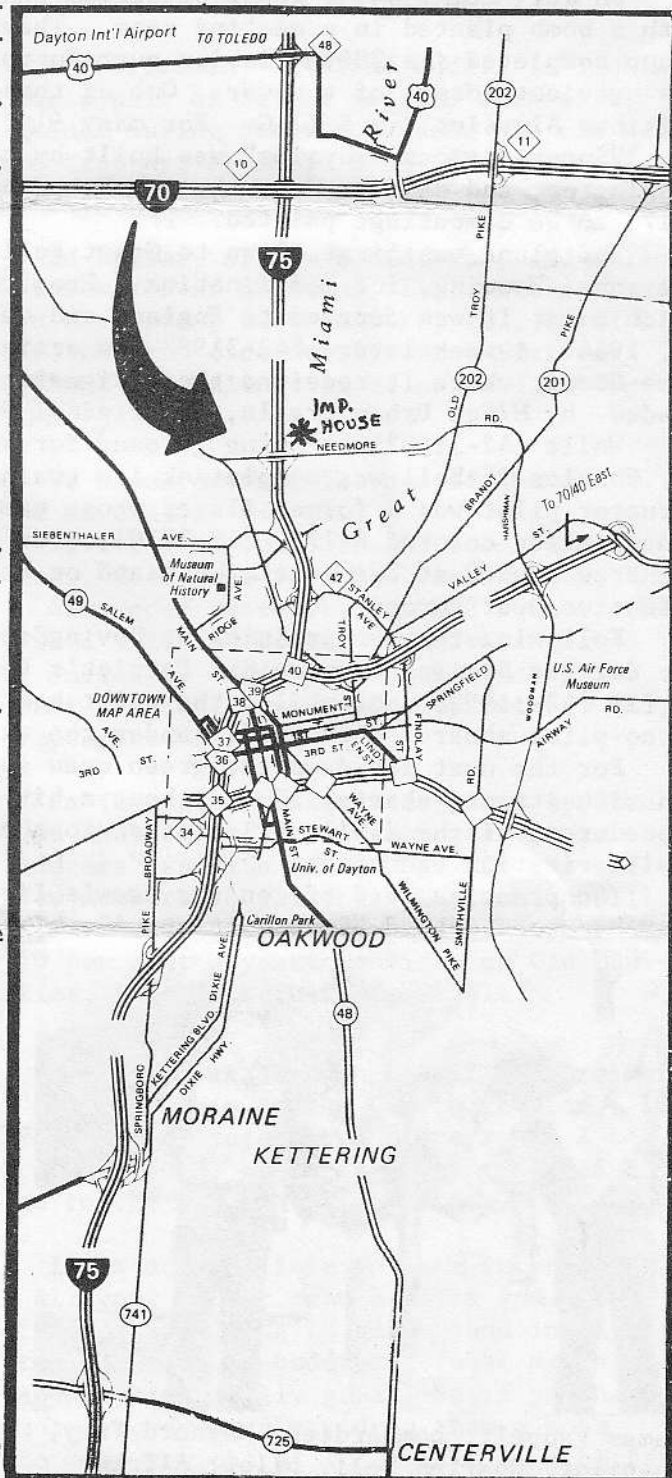
Reunion chairman Bill Cornwell, assisted by Lt. Col. Don Bader and a fine group of volunteers, has put together a great three-day program. Thursday, Sept. 2, will be registration day from 9 a.m. 'til 5 p.m., with the hospitality room open from 2 to 5 p.m., with a pool-side social hour following. Indications are that a number of members will be checking in on Wednesday for and extra day of visiting with old friends.

Friday will feature an all-day tour of the Air Force Museum and dedication of the new "Living Tree" 91st memorial at the Museum. "Movie night" featuring "The Memphis Belle" and a number of other Air Force movies of WW II will be held at 8 p.m.

The Group business meeting will be held Saturday morning, and the Group Banquet will get under way at 7 p.m. An after-dinner program and dancing to music of the 1940s will follow till 1 a.m.

The registration fee is \$25 per person, which will cover the Air Force Museum tour, the Group Banquet, and assorted goodies.

For a complete information packet and reservation cards for the Imperial House North contact Secretary-Treasurer George Parks, 109 Wilshire Ave., Vallejo, CA. 94590, immediately. The number of members planning to attend is needed to complete arrangements for the Museum Tour, the Group Banquet, etc.



The Life And Death Of 'Super Al'

BY CHARLES T. BELL

Editor's Note: Most 91st aircrews remember their old aircraft with affection, but are shy of details of their plane's history before and after they flew it. Pilot Charlie Bell, with devoted research, has reconstructed the history of his ship, "Superstitious Aloysius," ex-322nd sqdn., from birth to death.

On July 20, 1944, a group of German generals tried to assassinate Adolph Hitler with a bomb planted in a meeting room. They failed. On the same day, the 91st Bomb Group completed its 200th mission over Europe. It lost 8 planes in the process, among its heaviest losses of the war. One of those planes was AF Serial #42-31982, "Superstitious Aloysius," a B-17 G. For many 91sters, old LGS has special memories.

"Superstitious Aloysius" was built by the Boeing Aircraft Company in Seattle, Washington, and delivered to the Air Force on January 10, 1944. It was among the last B-17s to be camouflage painted.

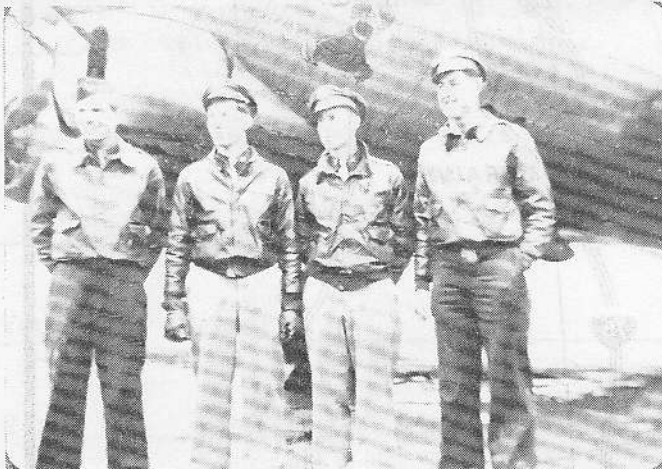
The plane was first flown to Great Falls, Montana, and on January 14, 1944 to Cheyenne, Wyoming, for modification. From there it went to Savannah, Georgia, from which point it was ferried to England and delivered to the 8th Air Force on February 15, 1944. A week later, #42-31982 was assigned to the 322nd Squadron of the 91st Bomb Group, where it received the designation LG-S (Lingers Sugar). A ground crew headed by M/Sgt Urban Drella, an original 91ster, took over its care.

While #42-31982 was being groomed for action, a replacement crew headed by 2nd Lt. Charles T. Bell was completing its training at Dyersburg, Tenn. The crew's instructor pilot was a former 91ster whose name has escaped the record. Having ferried a new silver colored B-17G, #42-32101, over the North Atlantic from Kearney, Nebraska, the crew landed at Prestwick, Scotland on February 24, 1944, the first day of the Air Offensive Over Europe.

Following further training at Bovington Air Base near London, the crew reported for duty at Bassingbourn on St. Patrick's Day. About two weeks later it was assigned to fly #42-31982. Meanwhile, the pilot had received the benefit of flying 3 missions as co-pilot aboard "Chowhound," under the expert tutelage of 1st Lt. Jerry Newquist.

For the next few days the green crew spent every available hour getting acquainted with its new charge. Not without a bit of grumbling, the crew practiced bailout procedures, dinghy drill, orientation to the area, formation flying, and general familiarization exercises.

The practice paid off on the crew's first mission together aboard the plane, which they had soon dubbed "Superstitious Aloysius." The name and cartoon character painted



James Vanpelt, bombardier; Maynard Frey, co-pilot; Charles Bell, pilot; Alfred Kovner, navigator.



Ground crew: front 1 to r, Ralph Randolph, George Zucco. Back, Urban Drella, crew chief, and George Guthmiller.

on the nose were borrowed from a "good luck" card received by one of the crew members. The card is still preserved in the crew archives.

The first crew mission was to Oldenburg, Germany, on April 8, 1944. The 91st was the last group over the target and took very heavy flak. Just after "bombs away" an 88mm shell exploded near Super A1's #3 engine. It knocked the engine out in such a way that it could not be feathered. At the same time it shorted out the controls for the wheels and flaps, causing both to fully extend. Before the crew could crank them up manually, Super A1 found itself all alone over Oldenburg, the very last bomber in the area. Naturally, every flak crew began to take pot shots at it. They succeeded in knocking out the supercharger on #2 engine and putting over 200 holes in the fuselage, wings, and nose. Both the navigator and bombardier received minor wounds. The radio-gunner, Johnny Friend, succeeded in contacting air-sea rescue before the plane lost too much altitude. Consequently, fighters were directed to escort the bomber out of enemy territory, which they did.

For a while it appeared that the pilot would have to ditch in the Zuider Zee due to loss of altitude and difficulty in transferring fuel. However the fuel problem was solved and #2 engine provided more power at low altitude, so the decision was made to try for the Channel.

British air-sea rescue set a course for the plane to follow. Soon, the reason became apparent as rescue boats were spotted all the way across the Channel. Had it become necessary to ditch, rescue would have been virtually assured. As it turned out, the plane was soon over England.

Finally, "Superstitious Aloysius" made a wheels down landing at Bassingbourn, about 45 minutes after the main Group had landed. Having last been seen over the target with wheels down, it had been assumed that the crew had bailed out there. Accordingly, all had been tentatively listed as missing in action. Instead, a partnership between plane and crew had been forged which would carry them through many more adventures together.

Between March and July, 1944, Superstitious Aloysius flew in almost every major mission completed by the 91st. The big exception was the D-Day mission. Damage sustained in the June 5 mission precluded that, despite the fact that Urb Drella and his crew had worked all night in the rain to get it ready. At the last minute, Urb had to ground the plane, his biggest disappointment and toughest decision of the war. (When the pilot wanted to fly it, Drella said "I've never lost a pilot yet and I don't intend to start now.")

The bitter end for Super A1 came on July 20, 1944. It is documented both by an eyewitness who occupied a unique observation post and by the pilot who last flew the plane.

Norman Ingram, Super A1's original flight engineer, was flying his last mission with Lt. Charles T. Walby's crew aboard #43-37819. Walby was killed in action and his plane was destroyed by enemy fighters. Ingram managed somehow to get out and hit the silk. In a letter written after his release from captivity, Ingram describes how he watched as German fighters hit Superstitious Aloysius. He became so absorbed in the drama that he momentarily forgot his own predicament. For that per-



John C. Friend, radio operator.

iod he could only think about and sympathize with "poor old Superstitious Aloysius going down in flames after all the missions it had flown!" According to Ingram he did not come back to reality until he finally looked down and saw a German reception committee waiting for him.

The last crew to fly Superstitious Aloysius was commanded by 2nd. Lt. Al DeShaw. DeShaw is now a Flight Captain with Pan American Airways. In a telephone interview with Charlie Bell he described the July 20, 1944 mission in pungent terms.

On that day the 91st was dispatched to a target in the Leipzig area (Lutzkendorf), perhaps the most heavily defended area in Germany. In accordance with Gen. Doolittle's concept of how to win the war, no visible fighter escort was provided. Instead, Doolittle's theory depended upon 8th Air Force fighters first to carry out search and destroy missions in the general target area and second to help the bombers. When the Luftwaffe decided to pick on the 91st, there were no friendly fighters to defend it. As the 91st drew close to Leipzig, wave after wave of German fighters attacked, reminiscent of the 1943 Schweinfurt missions. The 91st's loss of 8 planes was its heaviest in 1944.

According to DeShaw, Superstitious Aloysius survived the initial attack, although sustaining some damage. But finally a well-placed volley destroyed the No.2 engine and set the left wing afire. Al pulled out of the formation and ordered his crew to bail out. The plane lost altitude rapidly while the pilot struggled to keep it in the air long enough for a mortally wounded man to get out. Finally the plane blew up, miraculously hurling DeShaw free. Although badly hurt, he managed to pull his ripcord at about 5000 feet and make it down.

Al was rescued by German troops from irate civilians who had already lynched another crewman. It appears that the falling planes had caused some damage and casualties on the ground, inflaming the local residents to seek revenge. DeShaw says they were already primed by Nazi propaganda about the American "barbarians."

Super Al's original crew consisted of Charles T. Bell, pilot; Maynard Frey, co-pilot; Alfred Kovner, navigator; James VanPelt, bombardier; Norman Ingram, engineer/gunner; John Friend, radio/gunner; Joe Staffa, assistant engineer/waist gunner; Paul Fahey, gunner/bombardier; Andy Furminsky, ball turret gunner, and Armand Battista, tail gunner. Battista was credited with shooting down a German fighter over Berlin on May 24, 1944. Kovner was killed in action and VanPelt taken prisoner while flying in the lead plane on the June 21st mission to Berlin. Ingram was taken prisoner on July 20. The rest completed their tours of duty with the 91st. Friend went on to a distinguished Air Force career from which he was retired as a Master Sergeant.

In addition to Bell and DeShaw, Superstitious Aloysius was piloted by Lts. Alford, Hayen, Abbott, Mooney, Hammer, Longaker, Strong, Emmond, and possibly others. A number of other pilots got their first combat experience with the 91st aboard Super Al. Among them were several who flew as co-pilots and later commanded their own crews. The original co-pilot, Maynard Frey, succeeded Jerry Newquist as pilot of "Chowhound" and later flew a tour as a scout in P-51s. Others were Walby, shot down on July 20; Dave McCarty, wounded on June 15 and shot down on September 8 over Ludwigshaven; Abbott, shot down over Berlin on June 21; Goodrich, D.J. Nelson, Wilbert Johnson, and Moeller. Ernie Austin succeeded Al Kovner as navigator when "Kobe" moved up to Group, and flew many missions aboard Super Al.

Anyone who can add to the story of Superstitious Aloysius may write to Charles T. Bell, 8604 Buckhannon Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854. Pictures would be especially appreciated.

Meet All Your Buddies In Dayton

New Members - Address Changes

BACON, James	26725 W. Warren Ave.	Dearborn	MI. 48100 (N)
BAILEY, John L.	305 Sycamore Dr.	Greenville	SC. 29607 (C)
BAUER, Daniel	5453 Elm Ave.	San Bernardino	CA. 92404 (N-A)
BEEBY, David	156 Deansway, Woodloes Park.	Warwick, Warwickshire	CV34-5DQ England (N-A)
BELL, Robert E. Jr.	1125 Glendale Ln.	Nashville	TN. 37204 (N)
BLODGETT, Calvin L.	212 3rd St.	Bemidji	MN. 56601 (N)
BLOW, Burton W.	Union Hill Rt. 4	Carbondale	IL. 62901 (C)
BONENFANT, Omer M.	16 State St.	Taunton	MA. 02780 (N)
BORELLIS, William F. Col (Ret)	211 Sharon	San Antonio	TX. 78216 (C)
BOUCHARD, Wilfred Capt. (Ret)	4109 Rocky Mt. Dr.	Hillcrest Hgts.	MD. 20748 (N)
BOYCE, John J. Jr.	12 Wood St.	Milton	MA. 02186 (N)
BURMAN, Kermit M.	950 Woodland Ave. Sp. 116	Ojai	CA. 93023 (C)
CARTER, Will T.	4112 Kenneth St.	Beaumont	TX. 77705 (N)
CASCONI, Fred	85 Birch St.	Forestville	CT. 06011 (N)
CHRISTOPHER, Fred LTC (Ret)	P.O. Box 1119	Port Salerno	FL. 33492 (C)
CLANCY, William E.	Regency 355, 100 E. Northside Dr., Jackson		MS. 39206 (C)
CLIFFORD, Harry W.	260 E. Main St.	Newark	DE. 19711 (N)
COCHRAN, Kenneth	201 W. Regents St. #602	Inglewood	CA. 90301 (C)
CONWAY, Michael J.	36 Heatherley Dr., Basford, Nottingham	England	NG6-OFN (N-A)
COPE, Harry	32167 Hamilton Dr., Suite 101	Solon	OH. 44139 (C)
COWN, Hoyt P.	205 Menendez Ave.	St. Simons Island	GA. 31522 (C)
DAMRON, Jerome Jr.	P.O. Box 1431	Palatka	FL. 32077 (C)
DASZEWSKI, Edmund Maj. USAF	R.R. 2, Box 265-C	Millstadt	IL. 62260 (N-A)
DAVIS, Jack	165 Cherry Hill Rd., R.D. 5	Princeton	NJ. 08540 (N)
DE SHAW, Albert G.	167 Fontaine Dr.	Tavernier	FL. 33070 (C)
DICKSON, William J.	8 Beverly Ln.	Manahawkin	NJ. 08050 (C)
DOWELL, George E.	Rt. 1 Box 166	Knoxville	IL. 61448 (C)
ETHELL, Jeffrey L.	Rt. 1 Box 519	Front Royal	VA. 22630 (N-A)
FENTON, Kenneth M.	1534 South Ave. E	Portales	NM. 88130 (N)
FINK, James R.	266 E. Padonia Rd.	Timonium	MD. 21093 (N)
FISCHER, Fredrick	231 Indian Rocks Rd. N	Largo	FL. 33540 (C)
FLEMMING, Thomas LTC (Ret)	1131 Lafayette Ave.	Wyomissing	PA. 19610 (C)
FLOYD, Nathan L.	902 Hampton St.	Shelby	NC. 28150 (N)
FREY, Maynard H.	175 Talley Dr.	Palm Harbor	FL. 33563 (C)
GAGE, Avery O.	5895 Inverness Dr.	Rockford	IL. 61107 (C)
GILLESPIE, Clyde G.	11054 Waxwing	Houston	TX. 77035 (C)
GILLET, Ray O.	10085 Live Oak Rd.	Galt	CA. 95632 (C)
GLOVER, William F. Dr.	Rt. 2 Box 25	Milan	IN. 47031 (C)
GRISWOLD, Richard	12184 Marshal Rd.	Montrose	MI. 48457 (C)
HACKLEMAN, Basil	Rt. 3 Box 504-N. Coachlight	Kimberling City	MO. 65686 (C)
HANSON, Robert J.	P.O. Box 6044	Spokane	WA. 99207 (C)
HART, Bernard Capt. (Ret)	100 W. Thompson Ave. 105	St. Paul	MN. 55118 (C)
HARTFORD, Robert G.	RFD 1 Tidy Rd.	Eliot	ME. 03903 (N)
HAYES, John	401 West Towers, 130 Eastern Ave.	Lynn	MA. 01902 (N)
HELE, Arthur	Royal Palms, P.O. Box 9985	Alamo	TX. 78515 (C)
HUGHES, Burnett	308 North State St.	Jackson	MI. 49201 (N)
IRAK, John Jr.	3070 Parkwood Pl.	Crown Point	IN. 46307 (C)
KING, C. Patrick	648 Sylvan Court	Kalispell	MT. 59901 (N)
KING, Donald A.	P.O. Box 5571	Charlottesville	VA. 22903 (N)
KIRSCHBAUM, Myron E.	Box 21101	Minneapolis	MN. 55421 (C)
KORANDA, William LTC (Ret)	6407 N. 82nd Wat.	Scottsdale	AZ. 85251 (C)
KRAMMES, Ira L.	1324 Morningside Rd.	Naples	FL. 33940 (N)
KRUSEN, Robert A.	6923 Birchwood Ave.	Niles	IL. 60648 (N)
KUBALA, Joseph J.	523 E. Willow St.	Chincoteague	VA. 23336 (C)
LAGOWNIK, Alphonse V.	496 Prospect St.	Union City	CT. 06770 (C)

LATVA, Reino O.	12152 Adrian #8-204	Garden Grove	CA. 92640 (C)
LECHNER, Richard A.	6012 Pineview Dr.	Sioux City	IA. 51106 (C)
MARK, Raymond H.	4990 Quincy St. N.W.	Canton	OH. 49708 (N)
MASTROBERARDINO, Joseph	2307 33rd St.	Astoria	NY. 11105 (N)
MATHIS, Otto D.	3729 S. Santa Fe	Englewood	CO. 80110 (C)
MC BEY, Donald J.	411 158th St. SE.	Bothell	WA. 98011 (C)
MC GOVERN, James J.	5807 S.E. Riverboat Dr.	Stuart	FL. 33494 (C)
MC LESTER, Richard G.	5118 South 164th	Seattle	WA. 98188 (N-A)
MC VAY, Harley E.	R.D. 3 Box 15	Claysville	PA. 15323 (C)
MILLER, Robert H. OD.	444 Lawrence St.	Ravenna	OH. 44226 (N)
MODELL, Robert L. CMS (Ret)	23832 Ocean Ave. Apt. A	Torrance	CA. 90505 (C)
MORAN, Daniel Jr. LTC. (Ret)	72 Terrace Gardens Box 585	Wallingford	CT. 06492 (C)
MORGAN, Frank F.	603 Highland Ave.	Quincy	FL. 32351 (C)
NAYLOR, Ardley H.	649 Jaynes Dr.	Grants Pass	OR. 97526 (C)
NICKERSON, Claude L.	22 Franklin Ave.	Houlton	ME. 04730 (C)
O'LEARY, John Dr. 10511	Cedar Lake Rd. Greenbrier #314	Minnetonka	MN. 55343 (C)
O'NEILL, Lawrence E.	2378 Hearth Dr. #17	Evergreen	CO. 80439 (C)
PARDUE, Bruce D.	P.O. Box 2018	Carlsbad	NM. 88220 (C)
PARSONS, Bruce V.	39904 Desert Angel Dr.	Palm Desert	CA. 92260 (C)
PARSONS, Edward A.	310 York Ave.	Towanda	PA. 18848 (N)
PETRIE, Dennis E. Dr.	1833 Springs Rd.	Vallejo	CA. 94590 (N-A)
PHILEN, Alex	P.O. Box 24	St. Clair	AL. 36774 (C)
PULS, Robert	6281 Woodman Dr.	Oroville	CA. 95965 (C)
RICHEN, G. Fred	9917 152nd St. East	Puyallup	WA. 98373 (C)
ROBERT, Gaynor	126 Lake Dr.	Tuckerton	NJ. 08087 (N)
ROGERS, Kenneth Col. (Ret)	9971 Colonial Dr.	Miami	FL. 33157 (C)
SCOTTMILLER, Gerard J.	58 Rollingwood Dr.	Rochester	NY. 14616 (N)
SHARPE, Omer E.	1202 Quaker Box 5562	Lubbock	TX. 79417 (N)
SHELLEY, Harold R. 135	Summer Trees Rd. RR 1	Port Orange	FL. 32014 (N)
SIDLOWSKI, Casimer A.	24980 W. Magdalena Dr.	Mt. Clemens	MI. 48045 (C)
SIMMONS, Capen R.	4102 Allen Dr.	Kingsville	TX. 78363 (N)
SLAUGHTER, Glen 1299	Deer Springs Rd. RR	San Marcos	CA. 92069 (N)
SOMMERS, Sam L. MSGT (Ret)	1080 Primavera Ln.	Nipoma	CA. 93444 (N)
STANDISH, Robert A.	8062 San Dimas Circle	Buena Park	CA. 90620 (N-A)
STIFFER, David L.	Rt. 12	Williamsburg	MI. 49690 (C)
STOCCO, James C.	2216 Drakestone Dr.	Colorado Springs	CO. 80909 (N)
STRAUSS, Robert	2555 Leavenworth #305	San Francisco	CA. 94133 (C)
STORY, Raymond	P.O. Box 562	Elliott	MS. 38926 (C)
STULL, William H. LTC (Ret)	P.O. Box 38	Montverde	FL. 32756 (N)
TABACCO, Sebastian P.	Indian Creek Park		
	2121 San Carlos Blvd.	Ft. Meyers Beach	FL. 33931 (N)
THEIS, Anthony W.	1122 Austin Ave.	Park Ridge	IL. 60068 (N)
THOMPSON, Leslie LTC (Ret)	965 Park Ave.	Montgomery	AL. 36106 (N)
TILLEY, Preston R.	4620 Guess Rd.	Durham	NC. 27712 (N)
TOLBERT, Roy Howard	328 Milford Springs Rd.	Greenwood	SC. 29646 (N)
WASLASKI, Stanley F.	107 3rd St.	Langdon	ND. 58249 (C)
WHEELER, William H. Col. (Ret)	46 Locke Rd.	New Castle	NH. 03854 (C)
WILLIAMS, Willis MSGT (Ret)	6417 Dallas Way	Sacramento	CA. 95823 (N)
WITTER, James H. SMS (Ret)	Rt. 1 Box 176E	Judsonia	AR. 72081 (N)
WOOD, James A. 1st Lt. (Ret)	5216 Carswell Ave. #6	Suitland	MD. 20746 (C)
WRAY, Mack K.	3031 Rose St.	Martinez	CA. 94553 (C-A)
ZIMMERMAN, Chester MSGT (Ret)	R.D. 2 Box 243	Selinsgrove	PA. 17870 (N)

It's Going To Be Great In Dayton

From The Editor's Desk...

Paul C. Burnett Box 909 Auburn, AL 36830

Mike Leister, the NCO-IC of the restoration of "Shoo Shoo (Shoo) Baby" will attend the Dayton Reunion as a special guest of the Group and present a color slide show and talk on the work that the 512th is doing on the restoration of the old plane for the Air Force Museum.

Charlie Bell's story in this issue of the R/I about "Superstitious Aloysius" is being paralleled by David Hanst, the first pilot of "Hikin' For Home." David is working with a British researcher, Michael J. Conroy. Anyone who can help Hanst with details or pictures of Hikin' For Home should contact him at: D.L. Hanst, 16467 Harbour Lane, Huntington Beach, CA. 92649.

Latest member to "go for life" with a \$100 donation to the Association is Don Pescot, of Buriton, Hants., England. Don was an RAF member attached to the 91st HQ Sqdn. He and his wife Babs will attend the Dayton Reunion as guests of Bill and Thelma Cornwell. As of now, the Pescots seem sure to take home the mug for coming the greatest distance to attend.

Vince Hemmings, Curator of the Tower Museum at Bassingbourn, passes along the information that additional space for photographs has become available at the museum, and says they would greatly appreciate any photographs that 91sters may donate. Also, they are looking for all the past issues of The Ragged Irregular if anyone has a file to spare.

Vince also gave some good advice for 91sters who plan to visit Bassingbourn in the future. Following the example of Harry and Jane House, recent visitors to the old base, he suggests taking the "tube" from Heathrow to Kings Cross Station (a cheap 40-minute trip) and taking the train to Letchworth (another 40 minutes) and staying there rather than in Royston or Cambridge. It is much more convenient for all concerned.

It is a good idea to contact Vince before making your visit. His address is: Vincent A. Hemmings, 48 Meadow Way, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 3HX, England. His

local phone number is Letchworth 73340. If calling from outside the local area you have to place 04626 before his number.

In an upcoming issue we expect to give more detailed information for prospective returnees.

Gene Letalien, former co-chairman of the Western division, has been hospitalized with a stroke, but is making great progress at home at last report.

Art Cressman, ex-322nd sqdn., is looking for a pair of flight goggles such as was issued during the war. Anyone who can help contact Art at 10330 Long, Shantee Mission, Kansas 66215.

Ed Haller, of St. Cloud, FL., and Helen Glassmaker of Highland, IL., were married in a ceremony at Grantfork, IL., April 17. Ed, who has made nearly every 91st reunion, and Helen will be on hand in Dayton.

We have recently learned of the deaths of several ex-91sters.

Edward C. Greene, ex-323 sqdn. combat crew, died June 9 in New Port Richey, FL. Alexander Daszewski, ex-322 sqdn., died April 9 in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Julius B. "Bud" Maart, ex-401st armament section, died in Downers Grove, IL., September 26, 1981.

An interesting statistic shows up when you analyze the "New Members - Changes of Address" section of the R/I. It shows 82 new members so far this year, which will figure out to a growth rate of more than 10 per cent a year. Considering Old Man Time, this is rather remarkable.

Ted Wyzkoski is bringing 12 pictures of "909" with him to the Dayton reunion - 10 for sale to interested 91sters and 2 to be auctioned, with the money received to go to the Memorial Association.

It is not too late to make sure that all your former crew members and old friends are going to be on hand in Dayton. Seeing old buddies is what makes any reunion really great. So if you have not already done so, drop them a note to meet you there! It'll make it a better get-together for everyone.

Election Procedures Announced

To facilitate the election of Memorial Association officers at the 1982 National Reunion in Dayton September 2-4 and to allow the widest possible participation for members unable to attend, a procedure similar to that set up for the San Diego Reunion will be followed. An election committee will oversee the mechanics of the election and proxy voting by non-attending members will be permitted.

The Election Committee announced by President Tom Gunn is headed by Glenn V. Boyce of Lakewood, Colorado, and includes Charles M. Kirkham, Arlington, Texas; John C. Flinn, Jr., McClure, Pennsylvania, and Edward Haller, St. Cloud, Florida. All have played an active part in Memorial Association activities.

The committee will prepare a slate of nominees to be presented at the Reunion business meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, and to widen participation the committee will accept and present nominations received by mail before the Reunion.

Posts to be filled include President, 1st vice-president, 2nd vice-president, Editor-Historian, and Secretary-Treasurer. Any one officer may serve in more than one office. Nominations to be made by mail should be sent to the election committee chairman, Glenn Boyce, 1874 South Hoyt St., Lakewood, CO. 80226. A statement of willingness to serve, signed by the nominee, must accompany the nomination.

Article IX of the By-Laws provides for proxy voting by Association members who cannot attend the Reunion. Included below is a proxy form to be used for such voting. If you wish to vote by proxy but don't wish to cut your copy of The Ragged Irregular a copy may be made. Only persons who have paid their 1982 dues are eligible to vote.

The attached proxy form is not a ballot. It is for your convenience in appointing ONE of the present Association officers listed on the form, OR write in the name of any other member whom you expect to be present to represent you in the actual voting. Print and sign your name, date the form and mail it to the Association Secretary-Treasurer George W. Parks, 109 Wilshire Ave., Vallejo, CA. 94590 by August 15, 1982. Proxy votes will be tabulated by the Elections Committee.

PROXY

I hereby constitute the person whose name is checked hereon my attorney and proxy, with power of substitution to vote for me at the 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association business meeting at the Imperial House North, on 4 September 1982, with all powers I would possess if present. I have paid my 1982 membership dues (Life Members excepted).

____ Tom Gunn, ____ Joe Frankie Jr., ____ Sam J. Cipolla

____ Paul C. Burnett, ____ M/Sgt. George W. Parks

____ Other (Please print name)

Your Name (Print) _____ Signature _____

date _____

Plan For Dayton September 2-4