



The Ragged Irregular

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

Vol. 19 No. 1

April, 1986

Get Your Reunion Registration Kit!

Even before the details had been completed and the program settled for the National Reunion in Tampa September 10-13 so many members have already written to Sec.-Treas. George Parks for registration material that it seems certain that the upcoming event will be by all odds the biggest 91st get-together ever. Nearly 200 requests for reunion information and registration and room reservation kits have been requested since January, a much more rapid pace than for previous reunions.

If YOU have not already sent for the reunion kit now is the time: drop a note to Sec.-Treas. George Parks, 109 Wilshire Ave., Vallejo, CA. 94591. You will receive the official registration forms and also special room reservation cards for the Airport Holiday Inn, Tampa, the reunion headquarters, entitling you to the special 91st discount rate of \$48 per night. The Inn will make reservations only with these official cards. For the reunion committee to make accurate preparations for the events planned it is necessary for them to know how many members to expect as soon as they can. In the past we have had difficulties caused when many persons showed up for the reunions who had not previously indicated they would attend. This causes problems with food and transportation, especially.

The Reunion Committee, headed by Howell Loper, assisted by a number of local area 91sters, has put together an outstanding program for the 4-day event. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 10, in the main lobby of the Airport Holiday Inn, continuing until 5 p.m. The registration fee will be \$30 per person, which includes the "Get Acquainted Party" and the Banquet dinner-dance.

For golfers there will be a 12 noon departure for Rogers Park Golf Course. The golfing fee is \$25, which includes green fees, cart, and more.

Pene's Pub will open at 1 p.m. and operate till 5:30 p.m.

From 7:30 until 10 p.m. the Group will host a "Get Acquainted Party" to renew friendships, view scrapbooks, picture albums, etc. Bring anything you have pertaining to the 91st B.G. or the 8th AF.

On Thursday, Sept. 11, there will be a split program because of the large attendance expected. For late arrivals registration will again be held from 8 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. At 8:45 buses will leave for Busch Gardens, Florida's No. 2 tourist attraction, after Disney World and Epcot.

At 10:30, buses will leave for McDill AF Base for a tour there, with luncheon at the Officers Open Mess. Because of the limited capacity of the Officers Mess for luncheon it will be necessary for some group members to attend McDill on Thursday, and some on Friday.

The trip to Busch Gardens is \$15.50 per person; the trip to McDill, including luncheon, is \$9 per person.

Pene's Pub will be open from 4-6 p.m.

At 8 p.m. the movie "A Queen Dies Hard" will be shown.

Friday, Sept. 12, will duplicate the program of Thursday. Those who did not visit Busch Gardens on Thursday will be able to go on Friday, and those who did not visit McDill will tour the base and have lunch at the Officers Open Mess.

Friday evening will be free.

Saturday, Sept. 13, will feature the Group Business Meeting, beginning at 9 a.m. A Spouses' meeting will be held at the same time.

Unit pictures will be taken at 6:45 p.m.

The Memorial Association Banquet will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Ballroom. Follow-

owing the Banquet music and dancing will continue till 11:30 p.m. Music of the 1940s will be provided by The Group.

The Airport Holiday Inn provides transportation to and from the Tampa International Airport 24 hours a day.

Retired military members with RV's may stay at the Fam-Camp RV Trailer Park, P.O. Box 6825, McDill AF Base, FL. 33608. The cost is \$7 per day with water and electricity. Reservations may be made no more than 90 days nor less than 7 days before arrival.

Other RV owners may stay at: Busch Gardens Travel Park, 10001 Malcolm McKinley Dr., Tampa, FL. 33612 (813-971-0008.) The cost is \$14.50 per day for up to 5 persons. Write or call to the above address for further information.

Notes From The President ...

In our January Ragged Irregular I asked for volunteers for the nominations/ election committee for the upcoming National Reunion in September. First to volunteer was our second vice-president, S/MSGT John R. Paget (Ret), who will serve as chairman. Also volunteering and serving as members of the committee were W.W. Hill (March 12) and R.E. Gerstemeier (March 22). It will be the duty of the committee to suggest candidates for the various offices and to oversee the election process. Nominations from the floor, as has been our practice since our beginning, are also valid.

Also following our practice since the beginning of the Memorial Association, all current officers will resign their posts prior to the election procedure at the reunion business meeting, but this year the resignation also includes a retirement of the present crew, including the first and second vice-presidents. They will not be candidates for reelection to any office; they plan to lay their burdens down. Your next officers may not be younger, but they will be newer and hopefully fresher. The fact is, fellows, we're tired. Sec.-Treas. George Parks has served the group nearly 20 years; Cliff Burnett, our editor, began working to help put the Association together in 1961, six years before our first reunion in Memphis in 1967. I, as the junior birdman here, stepped up in 1976, when our "founding father," Maj. Gen. Stanley T. Wray, gave up the presidency because of health problems. Between the three of us, that's about 50 years of service to the group.

We're rightfully proud of our association and even a little proud of our contribution. As I mentioned several issues back, George and Cliff are the glue that has held this Association together and made it the very best. Money couldn't buy what they have done. Only their love for the 91st has motivated them.

The following comments are offered to remind you what changes have occurred and why they came about. If the comments sound like a campaign speech, please remember, "None of the present officers will accept any nomination."

1) In the 1976 reunion business meeting it was agreed to unify the Association, abolishing Eastern and Western Divisions, and to establish the offices of 1st V.P. and 2nd V.P. (Gen. Wray's intuition about his impending incapacity was correct, as it always seemed to be.) Until these changes were effected the the Association was permeated with dissension, bickering, and friction between the two divisions. The disharmony today can be traced today to about two dozen malcontents opposed to the 1976 consolidation. Since every organization has some dissidents, I suppose that so few out of more than 1200 dues-paying members ain't too shabby.

What did unification achieve? All membership and financial records in a single file, giving instant access by the secretary-treasurer. All receipts and expenditures in a single file, easily checked and coordinated. A single address for membership information and contact, and a single source for reunion and rally-round information. A single directory as correct as printing permits, reissued every other year, with frequent updates in the Ragged Irregular. A unified financial statement (as of this writing there is approximately \$12,000 in Association accounts; at the consolidation the Eastern Division, with many more listed members, contributed slightly more than

\$300 to the treasury. First-class mailing of the R/I and directory, resulting in many members getting their publications several weeks earlier than by second-class non-profit organization rates. For many members who are unable to attend reunions and rally-rounds our publications are their only direct contact with the Group.

2) Addition of the vice-presidents and consolidation of the Eastern and Western Divisions required an amendment to our By-Laws. The new (current) By-Laws were approved by the membership. One of the changes in the By-Laws was establishment of the proxy vote, a method to enhance the democratic process. A dues-paying member is entitled to a vote, not just those who are able to attend reunions, and one should look askance at the current effort to alter that right.

3) Although 93% of respondents to the ad hoc committee questionnaire had no suggestions for improving the organization, I feel compelled to share with you some generalizations about the points raised (item by item comments would be too lengthy and probably not all that interesting). Minutes: 97% of respondents report that they have never seen the minutes of past Association business meetings. For the record: A summary of all business actions has been carried in the issues of The Ragged Irregular immediately following the reunions, with the complete minutes posted outside the business meeting, and circulated to all members in at least one meeting. As you know, members attending the business meetings have always waived their reading. AUDIT: Audits make good business sense (particularly for non-profit organizations guarding their tax-exempt status) but they are not cheap. Unfortunately in our naivete' we did not insist on an audit in 1976, when the two divisions were consolidated. Audits for calendar years 1982, 1983, and 1984 are on file, and our CPA has the records for completing the 1985 audit (after April 15, please). Another audit effective with the transfer of records to new officers will be accomplished. Financial Statements and P&L statements are prepared annually and published, in capsule form, in the April or July R/I. OFFICERS: Although the Editor-Historian has been voted on at all business meetings that process has been simply an expression of "Thanks and Well Done."

No one other than the present office-holder has ever been nominated for the job. The integration of the posts of secretary and treasurer was effected to increase efficiency; Cost (dues have not been increased since 1973, when they went from \$3 to the current \$5 per year; so far as we can determine no other WWII unit has dues lower); better response time, improved mailing, the whole ball of wax. (For example: The Secretary receives a complaint; to respond properly he must ascertain if the writer is a dues-paying member, etc. etc.). Sure, I know corporations have them separated, but at least they are in the same building. To separate them would be like cutting off one of the Secretary's arms. With respect to the offices of president and vice-president, any candidate for vice-president should be willing to serve as president. Considering our age, two years can be a long time. I recommend continuing the present process (Cripes, this is not a Miss America contest). Elect a president, and when the nominees for vice-president are submitted for consideration, I respectfully urge that you support your new president's request to elect his choice as 1st VP and 2nd VP. He needs a team he can work with and vice-versa. I've been blessed in that area.

Especially should we keep in mind Article VII, Section 6, of the current by-laws: No officer of the Association shall be paid any annual wages, salaries, or any other compensation for the performance of his duties set forth herein. Or as Gen. Wray said at the beginning: "No one will get a five-cent cigar for his work with the unit!"

In conclusion, I've been blessed to serve with you at Bassingbourn, and simply to serve you as one of your elected officers. On behalf of all your officers, thank you and may God bless you.

Thieves Take 91st Altar Bowl At Madingly Chapel!

We learned just before press time that the sterling silver, 24-inch, 213 ounce altar bowl presented to the American Cemetery at Madingly, near Cambridge, has been stolen from the Chapel. Thieves broke into the chapel and cut the chain holding the bowl to the altar. The bowl was presented by 91st members June 23, 1963, at which time a fountain and memorial plaque was donated to Royston. Vandals have frequently damaged the fountain and plaque since. Officials are actively seeking the thieves and the bowl.

The gifts were made before the present Memorial Association began in 1967.

New Members - Address Changes

ALLEN, Jarvis	HC 71 Box 655.	Prestonsburg. KY. 41653 (C)
ANDREWS, Paul M.	2955 Tipperary Pass.	Vienne. VA. 22180 (C-A)
AUTRY, Hale.	3532 Frankie Carolyn Dr#8.	Memphis. TN. 38118 (C)
BADAVAS, Charles A.	33 Brassie Way.	N.Reading. MA. 01864 (C)
BALANO, Charles.	63 Maple St.	Dobbs Ferry. NY. 10522 (N)
BARCZAK, John V.	516 Hillcrest Dr.	Bradenton. FL. 33529 (N)
BAUMMER, Anthony J.	Rt. 1, Box 219.	Cambridge. MD. 21613 (N)
BLAKENEY, William.	P.O. Box 100.	Geneva. AL. 36340 (N)
BOROWSKI, Roman.	478 County "C".	Pulaski. WI. 54162 (C)
BOWEN, Jack S.	Star Rt.1, Boc 201-B.	Dripping Spr. TX. 78620 (N)
BRAGER, Burt.	7051 Environ Blvd # 537.	Lauderhill. FL. 33319 (C)
BRODSKY, Al.	7430 S.W. 82nd St # 203.	Miami. FL. 33143 (N)
BROWN, James A.	400 Harden.	Anderson. SC. 29621 (C)
BROWN, Ralph C.	Box 89.	E.Stoneham. ME. 04231 (C)
CAMPBELL, Herbert D.	3417 Beck Rd.	St. Josrph. MO. 64506 (N)
CAPPS, George C.	3914 U.S. 220 North.	Greensboro. NC. 27410 (C)
CARDWELL, Joe.	2235 Chestnut.	San Angelo. TX. 76901 (C)
CARTER, John K.Maj.(Ret)	P.O. Box 2010.	Sparks. NV. 89432 (C)
CASWELL, Andrew.	28833 Floral.	Roseville. MI. 48066 (N)
CAWLEY, Richard A.	RFD 1, Box 391.	MacGregor. Mahopac. NY. 10541 (N)
CHOLEY, Theodore.	22 Warner St.	Plains. PA. 18705 (C)
COCHRANE, Fred C.	8301 Mission Gorge Rd.275.	Santee. CA. 92027 (C)
CORNELL, Donald A.	P.O. Box 123.	Watertown. MN. 55388 (N)
DANDOY, Robert G.	11596 Sierra Dawn Blvd,	Surprise. AZ. 85374 (C)
DARBY, Phil N.	521 E. Arrellaga St.# 4.	Santa Barbara.CA. 93103 (N)
DECKER, Earl A.	32923 W. Pacific Coast Hwy.	Malibu. CA. 90265 (N)
DeFALCO, Francis. DDS.	46 New York Ave.	Wayne. NJ. 07470 (C)
DICKERSON, James R.	Rt.3. Box 353.	Dahlonega. GA. 30533 (C)
	3. Frank Christ Rd.	
DOWLER, Clement D.	4511 Gann Crossing.	Smyrna. GA. 30080 (C)
EDDY, Eugene.	660 Sausalito Blvd.	Casselberry. FL. 32707 (N)
EVERTSON, Bryce S. Col.(Ret)	4834 Windgate Trail.	Ackworth. GA. 30101 (C)
FIIGEN, Kenneth	Cedar Oaks Care Center.	S. Plainfield.NJ. 07080 (C)
	1311 Durham Ave.	
FISCHER, Frederick.	2566 Oak Trail Dr,S. #210.	Clearwater. FL. 33546 (C)
FOURMY, Ben J. Jr.	1229 Aurora Ave.	Meteirie. LA. 70001 (N)
FOX, William C.	1120 South Main St.	Medina. NY. 14103 (N)
FRANK, Milton Col. (Ret)	Adelphi University Box701.	Garden City.LIN. 11530 (C-A)
FRIEND, John C. Jr.	2910 Winchester Dr.	Bloomington. IL. 61701 (C-A)
FRYE, Wayne B."TEX"	7349 Ponce Ave.	Canoga Park. CA. 91307 (C)
GANNON, Daniel J.	95 Farragut St.	Lowell. MA. 01854 (N)
GIBSON, Robert H.	Rt. 1. Box 78.	Isabel. KS. 67065 (C)
GLEADALL, Walter T.	930 Valley Rd.	Blue Bell. PA. 19422 (C)
GREEN, John W.	562 W. Oak St.	Glendale. CA. 91204 (N)
GUIGNON, Charles F.	3223 Jasper Park.	St.Louis. MO. 63139 (C)
GUZEK, Lloyd (L)	3706 Brookside Dr.	Michiana IN. 46360 (C)
		Shores.
HAAS, Harrison J.	Rt. 1. Box 347.	Denton. NC. 27239 (N)
HACKLEMAN, Basil F.LTC.(Ret)	505 E. Redwood.	Springfield. MO. 65807 (C)
HALL, Jarvis E.	1635 Conner Dr.	Dallas. TX. 75217 (N)
HALPERT, Samuel W.	20610 SW. 84th Ave.	Miami. FL. 33189 (C)
HAMMOND, Harold.	1051 S. Waterway Dr.	Barefoot Bay.FL. 32958 (N)
HARDING, Clarence.	Box 74. Augusta Rd.	Oriskany Falls. NY. 13925 (N)
HAZIRJIAN, Dikran "Herk"	RD 4. Box 391 C.	New Windsor. NY. 12550 (C)
HELLER, Robert W.	2451 E. 62nd Pl.	Hobart. IN. 46342 (C)

HILL, John V.	2435 Roslyn Lane.	Lakeland.	FL.	33803	(N)
JACKMAN, Edward F. MSGT (Ret)	1816 N. 11th St.	Terre Haute.	IN.	47804	(C)
JOHNSON, Johnie N. Jr.	Rt.1. Box 176.	Barboursville.	VA.	22923	(N)
	C/O Daniel Collier.				
KALUPY, Anthony A. Maj (Ret)	259 W. Liberty St.	Evensville.	WI.	53536	(C)
KASCH, Robert N. CWO (Ret)	P.O. Box 438.	Highland Mills.	NY.	10930	(N)
KEIRSEY, Walter H.	153 Mountainview Dr.	Madison Heights.	VA.	24572	(C)
KENELEY, Frank .Jr.	31876 Circle Dr.	S. Laguna.	CA.	92677	(C)
KITZMAN, Donald H. Maj.(Ret)	1780 NE. Beulah.	Roseburg.	OR.	97470	(N)
KLINGER, Arthur A.	RD 1. Box 41.	lizabethville.	PA.	17023	(C)
KOCH, William J.	4507 Raymar Dr.	Orlando.	FL.	32809	(N)
KOELLER, C.W. "BUD"	230 Cass Ave.	St.Louis.	MO.	63102	(C)
LANE, Harry V.	1333 Sorrel Trail.PCC.	Dewey.	AZ.	86327	(C)
LATVA, Reino O.	416 W. Palmyra # A.	Orange.	CA.	92666	(C)
LEIGHTON, Charles B.	Rt. 3. 18 Golfview.	Bellaire.	MI.	49615	(C)
LENNON, Thomas P.	11032 S. Kilbourn.	Oaklawn.	IL.	60453	(C)
LETHERS, Nelle Mrs.	2163 Fielding Rd.	Riverside.	CA.	92506	(N-A)
LOORMAN, Paul A. Sr.	Box 74 C. Grove Rd.	Gaylordsville.	CT.	06755	(C)
LOPER, H. Burton Je.	2514 Regal Oaks Ln.	Lutz.	FL.	33549	(N-A)
LOPER, James B.	3433 Reynolds Dr.	Tampa.	FL.	33618	(N-A)
LOPER, Norman K.	19550 N. Livingston Ave.	Lutz.	FL.	33549	(N-A)
LOPER, Stanley L.	10209 N. Edison Ave.	Tampa.	FL.	33612	(N-A)
LOYLESS, Roy E.	4171 Medina Hwy.	Kerrville.	TX.	78028	(C)
MARTIN, Lloyd W.	2319 Blue Water.	Houston.	TX.	77018	(C)
MARTIN, Tom.	C/O Postmaster.	Hobson.	MT.	59452	(N)
MATHIS, Otto.D.	3729 S. Sante Fe.	Englewood.	CO.	80110	(C)
MORIN, Harold N.	317 S. State.	Sullivan.	IN.	47882	(C)
McCRAE, Robert L.	131 Red Lion Rd.PO.Box353.	Henrietta.	NY.	14467	(N-A)
McGOVERN, James J.	21293 Coachman Ave.	Port Charlotte.	FL.	33952	(C)
McQUAIN, Willis W. SMSGT (Ret)	R.R.1, Box 601.	Willcox.	AZ.	85643	(C)
NASTAL, Casimer A.	834 S. Meridian # 38.	Apache Junction.	AZ.	85220	(C)
NEWBERRY, Joseph .	4700 E. Main # 563.	Mesa.	AZ.	85205	(N)
NICHOLS, Alfas E. "Nick"	9648 Marilla Dr #84 B 1-7.	Lakeside.	CA.	92040	(C)
ORAZIO, Samuel.	239 Hamilton St.	Harrison.	NJ.	07029	(C)
PERRI, Steven	2 Rumson Rd.	Sea Bright.	NJ.	07760	(C)
PERTUSET, John H.	4180 S. Tecumseh Rd.	Springfield.	OH.	45502	(C)
PILAND, John H.	1013 ½ Mordecai Dr.	Raleigh.	NC.	27604	(N)
QUINN, John M.	307 Rock Springs Rd.	Easley.	SC.	29640	(N)
RAMSEY, John F.	7104 Marley Circle.	Charlotte.	NC.	28214	(N)
RAMULIS, Albert G.	601 Harrison Ave.	Williamstown.	NJ.	08094	(C)
RENSKERS, John O. Capt (Ret)	1012 Plum Tree Dr.	Crystal Lake.	IL.	60014	(C)
REYNOLDS, Gene V.	1226 Sheri Circle.	Brigham City.	UT.	84302	(C)
RILEY, Earl F.	15520 Wilmaglen.	Whittier.	CA.	90604	(C)
RUDOLPH, Donald H. MSGT (Ret)(L)	Box 6889. 528th USAAG.	APO	NY.	09380	(N)
SALUGHTER, Glenn L.	1299 Deer Springs Rd.	San Marcos.	CA.	92069	(C)
SATEWICZ, Walter M.	6280 Layton Ave.	Spring Hill.	FL.	33526	(C)
SHACKLETON, Joseph R. LTC (Ret)	125 Gckman St.	McMinnville.	OR.	97128	(C)
SIMMONS, T.R.	1923 S. Mobile Villa Dr.	Lutz.	FL.	33549	(N)
SIMMS, George H.	Rt. 3 Box 266A.	Mannington.W.VA.		26582	(N)
SIMPSON, Seymour.	39 Burgandy -A.	Delray Beach.	FL.	33445	(C)
SKAWIESKI, Ted L. Col.(Ret)(L)	20 Briarcrest Place.	Colonado Springs.	CO.	80906	(C)
SMELSER, Laurence L.	516 A st. NE # 301.	Wash. D.C.		20002	(C-A)
SMITH, John E. LTC.(Ret)	105 Berry Dr.	Goldsboro.	NC.	27530	(N)
STEVENS, Jewell F. LTC (Ret)	Rt. - Eox 98-L.	Seale.	AL.	36875	(C)
SAINT GEORGE, Henry M.	300 Marion Pl. P.O. Box 298.	E.Marion.	NY.	11939	(N)
SYLVESTER, Larry.	1121 Dexter St.	Pittsburgh.	PA.	15220	(C)
THOMPSON, Floyd.	2710 N. Miami # 1101.	Okumlgée.	OK.	74447	(C)
TRUESDALE, Arther	9501 E. Beech Circle.	Inverness.	FL.	32650	(C)

TURNER, John M.	Rt 4. Box 265.	Roanoke.	TX. 76262 (N)
VOKOVICH, Joseph.	1559 Willowhaven Cr.	San Jose.	CA. 95126 (N)
WAISS, Fredrik S.	1200 Gough St # 20A.	San Francisco.	CA. 94109 (C)
WARD, George P.	5901 Kennedy Blvd # 4104.	N. Littel Rock.	AR. 72116 (C)
WILLIAMS, Joseph F.	Box 2569.	Wickenburg.	AZ. 85358 (N)
WILLIAMS, Willis E. MSGT (Ret)	35959 E. 77th St.	Littlerock.	CA. 93543 (C)
WILSON, Donald C.	817 - 11th St.	Eldora.	LA. 50627 (N)
WINFREE, Hugh E.	P.O. Box 158.	Carthage.	TN. 37030 (N)
YOUNGBLOOD, Rufus W.	38 Clarendon Rd.	Savanah.	GA. 31410 (N)
ZEBROWSKI, George J. Col.(Ret)	23986 Hemlock Ave.	Mcreno Valley.	CA. 92388 (C)
GALLAGHER, Leslie P.	14892 Sandy Hook Rd.	N.E. Poulsbo.	WA. 98370 (N)

Ad Hoc Committee Questionnaire Tally

The Ad Hoc committee under the leadership of Chairman Manny Klette, was appointed by President Tom Gunn in July, 1986, to review the Association By-Laws for possible improvements. The Committee, which also includes Whitmal W. Hill, Henry L. (Hank) Lilley, and Matthew J. Templeton, present this initial report on the questionnaire mailed to the membership during January, 1986, as of March 19, 1986.

Of the address labels provided by Sec.-Treas. Parks, 1792 questionnaires were mailed to both dues-paying and non-dues paying addresses. (Approximately 1200 pay dues.) Approximately 31% (547) were marked and returned. The Association provided no funds for this effort and the Ad Hoc Committee members bore the individual typing, reproduction, telephone coordination and mailing costs. The Committee Chairman wishes to acknowledge and thank the following Association members who joined him in contributing an additional \$530 to finance the Committee's efforts: Joseph Camelier, Whitmal W. Hill, Paul McDuffee, Mike Rheam, Matthew Templeton.

Please note that of the 547 questionnaires returned, not all questions were answered by everyone. For convenience the results are presented as percentages with the actual vote number in parentheses () for each question, and that the questions and remarks from the members have been condensed for publication:

1. Should we eliminate the proxy provision from the present By-laws, and only elect our Officers by those attending the biennial reunion business meetings? YES - 48%; No - 52% (284).
2. Should the By-Laws require ballot type proxies listing the names of the candidates, and/or any proposed By-Law changes; and require 90 day advance notice to all regular Association meetings? YES - 88% (296); NO - 12% (40).
3. Should proxy votes be counted only on the first vote and that the breaking votes be made only by those present at the meeting? YES - 76% (340); NO - (106).
4. For the election of the President, should at least three candidates be nominated for the office, and the one receiving the most votes be elected President and the runners-up the first and second vice-presidents respectively? YES - 70% (327); No - 30% (153).
5. Should Association officers be required to hold semi-annual conferences or meetings? YES - 65% (328); NO - 35% (174).
6. Should the By-Laws specifically require an audit after each election. YES - 76% (391); NO - 35% (125).
7. Should the offices of Secretary and Treasurer be held by two separate members? YES - 65% (329); NO - 35% (174).
8. Have you ever seen the minutes of past Association Meetings? YES - 3% (16); NO 97% (514).
9. Should the Secretary publish the minutes of each official meeting in the next issue thereafter of the Ragged Irregular? YES - 86% (437); NO - 14% (71).
10. Should we add a Central U.S. area to be rotated with the current East and West Coast reunion requirement? YES - 73% (372); No- 27% (138).
11. Should we abolish rotating reunion areas entirely? YES - 44% (228) : NO - 56% (285).
12. Do you think the By-Laws should include Standing Committees? YES - 58% (277); NO - 42% (198).
Nominations/Elections - 30%; Membership - 24%; Finance - .25%; Memorials - 16%; Reunions - 30%;
Bassingbourn and FOTE - 14%; Unit History - 15%; 8AFHS - 10%.
13. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Association? YES - 8% (36);- NO - 93% (393).
14. Would you be willing to hold an Association office? YES - 8% (40): No - 92% (446).

The following is a list of those volunteering to run for various offices: President - Jack B. Stafford, E. L. Dodd, Clyde V. Mason, Louis A. Montalvo, Warren D. Saylor, Avery O. Gage.

1st or 2nd VP - Jack B. Stafford, Harold Harding, Maurice J. Herman, E.L. Dodd, Lyle Holder, Charles T. Bell, Clyde V. Mason, Louis A. Montalvo, Ralph C. Brown, Warren D. Saylor, Avery O. Gage.

Secretary - Charles V. Wells, Louis A. Montalvo, Paul Chryst, John R. Parsons (Indiana), Warren D. Saylor, Avery O. Gage.

Treasurer - Ralph W. Harris, Charles V. Wells, Clyde V. Mason, Ralph Brown, Warren D. Saylor, Avery O. Gage.

Editor R/I - Carl V. Bonroe, Earl G. Pate, Charles R. Giaouque.

Historian - Harold C. Millis, Lawrence E. Gaddis, Ralph C. Brown, John R. Parsons (Indiana), Avery O. Gage.

No special designation - Francis A. Porada, Philip A. Mack, Harry F. Smith, William H. Dietrich, Charles D. Booth, R.C. Richardson, W. S. Carpenter, William F. Campbell, Albert L. Lucia, A.R. Pine, H.Y. Quarles, Harold Lieberman, Robert E. Gerstemeier, Whitmal W. Hill, Arvin O. Basnight, and Conditional Volunteers - Walter M. Pickard, Hilary H. Evers Jr., Robert M. Paulson, Domenic M. Baccari, J. Bedwell.

15. Do you favor continuing the Association to infinity by opening up the membership to members of the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing (Active 1948-57), the 91st Strategic Missile Wing (Active 1968 to date), and Associates? YES - 37% (192); No - 63% (323).

16. Should the Association be disbanded when the last active member passes to eternity? YES 69% (339); NO - 31% (154).

From the above results and comments, appropriate changes to the Association By-Laws will be presented by the Ad Hoc Committee Chairman at the September 1986 reunion for vote.

From The Editor's Desk...

Paul C. Burnett Box 909 Auburn, Al. 36830

Since the publication of our January R/I the number of members who have donated \$100 to become Life Members of the Association has continued at a record pace, with more than twenty becoming Gold Card holders. Since some are to be upcoming surprises as gifts from wives and families not all can be listed yet, but we can show these names:

M/Sgt. Donald H. Rudolph (USAF Ret.), APO N.Y. 09380, ex-401st sqdn.; Lawrence A. Atwell, Col. (USAF Ret), 87001 Pembroke Ct., Fairfax, VA. 22031, HQ 91st; Wilfred P. Conlon, 384 Springfield St., Chicopee Falls, MA. 01013, ex-401st sqdn.

Clifford E. Morton Sr., P.O. Box 1100, Palm Coast, FL. 32037, ex-323rd sqdn.; Col. Henry W. Terry, (USAF Ret), 1800 W. Liddell Dr., Tucson, AZ. 85704, ex- Group C.O.; J. Addison Bartush, 287 Lake Shore Rd., Grosse Point Farms, MI. 48236, ex-324th sqdn.; Howell B. Loper, 304 W. Frierson Ave., Tampa, FL. 33603, ex-323rd sqdn.; T/Sgt. Jerry C. Patrick, USAF, 48th EMS, Box 6158, APO N.Y. 09179-5420, associate member.

Avery O. Gage, 6121 Garrett Lane, Rockford, ILL. 61107, ex-401st sqdn.; William A. Tregler, 845 Hillside, Elmhurst, ILL., 60126, ex-441st Sub-Depot; Peter S. Bond, 23 Stewkley Rd., Wing, Leighton Buzzard LU7 ONJ, England, associate, gift from Col. Manny Klette; Bernard Bellettiere, 414 Ave C, Brooklyn N.Y. 11218, ex-323rd sqdn.; Garland H. Spicer, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret),

Rt. 2, Box 172, Mineral, VA. 23117, ex-324th sqdn.

Col. Robert M. Hoffman, (USAF Ret), 5916 Kirkpatrick Rd., Charlotte, N.C. 28211, ex-401st sqdn.; Samuel Y. Gibbon, 641 Rountree Dr., Longboat Key, FL. 33548-9998 FL., ex-322nd sqdn.; Charles W. Sanzenbacher, 7100 Lancer Dr., Charlotte, N.C. 28211, ex-401st sqdn.

Lorcey J. Sonnier, Rt. 1, Box 77, Maurice, LA. 70555, ex-322nd sqdn., a birthday gift from his wife; Ronald E. Current, 1200 W. Barr, Nevada, MO. 64772, ex-324th sqdn.; Lt. Col. William R. "Bob" Cox, (USAF Ret), 4211 Cedar Valley, Kingwood, TX. 77345, ex-322nd sqdn.; Clemith B. Lamen, 35 W. 39th, Eugene, OR, 97405, ex-323rd sqdn.

Robert C. Gruetter, 6840 South Golfview Rd., Countryside, IL. 60525, ex-401st sqdn.

Alfred J. Lanfear, ex-322 sqdn., 8 Birch Lane, Glens Falls, N.Y. 12801, has passed along a rare and most unusual story of one of the 91st's original B-17Fs, "The Careful Virgin." One of the most often reprinted series of pictures of the 91st shows Maj. John C. Bishop, C.O. of the 323 sqdn. "beating up the field" following the completion of his 25th mission in The Careful Virgin, one of the planes that carried a printed name but no nose art.

In 1944 the U.S. launched a most secret series called the Aphrodite Missions, in which war-weary B-17s and B-24s were loaded with explosives, flown out of England under remote control, and directed on to German "flying bomb" sites. Of the original 10 aircraft to be used was the 91st plane 41-24639 OR-W, "The Care-

ful Virgin."

On August 4, 1944, mission #1 was undertaken, and OR-W was guided over Mimoyecques, a NOBALL (flying bomb) site. Because the controls were prematurely tripped, the Careful Virgin crashed 500 yards short of the target, blowing smoke and dust 10,000 feet into the air. Three other aircraft were expended on the mission but no targets were hit.

A complete account of these missions was carried in the October, 1984 issue of Fly Past magazine, a British publication.

Lillian M. Keil, a "flying nurse" assigned to the Medical Detachment at Basingbourn has received two new honors to the long list of awards she has received for her service in WW II and later in the Korean conflict. She was awarded the Sons of the American Revolution- Martha Washington Medal; in February, 1986, received the DAR Honor Medal from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Michael Sibenac (ex-1696 Ordnance) passes along this shot of the crater and buzz - bomb remains from the potato field adjacent to the airbase. As he recalls, it flew right over the base, very low one night in the fall of '44. Many persons watched its path. "It was a loud jet engine and a long white flame going over. Just as it passed the base the flame went out and it hit the ground and exploded just past the field. No one was hurt. The next day I went to find it, and took some pictures.

"Two officers and two Englishmen were there too. The officers asked for copies of the picture, but unfortunately I never got the prints to them. I'd like to now if I can find out who they are." Contact Michael A. Sibenac, 38 Forno Ln., Pittsburgh, PA. 15212.



HELP! The United States Air Force is trying to gather enough still and motion picture photography to produce a film on the 91st B.G. B-17G 42-32076 known as "Shoo Shoo Baby." The aircraft squadron identification was "LL" with individual designator "E". If you have any photos that might feature this aircraft, please contact:

Maj. Kris Wells
1352 AVS/DOM
Norton AFB, CA. 92409
(714) 382-3218

Without sufficient photography, the film cannot be produced, so please help!

With the mailing of the January issue of The Ragged Irregular we learn of the passing of a number of members we have not already reported in our usual quarterly issues. Here is our latest report:

Vern Clabaugh, ex-322 sqdn., 621 W. 29th St., Kearney, NB. 68847, died March 19, 1986. Vern had attended nearly every National Reunion since our first one.

William D. "Bill" Allen, ex-bombardier and Life Member, died in January, 1985, after being bed-ridden for several years. Bill was the founder of the B-17 Combat Crewmen & Wingmen organization. Bill, who served with the 91st, the 100 B.G. & the 384th B.G., flew an incredible 103 bombing missions in B-17s, including the first two Schweinfurt raids. He came out of the war with two DFCs, Silver Star, Distinguished Service Medal, and the Purple Heart.

William T. Bailey, ex-441 S/D, 216 N. Walnut St., Cynthiana, KY. 41031, died April 22, 1985.

Thomas J. Murphy, ex-322 sqdn., 8 Robert Ave., Howell, N.J. 07731, died on May 26, 1985.

Harvey J. McNally, ex-322 sqdn., 5147 S. Western Blvd., Chicago, IL. 60609, died July 9, 1985.

Leo Mathiowetz, ex-324 sqdn., 318 W. Rock St., Springfield, MN. 56087, died August 3, 1985.

Luther W. Heimbaugh, ex-324 sqdn., Box 107, Milroy, PA. 17063, died Oct. 27, 1985.

Niles H. Withers, ex-322 sqdn. & P.O.W. 1021 W. Beacon St., Philadelphia, PA. 39350, date of death unknown but dues paid for 1985.

Meet Us In Tampa In Sept!