

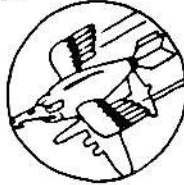
The Ragged Irregular



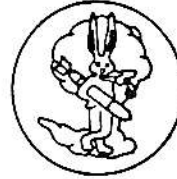
322nd SQDN



323rd SQDN



AND SUPPORTING UNITS



324th SQDN



401st SQDN

Vol. 19, No. 3

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

November 1986

TAMPA ATTENDANCE TOPS PAST TOTALS!

OVER 150 "FIRST-TIMERS" MAKE IT "GREATEST"

Previous attendance records were shattered by the September 10-13, 1986 Tampa National Reunion. Total attendance, including wives and other family members, was about 576. Another undeniable indicator of the 91st BGMA's biggest reunion is the fact that early reports indicate that more than 150 members attended such an occasion for the first time. (In all 230 members were recorded present during the Business Meeting Roll Call. In '84 there were 164—in '82 there were 156.)

That's progress!

Heavy turnout taxed the capacity of the commodious Holiday Inn, the selected convention site due to its' proximity to the Tampa International Airport and Western Florida's major highways. The overflow of attending members was accomodated in the equally plush Admiral Benbow Inn. Free shuttle bus service to and from the Convention from the Benbow, it is reported, was friendly and efficient.

The super Host Committee, chaired by Paul McDuffee and staffed by Hal Loper, John Friend and Peter Hirth with assistance from other members and their wives did an outstanding job which included two days of loading buses. In addition to the record turnout, the hardworking committee members were further rewarded with rousing applause of appreciation from all during the delicious Prime Rib Banquet on Saturday night.

The smoothness with which the Convention flowed is better appreciated when the surmounted problems are noted. Overflow attendance, in addition to creating the lodging problem, required additional busing. Therefore, alternate choices were provided for participation in the Busch Gardens trip and the McDill Base lunch visit and tour. On both Thursday and Friday there were bus loads of 91st conventioners at both locales.

A heavy rainstorm the night before wrecked plans providing for golf by interested members on a reserved golf course. AF Retired Personnel stepped forward and invited the rained-out golfers to join them for a "Championship Round" on the new 18 hole McDill Field course which was playable. (To date data regarding handicaps or scores resulting from the momentous, friendly contest are lacking.)

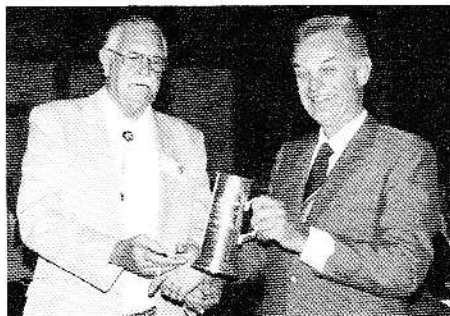
PENE'S PUB, the 91ster's combined hospitality rooms, met the challenge of hot, wilting weather. Harry Hovermill and Nick Bankovsky, staffing it, somehow managed to keep the supply of ice cubes equal to the demand required to refresh guests' drinks and keep the beer temperature well below the accepted "room temperature" of war-time English pub beer.

The presence of two local TV news crews could have been a "problem" to those selected conventioners who were followed everywhere—even to close-up, taped interviews in the Holiday. It is hoped those who saw the results of the filming on local TV news agree that little "problem" was dealt with effectively also.

A large, unguarded room, near the Holiday's main lobby, was retained for the display of memorabilia of attending members. Photo albums dominated the displays. Everyone was free to peruse the treasured and many irreplaceable items. That so many members participate by contributing to this particular phase of 91st BGMA reunions is a true indication of the trust, high regard and esteem we all hold for one another.

Several video tapes pertaining to the 8th Air Force were shown in a theatre-size room. Again the turnout could have been a problem. But, when additional chairs could no longer be fitted in, engrossed 91sters and others seemed to find inexhaustible, comfortable standing room!

(continued on page 3)



Paul D. Kahl (322nd) easily won the 91st BGMA's engraved pewter mug for travelling the longest distance to attend the Tampa Reunion. He and his wife, Jean, came from Wee Waa, New South Wales, Australia! In the first of the pictures above, former Sec.-Trea. George W. Parks (left) presents the mug to obviously pleased Kahl. Clifford O. Pierce (401st) won the Banquet Door Prize which was a U.S. Mint Coin Set. In the center photo he receives his prize from Convention Co-Chairman Hal Loper (right). Harold N. Mitchamore (323) supplied these important Reunion photos. Unfortunately the caption for the last photo is MIA. But, even without identifications, it tells the Tampa Reunion story. Old friends got together again.

Folded Wings

MAJOR GENERAL STANLEY T. WRAY, 91ST LEADER



91st BGMA President Emeritus Major General Stanley T. Wray (Ret), left, and Roger Freeman, author of "The Mighty Eighth," exchange a token of esteem during past ceremonies at the RAF Duxford Airbase in England.

Major General Stanley T. Wray, revered 91st BGMA official who headed the 91st BG(H) when it made its' first mission on Nov. 7, 1942 and for a year thereafter, died September 13, 1986 at his San Antonio, Texas home at age 78. Colonel Wray, his rank while commanding the 91st in 1942-43, became such an integral part of nearby English communities that the 91st became known as "Wray's Ragged Irregulars."

Graduating second in a class of 275 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1932, he retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1962 after receiving many medals and commendations for bravery and service. Among his decorations were the British Distinguished Flying Cross and the Victoria Flying Cross.

Immediately after the war he served in the occupation of post-war Germany. In all, he served as Commander of the American Air Force in Europe for four years.

Later service assignments included being in charge of construction of the Dewline in Northern Canada and commander of Wright Air Development Center, Dayton, Ohio. In the latter capacity Gen. Wray was responsible for the X-15 and other major U.S. Air Force test programs.

During a civic reception in his honor following the 91st Propellor Memorial unveiling at Bassingbourn Barrack, a popular legend pertaining to him was revived. The story appeared in the September 26, 1986 edition of "THE ROYSTON CROW," daily paper of the Town of Royston, Hertfordshire, England. The legend maintains Gen. Wray ordered his returning cews to land in fields of brussel sprouts because he knew they hated brussel sprouts.

His interest in his "Ragged Irregulars" never died. After his retirement participation in 91st BGMA activities was an engrossing part of his life. In 1963 he returned to Royston with other 91sters and laid the cornerstone of the memorial to 91sters who lost their lives during the war. His last visit there was in 1973. He then unveiled the 91st Propellor Memorial.

Proper tribute to his tireless, dedicated and devoted service to the 91st during the war and the decades since is impossible at this time. But when the voluminous history of the 91st is written Gen. Wray's deeds and spirit will permeate its' pages.

Survivors of the 91st BGMA's President Emeritus include his widow, Mrs. Esther Hines Wray of Birmingham; four sons: Stanley T. Wray, Jr., Lomita, Calif.; Mack K. Wray, Port Angeles, Wash.; and Edwin A. and Richard H. Wray of Marietta, Ga.; and a brother, Wesley Wray and sister, Mrs. Madeline Walker, of Muncie, Ind.

DeGEORGE, ROBERT (L): 323rd Sqd., Group Lead Radar Navigator; 2414 Dale Rd., Huntington Valley, Pa. 19006; Nov. 1986. Survivors include his wife, Georgette, two daughters and a son.

FEAIRHELLER, JOHN A. (L): 323rd Sqd., BS Photo Lab; 5th & Wesley, Ocean City, N.J. 08226; Aug. 1986. Feairheller was an early Life Member who was very active as a host at BG Rally Rounds. The memory of his friendliness, generosity, good humor and willingness to serve others will long remain with many Eastern located members. His wife Ginny and son, John, Jr., surviving him, are also long-time Associate Life Members of the BGMA. His wife and surviving daughters will continue operation of "Scotch Hall", the reknowned restaurant Feairheller's managerial and professional chef skills served so well.

IRONS, DONALD E., MSGT (Ret): 323rd Sqd., POW; 3307 Taft St., Boise, ID. 83703; Sept. 29, 1986.

CONVENTION BUSINESS NOTES

(continued from page 1)

The Roberts Rules of Order, under which the Saturday Business meeting was conducted, precluded outside interferences that made other Reunion activities possibly more exciting. Nevertheless it is certain everyone is interested in a summary of what transpired. The following notes hopefully include most highlights.

According to former Sec./Treas. George W. Parks, as of August 31, 1986 there were 1,451 members. This total included 1,123 dues paying Full Members, 101 dues paying Associate Members, 200 Full Life Members and 27 Associate Life Members.

Col. Manny Klette, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, gave the Committee's recommendations on the acceptance of the revised edition of the 1986 By-Laws. (The recommendations were based on the responses of regular members to an earlier mailed committee questionnaire and changes recommended by out-going President Tom F. Gunn.) Col. Klette earnestly recommended approval. The new, amended By-Laws, as proposed, were unanimously approved by the members present.

The main By-Law changes are: 1) Absentee ballots will be used in lieu of blank proxy forms; 2) Separation of the two positions of Secretary/Treasurer and Editor/Historian into four separate positions to be held by four different Association Officers and 3) Association books be audited after each election.

Col. Klette, while successfully urging acceptance of the By-Law Amendments, extended his exhortations beyond his immediate audience. He addressed the entire membership when he decried "internal bickering" and urged all members, whenever possible, to attend and/or become involved in future Association Reunions and Rally-Rounds with the express purpose of continuing and promoting the cohesiveness and camaraderie begun at Bassingbourn and prevailing in past Asso. meetings and Rally-Rounds.

It is regretted that this brief resume of the Col.'s speech does not reflect the effectiveness of his presentation. Nevertheless it would be seriously remiss not to attempt to transmit his message to more than those who heard and were inspired.

The ensuing elections, presided over by Bob Gerstemeier, Chairman of the Nominations Committee for the Election of Officers, provided the following elected 1986-88 Officers:

President—Paul Chryst; *1st Vice President*—Hillary Evers; *2nd Vice President*—Harold Lieberman; *Secretary*—Whitmal W. Hill and *Treasurer*—Charles R. Hackstock.

Appointments were made to the Historian and Editor posts in the following manner:

After the elections an earnest plea was made for volunteers for those assignments. Paul Chryst, the newly-elected president, labelled the 91st . . . "the most viable and famous Bomb Group in the Air Force" and opined assembling and recording its' history could not be delayed. General C. Earl Pate responded to the challenge by offering to take the Historian post—or work with whomever is eventually appointed to it.

The Editor post remained unfilled at the close of the Convention. After a week or two back home in Baltimore, Rudy Malkin submitted convincing credentials and later phoned to say he'd help in that arena in anyway. He is now our Editor.

The names and addresses of the new officers are compactly listed elsewhere for convenient reference.

Among other matters brought to the floor were:

- 1) Col. Klette said costs incurred by members attending Association Reunions are tax deductible. Members are advised to check their eligibility when filing next year's taxes.
- 2) The existence of a "Friends of the 91st Bomb Group" organization in England was confirmed. One of the main aims of the organization's Charter is the preservation of the memorials built and dedicated by the 91st BGMA over the past decades not only in the USA but abroad.

A DIGRESSION

Though it is a bit of a digression from the actual Convention business, certainly everyone will be interested in the following regarding the "Friends of the 91st Bomb Group."

A recent phone call from David Crow, of the English group, alerts us that the 91st BG's Memorial Fountain in Priory Gardens across from the Royston Town Hall, faces official destruction. The Urban District Council of Royston has decided to dismantle it because of its deterioration and lack of maintenance funds.

The Fountain's Cornerstone was laid in 1963 by General Stanley T. Wray and witnessed by a small group of 91sters. The finished Fountain was a fitting tribute which reminded all, visitors who paused to reflect and those who just passed by . . . "of those young Americans who did not return from their missions."

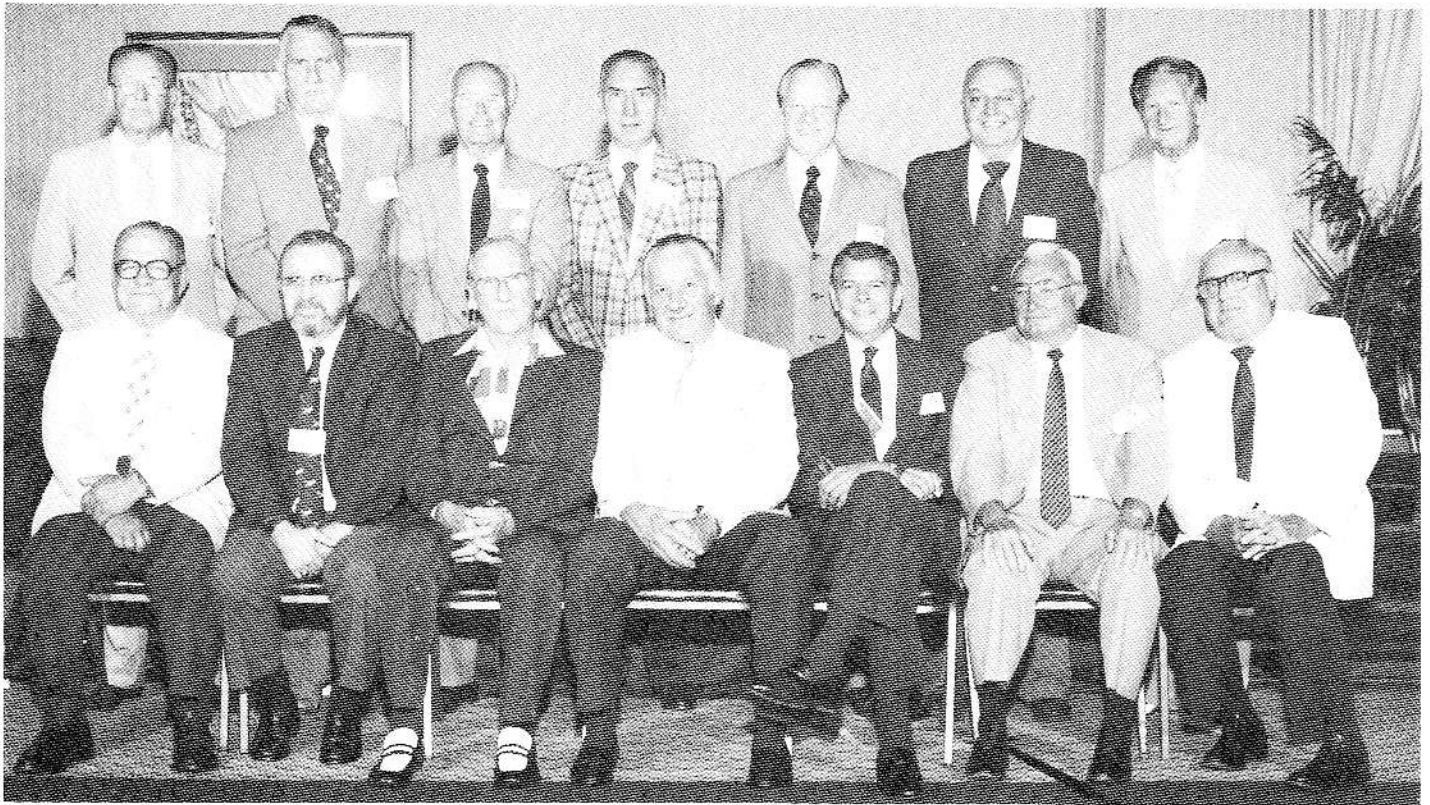
Completed in 1966, construction of the re-circulating water Fountain was made possible by a donation of some \$1,800 from many 91st members and an equal amount from the townspeople of the local area.

Now, just a bit more than 20 years later possible destruction and complete removal from the site threatens its very existence. Masonry cracks have allowed the water to leak out, inoperative water pumps and vandalism have made the Fountain a dry ruin and subject for public debate by the local British citizens.

"Friends of the 91st BG" have re-organized in an effort to prevent the dismantling of the Memorial Fountain. It is hoped that they can convince the local Council to repair it properly and restore it to its' former glory. Should this attempt fail, the "Friends" group would press for a suitable and alternate Memorial to replace that which was freely given by all 91st BG members, nearly 25 years ago.

According to David Crow, the crucial meeting to decide the fate of the Fountain, was to be held on November 18 last, but this has been postponed until early in the New Year 1987. Working members of the "Friends" organization include Mrs. Pat Rule, former Mayor of Royston, whom many of us met during the 91st BG "Return to Bassingbourn Tour" in 1969. Another outstanding worker is LTC Peter

(continued on page 4)



441 & HQ—Seated, left to right: Alfred Ciarimboli, Ray Harding, John Allen, William Tregler, W.W. Hill, Faber Cripps and Joe Backsman. Standing: John Ramsey, James Bedwell, Gene Eddy, Joe Wheeler, Manny Klette, Richard Knutelsky and Woodrow Whipple. (Photo -6)

CONVENTION BUSINESS NOTES

(continued from page 3)

Worthy, RAF (Ret) who formerly flew a tour of duty at Bassingbourn and now heads the reknowned Madame Tussaud's Museum in London. They solicit no funds from our membership; they proudly boast a balance of 400 Pounds in Lloyds Bank of Baldock to be used for maintenance of 91st Memorials in the U.K.!

All of us should salute the conscientious efforts of "Friends of the 91st". Send them your moral support with ideas and suggestions for the future. Let's show them we really care! During another, recent, trans-Atlantic call from David he seriously proposed that all Group members consider a 91st BG sponsored return to Bassingbourn and its environs during their "Whirlwind Celebration Weekend" of Friday, May 8 and including Sunday, May 10, 1987. He predicts that a mutually satisfactory outcome will be forthcoming on the Memorial Fountain by this date and special additions will be completed to the Prop Memorial inside the gates of Bassingbourn where a Service of Remembrance to General Wray will be conducted. Open House in the 91st BG Control Tower Museum at the Flightline, a British styled Reception/Luncheon at the Officer's Club, a private party night in London and a host of other fun-filled events are being planned for potential participants.

More complete and detailed travel plans with scheduled itinerary will be printed in the January issue of the R/I. This proposal comes from our English friends. The proposed trip would offer, each of us, an excellent opportunity to personally thank our "Friends of the 91st BG" face to face in the "Little America" area of East Anglia, the war-time homeland we all shared so long ago.

BACK TO TAMPA BUSINESS

3) But, back to Tampa business! Activity pertaining to our old "Big Friends" naturally arose during the meeting. The fund raising T-Shirt program for the restoration of "Shoo-Shoo Baby" was closed after the sum of \$3,819.71 was donated to the 512th Antique Aircraft Restoration Group at Dover AFB toward the completion of the historic plane's finishing touches. Paul McDuffe noted "Shoo-Shoo Baby" now stands on her own inflated tires, awaits new engines from Wright-Patt and should be ready for final display and flight to the AF Museum in the Spring of 1988.

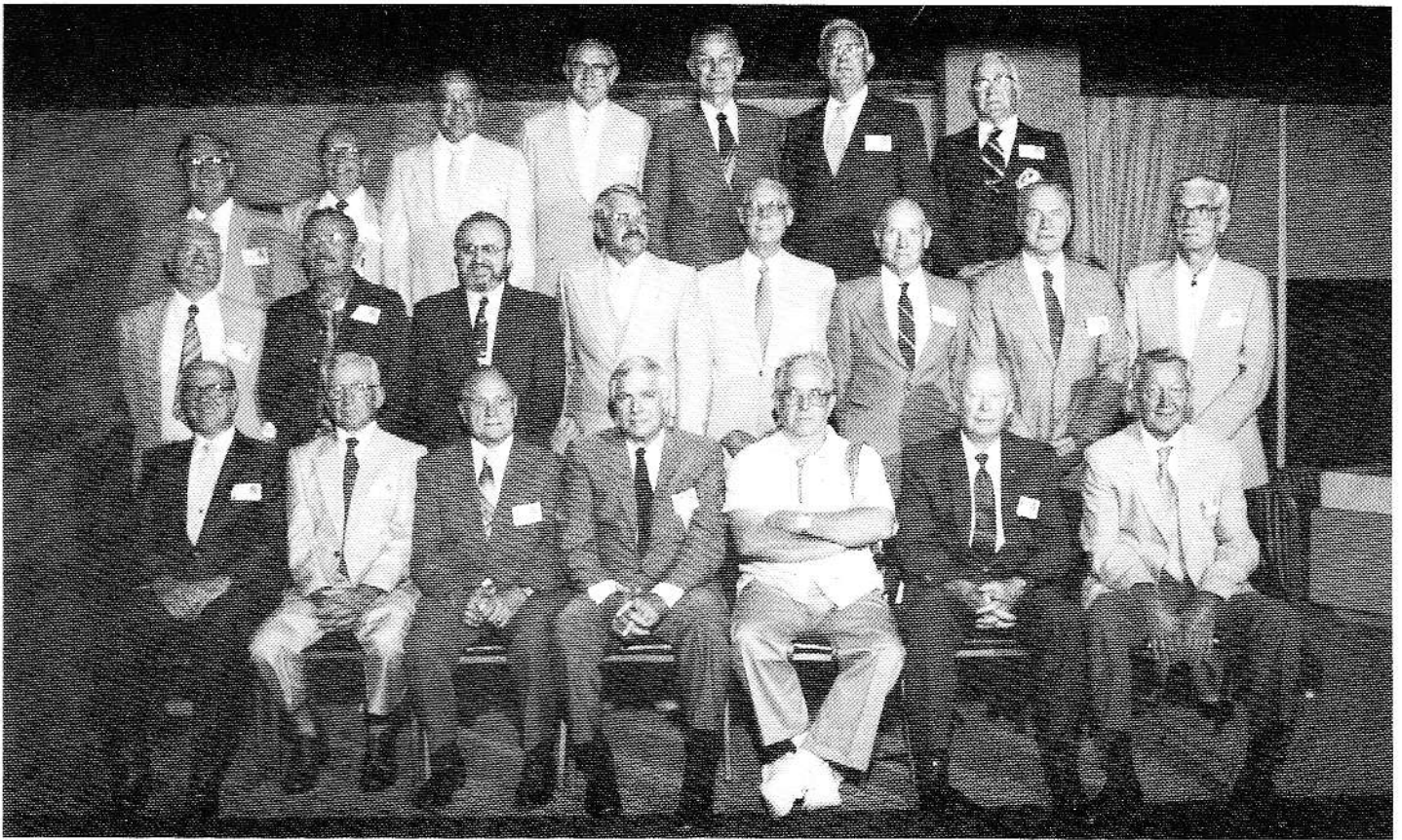
The Memphis Belle Memorial Assn. received a \$1,000 donation from the 91st BG Treasury for use in construction of a new memorial display building. Ground breaking ceremonies at the Mud Island, Memphis, Tenn. site were scheduled for Nov. 11, 1986 and the building's dedication date is planned for May 19, 1987.

W. W. Hill reported a tribute to the Unknown American Heroes at the Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington Cemetery, Va., will be officially presented in the spring of 1987. Presentation of the plaque, which will be displayed in the Arlington Memorial Display Room of the Cemetery's Amphitheater, will be made during a local Rally-Round.

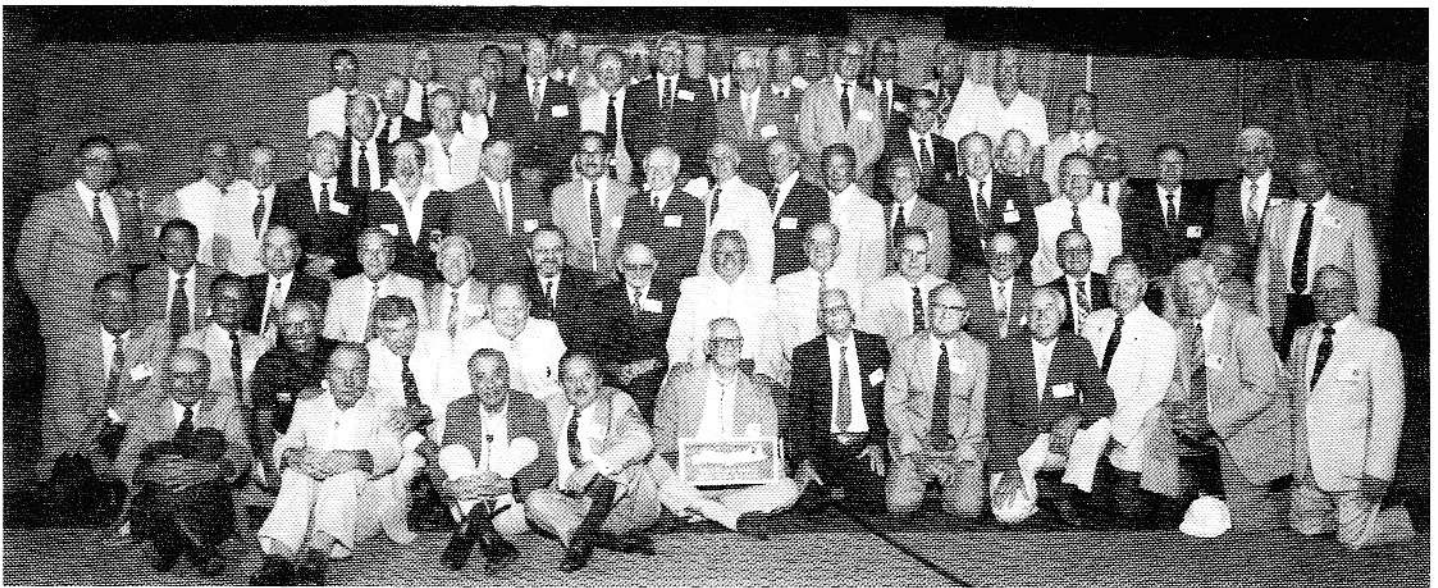
When set, the date of the ceremonies will be announced.

St. Louis and Chicago split the membership vote regarding the next Convention site. Subsequently Pres. Paul Chryst received a vote of confidence allowing the Association Officers to select the next National Reunion locale.

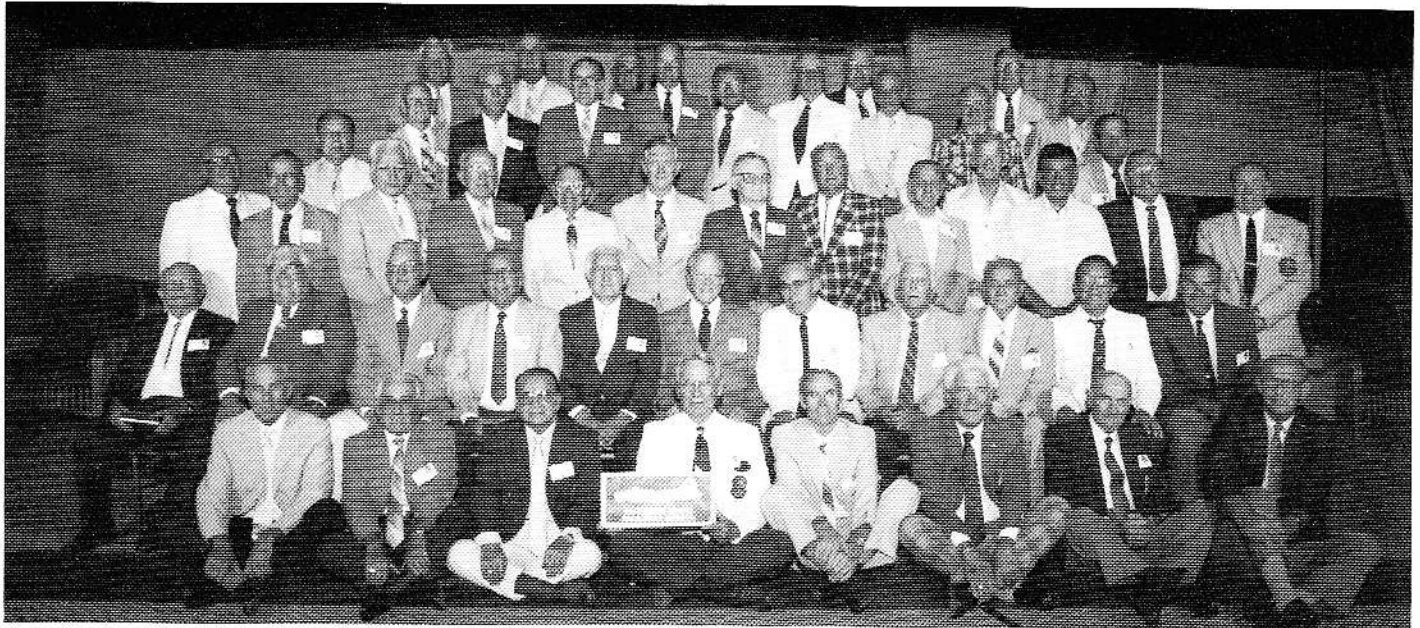
Special Letters of Commendation for Service to the Association were voted to be sent to the out-going 91st BGMA Officers: *President* Col. Thomas H. Gunn (Ret), *1st Vice President* Glenn V. Boyce, *2nd Vice President* SMSGT. John R. Paget (Ret), *Editor-Historian* Paul C. Burnett and *Secretary-Treasurer* MSGT. George W. Parks (Ret).



POW's—Seated, left to right: Jim Branch, Capen Simons, Bill Catewood, James Van Pelt, Jim Cronk, Norman Ingram and Julius Sobieski.
 First row, standing: Bernard Hart, Robert Sponsel, Ray Harding, Asay Johnson, Max Bender, Hubert Carpenter, Earl Painter and Russell Hoover.
 Second row, standing: John B. Haus, Adolph Miller, Ely Coles, William Corson, Paul Kahl, Bill Turcotte and Charles Hackstock. (Photo -7)



401st—Seated (First four to left), left to right: John Conway, Don Ballou, Herb Weinberger and Harold Lieberman.
 Second row, seated: John Ondrovic, Paul Limm, Stan Waslaski, Jim Bacon, Lon Gaston, Harry Hovermill, Arthur Hele, Horace Knight, Bill Bateman, Neil Daniels, Bernard Hart and Charlie Phillips.
 Third row, seated: George Simons, Bill Koch, Charles Walker, Paul Kennedy, Joe Hutton, Ray Harding, Donald Johnson, Nicholas Bankovski, Vernon Dion, Jim Daley, Stan Waslaski, Roy Frantz, James Welch.
 Fourth row, standing: John Irak, Charles Peck, John Burchard, Jim McGovern, Robert Cleveland, Clifford Vrooman, William T. Hanna, Manuel Hadley, George Parrish, Allen Morey, Frank Varva, Ward Simonson, Elmer Diethorn, Gordon Wigget, Joe Ashby, James Sanders, H. Y. Quarles, Bill Wheeler and Hal DeBolt.
 Fifth row, standing: Troy Young, Jim Branch, Glen Boyce, Phil Dorn, Owen Cooper, Fred Barrington, Rudolph Malkin, Bill Thissell, Bob Powers and Faber Cripps.
 Last row, standing: John Sweeney, Paul Chryst, Bob Gerstermeier, John Parsons, Hugh Brooks, Earl Painter, Clifford Pierce, Joe Dawson, Robert Langford, Jack Gaffney, Willis Kaltenback and Alfred Ciarimboli. (Photo -8)



324th—Seated, on floor, left to right: Garland Spicer, Andy Manzano, Joe Camelleri, Tom Gunn, Walter Cameron, Conrad Hohing, Peter DeBoy and Marvin Nichols.
 Second row, seated: Clarence Cluck, Doug Graham, Jerry Peters, Adolph Miller, Clement Dowler, Manny Klette, James Cater, Ed Flowers, Regis Carney, Herman Steiner and Russell Mattson.
 Third row, standing: Joe Backsman, Evan Zillmer, Lloyd Guzek, Al Myers, Emile Vincent, Russell Wilson, Charles Cliburn, Clyde DeBaun, Elmer Gettis, Bill Winchell, Sam Halpert, Harry Jensen and Bruce Bowles.
 Fourth row, standing: Dale Darling, Lauren Mummert, Williard Meir, Roy Van Dyke, Hubert Carpenter, Ernie Adams, Lee Nichols, Fred Mellon, Walter Carpenter and Dick Weitzenfeld.
 Last row, standing: Asay Johnson, Arvid Malvik, Ken Smith, Rollie Hill, Leonard Sowers and J. A. Bartush. (Photo -9)

1986-88 91st BGMA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—LTC Paul Chryst (Ret), 1494 N. Adams Street, Pottstown, PA 19464

1st VICE PRESIDENT—Hilary "Bud" Evers, 21 Barony Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29928

2nd VICE PRESIDENT—Harold Lieberman, 454 Waren Street, Hudson, NY 12534

SECRETARY—CWO Whitmal W. Hill (Ret), 4002 Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22312

TREASURER—LTC Charles R. Hackstock (Ret), 14224 S. E. 288th Street, Kent, WA 98042

HAPPY HOLIDAYS ... to all 91sters

CONVENTION PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Group Pictures after 91st BGMA Reunions are a custom. It's a good one. However, because of the record Tampa turnout and lack of professional equipment within the group, an outside photo source was contracted.

A photography studio took color photos but provided the R/I with special black and white prints for reproduction. Due to space limitations it is impossible to publish all of the eleven photos taken. A seemingly "chauvinistic" decision had to be made. It is hoped the reasoning behind the selection of Tampa Reunion photos is apparent.

Color enlargements (8x10's) may, however, be obtained of all the photos from the photographer: Simon's Studio, 6302 Benjamin Rd., Suite 410, Tampa, Fl. 33634. The cost per picture is \$10. This price includes handling and mailing costs. When ordering be certain to specify the quantity and the identifying Number of each picture desired. Adding the photography studio's "File No. 3527" would help handling in that area also. The "File No." is the same for all the photos.

A few examples of ordering follow: "One copy of Photo No. 1, File No. 3527—441st and Hqs Ladies;" or "One copy of Photo No. 7, File 3527—POW's."

The R/I has supplied the Simon's Studio with captions. With each photo ordered the studio will include the appropriate caption. (Captions appearing below R/I published pictures typify those which will accompany photo orders. Unfortunately, the "jumbled" groupings in the rear of some of the men's photos made accurate identification in those areas uncertain.) Beyond this information pertaining to the ordering of photos from the Simon's Studio the 91st BGMA has no further connection with this special project arranged by the Tampa Convention Committee.

The eleven photos taken, preceded by their identifying Number, are: No. 1) 441st and Hqs, Ladies; No. 2) 401st BS, Ladies; No. 3) 323rd BS, Ladies; No. 4) 324th BS, Ladies; No. 5) 322nd BS, Ladies; No. 6) 441st and Hqs, Men; No. 7) POW's; No. 8) 401st BS, Men; No. 9) 324th BS, Men; No. 10) 232rd BS, Men; No. 11) 322nd BS, Men.



323rd—Seated on floor, right side, left to right: Willis Schilly, Frank Bannon and Edward Corman.

Second row, on floor: Ray Sparlin, Sam Digristina, Robert Cayer, George Sturtz, "Dusty" Hoffman, Victor Bloede, Bill McGavern, Harry Raihl, Rone Tempest, Hank Lilley, Ford Cowherd, C. E. Cantrell and W. W. Hill.

Third row, standing: George Birdsong, Harry Kool, Steven Perri, Howell Loper, Michael Kunrod, Gerald Burkhart, Ed Pitts, Vernon Rutter, Clayton Ferree, Seymour Simpson, Marion Hoffman, Willis Stinson, Charles Cusick, John Westberg and Edward Kaiserski.

Fourth row, standing: Bruce Johnson, Harold Mitchamore, Harry Glen, William Koranda, Joseph Sulli, Bill Donmoyer, Kenneth McFarland, Cecil Williams, Melvin Schissler, R. L. Wilson, John Karlac and E. B. Crusier.

Fifth row, standing: Lewis Simpson, John Pullen, Wilbur Nicoll, Dick McCoy, Ed Gates, Bill McNicol, Harold Schelly, Anthony Theis, Richard Murphy, Leo Lyons, Charles Giauque, Jack Haus, Clyde Williams, and Armando Sinibaldo.

Sixth row: Doug "Tex" Frye, Chuck Gallion, Emil Yezdimir, James Knaub, Ken Blackburn and Gene Reynolds.

Last row: Tom Flemming, Robert Krusen, Spencer Osterberg, Eugene Rimmell, William Eblin, Burt Brager, Joe Franke and Robert DeGeorge. (Photo -10)



322nd—Seated on floor, left to right: Chris Christopher, Lee Schofield, Harold Kael, Ely Coles, Robert Sponsel, Peter Hirth, Ernest Kiss, Thomas Lennon, Charles Hackstock and Ralph Brown.

Second row, seated: Bob Gerald, Dale Maginess, (?) Gaston, E. C. Laedtke, Edward McDaniel, Lyde Holder, John McCrea, James Caldwell, Glen Kessler, Lester Snook and Harry Knowles.

Third row, standing: John Boyce, Bernard Kajewski, Robert Compton, Henry Hall, Bob Shuck, John Quinn, Julian Murdock, Arnold Brown, Robert Lackey, Jess Britton, James Black, James Van Pelt and John Temple.

Fourth row: Mike Spunder, William Corson, Russel Hoover, Robert Clapp, Charles Bell, Armand Battista, Ed Peacock, Kelly Reneye and John Coyone.

Fifth row: J. D. Mills, Capen Simons, Joel Gatewood, Julius Sabieski, Norman Ingram, Maynard Frey, John Parsons, Willis McQuain, Nicholas Terefinko and John Kurvlo.

Last row: William Turcotte, Samuel Gibbon, John Friend and Robert Roch. (Photo -11)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP TAX DEDUCTION IMPERILLED

Many of us who became Life Members of the 91st BGMA in the past by contributing \$100 in lieu of annual dues claimed a tax deduction for our donation. Those members contemplating becoming Life Members can still take advantage of that tax deduction—until December 31, 1986.

After Dec. 31, it is quite possible new tax laws will not allow the deduction, especially for non-itemizers.

That should be an added inducement for many to make their Life Member donation before the end of the year.

Normal attrition in the membership will reduce the income of our association in the future. The proper investment of all Life Membership funds will, on the other hand, provide continuing, constant income for the maintenance of BGMA memorials.

That's a sure way of keeping the "memorial" intent of our group alive.

Another inducement to becoming a Life Member is the award of a handsome certificate and special display trophy from the 91st BGMA.

And there is that other satisfaction—the relief from the paying of a small annual bill which can be overlooked and the resultant loss of contact with 91st BGMA activity and old friends.

—Charles T. Bell, Life Member

Christmas Message

Ah, friends, dear friends, as years go on and heads get grey, how fast the guests do go!

Touch hands, touch hands, with those that stay.

Strong hands to weak, old hands to young, around the Christmas board, touch hands.

The false forget, the foe forgive, for every guest will go and every fire burn low and cabin empty stand.

Forget, forgive, for who may say that Christmas day may ever come to host or guest again.

Touch hands!

From John Norton's Vagabond

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

THE RAGGED IRREGULAR

These newsletters are published quarterly: October, January, April and July are the scheduled publication months. The R/I's purpose is to keep alive the spirit of the 91st Bombardment Group (H) and to maintain the fellowship of all those who fought together in World War II from AF Station 121 in Basingbourn, England from 1942 to 1945.

Material for publication should be sent to the Editor, Rudy Malkin, 1643 Thetford Rd., Balto., Md. 21204. "Time-Value" items must be received three weeks before the first day of the month of publication to permit necessary priority consideration for inclusion in that issue. Every effort will be made to utilize other submitted material in the scheduled or later R/I issues.

91st BG Memorial Assn.
1643 Thetford Road
Balto. MD 21204

FORWARDING AND ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED.

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BALTIMORE, MD
PERMIT NO. 1324