

The Ragged Irregular



322nd SQDN



323rd SQDN



SUPPORTING UNITS



324th SQDN



401st SQDN

VOL 24 NO 3

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

July, 1991

MEMPHIS WINS 1992 CONVENTION VOTE

SOME 220 91st BGMAers CAST A 1992 CONVENTION Site Ballot. Memphis, TN received 66% of the votes, according to Reunion Committee Chairman Paul J Limm.

B/Gen Earl C Pate, Memphis Reunion Committee Chairman and Frank Donafrio, the Committee's Executive Officer, have been officially notified of the members' decision by President Charles R Hackstock.

Pate, elected 91st BGMA Historian at the 1990 Seattle, WA Convention, and Donafrio served on the 1978 91st BGMA Memphis Reunion Committee. They have an experienced group of volunteers with whom to work.

Pate, upon hearing of the undeniable surge of votes toward Memphis during a phone conversation before the final tabulations, jubilantly said, "We've got to get to work!"

In addition to the 1978 National Reunion 91st TN members have honed their convention skills by hosting several Rally Rounds.

Details pertaining to the late summer 1992 91st BGMA



MEMPHIS, TN. SITE OF THE 1992 91st BGMA NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Memphis National Reunion will be published in future R/I's as they are released.

In addition to the "unforgettable experiences" awaiting all Memphis tourists, one 91st BGMAer hopes attendance will

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91st "RRR" PROPOSED FOR 8th's "ENGLISH ARRIVAL"

PLANNING FOR A 91st BGMA English "Royston Rally Round" has begun. Membership interest and response will determine whether former 91sters attending the 50th Anniversary of the 8th AF'S arrival in England have a choice of attending the celebration as part of a 91st BGMA tour group or as individuals.

President Charles R Hackstock's approval of the proposal has initiated the planning phase seeking to determine its feasibility.

A tentative departure



date, May 5, 1992, has been suggested with a May 13th return. Such scheduling will "free" the May 9-10 weekend for 91st tour group members for reminiscence and recollection of the memory laden locales of Royston, Basingbourn, Cambridge, Duxford and the surrounding East Anglia country side. Such a pause in the usual bustle of conducted tours will provide time to locate and visit English friends remaining in the area many 91sters have lost contact with over the years.

Early May scheduling is advantageous because: 1) Heavy summer tourist throngs are avoided; 2) "Off-Season" air fares are generally reduced and 3) A May 13th return permits returning "Royston Rally Rounders" to prepare for the Sept 1992 91st BGMA National Convention in Memphis, TN.

The Berkshire Travel Agency, a Reading, PA based firm, has been approved as the official tour operator. If membership response supports arrangement of the Royston Rally Round (RRR) by Berkshire it is anticipated that May 31, 1992 will be the deadline for reservations. All printing and mailing costs of tour flyers would be included in either the Oct 1991 or Jan 1992

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY CHARLES R HACKSTOCK

PLANNING NOT PREMATURE

NOW THAT THE 1992 91st NATIONAL REUNION SITE has been selected it is time to think about 1994's site. Such pre-planning is not premature. Many cities are already scheduling conventions for 1993 and 1994. To get a suitable date we must get our name on their lists early. Our 1994 Reunion will be held in the Central Section of the country, as outlines on the map appearing on the center pages of your 1991 Directory of the 91st BGMA. (Page 50 to be exact!)

Also it is apparent at this time that the positions of Chairman, Nominations and Election Committee and Chairman, Reunion and Rally Round Committee will have to be filled for the 1992-94 term. These positions are vital to the functioning of our group. Those interested should contact me by mail or phone. Address: 14224 SE 288th St, Kent, WA 98042. Phone: 206-631-3978.

Of course all 91st BGMA elected posts are always open to new candidates. Our By-Laws only state, in Article VII, Sec 1 that, "No elected officer shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms in any office with the exception of the Editor and Historian."

Anyone interested in serving is urged to give it serious thought now because time does catch up with us. As members, many so inclined, do influence association business and affairs. Elected officials, however, are required to implement the desires of the association and, perhaps, sometimes lead it. The 91st BGMA deserves and needs the dedicated support of those willing to "throw-their-hat-in-the-ring" for the "good-of-the-association."

91st "RRR" PROPOSED

(Continued from Page 1)

R/I at the expense of the travel agency.

Bassingbourn plans for the tour include a Reception, Luncheon and Base Tour on a Motor Coach. The 91st BG(H) Control Tower Museum, the Flight Line, the interior of one of the four hangars, a former 91st barracks, the old Red Cross Club, etc. are designated stops that will revive old memories.

Also on the agenda is the placement of a Foral Wreath at the Flagpole base at Madingley, the American Military Cemetery near Cambridge. The short accompanying service will honor 91st BG(H) dead buried there.

The 91st BG(H) Brass Flower Bowl, on the Altar of the Madingley Chapel, will be re-dedicated during the above service and small American flags will be placed upon the grave of every 91ster there.

A re-dedication of the new Royston Memorial, followed by a Town Hall Luncheon/Reception and a walking tour of Royston's Arcade will be included.

Travel arrangements include return trip scheduled airline ticketing to London; provision of luggage-stowed-on-board Delux Motor-coaches with profes-

sional drivers; First-Class hotels in London and Cambridge; four London Continental Breakfasts; three full English breakfasts in Cambridge; two British Receptions/Luncheons and a "Welcome Reception" on night of arrival in London and three Cambridge hotel dinners.

Pres Hackstock, while announcing his approval of this RRR project, points out the designated tour guide of Berkshire Travel Agency has been conducting such tours for sometime and he is also a member of the East Anglia Tourist Board.

"We should have a well planned tour and be afforded some of the best accommodations available," he says.

Correspondence suggesting 91st BGMAers "Return - One More Time" to the scenes where they lived momentous youthful years rightly points out family members and friends of members attending would share the common interest. In the company of old comrades former 91sters will have old memories revived while "first-timers" to the area accompanying them will experience new, unforgettable ones.

And, a "Group" endorsed tour, which this project can become if favorable response results, would solidify even more 91st BGMA unity.

Many former 91sters, it is certain, have never returned to the locale where, whether they were Ground or Flight Crewman, they contributed to a great crusade.

"If," the correspondence says, "this project sounds like the special group tour you've been waiting for, give it your firm support by indicating your interest."

It is anticipated that extensive efforts will be made to contact as many former 91sters as possible because this could be the last group return to England. Infirmities, age and the R/I's "Folded Wings" column support that sad possibility.

The number of Tour participants required has not been announced. The Oct 1991 R/I will contain further details. Those members who are interested are requested to return the following form to 91st BGMA Secretary Asay B Johnson, 590 Aloha Dr, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403. Phone: (602) 453-3114.

The address of the Berkshire Travel Agency is: 812 Penn St, PO Box 14686, Reading, PA 19612. Phone: (800) 223-3884.

Editor's Note: The "Royston Rally Round" reply form appears on page 7.

MEMPHIS WINS

(Continued from Page 1)

also be educational - for the editor.

John R Westwood, 324/401st, LM, Spokane, WA points out that the Apr 1991 R/I erroneously identified the Memphis Belle as a 323rd Sq plane - again!

The R/I editor apologizes for the inadvertent errors and hopes his attendance at the 1992 Memphis Convention will hammer that fact through the fat in his head.

"LITTLE PATCHES" SURVIVED FORMER 401sters SAY



LITTLE PATCHES' FIRST CREW IS DEPICTED IN THIS PHOTO SUBMITTED by Rollie C Hill, her first radio operator. Kneeling, L-R, are: Lt Rockwell Rasmussen, Lt William Major, Lt Lloyd Keller and Lt Charles Mooney. Standing, L-R, are: Sgts John Pertuset, Donald Daugherty, Rolie Hill, George Parks, Leland Fleming and Robert Smith.

ASSEMBLY OF SUBSEQUENT DATA CONCERNING the date when former 401st pilot Allan N Morey, NY, then a Co-Pilot, snapped the possible only war-time formation photos in which SHOO SHOO BABY is discernible, has delayed further R/I copy. Friendly differences exist. Briefly, Morrow submitted evidence indicating the photos were taken on the May 29, 1944 Posen, Poland raid, SSB's last war-time flight. Sometime later former 401st pilot Richard T Pressey, OR, whose plane, ROUND TRIP TOPSEY, also appears on the photo, wrote, "No!" His evidence indicates Morey's photos were taken on the April 8, 1944 Oldenburg, Germany raid.

The R/I will soon publish the data available concerning the differing recollections.

In the meantime a July, 1990 page 3 article in the R/I on the 401st's LITTLE PATCHES stirred a similar response. That article stated LITTLE PATCHES' "luck ran out during the Mar 6, 1944 Berlin raid." The 91st MACR 2898, contained in former Historian Hilary "Bud" Evers' assembled data, was cited.

"Unless there were two LITTLE PATCHES," former 401st Navigator Jack H Proctor, MN, says, "that is incorrect."

Proctor's crew was assigned LITTLE PATCHES in Jan 1945 and flew her home after the war! They left her in Connecticut along with most of the rest of the returning 8th AF planes.

A comparison of the July 1990 R/I photo of LITTLE PATCHES with the snap Proctor submits of her taken on May 8, 1945 when she flew RAF POWs home from north of Berlin, reveals many more mission "Bombs" on her nose. That certainly indicates Proctor and his crew flew the "old" LITTLE PATCHES.

Proctor's crew consisted of: P-F Breidenbach, CP- J Dodd, N- J Proctor, TOG- Klinkner, TT- K Lathrop, R- H



LITTLE PATCHES, IN THIS MAY 8, 1945 PHOTO SUPPLIED BY PROCTOR, displays enough "Mission Bombs" to substantiate her war-time survival.

Salvador, WG- E Collupy, BT- D Haigue and TG- T Johnson.

A "re-check" of available records lists LITTLE PATCHES as downed Mar 6, 1944 while piloted by Bob Tibbetts, Jr. Her recorded A/C number is 4231578; her code letters are recorded as L LL-L.

Evers has always prefaced his voluminous data with, "I'm sure there are mistakes and omissions ..." Participation by the membership ensures such discrepancies will be resolved before the vision fades.

- FORMER LITTLE PATCHES RADIO OPERATOR, Rolie C Hill, Liverpool, WV, writes that the plane had over 100 missions credited to her shortly before VE Day. His crew

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THE ABOVE JUNE, 1945 PHOTO SUBMITTED BY PROCTOR DEPICTS happy 91st BG(H) survivors. The R/I regrets fading eye-sight does not permit comprehension of all the names Proctor wrote upon the photo's back. A "best effort" follows:

First row, L-R: Jones, Dodd, Smitty, McCarthy and Proctor.

Second Row; L-R: Olsen, Shoup, Garton, London, Lockwood and Lechner.

Third Row, L-R: Maupin, Fischer, Gersten, Richter, Hank Walker, Ellenbere, Fountain (?), Mike Fodrel (?) and Sutton.

JAN '91 MISSING DATA ARTICLE RESPONSE REDUCES "GAP"

THE INTENSITY OF THE INTEREST IN 91st BG(H) history of 91st BGMAers, including Associate Members, is revealed by the response to the "Missing Data" article on page 6 of the Jan 1991 R/I. Five States-side members and one Associate Member and a non-affiliated friend of his, both Dutch citizens, responded.

With additional accumulated data by former 91st BGMA Historian Hiliary "Bud" Evers, their contributions have reduced the list of former 91sters whose available data lacks Serial Number and Status.

The R/I reprints below, first, the names of those for whom additional data has emerged. The remaining, for whom additional data is still sought, are listed later. All additional or corrected copy appears in bold print. Please note newly supplied data often includes the individual's home-state after his name.

AB A Jansen, Dutch Air War Historian, 91st BGMA Associate Member and author of the book, *SPOREN AAN DE HEMEL (TRAILS IN THE SKY)*, which deals with WWII's Air War, enlisted the aid of a friend, Jan A Hey of Hengelo, Netherlands to unearth "Missing Data" sought by former historian Evers. A grave and burial expert of the Study Group Air War Holland, 1939-1945, Hey provided a lion's share of the new data by personally visiting Dutch WWII Cemeteries.

Other 91st BGMAers contributing "Missing Data" in this effort to close the final gaps in 91st BG(H) personnel history were: Herb Egender, CO; Col. Bert Humphries, CA; Anthony Kalupy, SC; John Mitchell, OH and Lee Pilert, CT. Everyone's interest and cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

Any additional information on remaining "Missing Data" should be sent to Hiliary "Bud" Evers, 21 Barony Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29928.

"LITTLE PATCHES" SURVIVED,

(Continued from Page 3)

was the first to fly her. Her name was acquired on their first mission with her on Feb 11, 1944 when she received extensive flak damage over Frankfurt. Since the damage was not serious the "cosmetic" patching of her many flak holes suggested her name theme.

LITTLE PATCHES caused her crew some apprehension early in her career by being a bit of a "gas-hog." A scheduled Feb 21, 1944 mission to Poland prompted plans to land in Sweden if necessary after bombing the distant target. Fortunately weather dictated a closer, alternative target.

Hill's crew did not fly LITTLE PATCHES after Mar 29, 1944. After completing his missions Apr. 25, 1944 he flew on a Radio Relay Plane and witnessed the D-Day landing.

Back in the States, while an instructor at the Alexandria AAFB, he met his pilot, Bill Major, again. Major subsequently volunteered for another tour, returned to England and flew another mission before VE Day. While back in

PC	NAME	RANK	SER. NO.	STATUS	DATE	A/C NO	SQD
1 P	Lindsey, Nathan, F. FL	1/Lt	0-791463	MIA	17/04/43	425337	
2 CP	Slivkoff, George, CA	2/Lt	0-729375	MIA	17/04/43	425337	
3 TT	Scavello, Sebastian, CN	TSgt	11033296	MIA	17/04/43	425337	
4 R	Brandenburg, L J, IO	TSgt	37114199	MIA	17/04/43	425337	
5 W1	Schippang, Alvin T, PA	SSgt	13052284	MIA	17/04/43	425337	
6 W2	Hamrick, Victor L, WV	SSgt	35275442	MIA	17/04/43	425337	
7 T	Roy, Anthony J, MA	SSgt	31074431	MIA	17/04/43	425337	

Note: The above 401sters lost during the Apr. 17, '43 Bremen raid, are listed and commemorated on the Walls of the Missing in THE US Military Cemetery at Margarten, Netherlands.

8 P	Baxley, E L	1/Lt		POW	19/05/43	4124483	
9 CP	Breeden, J E	1/Lt		POW	19/05/43	4124483	
10 N	Fulmer, J H	Lt		POW	19/05/43	4124483	
11 B	Poston, A L	TSgt		KIA	19/05/43	4124483	
12 TT	Hall, J E	TSgt		POW	19/05/43	4124483	
13 R	Peeler, W W	TSgt		POW	19/05/43	4124483	
14 W1	Berkovitz, A I	Sgt		KIA	19/05/43	4124483	
15 W2	Rathgeber, W A, NY	SSgt	12036382	MIA	19/05/43	4124483	
16 BT	Trimble, C C	SSgt		KIA	19/05/43	4124483	
17 T	Thompson, H H	SSgt		POW	19/05/43	4124483	

Note: Rathgeber's name is listed and commemorated on the Walls of the Missing in the Netherlands.

18 P	Slattery, Joseph E, LA	1/Lt	0-438095	KIA	22/06/43	4229998	
19 CP	Brass, Walter W	2/Lt		POW	22/06/43	4229998	
21 B	Brubaker, Robert F	1/Lt		POW	22/06/43	4229998	
22 TT	Dickson, William G, AR	TSgt	37068898	KIA	22/06/43	4229998	
26 BT	Hulet, Eldridge W	SSgt		KIA	22/06/43	4229998	
27 T	Simon, Edward F, PA	SSgt	13037453	KIA	22/06/43	4229998	

Note: Slattery, Dickson and Simon are buried in the "Ardennes" US Military Cemetery.

28 P	Deshaw, Albert G	2/Lt		POW	20/07/44	4231982	
32 TT	Wilborn, Arthur S, TX	SSgt	18155853	KIA	20/07/44	4231982	

Note: Wilborn is buried in the "Luxemburg-Hamm" US Military Cemetery.

NO NEW DATA ON THE FOLLOWING

20 N	Ziegelmeyer, Julius E	2/Lt			22/06/43	4229998	
23 R	MacDonald, Glenn N	TSgt			22/06/43	4229998	
24 W1	Frederick, Elmer L	Sgt			22/06/43	4229998	
25 W2	Fishburn, David F	TSgt			22/06/43	4229998	
29 CP	Keck, Wilbur H	2/Lt			20/07/44	4231982	
30 N	Hanke, Raymond C	2/Lt			20/07/44	4231982	
31 B	Christophersen, R W	2/Lt			20/07/44	4231982	
33 R	Harrist, Charles N	TSgt			20/07/44	4231982	
34 W1	Norris, Homer S	SSgt			20/07/44	4231982	
35 BT	Walker, Gene H	Sgt			20/07/44	4231982	
36 T	Peterson, John R	Sgt			20/07/44	4231982	

Note: Bold type above indicates corrected fall date.

England he wrote Hill LITTLE PATCHES had over 100 missions credited to her.

After all the foregoing testimony the R/I is certain that a bit of 91st BG(H) history will be re-written.

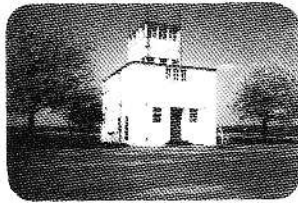
PRESERVE OUR PROUD PAST



THE 91st BG(H) OVER GERMANY IN FEBRUARY, 1944. (Photo: Col Lester F Rentmeester, Ret, collection.)

BASSINGBOURN C/O RESOLVES TOWER MUSEUM PROBLEM

THE JAN 1991 R/I's BASSINGBOURN "TOWER Museum" article is not responsible for the resolution of the museum's roof leak problem, even though bits of information reaching the R/I since publication of that article indicate R/I readers responded generously to the request for personal donations to help maintenance costs of the structure that preserves 91st BG(H) memorabilia in England.



THE TOWER MUSEUM.

A 91st BGMA English friend resolved the problem.

Vince Hemmings, the Museum's Director, perhaps somewhat abashed, recently announced the "roof leak" problem has been solved. Col Michael Boocock, C/O Bassingbourn Barracks, Hemmings says, "has been able to sanction money to repair the Museum roof. This is marvelous news for all of us. When one considers the present economic situation, he has done extremely well."

Paul J Limm, 91st BGMA Reunion Convention Chairman, has subsequently received a letter from Hemmings asking if he wanted his "roof repair" donation returned.

Col Walter M Pickard (Ret), 323rd, VA, another generous "roof repair" donor, was stationed at the USAF Fighter Base at Bentwaters (Suffolk) in the mid-50's. While there he re-visited Bassingbourn. He was disappointed during that visit to note that the mural painted on the wall behind the bar in the former "Combat Crew Officers Mess" had been painted over. The mural, he recalls, also contained a listing of "graduating" crews.

Pickard, after announcing an intent to visit England and the Tower Museum soon, closed his letter to Hemmings in a manner appropriate for all 91st BGMAers while writing English friends - like Hemmings, his staff, Col Boocock and others.

Pickard wrote, "Again, my thanks and keep up the good work." Unfortunately, some England bound 91st BGMAers are the source of embarrassment for Hemmings and his dedicated Tower Museum volunteer staff.

Because the Tower Museum is run by volunteers it is not always open. Therefore Hemmings is often dismayed when visitors, travelling literally thousands of miles, are denied access to the building because no tour guide is available.

Such disappointments can be avoided, he emphasizes, if he is provided prior notice of arrival dates. It is particularly disappointing to the Museum's staff when it learns a former 91ster has his English visit marred by being confronted with an unoccupied, doors-locked Tower Museum.

"We like to meet 91sters," he says. "The sad thing is that our last two American visitors came on one of our National Holidays. Had we known they were coming many of our nearby volunteers, who were free, would have been pleased to open the Museum for them."

Prior arrival announcements also help the Museum's

staff's maintenance activity. Photos, paintings and artifacts are generally stored safely to prevent deterioration. Prior arrival notices permit the replacement of such exhibits for coherent, systematic viewing. (Despite the good intentions apparent when people are caught in the midst of house-keeping the unannounced guest is left with an unfavorable impression of the embarrassed hapless host.)

And, Hemmings adds, prior announcements of arrival are important because he and his staff are aware of the fact that they are located on an active Military Base.

Hemmings was honored to lay a wreath in behalf of the 91st BG(H) at Madingley's Memorial Service this year. The ceremony, by the Wall of Remembrances, dedicated to those who paid the supreme sacrifice, was an unforgettable experience for him.

The unselfish dedication of the Tower Museum's staff emerged again in Hemmings' letter in which he announced his anticipated retirement at the end of the year will make him "always available" to Tower Museum visitors.

Those wishing to contact Vince Hemmings may do so by writing: 48 Meadow Way, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, SG6 3HK, England. Phone: 0462-673340.

TOWER MUSEUM DONORS

THE 91st BGMA's TREA CHARLES V WELBES reports 24 members have thus far responded to the Tower Museum article with contributions (ranging from \$1.00 to \$100.00) by sending contributions to his Mountain Home, AK address. Their \$650.00 total donations have been placed in a Special Tower Museum Fund and are not considered part of the 91st BGMA's General Assets.

Those making contributions are:

Charles H Bonner, Augusta, GA; Menford M Borgeson, Santa Ana, CA; John H Brawner, Sequin, TX; John McRae Brown, Reedsburg, WI; Joseph W. Cagle, Austin, TX; John K Carter, Palo Alto, CA; William J Duffy, Whippany, NJ; Charles M Eichert, Highaldn Park, NJ; Quentin H Ellis, Renton, WA; Mrs Betty J Figie, Central Square, NY; Otho C Goodwin, Jr, Raleigh, NC; Thomas F Higgins, Rahway, NJ; Robert A Krusen, Niles, IL; Paul J Limm, San Clemente, CA; Robert L Modell, Bossier City, LA; John H Morris, Medomak, ME; Marvin E Nichols, Deltona, FL; Jack J Paxton, Edmonds, WA; Leonard V. Petersen, Sarasota, FL; Julian (Al) Pope, Tavares, FL; Raymond C Ridings, Rorrance, CA; Curtis T Strong, Chester, VA; Willis E Williams, Littlerock, CA and Willard W Wolfe, Jr, Catonsville, MD.

CORRECTION!

THE P-X ITEMS IN THE JAN 1991 R/I INCORRECTLY lists SQDRN Decals at \$.50 cents each. They are \$.05 cents each.

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OUR PROUD PAST



Folded Wings

• **AYCOCK, HALEYW, LTC, LM, 324/401st, PO Box 7814, Horseshoe Bay, TX 78654** at age 74 on June 7, 1991. Reported by 91st BGMA Sec Asay (Ace) B Johnson.

• **BRUSH, BEAUFORD D, 323rd, 701 Hastings Av, St Paul Park, MN 55071; early 1990.** Reported by James F Belleville, Gallipolis, TX who trained and flew with and finished his missions with Brush.

• **GARRIS, PHILLIP W, 401st, 4510 Deede Lane, Orlando, FL 32806; Dec 18, 1990.** Garriss was the 401st's Armament Officer. Assigned to the 91st at Walla Walla, WA he shipped overseas with the Ground Echelon on the Queen Mary in 1942. During his more than three years at Bassingbourn he married his English girl friend, Eve.

He acquired the nickname "Fearless Phil" playing poker at the Officers Mess #1 where he allegedly won impressively while maintaining an innocent "Country Boy" demeanor throughout the games.

After his retirement as a LTC he concluded his career as a civilian employee with the AF Systems Command at Andrews AF Base, MD.

Stricken with Lung Cancer, he died in his sleep, according to his daughter, Molly Dean Garriss. Two other children, Philinda and Phillip, Jr, survive him.

Reported by John H Parsons, Jr, 401st, Wash, DC, who adds, "He was my good friend."

• **HECK, CHARLES M, Rt 1, Box 146A Morristown, IN 46181, Jan 12, 1986.** Reported by Bill McKee.

• **KALUPY, ANTHONY A, 324th, POW, 9989 Dorchester Rd, Apt. 22A, Summerville, SC 29485, Mar 5, 1991.** He suffered a stroke and died several hours later, his wife, Ruth, reports.

• **KARAS, CHARLES E, 401st, 2100 RIDGE RD EXT, Ambridge, PA 15003, Jan 21, 1991.** Karas, a Ground Crewman who serviced BLOOD AND GUTS, died after extended illness. He is survived by his wife, Theresa; a son, Charles R; a daughter, Linda Ann; seven grandchildren and numerous siblings. Reported by Edward E (Pinky) Pinkowsky, Fox Lake, IL, a friend, who served with him - and us.

• **KASCH, ROBERT N, 401st, PO Box 438 Highland Mills, NY 10930.** Listed as deceased in a POW Bulletin.

• **LEIGHTON, CHARLES B, 324th RT 3, 18 Golfview, Bellaire, MI 49615; Apr 15, 1991.** Leighton, the MEMPHIS BELLE's navigator, often quipped, "I was the only one who could tell Morgan 'where to go' and get away with it." Plagued by air sickness during early training he was pleased to find, after graduating to the big planes, the sickness vanished.

The survivor of numerous serious operations, Leighton, along with the other surviving BELLE crew members, attended promotions pertaining to their famous plane. Following their most recent appearance at Cosa Messa, CA this past Feb, he cancelled another recent reunion with his old comrades because of failing health. He died in a Petoskey, MI hospital at 71.

During the BELLE's triumphant War Bond Tour of the

States he met his wife-to-be, Jane, during a Detroit, MI stop.

In addition to his wife he's survived by two daughters, Mrs. Ruth A Kowalski and Mrs Frances Plantikow and three grandchildren. His family requests any memorials be sent to the Charles B Leighton Memorial Fund, C/O Mortensen Funeral Home, Bellaire, MI. Reported by Frank G Donofrio, Memphis, TN and Sam Cipolla, 323rd, Chicago, IL.

• **MAST, THOMAS W, 6350 McLaughlin Dr, Central Point, OR 97502; Jan 30, 1990.** Reported by Bill McKee.

• **McCALLUM, CLYDE P, 401st, POW, 1027 W Dogwood, Redmond, OR 97756; Feb. 22, 1991.** Reported by his wife, Mae.

• **MILLER, WILLIAM R, 401st, 5 Crystal Creek Dr, Sheridan, WY 82801.** Miller, who died at 69 in the Billings, WY Deaconess Medical Center after a brief illness, served as a radio operator.

In addition to his wife he is survived by his mother, two sons, Darryl G and Karl L, three grandchildren and brothers and sisters. Memorials may be made to the Deaconess Foundation - Deaconess Medical Center, C/O Mary Lee Corley, First Interstate Bank. Further address details are not available to the R/I. Reported by 91st BGMA Sec Asay (Ace) B Johnson.

• **SODERBERG, HARRY A, 401st, 3933 Dumont, Odessa, TX 79762; Mar 22, 1991.** Soderberg, the original flight engineer of SHOO SHOO BABY, had two nicknames. His obituary listed him as "H A 'Swede' Soderberg." His wife, Mary, in a note records the other as "Sodie." SSB's original pilot, the late Col Paul G McDuffee, never called him anything but that during their wartime and continuing post-war relationship.

Stricken by leukemia after his retirement from the automotive parts business in 1988, "Sodie" completed another meaningful mission to those credited to him during a full life. Along with several others he volunteered to participate in a demanding experimental leukemia treatment program.

A note in his Lutheran Church bulletin explained, "He felt that this was his 'last mission' to help mankind."

His participation, along with others, provided the data required for a drug to be approved by the FDA for treatment of leukemia.

In addition to his wife he is survived by his daughter, Carol Acreman, two grandchildren, John Paul and Amanda and extended family members. He served numerous terms on his church council and was very active in its youth programs.

• **TANNENBAUM, LEONARD, 324th, LM, 68-36 108th, St, Forest Hills, NY 11375; Dec 7, 1990.** His date of death was reported by his wife, Naomi, to Bill McKee with the comment, "A fitting date for a war hero, wouldn't you say?"

• **TUFTY, IVER O, 324th B/Gen ANG (Ret), 4101 County Club Blvd, Souix City, IA 51104.** Announced in the Jan 1991 issue of "Retired Officers Magazine;" reported by Hught T Howard.

PRESERVE OUR PROUD PAST

91st BGMA SEC WARY OF USPS INTENTIONS

INFORMATION FROM OTHER TAX-EXEMPT VETERANS indicates the Postal Service is charging them for additional postage for mailings that do not contain full, nine digit (00000-0000) ZIP Code numbers. Despite Postal Service denials it is likely nine digit ZIP Code numbers will be soon required on all classes of mail.

Since R/I mailings constitute a huge portion of 91st BGMA administrative costs, all members are urged to send their full nine digit ZIP Code numbers, as soon as they are available to them, to Trea Charles V Welbes. His address is 210 Leatherwood Dr, Mountain Home, AK 72653.

Updating our addresses now, it is felt, will forestall the possibility of a Postal Service raid upon the 91st BGMA treasury through a sudden administrative decision making the nine digit ZIP Code mandatory for all mailings.

NEWEST LIFE MEMBERS

MAX E BENDER, LM, Anderseon, SC
JAMES E BLACK, LM, Murfreesboro, TN
JOSEPH W CAGLE, LM, Austin, TX
ROBERT J CAYER, LM, Coventry, RI
JAMES H DOWNS, JR, Milwaukie, OR
MRYTIS GORDON, AL, Tuscaloosa, AL
HENRY J HALL, LM, Cayucos, CA
CHARLES R HITCHCOCK, LM, Carpentersville, IL
FRANK H LaBLOTIER, LM, Denver, CO
W ROBERT LANGFORD, LM, Dozier, AL
BERTAL E LARSON, LM, Tacoma, WA
LLOYD W MARTIN, LM, Frankston, TX
ROBERT POTTERS, LM, Sun Valley, ID
EVELYN RITSCHER, LM, Pasadena, CA
A M SCHUMACHER, OM, Linton, ND
H BUNNY TEGLER, AL, Towson, MD

FLASH!

(Continued from Page 8)

"The Tampa marker erection," says Hill, "is about 100 miles away and should be OK for a Sunday afternoon's drive after the Jensen Beach, FL 'shebang'."

The Walla Walla, WA 91st BH(H) historical road side marker's erection, it is understood, is set for Sept 28, 1991.

Involved arrangements with Tampa, FL and Walla Walla, WA officials unfortunately precludes complete coverage of Hill's arranged ceremonies. Members interested in attending either of the "roadside-marker" ceremonies are



I am interested in the "Royston Rally Round" proposal for 1992.

Name.....
PLEASE PRINT
Street Address.....
City, State and ZIP

MAIL TO:

91st BGMA Secretary
Asay B Johnson
590 Aloha Dr
Lake Havasu City
AZ 86403

DEADLINE: ASAP!

TWICE TOLD TALE

LOCATION HELP AVAILABLE FOR LOST WWII FRIENDS

MEMBERS SEEKING TO LOCATE "LOST" comrades may find the following approach helpful.

1) On one envelope, in the address area, write the name and rank/grade of the individual sought. In the upper left corner write your return address. Place a stamp in the upper right corner of this envelope and include your message in it.

2) Insert the above envelope in another larger envelope and address the larger envelope to one of the three following "locator" addresses listed below. The larger envelope should also contain your return address on the upper left corner. Similar mailings to all the "locator" addresses will, of course, increase the success probability of your effort.

Because many individuals share identical names, enclose in the larger envelope a letter containing as much data as possible concerning the individual sought. Such information should include his middle initials, whatever is known about his background, duty stations, schooling and Social Security Number, if possible.

An example: Name: Joseph M Kruppa, Rank: 1LT, Navigator; Serial Number: 0.....; Service Background: 322nd Sq, 91st BG(H); Duty Station: Bassingbourn, Eng, Oct 1943 - Oct 1944; Schooling: Syracuse U, Syracuse, NY; Social Security Number

In many cases "locator" sources will be able to tell if the individual is alive or deceased and will forward the letter enclosed in the smaller envelope to his last known address.

"Locator" addresses to write are:

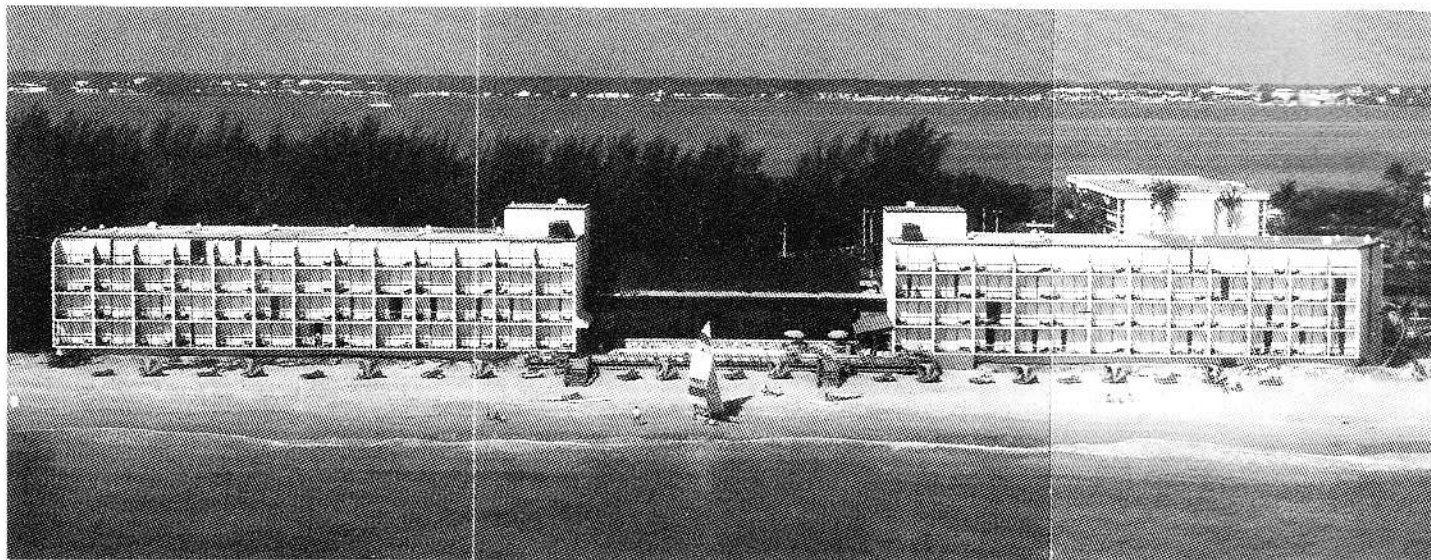
- 1) Your local VA office,
- 2) VA Records Center, C/O Alice I Hunter, Chief Field Servicing Division, Records Processing Center, PO Box 5020, St Louis, MO 63115, or
- 3) Air Force, HQ AFMPC/DMPDOO3, 9504 IH35N, San Antonio, TX 78233-6636.

The above procedures for locating war-time friends has been used by 8th AFHS member George A Lawson with "fair success," according to Sec Hackstock. The bulk of the copy describing the procedure is from an article on the topic in News, Notes and Comments, a newsletter edited by 1Lt Nora J Tuggle, USMC (ret), which was forwarded to the R/I by John R Parsons, Wash, D.C.

urged to write or call, W W Hill, 4002 Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA 22812; Phone: (703) 256-9165. Or contact, Howell B Loper, 304 W Frierson AV, Tampa, FL 33603; Phone (813) 239-3483.

Please Cut Along Dotted Line

BIG FLORIDA RALLY ROUND SET FOR OCT 24-26, 1991



THE HOLIDAY INN OCEANSIDE BOASTS, "THE PERFECT LOCATION."

A BIG 91st BGMA FLORIDA RALLY ROUND IS SCHEDULED for the Oct 24-26, 1991 weekend at The Holiday Inn Oceanside in JENSEN BEACH, FL. Sparked by Robert E Gerstemeir, 401st, reservations for participation in the varied activities must be received by him by Sept 30, 1991.

The Holiday Inn Oceanside requires room reservations by Sept 24, 1991. Reservations requests received after that date will be confirmed on a space available basis.

Gerstemeir and his committee have prepared a ready-to-mail comprehensive 91st BGMA Florida Rally Round Itinerary for interested members.

An attendance of over 200 Rally Rounders is anticipated. Should the response exceed that estimate, Gerstemeir says it will not be a problem.

"The Holiday Inn Oceanside, situated directly on the beach, boasts, 'The Perfect Location.' There's plenty of room," he says.

Literature for the affair vies with the mailings preceding National Conventions. Those interested should contact Gerstemeir by writing him at 124 N E Twylite Terrace, Port St Lucie, FL 34983 - now. His phone number is: 407-879-9518.

FLASH!

THE 91st BGMA'S MEMORIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, W W Hill, has virtually completed arrangements for the erection of two, new 91st BG(H) historical roadside markers in Tampa, FL and Walla Walla, WA later this year. Howell B Loper, Tampa, FL and Hubert F Donohue, Dayton, WA are assisting in arranging details of the ceremonies in their areas.

Hill points out that the Tampa, FL ceremonies can be included in the itinerary of those attending the Oct 24-26, 1991 91st BGMA Rally Round at Jensen Beach, FL.

(Continued on Page 7)

THE RAGGED IRREGULAR

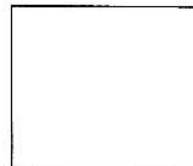
These newsletters are published quarterly. October, January, April and July are the scheduled publication months. The R.I.'s purpose is to keep alive the spirit of the 91st Bombardment Group (H) and to maintain the fellowship of all those who fought together in World War II from AF Station 121 in Bassingbourn, 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.
210 Leatherwood Dr.
Mountain Home, AR 72653

FORWARDING AND ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



LET US KNOW BEFORE YOU MOVE!