



783RD LATRINE-O-GRAM

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

APRIL 1984

LOST SOUL SEARCH--BOX SCORE RESULTS

LUSCHER, JACK W.
Rt 3 Box 267
Hillsboro, OR 97124
503-647-2819
LOCATED BY: Al Honey 4-3-84

CARSON, CHARLES C.
120 Reese St
Pittsburgh, PA 15211
412-381-9926
LOCATED BY: Jim McCloskey 4-7-84

PATTERSON, CLARENCE
Rt 3
Yazoo City, MS 39194
LOCATED BY: Al Honey 4-3-84

HARP, JAMES T.
1374 Hillcrest
Livermore, CA 94550
LOCATED BY: Golden Nathan Jones 4-9-84

PATTERSON, WALTER T.
105 Bacon St
Waltham, MA 02154
LOCATED BY: Al Honey 4-3-84

AGUIRRE, MANUEL Maj USAF Ret
P. O. Box 315
Yuma, AZ 85364
LOCATED BY: Bolinski & Browning 4-12-84

STEEN, JAMES B.
105 Lightcap St
Vicksburg, MS 39180
601-638-1380
LOCATED BY: Shirley Hockman 4-5-84

MC QUAID, JIM (DECEASED)
LOCATED BY: Jim McCloskey 4-15-84

LOMBARDO, ANGELO H.
606 Buttercup Dr
Monroeville, PA 15146
412-372-0800
LOCATED BY: Jim McCloskey 4-7-84

GFRERER, GENE
412 7th St
Phillipsburg, PA 16866
814-342-5453
LOCATED BY: Jim McCloskey 4-15-84

WELCOME BACK-FELLOWS!!

GI DOG FACES-Honey & McCloskey-leading OFFICERS & GENTLEMEN BY ACT OF CONGRESS 7 to 2. Are you guys going to let the DOG FACES bury you? We need action TODAY-not NEXT MONTH-find some Lost Souls. Thanks for your help Mrs Hockman!

PROMOTIONS--LT COL Michael Nyme Farage recieved his silver leaves at Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, AL where he is attending Staff & Command School. Following graduation he will be assigned Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, UT where he will take command 1 August of a Helicopter Squadron. He is the son of our infamous Nyme Farage. Being a chip off the old block we know he is a good one-made of good stuff-and wears Air Force Blue with pride. Bet Nyme is so swollen with pride that he is popping the buttons on his GI drawers. All the 783rd join in extending our CONGRATULATIONS to Michael. It will be remembered that Nyme was bombardier on Bate's crew. On a mission to Blechammer in early August 44 was pulled from his crew to fly in the Group lead. On his return to Panatella learned that Bates flying in the 2nd attack had gone down on fire along with Woody Browning who had replaced Nyme for the mission. After completing his missions and returning to the states completed pilot training and transitioned in P-51's.

SICK CALL--talked with Forest Ratcliff and learned he had suffered a minor stroke that prevented him from making the Colorado Springs gathering. Now recovered and on ready for Dayton 85'.

Larry 'The Beast' Siegler has been slowed by diabetes. Now working out each day at the Health Club and feeling much better. Has his brakes locked and all 4 fans wound up for take off to Dayton 85'.

George Bevington suffered a heart attack that kept him from making the trip to CS's. Has under gone good recovery and will be ready to roll the Red Carpet out for our Dayton 85' Whing Ding.

Jack Luscher when located was ill in a VA Hospital. Reported to be on the mend satisfactorily.

HANG IN THERE AND GET WELL FELLOWS--WE WANT TO SEE YOU ALL IN DAYTON!

783rd HISTORY BOOKS--orders recieved since the last bulletin have reduced the available copies to 27. Again--"you will kick your rearends for not getting your copy when you had the chance".

CHECKS--in the future please make out all checks to 783rd Bomb Squadron Association instead of to Dwight Reid. Your Association has it's own Bank Account. The only checks that should be made out to an individual are the one's to Bob Wills for the Video Tapes.

DELAYED THANKS!--Joe Hoffman for his colored film showing life at Panatella and actual combat missions that was included along with that of Bob Will's in the Video Tape. You two guys captured and made available history that no one thought possible. OUR THANKS JOE!

DAYTON REUNION 85'--obviously, we have selected a very popular place to hold our next reunion. The April issue of the Retired Officers Association magazine noted the following units were holding their 84' reunions in Dayton--44th Bomb Group; 49th Fighter Group; 410th Bomb Group and 438th Troop Carrier Group. On checking previous issues noted a number of other units also holding theirs in Dayton. Have dropped each a note requesting reunion iteniaries. Afterwards will get back with each in an effort to learn their best 'do's & dont's'. The fighting & loving 783rd deserve only the best.

MAILING ROSTER CORRECTIONS & APOLOGIES--since our first efforts to get out a mailing roster we have royally friggged up Dick & Peg Shaw's for which we are truly sorry. Please correct on your roster:

SHAW, R. DICK, (PEG), Thomasville Rt Box 61; Birch Tree, MO 65438;
417-764-3691

BOLINSKI, BIG BO--change ZC to 32822 not 32802
WILLS, BOB--street name THENDARA--not Phendara
BOLIN, BILL--relocated--now 2096 Apple Court, Deltona, FA 32725
RATCLIFF, FOREST--street name Meadowbrook--one word
ZIEGLER, BOB (CLAIR), 412 Greenbriar, Bedford, Tx 817-571-1335--new address & phone number 76021

TAPS--CHARLES G. YOKITIS of Pottsville, PA passed away in 1967. He was Ball Turret Gunner on Bill Vorhie's crew. He went down on his 10th mission in the Moby Dick on May 29, 1944 over Vienna and was a POW in Stalag Luft 4. All will remember him as one of the good guys.

JIM MC QUAID--of Clarksburg, West Virginia. Passed away quietly in his sleep in 1979 at the age of 58. His family could only advise that he was a Tail Gunner. Having flown with the 783rd he must have been a good one.

We should all pause a moment to remember our Comrades who have taken the big flight to Eagles Nest.

SEARCH LIST OMISSION & CORRECTION--MICHIGAN was left off by mistake. Floyd Coffield, Jim Hudson & Lyle Long have been previously notified. COLORADO--Roy Lilja replaces Bill Bolin who has moved to Florida.

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS & CARDS RECIEVED--as promised in last months bulletin the following lines represent news & happenings we thought might be of interest to all. The answers are our privilege for having to fight this idiot machine:

DON KAY 4-5-83--Goplen sent some good photos. Will bring the Bar & 'Took' to the reunion. Bar for you & 'Took' for me. (Answer: Unprintable)

DON KAY 7-5-83--Doris can't wait to meet you--You Sly Devil!! (Answer: Original 783rd type revenge extracted--forgive hell--get even)

CHARLIE CONLIN 10-11-83--Find enclosed my \$100 for TV Tape..(Answer: All the 783rd appreciate your contribution toward making this project possible)

BILL BITTERMAN 10-12-83--Able keep your flak suit on..sorry we had to leave the reunion early..it was great..enclosed is my check for \$100 for the TV Tape (Answer: Able it is white of you to give my flak suit back now that I have no need for it(on our first trip to Ploesti the above Gentleman? reached over and unhooked my flak suit and borrowed it while I was over the Bomb Sight).. All the 783rd appreciate your help in making TV Tape possible)

FRAN GOPLEN 10-15-83--Doc Kimball must be some sort of a golfer in order to survive with you as a handicap & partner...Edie and I have rehashed and discussed the reunion many times. Guess time had dulled emotions and remeberances that were stirred by the meeting of friends, the memorial service and the dedication of the memorial placque...enclosed find my \$137.50 for the Video Tape...we would be very pleased if you dear friends would stop by Zumbrota. We could lite the fireplace to keep you 'Texikans' warm...(Answer: Get the firewood ready--coming if I have to ride a Burro all the way from Texas. The Squadron thanks you for making the Tape possible. If you think I wield a mean putter try Doc in 85'--he is more dangerous than a coiled rattle snake)

STAN PACE 10-16-83--It was a great reunion! Thanks to Burt, Don, Dwight and many others. Not only was it a great idea but exceedingly well done. I look forward to the TV Tape. Enclosed is my check for \$100. (Answer: The 783rd and I both thank you for helping in our time of need on a worth while project)

LARRY DE CROW 10-18-83--Hope you enjoy this picture as much as I do. Plan to be in San Antonio in the spring. I'll give you a call and take you to dinner. (Answer: The picture of the B two dozen over the Alps now hanging on my office wall--the dinner will be on me)

DOC KIMBALL 11-2-83--PLAY IT AGAIN SAM! I could not have been more pleased and surprised than when your letter arrived on my 75th birthday (Oct 24). I honestly can't find words to express my profound appreciation for your heart warming letter. Approval and applause, like good fertilizer, is impossible to spread too thick. I have secretly worried ever since reading "Catch 22" several years ago. You may recall the Squadron Surgeon was a rather despicable character who became a non person after the war. While I knew I wasn't in that class, I wasn't without anxiety about my "image" in the eyes of the squadron...(The letter Doc is referring to was a cover letter sent with his Citation & Retroactive Appointment to Full Membership of Combat Crew 257 read at the reunion--Answer: Doc-worry no more about your "image"--anyone carrying a resentment toward you will have all of your fellow crew members to deal with--you earned your spurs that day over Ferrar. Don't ever forget--the fighters of the 15th had gone in and couldn't get it--the mediums of the 12th had gone in and missed--but when we turned tail and fled for Panatella it belonged to us. If Kay got a DFC for knocking the milk cans off the Railroad Station platform at Maribo--you may ought to put in for a Silver Star for flying one tougher)

JUNE & NYME FARAGE 12-12-83--Nyme is feeling great. The Doctor diagnosis yesterday was: No By-Pass, just let your body heal and remember you are sixty two--Not thirty two!! So for the present--no tennis or swimming--but golfing and fishing. Also, walking a must. Nyme is definately planning on Panatella, Ohio, Mich, Texas or where ever. He just got a metal driver--so watch out, for he is truly a long knocker now--or will be soon..... Sam, Old Bombardiers never die--They just loose their eye sight..(Answer: Nyme think back to CS's--while you were driving for sho--Doc & I were putting for the dough. Since Doc will be 77 years young when we meet in Dayton you should spot him 7 strokes a side to match his age & your long knocking. With that arrangement I'll bet the homestead and a litter of kittens on Doc--do I have a bet?)

BEN DU BOSE 12-19-83--Thanks for sending the mailing roster. Enclosed find \$5.00 to help with postage etc. It lists some old studs I would enjoy seeing once again. If you don't need the money for postage-raise a glass and help save a fighter pilots ass. If you can't think of any Little Brothers right off-toss one down for Norm Lund. He needs all the help he can get..(Answer: The \$5.00 went into the cost of purchasing History Books for the daughters of Tommy Greenwood; widow of Bob Petranek; and widow of Gordon Bilharz. If you didn't know them--take my word they were three of the best that ever threw a chute on the flite deck. They prove the old saying--the good die young)

JOHN WALKER 1-7-84--Thanks for the Mailing Roster and most recent bulletin. The reunion was a blessing and privilege that I never expected to happen.. Hope the names and addresses sent earlier will be of help..(Answer: Boy! were they. The guys we locate and the squadron owe you a vote of thanks for 'Rat Holing' those names and last known addresses for so long a period of time. For those of you who might have forgotten--John worked in Operations and was the guy who put our names on the board for the next days mission and who came around shining that damned flash lite in our eyes to wake us up--but in reality one of the best human beings that ever walked on two feet. One of the greatest moments at CS's for me was when I could shake his hand and apologize for my conduct toward him on those mornings he would 'rouse' us out--my conscience had always bothered me for being a part of the abuse heaped on this poor guy for just doing his duty)

FLOYD COFFIELD 1-2-84--Was so happy to receive the Roster of 783rdrs. I'm sure this will be a never ending task of keeping it up to date. Find enclosed the address for MARTIN P. STEMLER who was our Radio Operator and Waist Gunner. Didn't locate him until after the reunion or he would have been in attendance. The reunion was terrific. I had often thought of how nice it would be to gather once again--but I never really expected it. Our Crew is planning a 'Get Together' next Sept--and of course looking forward to the next squadron reunion.....after leaving CS's we toured Col, Ariz, NM and visited a brother in both Oklahoma and Ark. We put 4 300 miles on the Little Ford(it was a 38' V-8 Floyd had restored) with only one flat tire. Enclosed is a little postage money...(Answer:The \$20.00 was included in on the purchase of the History Books for the Greenwood girls and Petranek & Bilharz widows. One of the hi-lites of the reunion for me was when I challenged you on the bridge on your arrival--you were totally 'slack jawed')

BILL VORHIES 3-16-84--Dear Sam & Woody: I wish you two could have seen the look on my wife's face when she handed me the phone on the evening you two called...your voices brought back a whole series of memories..Odd isn't it--when you hear someone elses view of something you have told many times? I've always thought that the squadron had flown into a cloud bank as you were turning to the right, while we were in a fairly steep spiral to the left. Owen Livesay was actually flying while on the bomb run, and when we got hit--I believe we got three in quick succession, one under the flite deck. I reached for the controls (and felt a blow to my right arm--a small piece of metal is still there) because I thought Owen had been hit and that was the reason we were losing the formation. He was OK but the controls seemed locked. Evidently, that must have been when we went into the clouds you spoke of--when all the time we thought it was you all that had gone into the clouds...Three of our crew were killed George J. Payne(tail gunner), Dan J. Ryan(navigator) and John L. Luce(nose gunner). We knew Payne was dead from an earlier hit. When the Germans told us they had found four bodies in the plane we thought that no one got out of the nose section. Months later, Ed Groh(bombardier) showed up in adjacent compound in prison camp--minus his left arm. He said, "when I opened the nose wheel doors both Ryan and Luce were behind me ready to go". We will never know for sure why they didn't get out. Evidently, whoever followed Groh opened his chute before he cleared--when I rolled out of the bomb bay I went thru shroud lines and saw a parachute bellowed out toward the tail section..I called Hubert Johnson and recieved a call from Don Kay. I do appreciate your efforts to locate me. I'm sorry to have missed the reunion at CS's. Perhaps before the next one in 85' we can locate the other crew members... Thanks for the crew pictures and Unit Citation...Funny that I'd remember Woody's voice and your face. Until I saw the pictures and got it straight, for a while, at least...(Answer: Having seen you go down realize it must have been a tragic scene that day. Told during our phone visit but not in the letter was--when Owen Livesay reached for his Chest Pack in his excitement he popped his chute on the flite deck. Somehow, with the help of God, he managed to gather it up in his arms and successfully get thru the

Bomb Bay without the slip stream entangling it. As for remembering my face--wish you were one of those good looking 20 year old California cuties rather than a 'Has Been Throttle Jockey'. Good to have you back-Bill!)

BILL DOUGLAS 3-15-84--The following was from a Post Card recieved and on the front was a gorgeous young maiden endowed with great lungs...Took off for a couple of weeks and here we are at Key West. Can't go any further south--weather great. This young lady has been chasing me all afternoon.. (Answer: Good thing she didn't catch you. It would be a tragedy for something that lovely to die of total disappointment)

JIM MC CLOSKEY 4-7-84--had a 3 day stint in the hospital while having a calcified tumor removed from my left thumb that had become most painful. Think it started the day I had to bail out--just before I jumped--stuck my thumb up my 'arse'...Located and talked with Angelo H. Lombardo, bombardier, on Ralph Wilson's crew. He was 'hepped' up about the 85' reunion...Tell Woody Browning I found his tail gunner, Charles C. Carson. He asked about Coffield, Dwight Reid and several others...We just returned from my daughter's watching the Video Tape. Bob did a great job putting it together...shed a few tears watching it...my daughter said,"she felt as if she had been there, also"....We plan to come thru San Antonio Aug 5,6,7th. Will give you a call from Tucson...(Answer: Quit talking and come on--the gate to the Marie Casita is open & waiting. Calling Bitterman to join us. Will have a pot of 'Meskin Red' on the stove and a Cabrito on the Bar B Q spit plus some Cactus Squeezings waiting on your arrival. Your locating Lombardo, Carson, Mc Quaid and Gfrerer makes all the work on the Search List worth the effort. A certain California 'Toggle Jockey' will be envious when he reads you were successful in hitting your 'arse' with your thumb--he couldn't hit his with the help of both a Norden & Sperry wired to a auto pilot)

Well folks that about wraps it up for this month. Perhaps now you will realize how important it is for you to drop us a line to be used in YOUR MONTHLY BULLETIN IF YOU WISH TO HEAR ABOUT your squadron compadres. This evening when you are having your 5 o'clock pick me uppers take up your pens and drop us some news items for next month. The quality of your bulletin is directly dependent on what we receive.

SURPRISE OF A LIFE TIME--when I went home for lunch today there was a package containing 41 of the best Shish Kabob Pins one could imagine with the following note from my good friend, John Walker. "In order that your bragging on the state of the art, it is necessary to use the best equipment available in the world markets. Therefore, enclosed American made Aluminum Kabob Skewers are furnished for your use". All I can say is--John Boy, bring yourself over this way and I'll cook you some Fajita Kabobs that are guaranteed to make you migrate from Alabama and make the Alamo City your permanent residence. THANKS A MILLION! THEY WILL BE USED TONITE. SECOND THOUGHT--since some of those 'Cats' on the Search Committee are falling down on the job--don't you think these would make a good weapon to jab them in their useless behinds with? Believe strongly it would guarantee some better results.

QUID FIT!



HUMOR FOR THE MONTH--some time back a certain 783rd 'Toggle Jockey' living in the Ohio River Valley area recieved an appeal from the 15th Air Force Association for memorabilia for their museum. He bundled up his old B-2 Flite Jacket that had some of that fancy Capri art work all over the back and shipped it to them. This winter while vacationing in California he and his wife dropped by the Museum at March Field for a look see. While browsing around he spied his old jacket. Grabbing his bride by the arm he rushed over for a closer look. There it was on a mannequin before his very eyes. He exclaimed,"can you imagine--what do you think"? His wife took a good look--thought a moment and answered," the only difference I can see is that they took it off one dummy and put it on another".

ALL THE WAY TO DAYTON IN 85'