

783RD LATRINE-O-GRAM

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

OCTOBER 1984

TAKE TO HIGH GROUND--HERE COMES ANOTHER LOAD FROM TEXAS!

LOST SOUL SEARCH--BOX SCORE RESULTS

HAUSNER, ED
1405 Kent Place
Linden, NJ 07036
201-486-5395
LOCATED BY: Tuccy Tuccio 9-3-84

BROWN, LEROY N. 'PAPPY'
5335 East M106
Stockbridge, MI 49285
517-851-7811
LOCATED BY: Don Kay 9-7-84

POWELL, WILLIAM C. (Norma)
330 Chappel Hill Drive
North Canton, OH 44720
216-499-8953
LOCATED BY: Don Kay 9-7-84

KUPPER, RICHARD
130 Mill St
Wethersfield, CT 06040
LOCATED BY: Harold Walton 9-12-84

MALUCCI, DOMINIC A.
RT 85
Bolton, CT 06040
LOCATED BY: Harold Walton 9-12-84

KINSLOW, ENDRICK
4660 South Wolcott
Indianapolis, IN 46227
LOCATED BY: Harry Greene 9-15-84

GRAYBILL, JOHN W.
38365 Canyon Heights
Freemont, CA 94536
LOCATED BY: Aguirre & Browning 9-16-84

KARA, FRANK J. (Myrtle)
544 Alturas St
Fallbrook, CA 92028
619-723-8215

SCHUSTER, D. (DECEASED)
LOCATED BY: Charley Conlin 8-29-84

KJELLERSON, NORMAN (DECEASED)
LOCATED BY: Jim Keyes 9-4-84

KNOUS, JOHN G.
372 Havascu Drive
Vacaville, CA 95688
707-448-2120
LOCATED BY: Don Kay 9-27-84

ELLIS, CHARLES S. JR (EVELYN)
3316 Noe Way Apt G-28
Louisville, KY 40220
502-454-0656
LOCATED BY: Don Kay 10-14-84

COL CLARK, CHARLES A. JR
401 Canterbury Hill
San Antonio, TX 78209
512-822-5253
LOCATED BY: Andrus & Marie 9-5-84

ROUSCH, MILTON E. (SARA)
Box 157
Syracuse, OH 45779
614-992-2282
LOCATED BY: Jim Mc Closkey 10-15-84

The Lost Souls above adds to our continually growing Association that we can all be proud to be a part of. There are countless others out there just waiting to be reunited with their old squadron comrades. This is proven by 'Pappy' Brown and Charlie Ellis responding to advertisements placed in different publications. Get out your Search List TODAY and make a renewed effort. Finding a Lost Soul is a rewarding experience--TRY IT--YOU WILL LIKE IT!

NOTE ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

MANUEL AGUIRRE
1875 6th Ave
Yuma, AZ 85364

FLOYD COFFIELD
RT 1 Box 461 D
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
813-639-8944

JAMES SPRADLEY
RT 4 Box 50-A
Forney, TX 75125

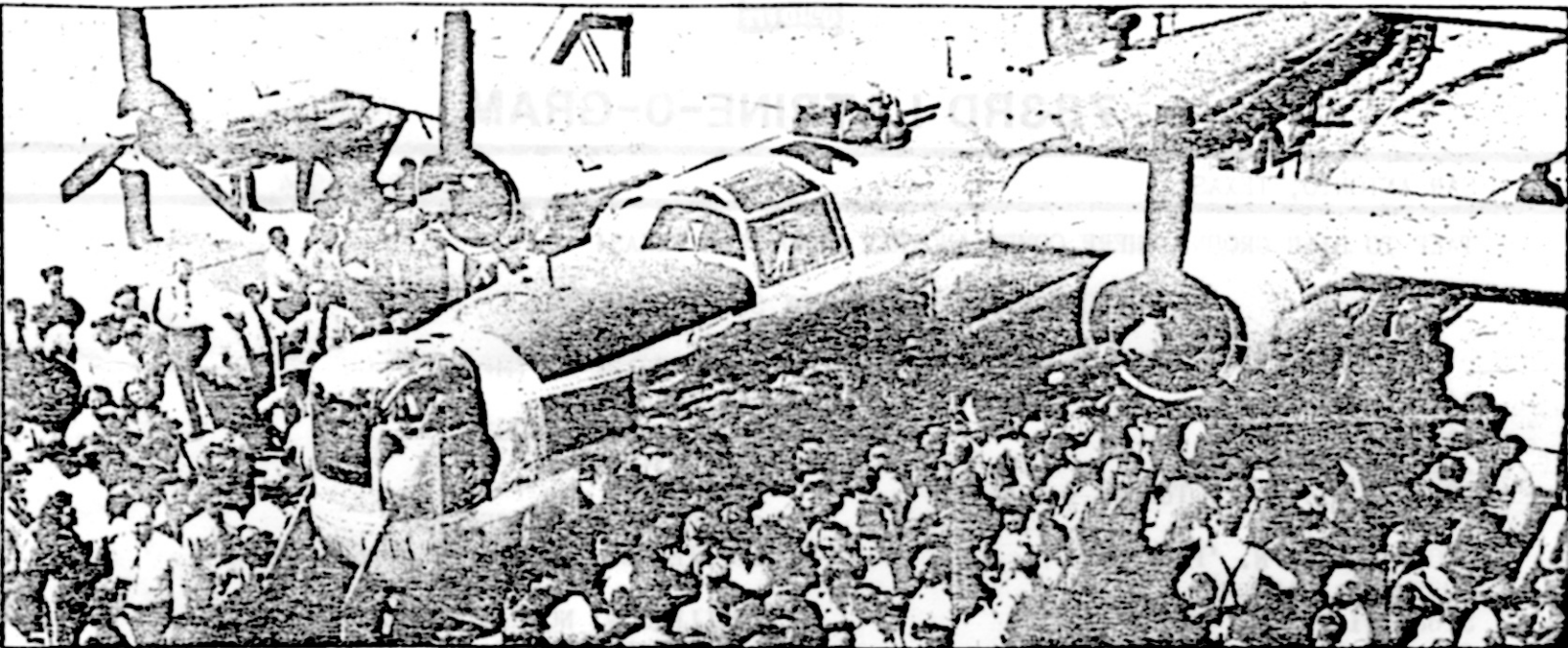
FINANCIAL REPORT ON YOUR ASSOCIATION:

We are approaching the goal of a \$10 donation from 150 members. Those who haven't sent your checks to the 783rd Bomb Squadron Association; % Dwight Reid; 111 Ivanhoe; Denver, CO 80220--please do so today. YOUR HELP & SUPPORT IS NEEDED. We now number 216 members. Surely, there are 150 among us willing to support the efforts of the Association.

THE LAST B-24--THE BIRDS THE 783RD HIT THE HUN WITH:

They were known by many names--Libertator; Pregnant Porpoise; Consolidated Time Bomb; The Widow Maker; B-Two Dozen etc. Regardless, they were the 783rd birds used daily to hit the 'Jerrie' where it hurt. It will be remembered that 5 Grand the 5 000th B-24 made came to the group and eventually ended up in the 783rd. She carried the signatures of all who had built her. According to the Pima Air Museum information booklet, "More Liberators were built in WW II than any other American plane, over 18 000. Serving the Air Corps, Navy, Marines and Allied countries, it flew more missions than any other bomber during WW II".

OUR THANKS TO GEORGE JOSTEN WHO FURNISHED THE ARTICLE BELOW:



In July, 1945, the employees of the Ford Bomber Plant gathered to sign their names on the last B-24 ever built at Willow Run.

Searching the Wild Blue Yonder

By Jon Harmon

How do you go about finding something so large you might wonder how it ever became lost?

This is the problem faced by a group with more than 1,500 members — many of them Ford employees.

The group is the Yankee Air Force (YAF) and the "lost" object is a Ford-built B-24 bomber. This mammoth bird, with a wing-span of more than 110 feet, has long been on aircraft collectors' endangered species list. Though Ford's Willow Run Bomber Plant in Ypsilanti, Mich., built more than 8,600 B-24s during the Second World War, there are only three known in existence today —

all in North American Museums. None of the three is flyable.

The YAF has established a museum in an old hangar at the Willow Run airfield to house its 15 restored airplanes and to provide working space for the restoration of additional aircraft. But what the

YAF really wants is a B-24 — preferably one built at Willow Run — to be the centerpiece of the museum and its airshows.

Rarity is not the only reason the B-24 is valuable to collectors. A historical treasure, the plane repre-

sents a technological milestone as the first heavy bomber to be produced on an assembly line. Containing 1¼-million parts each, the B-24s rolled off the line every 55 minutes during peak production. The Willow Run Plant produced nearly half the B-24s ever built.

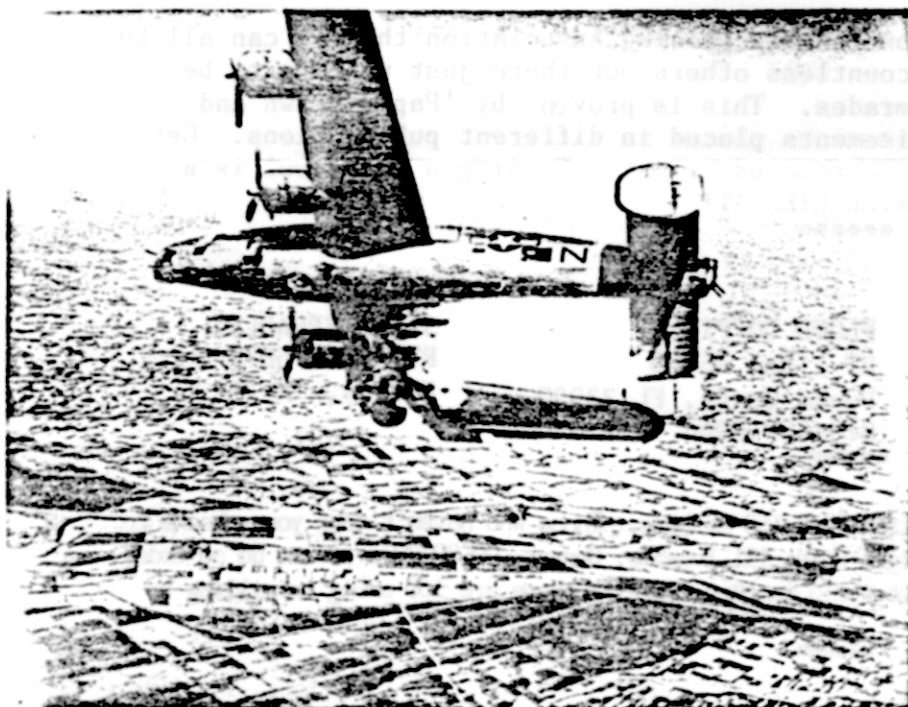
Fix-Up Crew Eager

If a B-24 bomber can be found and bought, it will mean a lot of hard work for YAF members — and they'll be glad for the challenge, says Ed Hennessey, a Personnel and Organization Staff security man.

"We'd like nothing better than a chance to go at one of them and fix it up like new," he says.

The condition of the plane will determine just how long it will take to get the bomber flyable and reasonably pleasing to the eye. "Remember," adds Hennessey, "Many people consider this the ugliest plane ever flown. It should take at least five years to fix up one. But when it's done, you can bet it will be a beauty to us."

After the war, most of the surviving B-24s were scrapped to help alleviate the post-war aluminum shortage. Some were given or sold to other nations. A number of them saw service in India. In 1969, the Indian government retired its fleet of 12 B-24s; most were scrapped. But YAF members believe as many as three B-24s still may be in India. The group is working with the American and Indian governments to try to find one and return it to its home in Willow Run.



AND--THE QUEENS COULD DIE PROUDLY!
CARRYING WITH THEM THOSE BRAVE
SOULS OF THE 783RD WHO WILL NEVER
BE FORGOTTEN!

PLANNING ON PLAYING IN GOLF TOURNAMENT & OR ATTENDING FAREWELL DINNER--READ CAREFULLY!

Those participating in the above two functions SHOULD REMEMBER you are doing so as a GUEST of the Wright-Patt Golf Course & Officers Club. Please consider the following facts. There are 24 General Officers stationed on the field; over 100 'Bird' Colonels; Lt Col's & Majors are as common as Second 'Looies' in our day; and Captains are as numerous as PFC's in the old army. These active duty people have priority on all facilities--unless there has been a SPECIAL EARLIER RESERVATION such as ours. Consequently, please consider both the Golf Course and O Club receives heavy traffic on the week end. On November 15, 1984 we must give them an estimate of the number planning to attend and participate in each of the above functions. And--at some time approximately 60 days prior to the Reunion we will be asked to furnish them a final figure. At that time the number of slots on the Golf Course and an area in the O Club will be reserved to accommodate the furnished number and NAMES. Those showing up in Dayton who haven't taken the time to return the questionnaire so they could be included may have to spend Sunday afternoon in the hotel lobby entertaining yourself. Passes to enter the base will have been prepared on the basis of the names we have furnished them earlier. SIMPLY STATED--we can cancel--but the odds of adding on are SLIM to NONE. So once again--HELP US TO HELP YOU HAVE A GOOD REUNION--send in the questionnaire even if there is a possibility you may have to cancel later. A \$20 stamp is all a little cooperation costs. Harry Greene advises our block of rooms will be turned back 10 days prior to August 22, 1985. If you haven't made your reservations with the Hotel prior to the above date they will have no obligation to the Association to accommodate you.

AIR FORCE ACADEMY CEMETARY WALL:

Last month in the company of Burt Andrus returned to where the Proud 783rd dedicated our squadron plaque on that never to be forgotten Sunday morning. The first thing that caught my eye was Old Bugs sitting a top of the wall playing his fiddle. He was a sight to behold and stood out over all the others like a sore thumb. I'd be the biggest liar in Texas to say that big ball of pride didn't swell up in my throat. A number of other unit plaques have been added. During my visit learned there will be no more squadron plaques placed on the wall--only groups and wings. It seems our 'Ole CO' in getting ours up cut some red tape as he was always famous for.

AIR FORCE ACADEMY CEMETARY INTERNMENT CHAPEL:

During our visit it was learned there is a dire need for the above for which there is no anticipated appropriated funds. The construction will be undertaken thru voluntary subscriptions. No one need be reminded that services being conducted during winter months would be much more comfortable for families if such a facility were available. There is an urgency to get the ball rolling on this project and after discussion of the matter at length with Burt Andrus and Dwight Reid it was unanimously agreed there could be no better or important project the Association could support. It is hoped each of you will be proud to know the 783rd will be in the forefront of this worth while endeavor. A letter of intent stating our commitment to make a donation was issued. You will be happy to know that Burt will be at the front in getting architectural plans; cost estimates etc. A complete review of this project will be presented the membership at Dayton along with a recommended donation for approval by the membership. It is hoped that each of you will understand and appreciate that time was of the essence and dictated our cutting the red tape and moving the 783rd banner to the front. Not only will the 783rd spearhead all of the other Air Force units in this drive but once completed future generations can look with pride at the Quid Fit Outfit--the Can Do--and Will Do Outfit out in front where it always was.

PURCHASE OF 783RD CAPS:

For the CS's reunion Burt Andrus designed a sharp cap--Air Force Blue in color with scrambled eggs on the bill and matching emblem reading 783rd Bomb Squadron which were available for purchase to those attending. Until recently they have been available for purchase thru Dwight Reid. However, due to the limited purchases and haste of packaging and mailing we have gone out of the cap business. Arrangements have been made so you can order directly from the manufacturer. Send \$7.50 to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EMBROIDERY & EMBLEM
2516 WEST COLORADO AVE
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80904

WITHOUT ONE YOU WILL BE OUT OF UNIFORM IN DAYTON 85!

TAPS:

COLONEL JESSE T. JUMPER USAF Ret--Miss Caroline E. Jumper; 4816 N. Magnolia; Chicago, IL 60640 wrote Woody Browning that 'The Jump' passed away the first part of September. 'The Jump' will be remembered as one of the original Crew Commanders; a good pilot; a good leader; and most of all--a good person. Jesse and his crew were 'scragged' over Vienna on July 8, 1944--the mission the Group received their first Presidential Citation. After POWville he went on to a distinguished military career and retired as a Colonel. Illness prevented him from attending the CS's reunion. Our sympathy and condolences to Miss Jumper--the 783rd shares in her loss.

783RDS JOHN WALKER CONTINUES HIS GOOD WORK:

Pictured below is John Walker being honored for his work with the handicapped. He will be remembered as the Sgt in Operations who had the impossible job of scheduling crews for missions and keeping all the flite records plus the responsibility of getting the crews out of the sack for the missions. He always accepted the verbal abuse heaped on him with a polite apology and today is one of the most respected and beloved members of our Association. CONGRATULATIONS! BIG JOHN:

Phifer Wire Products honored by Disabled Veterans group

Phifer Wire Products, Inc., of Tuscaloosa, has been awarded a special citation from the Department of Alabama, Disabled American Veterans organization. In announcing the presentation, State Commander Junious Davis of Hueytown stated, "This company, with more than 700 employees, has a total of 88 handicapped workers, of which 36 were disabled veterans — 12 percent of their entire work force are persons with some identifiable physical handicap. We consider this a most unusual record. The company has always hired people with a broad range of handicaps, including people who are deaf or confined to a wheelchair. Phifer has cooperated for many years with all the agencies that serve in the rehabilitation of handicapped persons, including the Vocational Rehabilitation Service, the Alabama State Employment Service and others."

All job openings at Phifer Wire Products are listed with the State Employment Service and the Vocational Rehabilitation Service in order that suitable handicapped persons or other qualified applicants may be recruited and referred.



Phifer Personnel manager John Carroll (L) and Vice President and Plant Manager John U. Walker (R) look on as State DAV Commander Junious Davis presents Karen Phifer Brooks with a special citation awarded to Phifer Wire Products. Phifer was recognized by the Disabled Veterans group for its outstanding record in offering employment to disabled and handicapped individuals.

Every vacancy at the plant is considered an opportunity for a handicapped person.

The citation was presented recently at the Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans in Bessemer. Karen Phifer Brooks, daughter of company founder and

president Reese Phifer, accepted the award on behalf of the company.

The local firm manufactures aluminum and fiberglass screening products. Phifer products are sold throughout the United States and in over 120 countries worldwide.

SICK CALL:

CHAPLAIN H. R. BLOUCH--we have recieved word from Mrs Ellin L. Yeagley daughter of our Group Chaplain that our beloved 'Holy Joe' has been admitted to the VA Hospital in Lebanon, PA suffering from Alzheimers disease. During my 50 missions at Panatella Chaplain Blouch never missed a morning of offering a prayer before take off. Like myself I have heard countless others say his prayers gave them the strength to crawl in a B-Two Dozen and make one more. All the 783rd join in extending their sympathy to Ellin and all the members of the Chaplain's family.

AL YATKAUSKAS--underwent surgery recently at the VA Hospital in Charleston, SC and is now under going chemo treatments. Al has experienced his share of 'lifes hard knocks' and accepted them with a fighting spirit. It will be remembered that when 'scragged' over Blechanmer while flying with Bate's crew he came down minus a leg and guest accomidations at POWville. All the squadron join in saying--GET WELL RASCAL! Only recently he hosted a reunion of the Bate's crew.

DWIGHT REID--our 'Keeper of the Coins' and one who has contributed so much to the sucess of the Association is taking treatments and battling a kidney stone plus battling the problems of two 'gimpy' knees. With all of the above problems he continues to do a great job of Treasurer for the Association plus donating his efforts of making the many divorcees and widows happy that he dates. All the 783rd join in saying--HANG IN THERE TIGER!

BIRTHDAY BOYS:

BURT ANDRUS-- in September 'Our Fearless Leader' celebrated his 66th birthday. All the 783rd joins in wishing him the best with the hope he enjoys many, many more. He put his brand on each of us that served under him. His teachings and leadership examples have played a big role in each of our lives. He has given unselfishly of his time, efforts and finances that has unquestionably been primarily responsible for the sucess of the Association. Like 'Old Man River'--we hope he just rolls on and on enjoying birthday after birthday.

DOC KIMBALL--on Oct 24 our beloved Flite Surgeon celebrated his 76th birthday. All the squadron join in wishing the 'Ole Rascal' happy birthday and may he have many, many more. The 'Ole Rooster' is still playing golf and sking while enjoying life to the fullest. Like good whiskey he gets better with age. He touched each of our lives for the better.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FELLAS!--don't you wish you were still holding on 39 like the 'Cle F/O' ?

NEWS OF LOST SOULS LOCATED:

MANUEL AGUIRRE--was located in Yuma, AZ leading the good life mostly fishing for Yellow Tails in the Sea of Cortez off Baja, CA and attending reunions. 'Manny' reupped in the Air Force and served at numerous fields before retiring as a Major with over 2 000 hours as a Navigator in B-47's at Schilling AFB in 1964. Another 783rd 'Toggle Jockey' who made good.

LEROY NEIL 'PAPPY' BROWN--an original Crew Commander and respected for his tite formation flying as well as one of the lucky ones to complete 50 missions. He is semi retired living the good life in Stockbridge, MI and THE GOOD LORD WILLING will join with us in Dayton. He has pitched into the affairs of the Association and thru his efforts we were able to locate Frank Kara. Some years back 'Pappy' under went By Pass Surgery so we will never have the opportunity for him to arm wrestle 'The Bear' Goplen to see who is the stoutest.

FRANK KARA--the first pilot to complete 50 missions. He is not only remembered as an excellent Crew Commander but equally as well as a great artist having drawn the Petty Girls on the O Club walls with nothing more than colored pencils. It is only fair to record a bit of history and the part this individual played in it. When the 783rd departed Mc Cook Frank and Tommy Greenwood's crews did not rate planes and had to travel by troop trains, liberty ship and box car to reach Panatella. By mid July Kara and Greenwood had not only proven their capabilities but were in a neck and neck race leading the squadron in number of missions flown. Unfortunately, in the latter part of July Greenwood went down. On August 27, 1944 Frank finished up by flying 50 missions in 109 days. He is now retired living the good life in Fallbrook, CA.

COLONEL CHARLES A. CLARK JR USAF Ret--our Group CO was located here in San Antonio little more than a mile from my office. He was presented a Squadron Cap and History Book which was greatly appreciated. It should be noted the Colonel is 74 years young having graduated from West Point in the class of 1932. He sends his best wishes to all. He will be remembered as a 'Tough Ole Rooster' who chose to lead the tough ones. Our Harry Greene tells a good one on the Colonel. On Harry's last mission the Colonel came down from Wing to lead the Group. When they pulled the sheet back the red string led straight to a tough target far into Germany discounting a 'milk run' for Harry's last run. To make matters worse as they approached the target heavy clouds were encountered. Colonel Clark handled this situation by dropping down and making the bomb run at 16 000. This inflicted a condition on Harry that causes his continued use of Preperation H.

ANOTHER 783RD BRAT MAKES GOOD:

MAJOR RALPH AGUIRRE--son of 'Manny' Aguirre wears the gold leaves and Air Force Blue. He has logged over 1 500 hours in an F-15 and is presently stationed at TAC HDQS Langley AFB. His decorations include the Silver Star; Bronze Star; and Air Medal with silver clusters that he earned as a Huey Chopper pilot while flying over 1 300 combat hours in Viet Nam with the First Air Calvary. 'Manny' and Nyme Farage will be at Dayton telling us how their sons are keeping the Air Force flying and popping buttons on their GI drawers. And--they have every rite to be 'Proud Papas'. Hope they remember to pass out cigars and buy drinks.

DAYTONIA HILTON HOTEL REUNION INFORMATION:

In a letter just recieved the Hotel reminded us free parking is furnished all registered guests. And--refunds of the \$50 deposit will made to any cancellations recieved before August 15, 1985.

RETURN OF QUESTIONAIRES IN LAST ISSUE:

PLEASE! PLEASE! take the time to complete and return. REMEMBER--the options you indicate will dictate the format for the various events of the reunion. Harry needs them to better plan YOUR REUNION!

To date 28 have been recieved. They indicate a total of 51 persons attending; Semi Formal dress for the Banquet leads by 24; continue the Dining Out Format for the Banquet leads by 17; a Band & Dancing after the Banquet leads by 18; 15 have advised they will play golf; and 43 will attend the Farewell Dinner.

COMPLETE & MAIL YOURS TODAY!

LOST PHOTO--Don Kay-someone left a photo in his room at CS's. Four guys with one wearing a shoulder holster and pistollo. Contact him for return.

Good Folks here is another load for your manure pile. REMEMBER--this is YOUR NEWS LETTER. The contents depend on what YOU send in. How about some help?

QUID FIT!

A PRAYER WE ALL REMEMBER:

OH GOD, THOU WHO HAS CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, AND IN THY NATURAL WAY, HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR MAN TO SUSTAIN HIMSELF IN FLIGHT THRU THE AIR, WE ASK AGAIN THY BLESSINGS ON THESE MEN AS THEY GO OUT TO FLY HIGH IN THE SKY, GRANT THEM COURAGE TO DO A GOOD JOB, PROTECT THEM AGAINST THE ASSULTS OF THE ENEMY, AND MAY THEIR FAITH BE UNFALTERING IN THEE. WE PRAY IT SO IN THE NAME OF HIM WHO HAVE GIVEN US POWER OVER ALL THE THINGS OF THE EARTH. THRU JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

CHAPLAIN H. R. BLOUCH