

P.M. AUG 25, 1984

12th Edition - 63rd, 64th, 65th, 403rd, Hdqs Squadrons - August 1984

Dear fellow 43rd Group members.

REUNION UPDATE -- Sept 28th - 30th 1984

Crystal City - Hyatt Regency - Arlington, Virginia. Phone 1-703-486-1234. Group rate \$55.00 single or double.

REUNION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY Sept 28th. Registration. noon to 8 PM. Refreshments.

FRIDAY 8:30 PM Individual Squadron meetings for business and pleasure.

SATURDAY Sept 29th. 8:30 AM. Business and pleasure meeting for Veteran Members. Continental breakfast. 9:30 AM. For the ladies. A Beauty-make-up-session arranged by Doris Butler. Continental breakfast. Door prizes.

SATURDAY 1:30 PM. Two British Double Decker busses have been chartered for a 3 hour tour of Washington with stops at Arlington Cemetary and Smithsonian Air Space Museum. Cost is \$ 10.00 per person.

TURSDAY 7:30 PM. Dinner and dance banquet until midnight - good fun and fellowship. Cash bar.

SUNDAY Sept 30th. 10:00 AM. Memorial Service to be conducted by Father Thomas ea.

The Hyatt monitor system will indicate location of all of these events in the Hotel.

FEES

For registration refreshments including wine, and Saturday continental breakfast \$ 10.00

For Banquet, meal, dance band, and bar expence. \$ 30.00.

A total for all hotel events \$ 40.00 per person.

Please return the questionnaire at the end of this letter to BOB BUTLER so he can make arrangements with the hotel.

SQUADRON MEETINGS

Each of the five Squadrons of the 43rd will meet at 8:30 PM on Friday night (after supper), for the following purpose. including of course, the fun of meeting again.

1. Discussion of new officers and sqd. representation.
2. Discussion of incorporation or not.
3. Discussion of 43rd participation in 5th AF Memorial Assn.
4. Proposal for future reunions.
5. Thoughts on preservation and publication of 43rd history.

This meeting is for all to have a part and get ready for these same items for Saturday meeting of men at 8:30 AM Continental breakfast. All squadrons to help in these discussions. BOB BUTLER suggests the following members to help lead the discussion on Friday night.

HDQS SQDN LOU ALPE - CYRUS MICHAELS - FRED MC ALLESTER - JAMES T. PETTUS - FATHER SHEA - ROBERT L. CUTLER.

63rd SQDN CARL HUSTAD - D.M. ANDERSON - FRED BLAIR - DR. CARP - AL FISCHER - JOE HIRSH - DICK WOOD.

64th SQDN ED BELL - ANDY ANDERSON - BOB BAUDEAN - HAL BRECHT - BOB HALL - THOMAS MALLEY ATTY.

65th SQDN LLOYD BOREN - JOHN "RED" SCANLON ATTY - JAMES HARCROW - MAX OSBORN ATTY - JAMES OTTINGER - BILL WILSON.

403rd SQDN PAUL COBER - ARTHUR DURBECK - NEIL FAIRBANKS - ART HANE - WADE KEHP - SID LEE - MAX AXELSON.

These names are listed just to get the talk started and to lend their various experiences to advise on the questions involved.

The Saturday morning group meeting will be used to vote on all business before the association.

BERMUDA TRIP CANCELLED

Due to inconvenient airline schedules and relatively minor response by members, the proposed post-reunion trip to Bermuda, as a group, will not be made. Several members have indicated a two day trip to Williamsburg, VA would be preferable, beginning on Sunday Sept 30th. Reservations can be made at the Williamsburg Lodge by toll free # 1-800-446-8956. The same 800 number can be used for other locations at the Inn, Colonial houses, or motor court.

BUS TOUR \$ 10.00 PER PERSON

Washington DC and the neighboring historic areas cover a lot of sightseeing. For extended tours of the White House, (open at 10 AM except Sunday & Monday), the Capitol, Natl Gallery of Art, etc. it is suggested that members make arrangements for extended tours either before or after the reunion. The Saturday afternoon bus tour, though short, will give us a chance to spend some time at Arlington Cemetary and the Smithsonian Air Space Museum, returning in time to rest up and get ready for the banquet.

ARRIVAL BY AIR

For those who fly in, the Hyatt maintains a shuttle from National Airport. Please call the hotel at 1-703-486-1234, a local call, and the shuttle will pick you up at the requested airline stop. The shuttle will also take you to the Metro entrance about 3 blocks away, and from there you can travel to spots all over the D.C. area.

DRIVING IN

For those arriving by car, the hotel parking lot can handle several hundred cars, vans etc. It is not set up to handle RV'S. There is also another large parking area adjacent to the Hyatt which can handle week end parking.

BRIEF HISTORY

For new members and friends, the 43rd Bomb Group was constituted in Novem 1940 at Langley AFB, VA (near Williamsburg). with initial elements from the 2nd Bomb Group. On activation Jan 15, 1941, the Group was composed of 63rd, 64th, and 65th Sqdns with 403rd (formerly 13th Recon) joining on 16 April 1942. The Group moved to Bangor, Maine in August 1941, and in February 1942, sailed from Boston on the Queen Mary by way of the South Alantic on a solo voyage ending at Sydney, Australia on March 28, 1942. The group was joined in the summer of 1942 by B-17 crews from the USA, Hawaii, and Panama areas. After training in northern Australia, and missions with the 19th Bomb Group, the 43rd emerged in late 1942 as an active group from Jackson strip at Port Moresby all the way to the Philippines and ultimately to missions to Japan. There were many individual and collective acts of heroism on missions, and selfless hard work by ground personnel which achieved records for bombing missions and two Presidential Unit Citations. After WW2, the 43rd continued making records in B-50's at Davis-Monathon, Arizona including the first round -the-world non-stop flight. Later the group made speed records in B-58's from Texas to Paris, France, flown by the late H. J. DEUTSCHENDORF, father of the popular TV & Screen Star, singer John Denver. A worthwhile endeavor for the future would be a true history of the 43rd Grp. from 1940 to its present station at Anderson AFB in Guam where the 43rd SAC Wing flies B-52's and is supported by the 43rd Support Group.

TAPS

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the families of the following members who have passed away since our last letter.

RALPH W. POWELL March 13, 84
 JACK SILVERRA 83
 WILLIAM RICHTER Dec 27, 83

NEWS ITEMS

A recent note from JOE SHAPURA, 65th, tells of meeting with six other 43rd people, including MATT HOLOHAN, at Seminole, Fla. to talk over old times and WW2 missions.

DICK WOODS, 63rd, has had recent letter from the 43rd SAC Wing in Guam. The Wing hopes to be represented at reunion, and will furnish slide show of current 43rd activity. Also for presentation at Sat AM business meeting, a slide show of recent trip to South/Pacific by MAX OSBORN, 65th, Cheyenne, WY. ROBERT L. MILLER has an extra copy of "DOWN UNDER" which he will raffle off with proceeds to be donated to the 5th AF Memorial Fund. MICHAEL O'MALLEY, Pres. Judge of the court of Common Pleas in Phil. PA, is one of not nearly enough to help place the men in the squadron unknown in their proper squadrons. We need more of you men to pitch in and help wipe out that section of our roster.

The Boeing Company of Seattle, Washington is planning a three day celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the B-17, and Friday July 26th, 1985 has been designated as B-17 Bomb Group Day, and the 43rd invited. I'm sure many of our members will want to attend this event and more details will be furnished later.

ABOUT THE FUTURE

The position assumed by BOB BUTLER in organizing the 43rd reunion has been rewarding and fruitful, both in the 705 members we have located and the great friendships renewed and established. There has been much cooperation and financial help to achieve these results and they are much appreciated. From San Antonio in 1981 to Oklahoma City in 1982 with the 403rd and culminating aboard that great ship, the QUEEN MARY, in California in 1983, the reunions have become progressively better attended and organized. With 1984 coming to an end, BOB BUTLER is asking for relief from leadership to turn the reins over to a new chairman, who will accomplish our future goals in more and better reunions and historical effort. I hope that all will consider taking part in this leadership, and there will be some good candidates for a FREE DEMOCRATIC election of new officers for 1985.

A NOTE FROM LLOYD

I took it upon myself to have window decals made up for the 43rd Bombardment Group Assn. These are acetate pull off decals for your car and bear the 43rd emblem. They are about the size of the Natl Rifle Assn decals, and will be in Gold, Blue, and White. They will be available at the reunion, and by mail from me. The cost is \$2.00, and the profit will go to the association. These are much nicer decals than those of the 19th. Also, according to Bob, we may have some more caps at the reunion.

QUESTIONNAIRE

REUNION ARRIVAL DATE	TIME	TRAVEL MODE
BANQUET SELF	WIFE	GUESTS
BUS TOUR SELF	WIFE	GUESTS

Please mail prior to Sept 25th, 84 to R.H. Butler
 511 Forest Lake Rd.
 Fayetteville, NC 28305
 PH 919-484-3013