



# NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 5, #2

AUGUST, 1961

## DEAR TROOPS,

Will you be in Pittsburgh, Pa., to help us celebrate our 14th Annual Reunion as the Second Air Division Association at the Pittsburgh Hilton on the 6th, 7th and 8th of October 1961?

Naturally, we are hoping that the answer is in the affirmative. We know that it will be impossible for some of you to attend but we can dream can't we. For some of you it will be your first reunion and for others it will be another of many. Whichever, it is, we extend a most hearty WELCOME. Even if you are unable to attend, fill out the inclosed card anyway and send it to us so that we will know that you are with us in spirit if not in the flesh. We have lots of inquiries as to whether so and so is coming and if we have your cards we can give an intelligent answer or at least we can try.

The Reunion Committee consisting of the following members is still busy making plans and ironing out details and will continue to do so until the last of the troops embark for home to make this 14th Annual Reunion one that you will remember for the rest of the year.

Dean Moyer - Reunion Chairman

Charlie Stine	Harry Schweppe
George Dikun	John Medker
Evelyn Cohen	Marie Eisenhuth
Marie Cizek	

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### 6 October 1961

1:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Registration (Mezzanine)  
 6:30 PM to ? ? ? - Hospitality Room (Check at Registration Desk)

#### 7 October 1961

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Executive Board Meeting  
 (Black Diamond F Room)  
 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM - General Membership Meeting  
 (Black Diamond F Room)  
 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM - Cocktails  
 (Ballroom #4)  
 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM - Banquet  
 9:30 PM to 1:00 AM - Dance  
 (Ballroom #4)

#### 8 October 1961

Disbursement of Troops until 1962 when they will again reassemble for the trip to Norwich, England for the formal dedication of the American Room of the Norwich Library.

NOTE: The Reunion Committee has dispensed with a Guest Speaker this year so that Percy Young may give us a report on his trip to England with informal questions and answers from the floor. Knowing Percy, I'm sure that you will enjoy his most informative talk since this living memorial to our comrades who gave their lives is dear to the heart of us all.

Won't you make every effort possible to attend this Reunion and share with us the old and the new?

Be sure to get your reservations in right away so that they will reach Ray Strong no later than the 15th of September. Also, send in your hotel reservations right away. We were given a reduction in the price of hotel rooms - \$16.00 for a double and \$12.50 for a single.

See you in Pittsburgh, Pa.

## NORWICH REUNION

The 1962 Norwich Reunion applications are coming in very rapidly. So if you are planning on making this trip, may I suggest that you get your application in as soon as possible because the contracts will be mailed in October after the Reunion. The first come first serve basis will also apply to the contracts.

We have chartered a Pan American World Airways DC7C which will have 87 seats. The maximum round-trip fare will be \$264. You will notice that the fare is considerably less than the \$325 which was quoted in the last Newsletter. The new rate is based upon the new 1962 charter prices. Any monies which are not used will be refunded to you at the end of the trip. I had originally planned to have the contracts to you by the end of September. I have decided to hold these up until the last part of October after the Reunion in Pittsburgh. Percy Young left last week for England and will not return until the day before the Pittsburgh Reunion when he will make a report on the arrangements that he was able to make with the 2nd Air Division Memorial Trust Fund members in Norwich.

So put aside your deposits for the Reunion in Norwich so that when the contracts come to you, you can send them in right away and be assured of a seat.

I know that a lot of you are interested in various histories of the outfits we served with and whenever I receive any information along this line, I like to pass it on to you. The latest information that I have along this line came from Marilyn "Fritzie" Snyder, Lt. Col., USAF. I immediately purchased this book and am very pleased with it which I am sure you will be also.

It is entitled "Air Force Combat Units of World War II" and Edited by Maurer Maurer, USAF Historical Division, Air University, Department of the Air Force, 1960. It is for sale by the:

Superintendent of Documents  
U.S. Government Printing Office  
Washington 25, D. C. Price: \$2.50

It is a hard-backed book consisting of 506 pages and gives a brief summary of each group. I have not had time to go over it in detail since I received it just last week, but the parts I did read were most interesting. Approved insignia are also shown in the book, along with the names of the various Commanders and the dates that each served as such.

We are highly honored to be given the first opportunity to publicize the up-coming publication of a book co-authored by one of our members.

The name of the book is yet to be decided. Its authors are James Dugan and Carroll Stewart.

It will be an historical non-fiction book-- a full detail account of the low level mission by Libyan-based B-24 Liberators to destroy the Rumanian oil refineries. The Authors uncovered a vast amount of participant testimony from Americans, Germans, Rumanians and Bulgarians through wartime diaries, letters, narratives and interviews. Additionally they exhausted official and unofficial archives and enjoyed full cooperation of USAF and W/German Bundeswehr. There will be 13 charts and maps prepared especially for Ploesti and two hundred photographs drawn from official and private sources. The Authors believe this book will contain the highest percentage of participant testimony of any major battle in military history.

Full U. S. combatants' roster (1,800 names) will appear, also a partial Axis roster plus a general name index. U. S. roster data will include individual's 1943 home address, air duty, unit, wartime fate and a where-are-they-now reference if available. Similar data will be included on 150 Axis personnel whose names and deeds were turned up in the research.

Dugan, who resides today in Philadelphia, is an established author. He has written The Great Iron Ship, Man Under the Sea, and other books, all by Harper & Brothers. He is a frequent contributor to Holiday, The Reader's Digest, The National Geographic, The New Yorker, etc. He wrote the documentation for The Silent World, Columbia Picture's 1957 Academy Award documentary film. A native of Altoona, Pa., he was in the Eighth Air Force News Reel & Pictorial Section and a Yank staffer during WWII.

Stewart resides at O'Neill, Nebraska, where he was editor-publisher of The Frontier weekly newspaper 13 post-war years. As a corporal he was the 93rd BG's original "PRO" and did legwork for the Eighth Air Force wartime book, Target: Germany.

Dugan's wife is the former Ruth Lonergan of White Bear Lake, Minn. She served in OSS in London and Paris during WWII. Stewart's wife is the former Margaret (Peggy) O'Para of Milburn, New Jersey, who was with the ARC in East Anglia, France and Germany during the war.

Two-thirds of the U. S. aircraft and crews taking off from Benghazi 1AUG43 belonged to the 201st Combat Bombardment Wing (H). The Wing constituted all the battieworthy B-24's in Eighth Bomber Command and the infant Second Air Division. One-third belonged to the Desert-based Ninth Bomber Command.

During the book's research phase the working title of Black Sunday was used. Ploesti is the new tentative title. Second Air Division Association Newsletter readers will be informed of finally determined title and exact publication date.

Cal has been keeping me informed on the progress of this book and I shall pass this information along to you as soon as I receive it. The tentative plans are that it will be published by Random House early in 1962. I know that you will all be anxious to obtain a copy of this most informative book as soon as it is released. We just might be able to persuade Cal to personally autograph each book that our members purchase.

## DUES

A gentle reminder (like a brick bat, maybe) to those of you who are delinquent in your dues and those of you who are about to be, how about making yourself a committee of one to get your dues in to our Membership Chairman. I must remind you that we are not a profit making organization and your dues just about cover the expenses involved in publishing the Newsletter. We have tried to be lenient in the past by sending the Newsletter even though you were delinquent in your dues feeling that it was an oversight on your part, but we do have to have a stopping point. If you do not desire to be a member of this organization, would you please notify the Membership Chairman of your desires so that she will not annoy you with notices and also by the same token save her a little work since she is not paid a salary to maintain the membership files which in itself is practically a full time job. I think that our Association is most fortunate in having such a conscientious Membership Chairman and that we as members should try to make her job a little bit easier. I have found it convenient to pay my dues five years in advance and then I don't have to wonder if I have paid them for the current year. You just might find this convenient for you. I dislike very much having to write this but it necessary. Unfortunately I have to publish the unpleasant as well as the pleasant. Naturally, I prefer the latter. OK! 'Nuff said.



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- Baum, Howard H., 61 E. Caracas Ave., Hershey, Pa.  
Bode, John E., 2824 Lynwood Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio  
Cadden, John V., Coursen Way, Morris Plains, New Jersey  
Clark, Robert C., 1800 S. Park Ave., Haddon Heights, New Jersey  
Failon, Donald V., P. O. Box 57, Sioux Falls, S. D.  
Friedman, Julian L., 21 Minnehaha Circle, Maitland, Florida  
Harrigan, James E., Berry Hill Road, Oyster Bay Cove, Syosset, New York  
McCarty, Vere A., 2219 Broadway, N. E., Salem, Oregon  
Merrill, Col. Charles T., 2519 Dawson Street, Washington 21, D. C.  
Pondfield, John J., 3427 Janelle Drive, Baltimore, Maryland

Potts, Ramsey O., Jr., 914 17th Street N. W. #412,  
Washington 6, D. C.

Roberts, Donald E., 3264 Antler Drive, Gibsonsia, Pa.

Salisbury, Charles H., 19 E. Eager Street, Baltimore,  
Maryland

Snook, Eugene W., III, 1030 Lanark Way, Silver Spring,  
Maryland

Veynar, Gladys B. (Hathy), 4915 Bristow Drive, Annan-  
dale, Virginia

Viets, Jack H., 39 High Street, Lebanon, Pa.

Warren, Mrs. Elizabeth (Cutts), 2815 Dodson Street,  
Durham, North Carolina

Young, Percy C., 1830 Exchange Bldg, Memphis 3, Tenn.

Eorland, David D., Meadow Gate Drive, RD 3, Murrys-  
ville, Pa.

Brandt, Henry W., 3415 Courtwood Drive, Fort Wayne,  
Indiana

Horney, William G., Jr., 3743 Willow Lane, Toledo 15,  
Ohio

Kiernan, James D., 88 Folger Street, Buffalo 20, N. Y.

Stephens, Edward L., 4 Overlook Road, Newton, New  
Jersey.

## NEW MEMBERS

Hendon, Wyman Z., Box 207, Stockbridge, Georgia  
389th BG.

Hennaman, Don, 2015 Broad Avenue, Apt. 13, Altoona,  
Pa. 448th BG.



## WEST COAST WING

Our WEST COAST WING has had its 2nd Reunion and it is now past history. We share again their Mild and Bitters report with you.

### THE 2ND REUNION OF THE WING

The 2nd Reunion of the West Coast Wing (2AD Assn) is now a matter of history, but for those who were unable to attend and those who did; I shall try to give a run-down on the goings on.

The site of the 1961 Reunion was the Brookdale Lodge (where the brook runs thru the dining room) located on State Highway 9 at Brookdale, California. The members began to arrive from near and far on Friday PM June 16<sup>th</sup> and by 6PM, those who had arrived, were in the mood to partake of the drinks and hors d'oeuvres which had been prepared by the Reunion Committee in the Hospitality Room for the members to enjoy. At 9PM a convoy was formed outside the Hospitality Room and the members made the short drive to the Trout Farm Inn at Zayants for dinner (dutch). After dinner, the members were on their own for what remained of the evening.

For the convenience of the members who wanted to sleep-in, swim, shop or just go off on a sightseeing trip, Saturday morning June 17<sup>th</sup> was left free of any scheduled events. At 1:30 PM the Wing Board met for the purpose of going over the record of the past year and to discuss the agenda for the General Meeting. The General Meeting of the membership of the Wing was called to order at

2:30 PM by Wing Commander, Mike Fusano and opened with the Pledge to the Flag. Reports from the Secretary and Treasurer were read. The Wing Executive read a letter addressed to the membership, from Jim Middleton, Charter Director from the State of Washington; in which Jim expressed his regrets for not being able to be at the Reunion and sent his best wishes for the continued success of the Wing and its Officers. Ballots were then handed out to all members present and the election of Officers and the selection of the City and Month for the next Reunion took place. After all present had voted and the absentee ballots had been opened and tabulated, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee announced the results of the voting to the membership. The outgoing Wing Commander thanked the members for their support during the past year and wished his successor the best of luck in the coming year. The meeting was then turned over to the new Wing Commander, who expressed his appreciation to the membership for their vote of confidence and then entertained a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

At 7PM the membership once more assembled in the Hospitality Room for cocktails and to have a group picture taken. At 9:30 PM all present proceeded to the Main Dining Room of the Lodge for the Wing Dinner. After the dinner, the members enjoyed listening to the songs of the Ink Spots, who were appearing nightly at the Lodge some of their songs brought back memories of the War Years when we were stationed in England. At the conclusion of their performance, the curtain began to slowly descend on another Wing Reunion.

Sunday morning June 18<sup>th</sup> was departure time for the members and after the last candid shot had been taken and the final "See you next year" had been said, one by one the members departed for their homes.

### MEMBERS ATTENDING THE REUNION

The following members attended the 2nd Reunion of the Wing: Elmer & Hazel Baxendale (Hq 2AD) San Jose Calif., Robert Blumenfeld (466<sup>th</sup>BGP) & his sister Dolly, Los Angeles, Calif., Robert Boutain (93rd BGP) Escondido, Calif., William & Lois Burns (389<sup>th</sup> BGP) Yakima, Wash., Cecil Bishop (446<sup>th</sup> BGP) Sacramento, Calif., Eleanor Callihan (Hq 2AD) Sacramento, Calif., George & Lucille DeLacy (44<sup>th</sup> BGP) Napa, Calif., Mike & Cathy Fusano (14<sup>th</sup> CmbtWg) Sylmar, Calif., Edd Hunton (Hq 2AD) Clovis, Calif., Roger & Margaret Stone (389<sup>th</sup> BGP) Bakersfield, Calif., Maria & Richard Turchet (Hq 2AD) Santa Cruz Calif., Clayton & Ruth Woodward (389<sup>th</sup> BGP) Stockton, Calif. and an Honorary Member of the West Coast Wing, Henriette Horak (SHAEP) San Francisco, Calif. To those of you who came to the Reunion this year, we say thanks and be sure and come back next year. To those who were unable to attend this year, we certainly missed you and we did appreciate the greetings you mailed in to Wing HQS, plan now to be with us in 1962!!!! Regarding the group picture taken on Saturday night, if you desire a copy, contact Eleanor M. Callihan, 640 San Miguel Way, Sacramento 19, Calif., and I feel sure you can get a print.  
(((PLEASE TURN OVER-MORENEWS)))

MEMORIES AND POST MORTEMES

Do you remember?? Mike Fusano, forever saying "I'm in olives, that's my business"; and Eleanor Callihan, trying to get everyone lined up for the group picture; or Hank Horak, telling and re-telling her joke about the auto accident; and Bob Blumenfeld, chipping a piece from the ceiling of his room when he popped a cork out of the bottle of champagne; or how Cecil Bishop, kept getting car sick from the all too many curves on State Highway 9, to and from the Lodge; and how Maria "Jackie" Turchet, looked when she christened her miniature loving cup with champagne on Saturday night (it leaked)!! Oh! there were many, many more which we will recall from time to time in one of those quieter moments.

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RESULTS OF THE ELECTION

As a result of the votes cast by the members at the General Meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup> and the Absentee Ballots, the following members were selected as the Officers of the West Coast Wing (2AD Assn) for 1961-62. WING COMMANDER-Robert Blumenfeld (466<sup>th</sup>BGp) Los Angeles, Calif. WING EXECUTIVE-Robert Boutain (93rd BGp) Escondido, Calif. WING SECRETARY-TREASURER - Roger L. Stone (389<sup>th</sup> BGp) Bakersfield, Calif. DIRECTORS for N. California are: Richard Alberti (453rd BGp) Fresno, Calif. & Clayton G. Woodward (389<sup>th</sup> BGp) Stockton, Calif. DIRECTORS for S. California are: Joanne Affronte (Hq 2 AD) Long Beach, Calif. & Newton L. McLaughlin (448<sup>th</sup> BGp) Los Alamitos, Calif. William L. Burns (389<sup>th</sup> BGp) Yakima, Wash. is DIRECTOR for the States of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. James W. Parke (466<sup>th</sup> BGp) Reno, Nev. is DIRECTOR for the States of Nevada, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona.

San Francisco, California & June 1962 were selected overwhelmingly by the membership as the City and Month for the 3rd Wing Reunion. By the time the next issue of the Newsletter comes out, we hope to be able to give you the weekend and hotel/motel site. Plan now to attend the 1962 Reunion of the WEST COAST WING (2nd Air Div Assn)!!!!!!!

ALWAYS REMEMBER THE MOTTO OF THE WEST COAST WING, "Unidos en Amistad por Siempre" (United in Friendship Forever).

I ran out of space for my "Bits & Chips" column so it will included in the Newsletter following the Reunion. Imagine that I should have quite a bit more to add at that time. I felt that the WEST COAST WING should have first priority in this issue since they have just issued their "Mild and Bitters"

My art work in this issue leaves much to be desired but I hope you will bear with me for the next few issues unless someone would be kind enough to offer their assistance. It would be greatly appreciated I can assure you.

MEMBERSHIP & DUES POLICIES

The following is quoted from Art. II of the By-Laws, West Coast Wing (2 AD Assn) for the information and guidance of all members.  
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"2. Annual dues in the amount of \$2.00 shall be due and payable by each Active Member of the Wing on 1 January of each year or within thirty days thereafter and shall be forwarded to the Wing Secretary-Treasurer.

3. All members of the Wing shall pay Annual Dues in the amount of \$1.00 to the 2nd Air Division Association thru the Wing Secretary-Treasurer, with the exception of those members who hold Life Memberships, or 5 Year Memberships (which are good until 1 Jan 1964 unless sooner expired) in the 2nd Air Division Association. Payment of these dues may be included with the Annual Wing Dues payment and are due and payable on 1 January of each year or within thirty days thereafter.

4. Any Active Member of the Wing, who shall have failed to forward his yearly dues payments within six (6) months of the due date, shall be considered a Probationary Member and shall be notified in writing by the Wing Secretary-Treasurer of this status. After formal notification has been forwarded to the member and no acknowledgement is received within thirty days, said member shall be dropped from the rolls. However, if a member placed on probation shall forward his delinquent dues payments after he has been notified of his change in membership status, such member shall be restored to the Active List."

MEMO TO ALL MEMBERS: All checks in payment of dues, should be made payable to the WEST COAST WING and sent to:  
Roger L. Stone  
Wing Sec-Treasurer  
2812 Arroyita Drive  
Bakersfield, California.

I have also never been known to turn down any articles which you might send me for publication. Just a gentle hint. That's all for this issue and I'll be with you again after the Reunion to give you an account of what transpired at Pittsburgh. However, don't let that stop you from attending. We need your smiling faces to make the week-end an enjoyable one. So come one, come all.

*Hathy Veynar*  
HATHY VEYNAR  
Publicity V-President