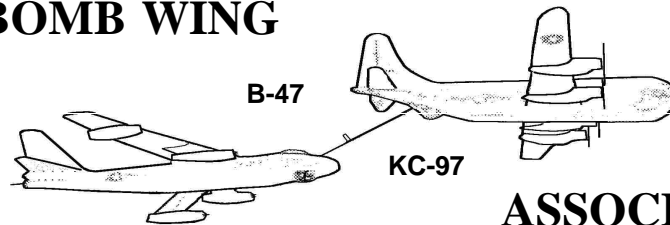


307TH BOMB WING



ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

No Bios, No Book!

Chairman's Report

Where Are The Biographies?

In conversation with Turner Publishing, I have learned that we are not getting the job done with the history book. Only one hundred of us have submitted our Bios! **THIS WON'T WORK!** Please review the HISTORY INSERT and finish your bios NOW. August 15th is the deadline. We must have three hundred submissions or the project will be cancelled--THEY WON'T PUBLISH.

Let's Complete Our Membership Drive!

We continue to receive a few Application for Membership forms after each Newsletter mailing. Our thanks to those who have responded, but we wish **everyone** would answer so we could quit writing about it. Remember, if there is an * next to your name on the mailing label, this means we do not have an application form on file for you, and you are, consequently, not an "official" member of the Association. There's a good reason to DO IT NOW--you can do so for twenty-nine cents. Very soon, it may cost thirty-two or thirty-three cents, or more.

Clock is Running on Memorial Project!

We have had several reports about and some discussion of a 307th Bomb Wing B-47/KC-97 Memorial at The United States Air Force Museum at Wright-

Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. We have already received \$320 in contributions for the Memorial. Please be prepared to discuss this project at the business meeting in Seattle--a vote will be taken. I have been advised that time is running out, as is space--WE MUST DECIDE IN SEATTLE. There will be a business meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, 2 July 1994.

Other Association Business on Agenda!

Additional issues will be discussed and decided in Seattle. We must select the location for our 1996 reunion. Not that any of you have forgotten, but we have been to Las Vegas in 1988, Lincoln in 1990, Orlando in 1992, and Seattle in 1994. Where will we be in 1996? Also, a Chairman's election will take place, and other positions reaffirmed.

Historian Needed!

We have a great need for a permanent HISTORIAN, who is willing to be a collector and retainer of items deemed important to our history. Other military units with which I am associated have a Historian. Please help me to find that person. Any History Buffs out there? Call me with any suggestions, **especially if it is yourself.**

Seattle Bound!

Last, but certainly not least, make your reservations for Seattle. We would like to see all of you there, and it is clear that

Bob King and his committee have planned a wonderful time for all of us. Where else can you go, have a wonderful time, and hear such tales of daring do?

Your Chairman

Tony Minnick

Donations

Following is a list of members who have made donations to the Association since October 1993. The Association thanks you for these donations which help defer newsletter and administrative costs.

Richard D Valen
Max Marsh
Darrell E Norris
Lois J Johnson
Shirley Gates
Bill Rogers
Mike Gingrich
John M Crook
Billy Lyons
Donald R Greene
Gerald J Otten
Gerald J Post
James L Lancaster
Lewis Kranz
Phillip H Field
Robert B Kelly
R Keith Nystrom
Ronald G Rawson
William L Oertel
Gene Lee
Dallas L Crosby
Franklin J Medrick
James W White
Bruce Mills
Dorothy W Veiluva
Edward J Godec
Frank Ott
Jerry Lanning
Richard Roberts



Spain -- Reflex Plus Thirty Years

*Reflex, makes the grass grow green,
Horse_ _ _ _ does the same darn thing*

Old SAC marching ditty

The raucous refrains of the Reflex song usually echoed through the halls of the Moron AB Hospitality Center (aka - alert quarters) the night before a group of crews departed on R&R. The SAC custom of mid-Reflex-tour R&Rs didn't make the grass grow green, but the R&Rs certainly helped increase our tolerance to Horse_ _ _ _ . Thus, we poor working aircrews had the opportunity to take several R&Rs between weeks in the barrel. Those of us who chose not to go to far off exotic locations like Kenya or Israel, found that we enjoyed Palma de Mallorca and Madrid, and almost all of us spent some time in Sevilla. It was a unique and fascinating country thirty years ago, and still is, although in many ways it is quite different.

307th Bomb Wing B-47/KC-97 Association

Chairman: Tony Minnick, 5920 Robin Court, Lincoln, NE, 68516. Phone 402-423-6848.

Chairman's Committee:

Secretary: Vern Biaett, 9519 W Timberline Drive, Sun City, AZ, 85351. Phone 602-972-7328.

Treasurer: Ethel Dodge, Route 1 Box 35, Waverly, NE, 68462. Phone 402-786-3009.

Editor: Marjean Gingrich, 1525 Edenwood Drive, Beaver Creek, OH, 45434. Phone 513-426-5675.

Membership: Mike Gingrich, 1525 Edenwood Drive, Beaver Creek, OH, 45434. Phone 513-426-5675.

History Project Coordinator: Volunteer Needed.

Seattle Reunion Chairman: Bob King, 420 W Island View Drive, Camano Island, WA, 98292. Phone 206-387-1258.

Founder: Billy Williams, 5141 North 72nd St, Lincoln, NE, 68507. Phone 402-466-9301.

Founder: Betty Pelletier, 205 West Palma Dr, Green Valley, AZ, 85614. Phone 602-626-2936.

The 307th Bomb Wing B-47/KC97 Association is a non-profit veterans organization. The Chairman is elected by majority vote of members in attendance at each business meeting. The Chairman's Committee serves at the pleasure of the Chairman.

My wife and I recently had the opportunity to revisit both Madrid and Sevilla, while we visited the Madrid family of our Spanish exchange students from years past. Spain has caught up! In traffic, merchandising, and music. The bad news is they have MTV, and the rush hour metropolitan traffic snarl of Los Angeles. The good news is, the inside of their big department store, El Corte Ingles, appears just like any in the US in terms of the merchandise, fashions, and prices. Surprisingly, they seem to have a wider array of consumer electronics on display than you find in our counterpart stores.

Madrid is still a city of beautiful tree-lined streets and boulevards, and now with a definite sufficiency of modern vehicles. Just like here, the parents are buying wheels for their university age kids. The Madrilenos will park anywhere a car will fit, which is usually on the sidewalk . . . and then walk in the street. The grand boulevard Paseo Generalissimo has been renamed the Paseo Castellana, since the Generalissimo is no longer around to demand respect. (We saw him, in the flesh during one R&R, but that's another story). The Paseo, which used to peter out at the football stadium, now extends a mile or so further to the north, to the modern suburbs. And the Castellana Hilton Hotel, where many of us stayed in extravagant glory (and some would say, an alcoholic haze), is now the Castellana Internacional, and still looks first class.

The stores of Madrid are fabulous to window shop, with attractive and conservatively stylish women's and men's clothing in eye pleasing displays. Our window dressers could learn a thing or two. As before, the people throng the streets of downtown Madrid until the wee hours of the morning, making you wonder how they get to work the next day, or if, in fact, they get to work at all. Tapa hopping, going from bar to bar, to have a morsel to eat here and another morsel there, and perhaps an occasional root beer, is a magnificent way to spend an evening in Madrid. It also helps to have a Spanish escort, to introduce you to his cousins, who all then insist on buying you another root beer to quaff.

The brightly lit Tio Pepe sign still rules the night above the Puerto del Sol in the center of Madrid. Nearby is the Casa Botin Restaurant, Madrid's oldest restau-

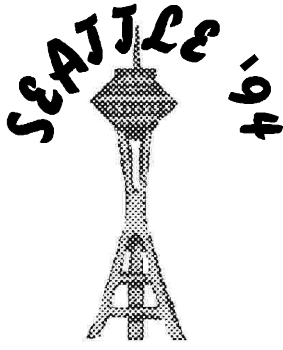
rant that dates from the 1600s, which Hemingway frequented and mentioned often in his writings. Next door to Botin is a no-name restaurant that boasts two eye catching signs in English. The first and largest, boasts: "Hemingway Never Ate Here," while the second proclaims "We don't speak English, but come on in and we promise not to laugh at your Spanish."

In the countryside, the decrepit roads are no more, and a first class system of rural roads is found, along with a good network of Interstate caliber highways (with traffic density about like that in Nebraska, i.e., reasonable). As a benchmark, the time between Sevilla and Moron, which used to be about an hour, is now more like 15 minutes on the "Interstate," or Autopista, as it's called.



Sevilla is a city of warmth and beauty, both physical and human. Perhaps it's the balmy, seventy degree, clear blue sky, November days, and the smell of ripening oranges, which put smiles on the faces of the well-dressed populace, as it put smiles on us. More likely though, it's a deeper spirit that gives them such a demonstrable joy of living. From our observation, there are no strangers in Seville, just long lost friends . . . our horse carriage driver even described the details of his divorce!

The old center part of the city, the Santa Cruz barrio, is visibly unchanged. They still hose down the streets and sidewalks at zero dark thirty every morning. The Alphonso XIII Hotel still prospers and holds its premier location near the Cathedral, surrounded by verdant palm trees. Across the street, the Maria Cristina Hotel, at which many of us enjoyed rooftop dining and flamenco spectaculars, has been converted to offices and apartments. The Cathedral, one of the largest in Europe, is as spell binding as ever, especially the panoramic view of the white buildings of the city from atop



June 30, July 1, 2, & 3

Seattle Reunion

Well, it's fish or cut bait time! We have enclosed in the Newsletter your reunion and hotel reservation forms. Please make reservations promptly to assist your reunion committee--not later than June first to save **you** money.

We welcome you to the Northwest. See what you have never seen before or may never have a chance to see again.

Your 1994 reunion is planned with YOU in mind. That means that you will not be concerned with "Where shall I go tonight?" or "What shall we eat tonight?" or "I wonder what there is to do around here tonight?" For those who are traveling singly, "How do I get a ride to where I would like to go tonight?" or "How do I get from here to there and back safely and quickly?" Transportation from the hotel to all outside activities is included with the price of the reunion. We can sing the Air Force Song as we travel together to each evening's entertainment.

All of this has been preplanned, prearranged, and following the receipt of your registration fee, COMPLETELY paid for. If you will compare the registration fee at Lincoln or Orlando you will quickly see that our per day cost is lower than previous reunions. So even if all you wish to do is spend your daylight hours in the hotel chit-chatting, we will provide you with three great evenings that will fill your senses and satisfy your desires for a wonderful reunion. THREE full days are open for sightseeing and shopping. When you return in the afternoon, perhaps after several hours of walking and/or driving, you will have time to rest and relax with your favorite libation and friends before we provide

you with a guided tour or an in-house activity you will never forget or possibly never see again.

Reunion Highlights

- First and most important. Thursday, June 30th, following a four o'clock (1600 hours) social hour, your transportation leaves the hotel at 5:00 (1700 hours) for your first night's activity. Plan your hotel arrival time with that in mind. We are going to the **BOEING MUSEUM OF FLIGHT**. We have a corporate sponsor, so you will have three hours to enjoy a buffet dinner and wander through the displays before reboarding the buses.

- Friday is **GOLF** day, and Bob Weidner has eighteen holes scheduled for those who wish to play. (See following article for more golf details.) The outing will be at one of the fine courses in the Seattle area, Echo Falls. Later that afternoon, we will have a social hour beginning at 4:00 (1600 hours), and again prearranged transportation will take you (at 1700 hours) to the Seattle waterfront for a lovely harbor cruise, and dinner on **BLAKE ISLAND**. There, we will have an alder baked salmon dinner, followed by entertainment by the Northwest Coastal Indians of Tillicum Village. For those who do not care for salmon, there will be an alternative dinner choice. This is the spot where the Pacific Rim Summit was held last fall. The leaders of visiting countries were wined and dined by President Clinton. The cruise back to the Seattle waterfront will be a feast for your eyes. The view of Seattle illuminated in the glow of a northwest twilight is spectacular.

- Saturday, we will start off with the bi-annual business meeting at 10:00 (1000 hours), followed by time for a side trip to anywhere in Seattle area, perhaps a great lunch at one of the places

suggested below. Be sure to return in time for our social hour at 4:00 (1600 hours)

and a session with the photographer prior to **DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT** (see following article for entertainment details, and registration form for dinner choices.) Dinner begins at 8:00 (2000 hours).

- Sunday morning, we will have a wonderful **FAREWELL BREAKFAST** together, long before check out time for those who must return to the daily grind. Those who are going to cruise together will leave for the gangplank a little later, and **we will all see each other again in 1996.**

Odds and Ends

- The hotel room rate quotes are valid for several nights prior to the reunion as well as the days following the reunion. Feel free to come early or stay later and enjoy the Northwest.

Be sure that your hotel reservations are made **prior** to June first. If you are arriving in an RV, it is best to make your reservations even earlier, April would be best.

- Bring or donate any items of memorabilia for display at the reunion. All items will be returned if requested.

- We recommend that you bring a light sweater and a light rain jacket for your outdoor sightseeing. It does not drizzle all of the time, but it certainly does some of the time. Remember a light rain jacket acts as a wonderful wind breaker. Should you be coming from a warm climate, you will feel the difference in our "year round marine air conditioning" right off the Puget Sound. Our summer daytime temperatures will be the seventies to eighties, if sunny, and slightly cooler if cloudy. Nighttime can be a cool sixty five to seventy degrees. If we have an

Continued on page 4

Newsletter Schedule

The 307th Bomb Wing B-47/KC-97 Association Newsletter is published for the benefit of all former members of the 307th Bomb Wing of Lincoln AFB, Nebraska. It is expected to be published three times a year.

Issues are scheduled to be published during **March, July and November of 1993**, and in **April & August of 1994**. The publication schedule after August 1994 will be determined after the 1994 reunion in Seattle.

Contributions for publication in the newsletter are requested from all readers. Please mail your contribution to the editor to arrive no later than the calendar month prior to the scheduled publication date. Your contribution of material for this newsletter is essential for its success.

unusual warm period, it might get into the upper eighties for a day or two, but it will cool off at night and a sweater or light jacket will keep you comfortable.

- We welcome anyone who will VOLUNTEER to cover our activities with a video camera. We're looking for someone who would then offer an edited copy to members who want a souvenir, or for those who could not attend. If you are good with a handheld video, willing to have copies made to distribute at a reasonable cost, and interested in being the **"Official Cameraman/woman of the Seattle Reunion**, please let the reunion chairman know as soon as you arrive.

Seattle Specialties

- While here, do not fail to try a Seattle favorite, "Espresso." You will find the coffee carts everywhere especially on the street corners in downtown Seattle, in the hotel lobby, and in front of almost all grocery stores and shopping malls in the suburbs. Most offer drive-up service so just yell out your order, pay your bill, and drive off. Have a one, two, or three shot "latte" and you will be set free for the remainder of the day. Seattlites really like their coffee strong and hot.

- If you want to have a wonderful "view" lunch while here, don't overlook **The Space Needle**. Reservations must be made several days in advance--Phone (206) 443-9700. Also consider **Salty's On Alki**--reservations are recommended here too, phone (206) 937-1085. Finally, consider **Ivar's Salmon House**, [call (206) 587-6500 for reservations.] Salty's and Ivar's are on the north shore of Lake Union. The view back toward Seattle from either is just as spectacular from water level as the 360 degree view from the Space Needle. The Space Needle rotates once per hour, so as you enjoy your meal, you can see it all.

A Final Word

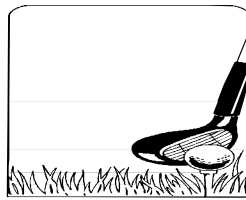
If you attended the Orlando reunion, or if you have read previous Newsletters, you already know that your Seattle committee has told everyone that this reunion would not be "inexpensive, just better." So think about the cost of a first class vacation with first class activities three days in a row. We believe that you will

agree that you cannot afford to miss the 1994 reunion.

"Living Well is the Best Revenge"

SEE YOU IN SEATTLE

Bob and Shirley King



Friday is for Golfers

For those who wish to play golf, we have set aside Friday morning. We will depart from the hotel for the course at Echo Falls. Bob Weidner is your guide, and you will find departure times on a sign up sheet at Registration. The fee is \$ 50.00, which includes a cart, and **must** be sent in with your registration form prior to June 1st. This course is perfect for the duffer as well as the underchallenged. Should you have questions, feel free to call Bob at (509) 448-9263. Be patient, Bob and Caroline travel a lot, but you will connect with them if you keep trying.

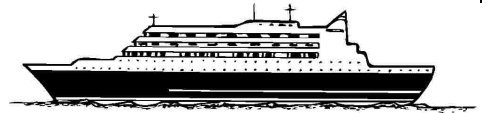
Saturday Evening Banquet Entertainment

The Saturday banquet entertainment will include two of the finest musical acts available. First, you will be delighted with the classical/contemporary jazz artistry of the Northwest's Jim Greeninger, a self taught guitarist who went on to study with Andrés Segovia and to debut at Carnegie Hall. A renowned luthier (guitar builder), Jim's parallel world in jazz and country music has culminated in four exciting new CD releases this year on the DDD label. St. Louis *Post Dispatch* critic, James Wierzbicki, said of Greeninger, "His performance handsomely demonstrated his sure technique and stylistic panache . . . on both



halves of the program, his playing was of such refined quality and interpretive strength that I'd welcome the chance to hear him again." Friends, he sounds good! His background music will certainly aid your digestion.

Next, we will present a husband and wife team, Ken and Nona Goodwin, who will have you tapping your feet with their vocal renditions of Irving Berlin and Cole Porter and their All-American tribute. They are the young parents of three lovely children. Ken and Nona have performed throughout the Northwest for many private groups to rave reviews.



Who's Going to Cruise to Alaska?

Here is the latest list of 307th friends who are going to cruise up the inside passage together. There may well be changes just because "those things happen." But we know those who go will have a wonderful experience. Don't forget, if you still want to join the group, some discounts are still available and there is plenty of space available. Best cabin selection is on a first come first served basis. Call 1-800-659-1633.

Richard & Eliese Arens
Arthur & Betty Aenchbacher
Rodger & Dorothy Beamer
Eunice Beran & Ruth Copley
Dallas & Julie Crosby
Howard & Mary Evans
Carter & Mozell Hart
William & Mary Hathaway
Jerry & Marilyn Hawkins
Robert & Shirley King
James & Darlene Lancaster
William & Orma Lawson
Richard & Marilyn McKenzie
Betty Pelletier
Archibald & Gloria Samuels
Alan & Vivian Simpkins
James & Judith Shelton
Ronald & Carolyn Rawson



Service Songs Reflect Patriotic Feelings

The Army's official song was once used by the Hoover Vacuum Cleaner Co. as part of its radio advertising campaign. The Navy's official marching song was launched the day Navy's football team beat Army the first time in six years. "The Marines Hymn" was taken from an opera. And the Air Force song was rejected continuously until it won a best-entry cash award from a civilian magazine.

Service Historians and Library of Congress archivists have uncovered these and other little-known stories about official service songs, hymns and marches.

- **U.S. Army.** For example, it took a half century before the Army rolled out its official song, which is based on "*The Caisson Song*," composed by Brig. Gen. Edmund L. "Snitz" Gruber (1879-1941).

Gruber, an artillery officer whose relative, Franz, composed "*Silent Night*," was a lieutenant stationed with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, at Fort Stotsenburg in the Philippines. After dinner one evening in March 1908, while waiting for the 1st Battalion to relieve them, six young lieutenants, including William Bryden and Robert Danford, gathered in Gruber's thatch hut and decided they needed a song for the field artillery.

Danford, who retired as a major general, recalled, "A guitar was produced and tuned and, in what seemed to us but a few moments, as if suddenly inspired, Snitz fingered the melody of the now famous song." Danford and Bryden helped complete the lyrics.

After their arrival, Gruber taught the

song to the officers of the 1st Battalion. Wrote Danford: "A few evenings later at the post reception for the new unit and adieu to the old, '*The Caisson Song*,' was given its first public rendition. Its popularity was instantaneous, and, in almost no time, all six of the regiments then composing the U. S. Field Artillery adopted it."

Gruber got the idea for the song during a difficult march across the Zambales Mountains the previous year. He said he led a small detachment to select a route. From the top of a hill watching the main body approach, Gruber overheard a section chief call to his drivers, "Come on! Keep 'em rolling!"

During the last days of World War I, senior artillery leaders wanted an official marching song. An artillery officer, who did not know Gruber and thought "*The Caisson Song*" dated back to the Civil War, gave the piece to noted composer and bandmaster John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) and asked him to fix it up.

Sousa incorporated Gruber's piece into his composition, which he titled, "*The U. S. Field Artillery March*," a few beginning measures being his own and the balance from Gruber. The song became a blockbuster record during World War I, selling about 750,000 copies. Gruber heard of it and asked Sousa, "How about some money, since I wrote the song?" Embarrassed, the innocent Sousa made certain Gruber got his royalties.

However, because the march was never copyrighted, many stole the song. For example, during the early 1940's, the Hoover Vacuum Cleaner Co., changed the words to "for it beats as it sweeps as it cleans," and used the melody for its radio advertising.

In 1948, the Army conducted a nationwide contest to come up with its own official song. None of the five winners achieved any notable popularity. In 1952, the Secretary of the Army appealed to the music industry for a composition. Composers submitted an avalanche of more than 800 songs.

No submission sparkled enough to be accepted. So a soldier music adviser in Special Services Division of the Adjutant General's office was asked to try his hand at it. As a result, H. W. Arberg adapted "*The Caisson Song*" to become the

official U. S. Army song, "*The Army Goes Rolling Along*." The service copyrighted the piece in 1956.

- **U. S. Navy.** Lt. Charles A. Zimmerman (1862-1916), conductor of the Naval Academy band, composed "*Anchors Aweigh*." The piece, with words added by Midshipman Albert Hart Miles, premiered December 1906 when Navy won its first football game over Army in six years. Zimmerman, who wrote a march for each graduating class, dedicated this piece to the Class of 1907.

The original march, which over the years has gone through several revisions, had two minutes of introduction before the principal theme began.

The Navy's official hymn, "*Eternal Father*," dates back to 1861. Surviving a furious storm in the Mediterranean inspired Rev. William Whiting, a Church of England clergyman and schoolmaster, to write the words to "*Eternal Father*" in 1860.

The following year, Rev. John Dykes, another English clergyman, adapted the words to music he had composed with the title "*Melita*," the ancient name for the Mediterranean island of Malta.

In 1879, when he was a lieutenant commander stationed at the Naval Academy in charge of the midshipmen's choir, Rear Adm. Charles Jackson Train inaugurated the practice of concluding each Sunday's service with the singing of the hymn. Verses over the years have varied to reflect a changing culture and the invention of the automobile and the airplane.

- **U. S. Marine Corps.** A great deal of confusion surrounded the Marines' Hymn until John Philip Sousa--then conductor of the Marine Corps Band--dug up some answers. Popular opinion had assumed the hymn had existed since the time the Marine band started in 1797. Sousa determined it came into being about 1867.

Sousa was a great one for research. Before foreign diplomats visited Washington, he would go to the Library of Congress in search of the anthem and music of the guests' country so he could arrange the pieces for the Corps' band.

During one such study, he researched the Marines' hymn because its origin was uncertain.

He discovered that the "the melody of 'Halls of Montezuma' is taken from [Jacques] Offenbach's comic opera, 'Genevieve de Brabant,' wherein two policemen talk about protecting the queen."

The wife of a band member at the time questioned this since she said she heard her grandmother singing the same tune in Spain during her childhood. Nevertheless, there is not adequate proof that Offenbach adopted the folk song into his opera. It is just as likely the popular opera spread to Spain as it did to this country.

Sousa, of course, also wrote "*Semper Fidelis*," one of the world's most stirring marches. Recalling the composition of the Corps' official march, Sousa said, "I wrote it after my comrades of the Marine Corps had sung their famous hymn at Quantico."

(Incidentally, when the Marines commissioned Sousa at age 26, he was the youngest conductor of any service. Later when talked into enlisting in the Navy as a lieutenant at age 62, he became the oldest conductor hired by any service.)

• **U. S. Air Force.** Air Force Lt. Col. Robert Crawford (1899-1961) struggled to get his composition accepted as his service's official song. Though Crawford had organized the Army Air Corps Band, musicians and others refused to adopt his "*Army Air Corps March*." They said it was the worst march they had ever played.

Nevertheless, Crawford entered his composition in a *Liberty* magazine contest and won \$ 1,000 as the "best song" out

of the 650 submitted. Maj Gen Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, chief of the Army Air Corps, on Sept. 20, 1939, declared the work to be the corps' official song. Glenn Miller's dance band popularized it by playing it frequently during World War II.

It's title was changed in 1947 to "*The U. S. Air Force Song*," and in 1979, Gen. Lew Allen Jr., then Air Force Chief of Staff, designated it the service's official song.

by F. Peter Wigginton, American Forces Information Service. Reprinted with permission from *The Skywriter*. Amos Publishing, Fairborn, Ohio.

Veterans' Data Base

The Air Force Museum has started a Veterans' Registration data base, to help Air Force Veterans locate each other. to obtain a registration form to fill out, write to:

The United States Air Force Museum, Public Affairs Division, 1100 Spaatz St., Wright-Patterson AFB, OH

The Army Air Corps Song

First Chorus

*Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun,
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder
At 'em boys, Giver 'er the gun!
Down we dive spouting our flame from under
Off with one helluva roar,
We live in fame or go down in flame,
BOY! Nothing'll stop the Army Air Corps!*

Second Chorus

*Mind of men fashioned a crate of thunder,
Sent it high into the blue,
Hands of men blasted the world asunder,
How they lived God only knew,
Souls of men dream of skies to conquer,
Gave us wings ever to soar,
With scouts before and bombers galore,
BOY! Nothing can stop the Army Air Corps!*

Verse

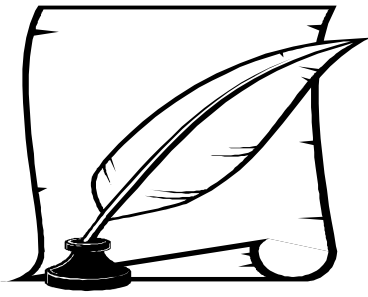
*Here's a toast to the host of those who love the
vastness of the sky,
To a friend we will send a message of his
brothermen who fly,
We drink to those who gave their all of old,
Then down we roar to score the rainbow's pot
of gold,
A toast to the host of men we boast,
The Army Air Corps.*

Third Chorus

*Off we go into the wind sky yonder,
Keep the wings level and true,
If you'd live to be a greyhaired wonder,
Keep the nose out of the blue,
Flying men guarding the Nation's border,
We'll be there followed by more,
In echelon we carry on,
BOY! Nothing'll stop the Army Air Corps!*

We trained hard, but every time we were beginning to form up into teams, we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet for any new situation by reorganizing ... and a wonderful thing it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing inefficiency and demoralization.

Petronius, First Century A.D.



Editor's Note

Spain--For the First Time

Mike has described his experience of revisiting Spain after thirty-something years. For me, this was not only my first trip to Spain, but my first trip outside of the United States, as well. That is not a misprint. I had never even been to Mexico or Canada--so our November trip was truly my first opportunity to be a "foreign tourist."

We were in an enviable situation during our trip. Having had several exchange students from Spain, we had accumulated what appeared to be sincere invitations from the parents of these students to come to Spain, and let them reciprocate by entertaining us, and showing us their country.

We stayed with the family of two of the boys, Quique (1986-1987, when our son was a senior), and Miguel (1992-93, when we had only two daschunds to serve as "host brothers"). The Guillens have three additional children, Jorge, who was a student in Xenia, Ohio, just a few miles from Beavercreek, while Quique was here. Their only daughter, Lolita, may be with us next year. The youngest, Gabi, is a friendly, yet quiet boy, who may also come when the time arrives.

Señor Guillen, a journalist, has his own photo agency. During the time we were there, he took his annual vacation. Along with Señora Guillen, we traveled over most of the western and southern parts of the country.

The day after arriving, we visited Toledo, and I began to realize what a treat was in store for a history buff from Nebraska, who had grown up where nothing was more than a hundred years old. One of my favorite spots in Toledo was the house that displays *The Burial of the Señor de Orgaz*, considered to be one of El Greco's greatest works. That evening

we spent in Madrid, and enjoyed for the first time, walking from place to place to eat *tapas*.

We started our first "roadtrip" with Avila, where we saw Roman walls, and enjoyed another *tapa* meal at a Parador. Paradors are sprinkled across the country, and are best described as state-owned and managed, modest hotels or hostels. From Avila, we went on to Caceres, where we visited a medieval walled city. I was astounded to learn that there are homes inside the walls, where people live and work yet today.

After a night in Caceres, we went on to Merida to visit restored Roman monuments--an amphitheater, circus, and house. It was thrilling to walk in the same place that the Christians and the lions had actually sparred, and to see the beautiful mosaic floors so typical of Roman homes.

From Merida, we went on to Sevilla, where I found some beautiful porcelain pieces to bring home. As in so many other places, I was fascinated by the architecture. The combination of Arab, Moorish, Spanish Mudejar, and Roman techniques makes for beautiful buildings. The colorful houses in Sevilla were particularly striking. The Cathedral in Sevilla was originally a mosque, then was slowly turned into a Christian cathedral. I climbed to the top of La Giralda, which consisted of thirty-two tiers of ramps, constructed so that burros could be used to move construction materials. The legend tells us that the canons of the Cathedral agreed to, "build such a large church that all those who see it finished will think we are mad." The resulting Cathedral is one of the largest churches in Christendom, surpassed only by Saint Peter's in the Vatican and by Saint Paul's in London.

On the way back to Madrid after Sevilla, we stopped at the Alhambra. Mike has a favorite story to tell about the Alhambra, and if he tells it to more than five or six of you in Seattle, you all will have to search for someone new to maintain your address base, and publish your newsletter, for I shall surely kill him.

At this point we had planned to make another excursion to the east, to see Barcelona and the Pyrenees, but decided instead to make day trips from Madrid, and possibly rest a bit. One easy day trip

from Madrid was to Segovia, where once again I was in awe of the Roman construction methods. There we saw the arches of a marvelous Roman aqueduct, built probably around the second half of the first century. The method of construction is called "dry construction," which consists of huge square granite blocks piled one upon the other, with no mortar. It is easily the most beautiful and impressive monument I have ever seen.

We visited many other places during our eleven days, and ate a wonderful variety of food--octopus, ox-tail, squid, calamari, wonderful and crusty bread, olives, leg of lamb, and more, too much to mention.

We met and were entertained by many of the Guillens relatives, all of whom graciously thanked us for being host-parents to the boys. The parents of another student who had stayed with us, treated us to a wonderful Sunday dinner in Madrid, a walk through the park to see the puppet shows and magicians, and then a fantastic *Ballet Flamenco*.

All in all, it was an experience of a lifetime. Our flights were pleasant, customs very non-complicated, nothing particularly expensive, and best of all, **we will go back.**

Marjean Gingrich

Reflex Plus Thirty, cont'd from page 2

the Giralda Tower, the former Islamic minaret. Considerable restoration and upgrading has occurred inside the Cathedral: it is now well lit, and the many treasures and exhibits are now tastefully presented with lighting, display cases, and focus. The tomb of Columbus in the Cathedral can now be seen without night-vision glasses. The Calle Sierpes (Street of the Serpents), the narrow shopping street near the Cathedral, is vibrant and beautiful, with attractive bargains in finely made porcelain and pottery. It's also a perfect spot for people watching, aperitifs and pastries. Desportes Z, the sporting goods and firearms shop from which many of us purchased double-barrel and superposed

Continued on page 8

shotguns, still does a thriving business on Sierpes for its owners, the family Zulutegui.

A note for flamenco lovers. During the tourist season, many tourist oriented flamenco shows can be found, but at extravagant prices. The natives say it's not real flamenco. The real stuff occurs during the off season on weekends . . . nobody knows where ahead of time. It happens wherever the gypsies feel like showing up, whenever they feel like showing up, usually sometime between 1:30 and 3:30 a.m..

The avenues are broad and stylish, and many modern multi-story apartments have been built on the eastern side of the city toward Moron. The airfield at San Pablo was rebuilt, along with a modern passenger terminal (remember the old cinder block hut terminal?) in preparation for EXPO 92. Another EXPO attraction was the institution of high speed rail service between Sevilla and Madrid. The old Iberia Goonies used to fly it in about two hours fifteen minutes, now the train does it in 2:45.

Remember those tough looking guys with the funny three-cornered patent leather hats, who walked the rural roads in pairs, and carried machine guns? Yeah, the Guardia Civil. Now they drive cars, are young, seem quite intelligent, and are said to be very well trained. Their responsibilities are now somewhat like state highway patrol, with the additional role of counter-terrorism. Now, the hats appear only for ceremonial purposes.

The Toonerville Trolley--remember it running through the overrun at the south end of the runway? A most unusual train, especially when the engineer and fireman ejected as a B-47 approached on takeoff! Don't know if it's still there or not, but its twin is on static display at my Spanish son's high school in Madrid.

The only unsettling moment of the trip was when I had a chance to examine a junior year high school text book in physics. I was astounded to find that the Spanish students are routinely using mathematics that are not taught in the US until freshman and sophomore university years. So who's going to do the catching up in the future?

Tom Wolfe said "you can't go home again," to which I'd add "But, you can have a heck of a lot of fun visiting old stomping grounds."

Mike Gingrich

Potpourri

The 307th was first formed as a Bomb Group at Granger Field, Washington on 15 April 1942. The 307th suffered its first losses in September 1942, when a crew, flying out of Sioux City in a B-24, crashed at Wayne, Nebraska. One of the first two fatalities was 2/Lt Howard C Austin, who hailed from Lincoln, Nebraska. The accident occurred as the Wayne residents were on their way to Sunday church services. Holy Communion at the Methodist church was dedicated to the two men killed.

There are three 307th associations in existence in addition to ours. They are: The 307th ARS; the 307th Bomb Group, from 1946 to 1954, which flew B-29s; and the 307th Bomb Group, the "Long Rangers", which flew B-24s in the Pacific, in World War II. Our association has succeeded in making contact with all three. All four associations are having separate reunions during the summer of 1994. It has been suggested that there should be a combined reunion in the not too distant future.



The Last Flight

James O Britt, HQ, San Diego CA, 3 December 1993. Britt, a former wing vice-commander, was struck by a car while crossing a street near home, according to his son, James Jr.

Elizabeth "Smitty" Britt, San Diego CA, 1991.

Robert F Donohue, Riverside CA, date unknown.

Young D Harrington, ARS, Montgomery AL, 11 September 1992.

Robert D Hoover, 371st, Seguin TX, 6 September 1993. Robert was a Texas rancher for 31 years, following his Air Force career.

Ann Powell, Albuquerque NM, date unknown.

Arthur J Stokes, 424th BS, Charlotte NC, November 1993.

Arnold Wangen, Otis Orchard WA, date unknown.

Treasurer's Report

As of 3/1/94.

ASSETS:	
Beginning balance 9/22/93.....	3538.06
Donations since 9/22/93.....	938.55
Interest income.....	24.59
Donations to Memorial Fund.....	125.00

Total assets..... \$4626.20

EXPENSES:	
Newsletter printing.....	566.05
Newsletter postage.....	180.63
Newsletter/membership admin expense.....	58.55
Startup advance-Seattle reunion.....	1500.00

Total expenses.....\$2305.23

ENDING BALANCE:.....\$2320.97

(Ending Balance includes \$320.00 set aside for Memorial Fund)

By Ethel L Dodge, Treasurer

?

Bob King, in his capacity as our Seattle reunion chairman, frequently finds unusual mail in his box. Most of this mail goes directly to the circular file, but Bob thought the letter reproduced below would be of interest to Association members.

Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Club, Inc.**For Men and Women of the Armed Forces****283 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10016-3540****(212) 683-4353 -- FAX (212) 683-4374****MIDTOWN MANHATTAN OASIS**

“One of New York's best kept secrets” - “Reminds me of a gentlemen's club in London” - “A set for a World War II Army Canteen movie, only Betty Grable's legs and voice are missing, and Abbott and Costello are not on K.P. in the kitchen”...

These are the impressions the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Club has made on New York Editor and Columnist, Jerry Nachman, other journalists and veterans of World War II...

The Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Club (SS&A) is located at 283 Lexington Avenue, between 36th and 37th Streets, in the historic Murray Hill section of Midtown New York. It has been there since 1926 serving over a million military personnel of our Armed Forces and Allies...

For thirty dollars (\$30.00) a night you can get a clean, comfortable spot to sleep and have the run of The Club... (reduced rates for weekdays and two or more guests and serving enlisted personnel and their dependents pay only \$20 each, per night).

The SS&A boasts a pool room, TV room (cable services), and two large comfortable lounges with grand pianos (in tune) and a library, all open for use by our guests. There is also an upright piano in the pool room with a recently refurbished championship size pool table.

On Friday nights guests are welcomed with wine and cheese and on Saturday, Sunday and holiday mornings you can enjoy a hearty continental breakfast in the Club canteen....no charge.

Five blocks from Grand Central Station in one direction and the Empire State Building in another, the SS&A is within easy walking distance of the United Nations, the Broadway theaters, several famous department stores and restaurants catering to every taste and level of pocketbook abound in the area...

The SS&A is very proud of its Honorary Past Presidents and Vice Presidents who include: President Dwight D. Eisenhower, General John J. (Black Jack) Pershing, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, General George C. Marshall, Secretary of Navy Frank

Knox and General Willis D. Crittenberger - Colonel John W. Pershing, grandson of the General, serves on the SS&A Board of Directors...

Soldier's, Sailors' and Airmen's Club never closed its doors. Since 1919, the Club has survived through the generosity of its friends and supporters. During the great depression the SS&A was supported through the largesse of Mrs. William Woodward, Sr. who donated the stud fees of her 1935 Triple Crown Winner, Omaha, to the Club. Omaha's portrait proudly adorns one of the Club's five fire places--and we wish he was still working for us. '

“This is a Not-For-Profit organization, licensed under the State of New York (Tax I.D. #13-1628214)”, states Harry Mott, Brigadier General, AUS, Retired, who is Executive Vice President and Director of the SS&A, “and in order to expand the eligibility base for use of the SS&A, the Club is now open to all ranks, enlisted and officer, of the Active, Reserve and National Guard forces, their dependents, Service Academy students, ROTC cadets, all retirees and all former service personnel with honorable service and their dependents!

Widows and widowers with military ID cards are also welcomed. A recent change in policy has opened the SS&A to all officer as well as enlisted ranks.

Whether you want to shop, sightsee, go to the theater or just relax you can't do better than visiting the SS&A. They'll give you a discount for visits of seven days, or more, and the staff will help get you pointed in the right direction. Maps, brochures, discount tickets and advice are available at the Reception Desk...

Take a bite out of the Big Apple without taking a bite out of your wallet. Simply call, toll free, 1-880-678-TGIF for reservations. An ID Card, veterans' organization membership card or any other proof of honorable service and \$30 are all you need. Visa, Mastercard, and American Express accepted.

We've Heard From

Bill Oertel who says the he is "just about four hours by auto from Seattle, and would welcome any weary traveler to stop by our humble abode for some cheer and sleep . . ." Bill also suggests that car travelers try to get to Bellevue before 1500 hours as the freeways up there are GRIDLOCK after that. Bill also says that he ran into someone who saw Charlie Takacs running an icecream store in Sacramento--suggests any members who are there might look him up in the book. Closes with, "See you in the Queen City in July."

Don Greene who is looking for old buddies: Marvin L. Richlen, Ross O. Naze, or any members of the 307th Prop Shop. Don lives in Walnut Cove, N.C.

Robert B. Kelly who mentioned how much he enjoyed Tony Minnick's "Recollections of Lincoln." Bob also sent an update of his post-Lincoln days. He went from LAFB to Castle AFB for B-52's and was teamed with **Gerry Loughlin**. Then, on to Bangor, Maine, where he found **Larry Talovich**. Says he "checked out in the left seat," and then sent his body to the civilian market, where he did commuter flying, and then went into Corporate Aviation. Bob goes on to mention having "run across" **Abe Kardong**, and **Wally Whitehurst**. Bob now flies a Challenger 601-3A non-stop New York to San Francisco, and has stopped about six times a year at Duncan Aviation in Lincoln. Bob says he has looked for **Hale Dodge** at the FAA office when in Lincoln, but could never find him. He suggests that Ethel should question Hale about this.

Thomas H. Powell, who has a new address and a new wife, Margaret ("Margy.") Tom says "we were both widowed--now we have a new happiness." **Congratulations** to Tom and Margy.

Mervin E. Nickels who has sent along information about the Association to two fellow crew members from Kadena. Mervin was never at Lincoln, but has joined the Association nevertheless.

Dick Mitchell is putting his Columbus Ohio home up for sale and aims to relocate "somewhere warmer".

Bud Flanik, who let us know that **Hank Grogan** suffered a heart attack on February 5, 1994. Following this, Hank underwent bypass surgery and is recuperating nicely. According to Bud, Hank is learning "how to live." How about some cards and letters for Hank (our 1992 reunion chairman, many of you will recall.) Send your greetings to Hank at: **138 NE 5th Street, Long Beach, NC 28465.**

Jim and Darleen Lancaster, Phil Field, George Brannon, Lois Johnson, and Darrell E. Norris, who sent along information you will find elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Back In Touch

Former 307th members who have "reappeared" since our last newsletter.

Paul R Bachran, 1624 W 6th St, Irving, TX 75060.

Shirley H Firth, 3805 N Parkland Lane, Altus, OK 73521.

Don Green, RR#3, Box 56A, Walnut Cove, NC 27052.

Jack Hagar, 5800 W Raymond Rd, Raymond, NE 68428.

Jack Hagelin, 904 North Liberty, Independence, MO 64050.

Joseph J Herman, 2071 Mohican Trail, Maitland, FL 32751.

Kenneth Howell, 1624 N 59th St, Lincoln, NE 68505.

Ray Jones, 655 Buckskin Trail, Xenia, OH 45385.

Chaplain Clyde N Kerley, 2031B Mercury Dr, Kirtland AFB, NM 87188.

John Mackey, 5329B North Peck Rd, El Monte, CA 91732.

Donald A Mowry, PO Box 30578, Stockton, CA 95213.

James Riley, 7125 Lincolnshire, Lincoln, NE 68506.

Paul J Shaughnessy, 191 North Big Oak Pt, Le Canto, FL 34461.

Cornelius P Stotko, Jr, 1831 Ray Ave, Bossier City, LA 71112.

Jan C Walker, 562 North Ave, Tallmadge, OH 44278.

Of Interest to Members

• Catalog of Military History Books Available

A catalog of official military history books published by the U.S. government is now available from the Government Printing Office.

The books cover everything from the Continental army to Civil War battles, Vietnam and the Iran-Iraq War.

Some books deal with contributions of specific services. For example, there are volumes on the Air Force and the Marine Corps in Vietnam, as well as the Navy during the War of 1812.

Also available are general histories. These include the Women's Army Corps, an eight-volume dictionary of the U. S. Navy ships, pictorials of World War II and Vietnam and a poster of the U.S.-allied deployment in Operation Desert Storm. Foreign military subjects include the 1967 Arab-Israeli War and the Soviet Union during World War II.

For a catalog, send a postcard with your name and address to:

**Superintendent of Documents
Military History Catalog
Mail Stop:SM
Washington, DC 20401**

The books are available by mail from 23 government bookstores throughout the United States. Cities with stores include: Washington, Atlanta, Denver, Houston, Chicago and Los Angeles. For store locations in these cities, check the telephone directory. (AFIS)

New Books of Note

Falcons. by LCol Ray Rosenbaum. Lyford Books, Presidio Press, 505 B San Martin Dr. Suite 300, Novato, CA 94945-1340. \$ 21.95

World War II bomber pilots.

A Knowledge of Honor. By LCol John C. Love, USMC-Ret. Available from author, 2929 Acropolis Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73120. \$ 10.00 plus \$ 1.25. Okla residents add tax. Paperback.

Collection of essays and poems, Marine service three wars.



Support the Society of the Strategic Air Command

Send your application to: Society of the Strategic Air Command, Inc, Bank of Bellvue Base Branch Office, Bldg 147, Offutt AFB, NE 68113. Membership dues are \$20 per year.

SAC Association Standings

As of December, 1993, the **307th** Bomb Wing was tied with the 100th Bomb Wing for the most members joining the Association of the Strategic Air Command. The 307th and 100th have 75 members each, followed by the 2nd BW with 31, and the 95th with 25.

Search for Gunners

The **Air Force Gunners Association** (AFGA) has been formed for enlisted aerial gunners from World War II through Desert Storm. Contact: Jay E. Ingle, Membership Chairman, 35469 Colossians Way, Shingletown, CA

307TH BOMB WING B-47/KC-97 ASSOCIATION
5920 Robin Court
Lincoln NE 68516

DATED MATERIAL
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Lincoln, NE

PERMIT NO. 700

