

MAIL CALL

Pawcatuck,CT

Dear Bud:

The photo on page 25 of Torretta Flyer No 12 is a picture of some of my crew. The ones I can identify are from left: (with his legs crossed) is Lt Duncan,(B)from Chicago (KIA).Ed Clamage (N) from Chicago (KIA),Herb Brooks (N/G) from Bronx,Ny (KIA), Standing next to last, and Joe Murphy (E) from Chester,PA (POW).

Joe Murphy, myself,(R/O Tom Sainsbury), Fishbaugh(U/T) Long Beach,CA, and Al Bazer (T/T) were the only survivors of the crew. We were hit over Vienna on October 13 1944 and taken prisoner. Brooks was not with us on our last and 38th mission. He joined another crew and went on to fly 49 successful missions. On his 50th mission his pilot ditched off Vis. Herb could not swim and was lost. He was my best friend on the crew.

Sincerely,

Tom Sainsbury, 827 Sq.

San Diego, Ca

Dear Bud

I discovered another photo that you can add to your collection. I was taken off my original crew and assigned to a new one. We were training for lead crew in the squadron. After a few missions we were granted R & R leave for a week in Rome, and ended up on the roof of St Peters' Cathedral.

In all the training and combat missions (28) that I completed, none of the crew got so much as a scratch. (Must have been all those milk runs)?

I am still looking into acquiring photos,movies,and video cassettes of the B-24 and its big brother the B-32. The Liberator Club has a 16mm movie of B-24 production at Willow Run.* I have two other contacts that might be fruitful.

That is all for now.

As Ever,

Denny Perkins 767 Sq.

* This film will be shown at the San Antonio Reunion.

Flushing,NY

Regarding the item on page 17 of T Flyer #12, I was flying in the flight leader's plane directly in front of Lt Zumsteg's plane. This was the first mission of the 461st BG taking place April 2, 1944. The entry in my diary for that day is as follows:

April 2, 1944, Time 5 Hrs 50 mins. First mission-bombed marshalling yards at Bihac, Yugoslavia, frag bombs. Two ships collided after passing over the target.Lt Zumsteg 767 Sq (62) and Lt Wilson 766 Sq (52). Wilson's plane was to the left of Zumsteg's.

Sincerely,

James Love, 767 Sq.

Editors Note:1) James Love was shot down two week later over Belgrade, Yugoslavia and became a POW at Stalag Luft III C/Compound.2) Wilson's crew is listed as follows;

- 1) Sidney S Wilson (P)
- 2) Joseph W Loftus (C/P)
- 3) Emile L Whitney (B)
- 4) Harlan P Ross (N)
- 5) Irving G Wallace (E)
- 6) Dale F Fine (E)
- 7) Gerald Goldstein (R/O)
- 8) Clifford A McCoy (G)
- 9) Edward G Ulrich (G)
- 10)John E Egge (?)

Jacksonville, Fl

Dear Bud

Can't tell you what memories I got from the briefing room picture on page 24 of No #12 flyer. This was my crew and the guy busily filling out the combat report in the background (far right) is yours truly.

As for the story below the photo, it is not our story, the crew members next to Maj. Milam, are Orville Sill,____?, Woods, Phillips (standing),Spinney, and Bonson.

We crashed on our 48th Mission returning from Bleckhammer and I believe ship 22 shown on page 31 of Flyer# 11 could have been ours.

Spinney and Bonson were both killed in the crash. The rest of the crew came through with various injuries some minor, some major.

HK Ridgeway, 824 Sq.