

Dear Bud:

Keep up the good work! I really look forward to receiving the Flyer and read each issue from cover to cover. On page 25 of Flyer No 12 the picture taken by Robert A Harrison, is of my crew #72 of the 827 Sq. " The Trouble Maker". They are from left: Bob Johoda from the S-2 section; Lewis R Cooke, nose gunner; Sgt Harlan F Meyer (ball/gunner); S/Sgt Edward J Bouzan (gunner) or Ernest Green our crew chief;; Sgt. Harold Gundlach, Radio/Operator unidentified nurse; Cpl George Custer (upper gunner); Edward J Bouzan, gunner?; I believe the man on the extreme right was my navigator Arthur F Bouton who was killed in a refueling mission over Kansas after the war.

I have located most of my old crew, but the whereabouts of three remain a mystery. George Custer last lived in Chicago. Harlan F Meyer last lived in Bellflower, California, and Edward J Bouzan* was from Boston. If any readers know anything about these men, they should contact me.

Thanks and I hope I have helped some with the picture.

* E J Bouzan has been found and is now a member.

Sincerely,

Earl W Depue 827 Sq

Editor, Torretta Flyer

Regarding "The Last Mission " on page 17 of Torretta Flyer No 12 Spring 1986 and the last two paragraphs of Wally Robinson's letter on page 20 of the same issue I quote the following from my personal log book dated April 2, 1944.

Crew 52, 766 squadron collided with another plane while flying ship 41-29336 on April 2, 1944

over Jugoslavia during the squadron's first mission and were lost. My log book lists crew #52 as Lt Wilson, pilot; Lt Loftus, co pilot; Lt Ross, navigator; Lt Whitney, bombardier; S/Sgt Wallace, engineer; S/Sgt Goldstein, radio operator; Sgt D V Fine, top turret gunner; Sgt Ed Ulrich, nose gunner; Sgt H Childs, ball gunner; and Sgt E McCoy, tail gunner. I was armament chief for that plane but don't know if there were any substitutions that day. I believe we heard later that Lt Wilson was a POW, but I never heard about the rest of the crew.

Walter R Dunn, 766 Squadron
Newark, Delaware

**KNOWING SOMEONE IN
HIGH PLACES CAN HELP
SOMETIMES**

By T/Sgt Franklin S Ennis 824 Sq

Radio Operator crew # 9 Austin R
Stanford, Pilot

I want to write this while I am still excited about our recent reunion. I also want to congratulate you and your committee for another fine affair, and to say that I thought San Antonio was a good spot for the reunion. At the Orlando reunion, I promised to send you a write up for possible publication in the Torretta Flyer, but put off doing it. Well here it is:

"On January 15th, 1945 there was a notice posted on the bulletin board of the 824th Squadron ordering Cpl Franklin S Ennis to report to the CO's office at 1500 hours. I was quite apprehensive about this because of a problem I had a couple weeks earlier in the mess hall. At the prescribed hour, I

showed up and Major Trotter started to talk about a communication from Washington about me. He wondered what I had been up to, to elicit such a personal directive. I stood there motionless imagining all kinds of punishment that would soon befall me. He then took out a red bordered order and slapped it on the desk, looked me straight in the eye, and leaned back in his chair. For one long moment nothing was said. I was beginning to shake inside, but then he gave a wry smile that broadened. The order which came from General Ulio directed him to have a cake baked for my birthday. This order had come to him from the Adjutant General's Office through the entire chain of command to the CO of the 824 Squadron. I was quite happy about this as well as being greatly relieved. I was directed to bring my crew and whoever else I wanted to the Mess Hall after dinner that day to receive the cake. We all showed up and the Mess Sgt in charge presented me with a very good birthday cake.

A Birthday Surprise

It happened that my sister was a secretary in the AGO's office at that time and she had commented about her brother over in Italy who would have a birthday soon. So General Ulio got the details and had the order sent out. It was one of the more pleasant aspects of my tour of duty with the 824th. At the time it was news all over Southern Italy. Maybe some of the readers will remember it. Also our crew were promoted up to TO within the next three months

I am looking forward to the next reunion and making an extra effort to contact other members of the crew.

The End