

Narberth, PA
Dear Bud

It was nice to see you again at our recent reunion. We have enjoyed all of them and hope to make the one in New Orleans next year. The Airport Marriott was a nice place for the reunion. After the reunion Evelyn and I went to visit my sister and her family in Milwaukee, Oregon. We also visited with Earl Svela in Aloha, Oregon, who was a pilot in the 824 Squadron.

We plan to take a trip also to visit our tail gunner Johnny O'Neill in Neponsit, NY
All best wishes to you and your family,

Sincerely,
George Bouras, 824 Sq



The enclosed photograph taken at the San Francisco reunion shows from left: Evelyn Bouras, Lil Marcus, Eunie Brown, and Adolph Marcus.

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Wilson, NC
Dear Bea and Bud:

After receipt of Torretta Flyer No 15, I called Marvin H Watson. I remember he spoke often and fondly of Major Haldeman. It is too soon after my fourth major operation for me to plan on attending the San Francisco reunion.

I think I may have been the youngest person in the 484th Bomb Group with the least amount of service to be discharged under the 85 point system. I had 8 battle stars on my EAME ribbon. There are some men in our outfit who may have had more stars but I think they would have to have been assigned to the ground crew. I was called into service December 10, 1943 just after my eighteenth birthday and was flying missions with the 484th by August of the following year. Because of several circumstances, most of my crew was delayed in finishing their tour before the war ended. The few who did, picked up some mission credit in September of 1944 by hauling bombs and aviation fuel to France to help supply Patton's army. At any rate I flew thirty three sorties which gave me the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf clusters. The remaining points were for service time and the EAME Ribbon with the eight battle stars. I was discharged from Fort Bragg on July 21, 1945 after nineteen months of service at the tender age of 19.

A few years ago I was asked to join the Veterans of the Battle of

the Bulge since I was in the EAME during that time. In filling out the application I had to list my decorations, and battle stars. The following day my recruiter came back to ask for a copy of my discharge. It seemed that he did not believe I had eight battle stars. In looking back, the system was grossly unfair, I am sure my service could not possibly equal in any way the experience of my recruiter who served overseas for 36 months including the Battle of the Bulge and was quite proud of his six battle stars.

When we were assigned to a tent in the 827 squadron, we each picked a cot at random. Chief Master Seargent Mc Queeny came into the tent and asked each one of us to give our name and where we came from. When it came to my turn I replied, North Carolina. He asked where in North Carolina and I replied Wilson. He asked me if I knew where Kenly was. This was a strange request because I seemed to remember that Sgt. McQueeny came from Texas, and why would he be asking about North Carolina. Kenly is thirteen miles south of Wilson, I said. "The very man who left this cot only this morning was from Rt #3 Kenly, North Carolina. His name was Marvin Watson, do you know him?" he continued. It just so happened that Marvin Watson and I had become fast friends in the squadron.

It was 1979 and I was in my store in Wilson, NC when Sheldon Hinnant walked into the store with another man who I did not know. I knew Sheldon was from Rt #3 Henly, NC, so I asked him if he knew a Marvin Watson. The stranger replied, "He is my brother." A follow up telephone call identified him as the same person I had known in the 827th. We have been the best of friends ever since.

Jimmy Ellis 827 Squadron

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The Osborne Agency
East Hampton, NY
Dear Bud:

The photo on page 13 of Torretta Flyer No 15 of ship #81 Knock Out, which I flew several times may be of our crew. They are to the best of my recollection, from left: Walter C Schultz (E), William K Sutton (P), or Robert B Pease (N) {bent over}, Third man from left with head down, unidentified, Charles J Osborne (C/P) smoking as usual, William W Thompson Jr (B), Henry Wooten Jr (T/G), Man with back to the camera unknown.

I have written to Henry Wooten to see if he can help with the identification. I would be interested in knowing where the picture came from.

I am now attending cardiac rehabilitation classes three days a week. treadmill bicycle, rowing, and so forth. Hopefully they will get me back in some sort of reasonable shape and help to lose some of this weight I've picked up along the way.

Hope your health is holding up.

Kindest regards to you both.

Sincerely yours,
Charles J Osborne 827 Sq