

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

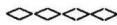
Dear Editor
Torretta Flyer

We are searching for the identity of a pilot who served with the 15th Air Force. No squad, group, or wing number is known. We do not know if he was a fighter or bomber pilot.

His personal profile was described in late 1945 as follows: He was born in New York in 1922. He has brown eyes, dark brown hair, attractive and handsome, height 5' 10". He may have resided in Indianapolis, Indiana, prior to his military service and may have returned there shortly after his discharge. He was acquainted with the Kreuzer family. After graduating from high school, he attended college for one year before entering the Army Air Corps to be a pilot. His military experience was described in the late fall of 1945 as a "distinguished hero of this war. . . he was the fair haired boy and received much publicity. He was wounded while overseas and received a 3/4 disability discharge. Evidently because of his injury, it was indicated that he has a very decided readjustment to make in his life. His parents and 17 year old sister were alive in in 1945. Religion: Presbyterian.

If you recall anyone who might possibly fit the above description, please contact

Mrs. Colleen Gwynn,
358 East 750th South, Farmington, Utah 84025



Salt Lake City, UT
Dear Bud:

MY AMULETS

We flew our new B-24 H "Salvo Sally" (826 Squadron #63) across the Atlantic in late March 1944, and landed in Dakar French West Africa (Now Senegal). Because security was still tight we had Black French Army Soldiers guarding each one of our planes. While standing in front of our plane one day, one of these soldiers pointed to my white undershirt and indicated he would trade one of his exquisitely made 2 by 2 by 1/4 inch calf leather amulets for my undershirt. He spoke only French but we communicated. I said yes, and went back to my barracks bag for another shirt which I traded for another amulet. It seemed the women in his tribe liked men with white undershirts which they wore one on top of the other. He was a very happy man.

A few years ago I learned the amulets have Muslim prayers written in Arabic sewn inside and are believed to ward off evil spirits. I am wondering if any other crew member who stopped at Dakar had a similar experience. I still have the amulets.

I am still looking for Lt Stone-Pilot, Lt Bartleman-Bombardier, Lt Ripple-Co-Pilot

Have a Happy New Year
Joe Hebert 826 Squadron

Chicago, Ill
Dear Bud

I thought you and our members would enjoy the little piece below:

RETIRED

After a Christmas break the teacher asked his small pupils how they spent the holidays. One small boy's reply was like this.

We always spend Christmas with Grandma and Grandpa. They use to live in a big brick house, but Grandpa got retarded, then they moved to Florida.

They live in a place with a lot of retarded people. They live in a little tin hut. They ride three wheel bicycles. They go to a big building they call the wrecked hall. But if it's wrecked, it's fixed now. They play games there and do exercises, but they don't do them very good.

There is a swimming pool and they go to it and they just stand there in the water with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim.

My Grandma used to bake cookies and stuff, but I guess she forgot how. Nobody cooks there. They all go to fast food restaurants.

They eat prunes every morning and Grandpa says they're good for what ails him-but I didn't even know he was sick.

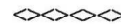
As you come into the park there is a doll house with a man sitting in it. He watches all day so they can't get out without him seeing them.

They wear badges with their names on them. I guess they don't know who they are.

My Grandma says Grandpa worked hard all his life and earned his retardment.

I sure wish they would move back home, but I guess the man in the doll house won't let them out.

Happy New Year to All
Raymond M Strand 827 Squadron.



Milan, Italy
Dear Editor
Torretta Flyer

(Last summer the association office received a letter from Milan, Italy, handwritten by Matteo Davenia, formerly a resident of Cerignola during 1943-1944. His letter was written in Italian and has been translated as follows):

I heard about the Association from the Scholarship Awards publicity in Milan.

I was a laborer at the air-base assigned to the 764th Squadron, and was issued an ID badge, a (copy of which was enclosed and is duplicated here). Although I have resided in Milan for the past 15 years, I still have very warm feelings and strong remembrances of the friendships made at

